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MS-ACEP Updates

Utsav Nandi, MD MSCI FACEP

President, Mississippi ACEP

Dear MS-ACEP,

Thank you to everyone that was able to join our 2021 Annual Meeting. It was great to connect with each of you and share ideas on improving emergency medicine in Mississippi. I wanted to share some updates from the meeting through this newsletter. We were glad that all three of our resident representatives could join us this year. They discussed news from their programs, challenges over the past year and collaborative ideas for the coming year. Drs. Carlton, Bundy and Davis (continuing his term as resident representative) provided us updates from Magnolia Regional Health Center in Corinth where they recently welcomed their second class of residents. Dr. Johns, who is also continuing his term as resident representative, gave us an update from Merit Health Wesley in Hattiesburg. We also welcomed Dr. Keeling as UMMC's resident representative and heard from him and Dr. Sandifer about the Jackson program.

While they, and all our Mississippi EM residents, are excited about learning and practicing emergency medicine, as you all very well know, all our EDs are dealing with boarding. We discussed the challenges that COVID-19 continues to impose on our communities and some guidelines on COVID-19 patient management. Please continue to encourage vaccinations in your community. I would also encourage you to consider starting an ED vaccination program, if you don't already have one, as that is another way we can help our state's public health leaders and our patients. You can find more information about setting

up an ED vaccination program, including an ACEP toolkit, [here](#). We also appreciate the assistance of the Disaster Medical Assistance Team that was recently deployed by HHS to assist with our state's COVID-19 response efforts.

The discussion of residencies and practice led us to our next agenda item, the state of our EM workforce. We briefly discussed the workforce report which was recently published and can be accessed [here](#). As we have discussed before, while there are some unique aspects about rural EM, we are not immune to changes in the EM marketplace as a whole. We heard views from physicians across our state as to what they perceive our challenges are and steps to address them.

Your MS-ACEP Councillors and I also recently met with ACEP leadership to discuss some of the workforce efforts at the national level. Their taskforces are evaluating a few topics at present: length and procedural competencies of residency programs and graduating residents respectively to better understand the education process and supply of EM physicians, ED accreditation and scope of practice expansion. You can find the latest updates [here](#). I would also encourage you to review the [Rural Task Force summary](#) to get a better idea of their suggested actions to the ACEP board.

We plan on forming a committee to evaluate our state-wide workforce issues and coordinate with the National Team. If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please let me or Pat know. We still stand firmly opposed to scope creep and will continue to work with MSMA and ACEP on this. I would also like to recognize one of our resident representatives, Dr. Keeling, for recently introducing Resolution 20 at the MSMA's Annual Sessions: "To Study the Economic Impact of Mid-Level Provider Employment in the United States of America and Mississippi". Great work, Max!

We also discussed our plans to create a chapter specific PR committee. Our primary goals are to engage with our local media and community on important health issues and be a source of reliable medical information. Our councillor, Dr. Kency has graciously agreed to lead this effort. Please let me or Pat know if you would like to serve on this committee as we would like to have physicians from different parts of the state and from different practice settings.

We also heard from our first scholarship recipient, Kelsey Morgan, a 3rd year medical student at UMMC, about her experience at LAC this year. You can read more about her experience below. We are very proud of her for being selected to speak on health equity and representing our chapter and state so well. As some of you may know, she serves as the Southeast Regional Representative for EMRA's medical student council and recently wrote a guide for students applying to residency programs. Please feel free to share this with your students: "[Resources & Guidance for EM-Bound Medical Students – 2022](#)". Great work, Kelsey!

We will also be establishing a committee to evaluate future educational scholarships/stipends for EM residents and medical students interested in EM in partnership with their departments/schools. Our secretary-treasurer, Dr. Barrett will be leading this effort. If you would like to serve on this committee, please let me or Pat know.

In other news, MS-ACEP BoD representatives will be attending the EMerald Coast Chapters' 2021 Candidate Forum later this month. We are proud to support Dr. Costello who is a candidate for Vice-Speaker this year!

I would also like to congratulate Dr. Tarver for being accepted to the ACEP Education Committee and Dr. Keeling for being accepted to the ACEP State Legislative/Regulatory Committee! Great work from our MS-ACEP members!

Thank you all once again for all that you do. Please stay safe!

Utsav

ACEP's Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC)

Kelsey Morgan, RN-BSN, MS3

Sunday's Health Policy Primer was dedicated to the basics of health policy with a variety of topics and speakers. I was selected to give a short talk on Health Equity during the Drop the mic portion of the day. This section included six other talented speakers giving five-minute Ted-Style talks on topics related to health policy and advocacy. The rest of the afternoon included panels and speakers that presented topics such as Health Policy through the COVID19 Lens, NEMPAC, and Clinicians as Politicians Panels.

Monday was dedicated to a Leadership Summit and some Leadership & Advocacy Courses. While each one was very informative, the one that I particularly learned the most from concerned Human Trafficking and the Panel on the EM Workforce report. Dr. Jaime Hope gave a powerful and personal account of a human trafficking case in her ED. She gave a great presentation on how we as physicians in the ED can help identify and protect victims of human trafficking. The other BIG topic of the day was the fact that ACEP initially did not sign the "Joint Statement in Support of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates for All Workers in Health and Long-Term Care" from Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS). After an outpouring of ER Physicians support for this joint statement, ACEP announced that they signed onto the joint statement.

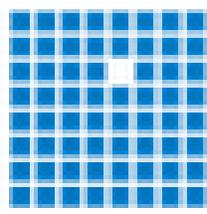
On Tuesday, we reviewed the issues that we were going to talk to our Senators and Congress members. We studied 2 particular bills and also brought up the upcoming Medicare changes. The bills included: the "Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act" (S.610/H.R. 1667) and "Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act" (H.R. 1384/S. 445). Dr. Lorna Breen was a well-known ER physician who died by suicide in April 2020 during the COVID19 pandemic in New York City. This bill works toward ending the stigma associated with healthcare workers seeking mental healthcare. It also commissions a study on burnout and barriers for healthcare professionals to seek care. Since LAC, the Dr. Lorna Breen Act has been passed by the Senate with a few changes and it is now in the process of being sent to the House! The MAT act seeks to eliminate the x-waiver requirement for ER physicians to be able to write buprenorphine prescriptions while establishing a federal education program on the medication and its use.

Overall, ACEP's LAC was an amazing educational and relationship building experience. I hope to continue to use what I learned and grow my relationships with ACEP and EMRA members.

Welcome New MS-ACEP Members!

Carthal Jonathan Anderson, MD
Gabriel Shelton Autry, MD
Christopher Barron, DO
Mallory Danielle Browning, DO
ThucAn Bui, DO
Taylor Christian
Adam Carson Cummins, MD
Vivi Anna Dang
Cleo Astrid Desmedt, MD
Taylor Deushane, DO
Zachary D Ellis
Rory Andrew Eschete, II, MD
Katie Falkner, MD
Sally A Harrison, MD
Spencer Sage Heath, RN
Sun-Woong Kang, DO
Sarah Kim
Shane Koler, DO
Joseph Robert Lake, MD
Michael Langley, MD
Bradley Lewis
Madison Leigh Lindgren, DO
Linsay Ling, MD
Janathan Lopez, DO
John Joseph McLeod, MD
Tom Nguyen
Ariel S Noble, MD
Joseph Coker Pongetti
Elisa M Quince
Sabih Rehman
Spencer Rhodes, DO
Tyton Roberts
Natalee Sarintra
Unsa Shafi
Sarah Smudde, MD
Jordan Stokes, MD
Kyle Thistle, MD
Chris Tidwell, DO
Jessica Thu Vo, DO
Lauren Zvolanek

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



American College of
Emergency Physicians®

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 



RURAL
EMERGENCY
MEDICINE

WHERE WE ARE AND
WHERE WE ARE HEADED

Webinar: Rural Emergency Medicine: Where We Are and Where We Are Headed

Host: Rural Emergency Medicine Section

August 20, 2021 | 3:00 PM CT

[Register here](#)

Leaders of ACEPs Rural Section will be giving an update on current hot topics regarding rural emergency medicine. Many see rural America as the new frontier for EM workforce, and there is truth to that, but the issue is much more complex and nuanced than it may seem. Please join Drs. Scott Findley, Ashley Kochanek Weisman, and Stephen Jameson as they update ACEP sections and state chapters on rural EM workforce, Council resolutions to expand EM physician opportunities and improve rural ED patient care, rural health political initiatives, and the collaboration efforts that are underway with our NP, PA, and non-EM trained physician colleagues. There will be opportunity for Q&A during this 90-minute session as well.

Featured News

Senate Passes Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act

ACEP is pleased to announce that early Friday morning, the Senate approved S. 610, the "Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act." This comes on the heels of hundreds of ACEP members joining together to lobby for this legislation during last month's Leadership & Advocacy Conference, conducting 287 meetings with legislators and staff from 44 states. [Read more details and view next steps.](#)

EM Physician Workforce of the Future:

- The EM Workforce Report Session from the recent Leadership & Advocacy Conference [is now available](#). Listen in as ACEP leaders discuss the data & next steps.
- The Young Physicians Section [hosted a Q&A session](#) with ACEP President Elect Dr. Gillian Schmitz and EMRA President Elect Dr. Angela Cai, asking workforce-related questions submitted by YPS members.
- "[The Emergency Medicine Physician Workforce: Projections for 2030](#)" was recently published in *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.
- **New ACEP Policy Statement:** [Emergency Medicine Workforce](#)
- Get the latest workforce updates at www.acep.org/workforce.

[Resident Voice: Where Medicine and Literature Meet](#) (ACEP Now, July 22)

New ACEP Policy Statement & Information Paper

- [Definition of Emergency Medicine Residency](#)
- [Medication Therapy for Psychiatric Crisis Events](#)

COVID-19

Press Releases:

- [ACEP Urges FDA to Prioritize Emergency Physicians for COVID-19 Booster](#) (August 13)
- [Emergency Physicians to Parents and Students: Prioritize COVID Safety in Back-to-School Plans](#) (August 13)
- [Emergency Physicians Increase their Calls for Concerns around COVID-19 Delta Variant and Support Mandate to Vaccinate Healthcare Workers](#) (July 28)

Do You Have a Vaccination Program in Your ED?

As new variants continue to emerge, there is more urgency to vaccinate as many people as possible against the virus. If you have set up a vaccination program in your ED, [please take a few minutes to complete our survey for national data gathering](#). If you haven't, please consider working with your institution to provide vaccines to appropriate patients who will be discharged from the ED. An [on-demand webinar features ACEP members](#) explaining how they set up vaccine administration programs in their EDs and their lessons learned. And [there are more resources online](#), including helpful tools for addressing vaccine hesitancy.

New Podcast: COVID-19 Myth Busting

ACEP members are all fielding questions and concerns from friends and family. ACEP Frontline host Dr. Ryan Stanton sits down with Dr. Howie Mell to dispel some ongoing myths around vaccines, variants and more. [Share this episode on social media to help us battle disinformation.](#)

New: [COVID-19 Vaccination Smart Phrase](#)

Upcoming Webinars:

[White House Conversation: Health Systems, Providers and the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort](#) (8/18, 11am CT)

[COVID-19 Variants: What Emergency Physicians Need to Know](#) (8/20, 12pm CT) During this live, free webinar we will provide an overview of Coronaviruses and the SARS-CoV-2 variants and review their classifications. The presenters will also present on the clinical implications, relevance and trends based on variants of interest, concern, and high consequence, including prevention, presentation, treatment, and management. [Register here.](#)

Get the Latest Tools in the [COVID-19 Clinical Alert Center](#)

ACEP Member Benefits

Get the Support You Need

Stress is high right now, on so many levels. Everyone has unique needs depending on personal circumstances, but the following free support services are available:

- [Crisis counseling/wellness sessions](#) available 24/7 and strictly confidential
- [Peer support line](#) for physicians and medical students, available 24/7
- [Let's Talk forum](#) for ACEP members, our only forum to allow anonymous posts

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

August 18: [White House Conversation: Health Systems, Providers and the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort](#) (11 am CT)

August 20: [COVID-19 Variants: What Emergency Physicians Need to Know](#)

August 25: [Medical School Loans and the CARES Act: What You Need to Know](#)

August 30: [Rural Emergency Medicine: Where We Are and Where We Are Headed](#)

September 23: [Dental 101 for ED Physicians \(Webinar\)](#)

October 25-28: ACEP21 in Boston — [REGISTRATION IS OPEN!](#) Use promo code ACEP21CHAP for \$100 off the in-person meeting price.

Improve the Quality of Acute Care to Patients with ACEP Accreditation

When you choose accreditation, you are choosing to pursue a commitment to excellence across the spectrum of care that will help attract more patients and elevate your institution— providing a competitive edge in the marketplace.

- Strengthen community confidence in the quality and safety of care, treatment, and services – achieving accreditation makes a strong statement to the community about an organization’s efforts to provide the highest quality services.
- Provide a framework for organizational structure and management – accreditation involves maintaining a high level of quality and compliance with the latest standards. Accreditation provides guidance to an organization’s quality improvement efforts.
- Align emergency departments with one of the most respected names in emergency health care – being accredited by ACEP helps organizations position for the future of integrated care.

[Learn more about ACEP's Accreditation Programs](#)

Contact Us

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