

September 1, 2024

To My Patients,

With profound gratitude I am announcing my retirement from Olympic Internal Medicine at the end of December 2024.

This month marks the anniversary of two important events in my life, 40 years since I began medical school at Indiana University, and 29 years since I left the US Navy and arrived in Kitsap County with my young family to begin work here. Alongside my exemplary partners and our dedicated staff here at OIM, I am grateful to this wonderful community for entrusting me with so much and for so long. It has been an extraordinary adventure, and one I could not have anticipated 40 years ago on that first day of med school.

You have supported this practice through many years of profound change, and most recently the transition to a membership practice. Your loyalty has allowed us to continue to provide primary medical care at a direct and personal level that is, regrettably, increasingly uncommon in a system of medical economics focused upon other priorities. We are hopeful that Olympic Internal Medicine, and practices like it, will remain as places where patients can create personalized, long-term relationships with their physicians and their healthcare team.

To that end, we are actively trying to recruit internal medicine physicians to Kitsap County and Olympic Internal Medicine. Unfortunately, we do not have any new physicians joining the practice at the time of my departure. Patients who would like to continue their care at OIM, after December 31, 2024, should contact our office as soon as possible and request to transfer their care to either Dr. Dore or Dr. Steele (Dr. Gretch's practice is at maximal capacity currently). We will attempt to accommodate as many patients as possible, but once Dr. Dore and Dr. Steele's practices reach their capacity, we will not be able to accept any more transfer requests and patients will need to find another primary care physician outside of Olympic Internal Medicine.

We also recognize that some of my patients will decide to move their primary care to another clinic, and we will of course support you as you make that move. Your membership at OIM continues through December 2024, and to avoid any interruption in care you will want to have your new primary care clinic relationship established elsewhere by the beginning of 2025.

## **Important dates:**

**November 1, 2024:** Last day to request to transfer your care to Dr. Dore or Dr. Steele. If you do not transfer your care, we will automatically opt you out of the membership by the end of 2024.

December 31, 2024: Dr. Gross retires from OIM.

**January 1, 2025**: Current OIM membership renews. Former patients of Dr. Gross remaining at OIM must be established with Dr. Dore or Dr. Steele for 2025.

In closing, I again thank you for the great privilege of serving as your physician. A few of you I have known for only a few months, but many, many others of you for decades and often through extended family relationships. I am grateful to one and all, and pray for you, and my staff and partners, all the best in the coming years.

Sincerely,

Marchors Kee

M. Ryan Gross M.D.

Olympic Internal Medicine, Inc., P.S.