Uzoagu A. Okonkwo: Helping patients in best way possible

OCT 23, 2018

Staff News Writer
The AMA “Members Move Medicine” series profiles a wide variety of doctors, offering a glimpse into the passions of women and men navigating new courses in American medicine.

**On the move with:** Uzoagu A. Okonkwo, who is a fourth-year medical student at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine.

**AMA member since:** 2011.

**What inspired me to pursue a career in medicine:** I was always fascinated with the intersection between science and medicine and wanted to play an integral part in that.

**How I move medicine:** With my diversity and curiosity.

**Career highlights:** I was a Siemens Science Competition Semi-Finalist, and Junior Science and Humanities Symposium Regional Semi-Finalist in high school. Having these accomplishments in high school opened my eyes to medical research and set the goal to pursue an MD/PhD.

**Advice I’d give to those interested in pursuing a career in medicine:** It is OK to seek help and guidance along the way. This journey is a team effort!

**Aspect of my work that means the most:** I find the most meaning in seeing the teamwork and collaboration between doctors and other health providers to ultimately help patients in the best way possible.

**How I advocate for physicians and patients:** I’m a firm believer in the adage of, “See something, say something.” I believe everyone should be treated with dignity and respect, whether you are a student or patient, young or old, immigrant or native.

**My hope for the future of medicine:** That medicine continues to acknowledge the importance of diversity in health care and making medicine a personal experience.

Visit MembershipMovesMedicine.com to learn more about other AMA members who are relentlessly moving medicine through advocacy, education, patient care and practice innovation, and join or renew today.