

## An Exciting New Educational Partnership!



The National Association of Orthopaedic Technologist (NAOT) is proud to announce that a formal Educational Partnership has been developed with the American Society of Podiatric Medical Assistants (ASPMA). This Educational Partnership will allow increased access to members of both associations to educational programming, material, and continuing education opportunities.

NAOT is a non-profit organization dedicated to the pursuit of excellence through education of orthopaedic technologists, and other related allied health care professionals, and the general public. NAOT believes that the profession of orthopaedic technology can only reach full potential and universal acceptance through widespread educational opportunities. Certification of all orthopaedic technologists underscores NAOT's commitment to these professional goals.

Orthopaedic Technologist work in a wide range of roles in an orthopaedic setting including, casting/splinting, physician clinics and in the operating room as a first or second assistant to the surgeon.

The purpose of the ASPMA is to promote, foster, improve, sustain and advance the profession of Podiatric Medical Assistants. Our goal is to elevate the standard of education of Podiatric Medical Assistants. The ASPMA also plays a role in the advancement of the podiatric medical profession and to the improvement of public health. The ASPMA desires to promote honorable and friendly relations among its members and to enlighten the public concerning all matters pertaining to the profession of the podiatric medical assistant. The ASPMA works cooperatively with all segments of the podiatric medical profession on achieving these purposes.

Anthony Lungstrum, Vice President of NAOT, who helped to facilitate the development of this partnership, said "NAOT is excited to work with such an outstanding organization such as ASPMA. As we further develop the partnership, our goal is to provide educational opportunities for the Podiatric Medical Assistant in the areas such as casting, splinting, bracing, orthopaedic assessment and many others. We feel that the ASPMA will be able to enhance our member's knowledge in the areas of podiatric medicine."

The first step in this new partnership will be Anthony Lungstrum, NAOT Vice President, speaking at the Midwest Podiatry Conference, April 10<sup>th</sup> in Chicago, IL. He will be teaching a "Gait Analysis" workshop and giving a presentation on "Concepts of Splinting, Casting and Bracing."

Elizabeth Rudy, ASPMA President, had this to say about the new educational partnership. "we at the ASPMA are all overjoyed with the new partnership, and we look forward to working closely with this amazing organization to further promote and educate all of our assistants! "

Plans are being developed to have members of the ASPMA Board present at NAOT's 2019 Annual Clinical Symposium in Minneapolis, MN July 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>.