
A Newsletter for the Members of the Mississippi Chapter - Fall 2022



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MS-ACEP Updates

Utsav Nandi, MD, MSCI, FACEP

Outgoing President, Mississippi Chapter ACEP

Dear MS-ACEP,

Hope you are staying warm and safe!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at San Francisco this year and I can't believe it's already been more than a month. Thank you to everyone who stopped by the MS-ACEP reception. It was great to hear from so many pioneers of emergency medicine in Mississippi, past chapter leaders as well as meet awesome residents from across the state. Thank you all for what you do and I look forward to working with everyone, especially with our legislative session around the corner and a lot of health issues at stake.





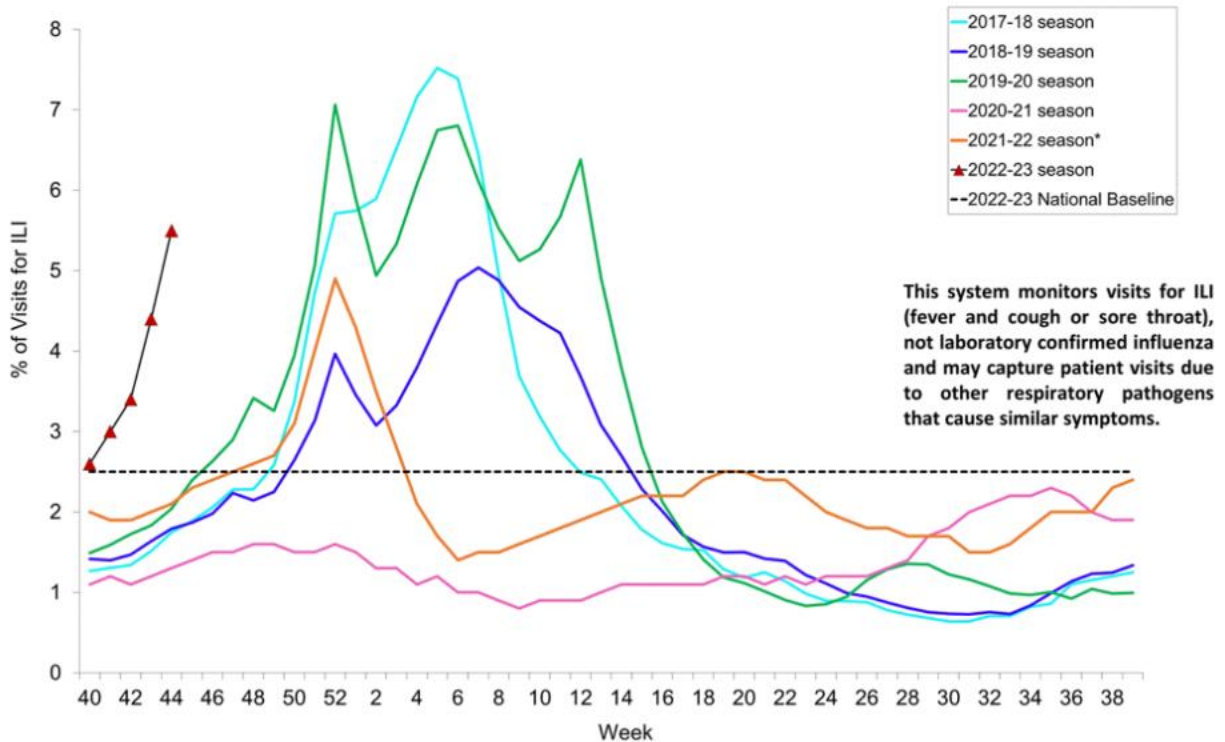
I know many of you are very interested, and closely follow, the role of private equity in emergency medicine. I wanted to share this new investigation by Kaiser Health News that investigates [“Private Equity’s Stealthy Takeover of Health Care Across Cities and Specialties”](#). While emergency

medicine is not a focus of this article, it provides a good overview of the practice with links to more in-dept reporting, if you are interested.

If you are not as familiar with this topic and how it affects patient care, you can get a quick overview in [this 3:30 min video](#).

Shifting gears to the ED, have you felt like every other patient in the ED is presenting with either URI or pneumonia-like symptoms? Well, you are not alone. Presentations for influenza-like illness is spiking much earlier than usual across the nation (this includes increased testing compared to previous years as well as increased positivity rate).

Percentage of Outpatient Visits for Respiratory Illness Reported By The U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), Weekly National Summary, 2022-2023* and Selected Previous Seasons



Mississippi, and the Southeast, have been especially hard hit.

A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division

Outpatient Respiratory Illness Activity Map Determined by Data Reported to ILINet

This system monitors visits for respiratory illness that includes fever plus a cough or sore throat, also referred to as ILI, not laboratory confirmed influenza and may capture patient visits due to other respiratory pathogens that cause similar symptoms.

2022-23 Influenza Season Week 44 ending Nov 05, 2022



*This map uses the proportion of outpatient visits to healthcare providers for influenza-like illness to measure the ILI activity level within a state. It does not, however, measure the extent of geographic spread of flu within a state. Therefore, outbreaks occurring in a single city could cause the state to display high activity levels.

*Data collected in ILINet may disproportionately represent certain populations within a state, and therefore may not accurately depict the full picture of influenza activity for the whole state.

*Data displayed in this map are based on data collected in ILINet, whereas the State and Territorial flu activity map are based on reports from state and territorial epidemiologists. The data presented in this map is preliminary and may change as more data is received.

*Differences in the data presented by CDC and state health departments likely represent differing levels of data completeness with data presented by the state likely being the more complete.

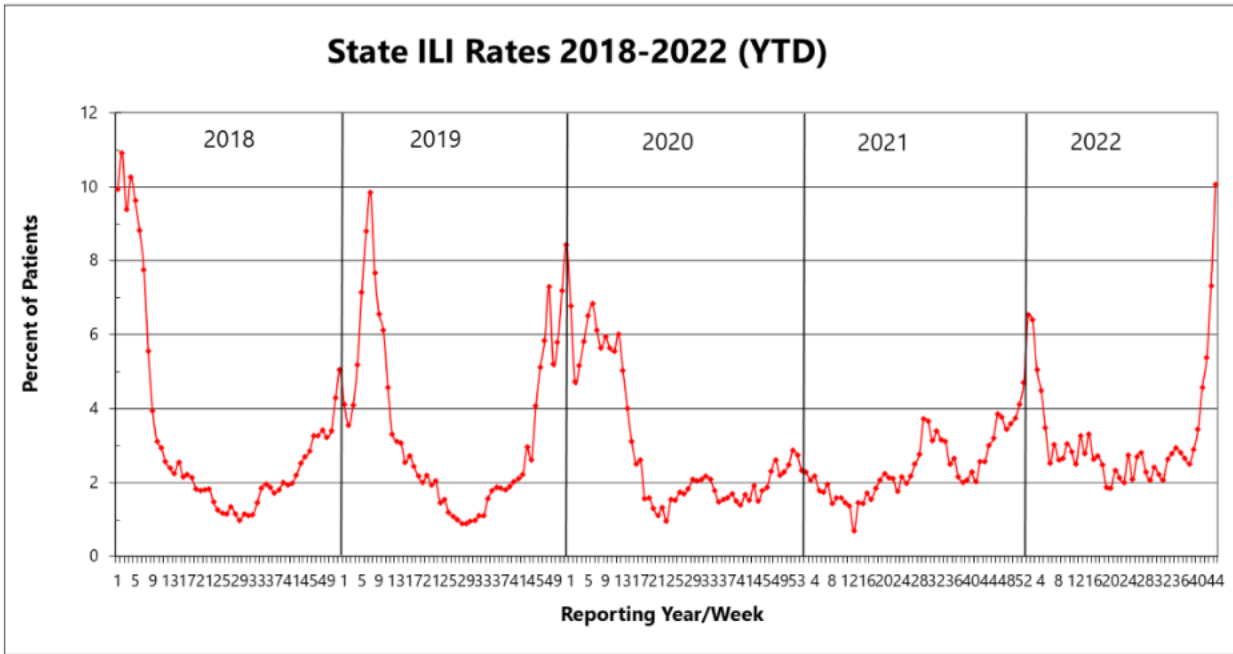
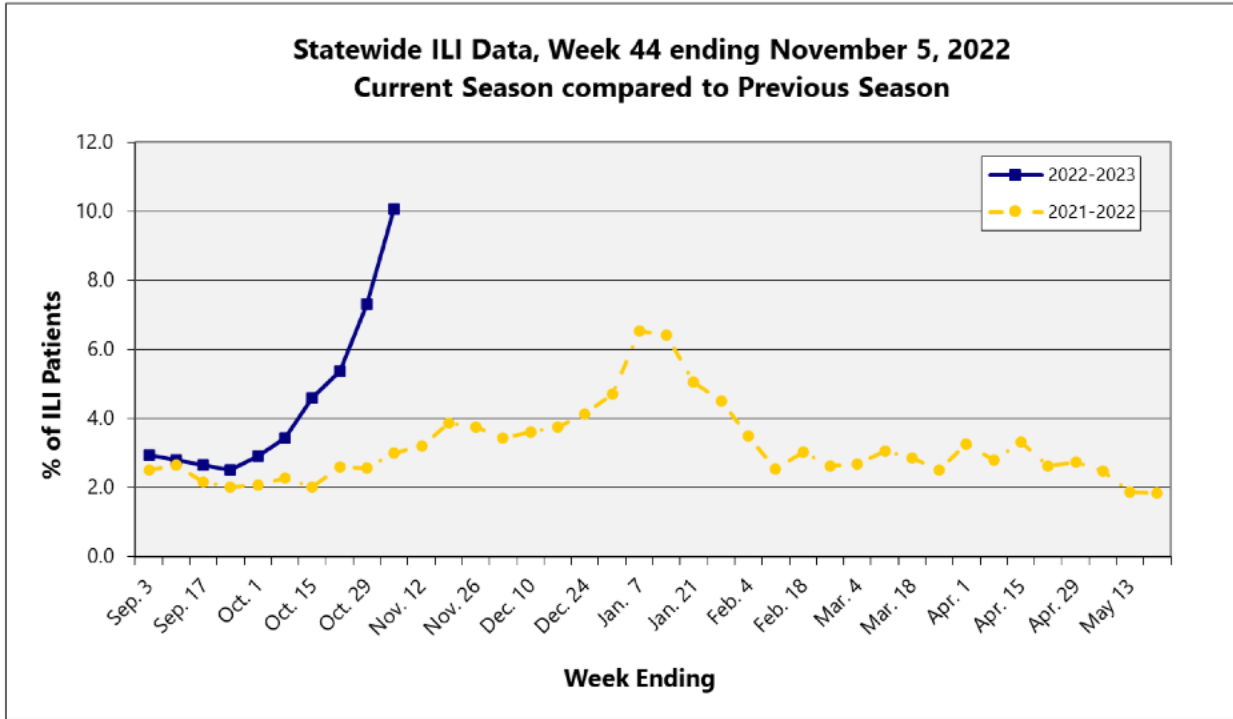
*For the data download you can use Activity Level for the number and Activity Level Label for the text description.

*This graphic notice means that you are leaving an HHS Web site.

For more information, please see CDC's Exit Notification and Disclaimer policy.

For more information on the methodology, please visit Outpatient Illness Surveillance methods section.

MSDH data also reflects national trends, as shown below. And even though we have seen high rates before, two relatively milder seasons and the earlier rise in ILI this year are combining to cause more distress in our communities, and stress on an already burdened ED system.



Speaking of a burdened ED system, thanks to ACEP’s efforts, your everyday woes of ED boarding are finally being addressed directly with the “White House, bipartisan members of Congress, regulatory agencies, and other stakeholders involved in constructive approaches to alleviate the factors that lead to our nation’s boarding crisis.” ACEP has been advocating on our behalf on this topic for many years, and [you can read more here](#).

And finally, some happy news to close out.

Thank you to everyone who took part in our state chapter's Board of Directors nomination process. And congratulations to all those who were nominated. After processing nominations, we had unopposed candidates for all our open positions. As such, I am excited to share the results with all of you as well as announce the chapter leadership for next year:

President-elect: Chester Shermer, MD
Secretary-Treasurer: Risa Moriarity, MD
Councillor: David Vearrier, MD
Alternate Councillor: Matthew Maready, MD

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

I have had the pleasure of working with, and learning from, all of these wonderful physicians and am grateful to call them friends. You can read a little bit about them in the next section and I am excited for you to get to know and work with them in the coming years.

We have a great mix in the new BoD whose experience spans community EM to sub-specialty academic EM. And for the first time, pediatric EM too!

Chapter Leadership for 2023:

President: John Pettey Sandifer, MD
President-Elect: Chester Shermer, MD
Secretary/Treasurer: Risa Moriarity, MD
Immediate Past President: Utsav Nandi, MD, MSCI, FACEP
Executive Director: Patrick O'Brien

Councillors

Lisa Bundy, MD
Fred E. Kency, MD
David Vearrier, MD
Alternate – Matthew Maready, MD

I am excited to work with the BoD to advocate for our patients and advance EM in Mississippi.

Thank you,
Utsav

New Board Members

Chet Shermer, President-elect:

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Chet Shermer. I am a professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of MS Medical Center and have been involved with ACEP for over 20 years. I practiced Emergency Medicine for 14 years at MS Baptist Medical Center before transitioning back to UMMC 8 years ago. I became interested in health policy just before the pandemic, first with MS State Medical Association and then as a Councillor with MS-ACEP. I have

worked closely with Dr. Nandi and the Board of Directors as we have engaged political leaders and national ACEP personnel during Scope of Practice battles, Workforce issues and Surprise Billing concerns. I look forward to serving as President-Elect and pledge to fight for our specialty and our profession.

Risa Moriarity, Secretary-Treasurer:

Dr. Moriarity is Professor and Executive Vice Chair in the Department of Emergency Medicine at UMMC. She received her undergraduate degree from Yale University and her MD from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She completed her emergency medicine residency at UMMC and subsequently joined the faculty in 2005. Dr. Moriarity's areas of interest are faculty development, mentoring, and graduate medical education. She has been an invited speaker and published on the topics of resident evaluations, professionalism, mentorship, and resident wellness. She currently serves as chair of the departmental Promotions and Tenure Committee, the Faculty Recruitment Committee, and the Women in Emergency Medicine Group, having previously been Associate Program Director and chair of the Clinical Competency Committee for the Department of Emergency Medicine for many years. She also currently serves on the UMMC Faculty Senate and Credentialing Committee, and is former chair of the School of Medicine Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure Committee. She is married to Jack Moriarity, a neurosurgeon, and has three children.

Dave Vearrier, Councillor:

I completed my residency in emergency medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine/Hahnemann University Hospital in 2008. I was core faculty for the emergency medicine residency program there until the closure of the hospital in 2019. I have been a professor of emergency medicine and core faculty for the emergency medicine residency at UMMC since March 2020. I also serve as the chief of the division of medical toxicology at UMMC.

Matt Maready, Alt. Councillor:

My name is Matt Maready. I am a Pediatric Emergency Medicine physician in Jackson. I completed a Pediatric residency at UMMC followed by a PEM fellowship in Akron, OH. I did my adult training at Cleveland Clinic and Metro Health in Cleveland and further developed my strong love for trauma and critical care. I completed an Emergency Ultrasound fellowship in the Department of Emergency Medicine at UMMC and became faculty in the Pediatric Emergency Department. I currently serve as the Program Director for the PEM fellowship as well as division director of education and emergency ultrasound. I am an active member of the ACEP Emergency Ultrasound Section subcommittees on Resident Education and Pediatric Ultrasound and the AAP Section of Emergency Medicine. I love engaging the learners on both Peds and EM sides and frequently develop lectures and simulations for use in training both groups. I also participate in the podcast developed by the Mississippi Center for Emergency Services. With regards to goals on a statewide EM level, I would love to see increased opportunities for education on pediatric emergencies and emergency procedures throughout the state as well as work towards improving pediatric readiness in our state's EM system. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve the state's EM family and to bring new representation for our children.

Welcome New MS-ACEP Members!

Teresa R Camp-Rogers, MD
Ta-Fu Lin
Sally Marie Passons

Gregory A Patino, MD, FACEP
Charleena R Skare
Benjamin Statham

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ED Boarding: Advocacy on the Front Lines: ACEP launched an [advocacy and public awareness campaign](#) to sound the alarm on the ED boarding crisis.

- The campaign centers around more than [100 boarding stories](#) sent in by ACEP members that paint a picture of the grim situation in many EDs across the country.
- Your stories formed the heart of the [letter ACEP sent to the White House](#) on Nov. 7, cosigned by 34 health care and patient advocate organizations.
- In [the latest regulatory blog](#), ACEP Senior Vice President for Advocacy & Practice Affairs Laura Wooster provides a progress report on these efforts and previews next steps.
- ACEP continues to collect stories. [Submit yours via this anonymous form](#).
- Visit our new [ED Boarding resource page](#) to view the stories, read the advocacy letter and get talking points on the issue.

Prepare for the potential pediatric tripledemic: ACEP's Pediatric EM Committee has pulled together some resources to help.

- [The Pediatric Tripledemic: How to Survive](#) presented by Annalise Sorrentino, MD, FACEP
- [Managing RSV and Bronchiolitis](#) presented by Christopher Amato, MD, FACEP, and Jessica Wall, MD, FACEP
- [Managing Difficult Pediatric Airways](#): In this episode of ACEP Frontline, Dr. Al Sacchetti reviews the approach and management of difficult pediatric airways.

CMS Finalizes Requirements for Rural Emergency Hospitals: Will any Hospitals Convert to this New Facility-type Next Year? In Regs & Eggs this week, [get ACEP's analysis of the final REH policies](#) and whether they will improve access to care.

The 2023 Physician Fee Schedule Final Reg-- Highlights and Analysis: Two major Medicare final rules were recently released, including the 2023 Physician Fee Schedule that has a big impact on reimbursement. ACEP's regulatory team analyzed 3,000+ pages of content and wrote [a special edition of Regs & Eggs](#).

New Data Underscores Cost and Health Outcome Concerns with Independent Practice: We know that everyone on an emergency care team is integral and valued. But our experience shows that nobody else has the training or expertise of an emergency physician. As lawmakers and administrators evaluate whether to empower nurse practitioners and physician assistants beyond the scope of their training, new data from Stanford University reinforces our reservations about exposing non-physician practitioners to responsibility they are not prepared to assume. [Read more in the November ACEP Board Blog](#).

Childcare challenges + solutions: ACEP's Young Physicians Section convened a panel of YPs who utilize au pairs, nannies, at-home daycares and more. [View the episode and related resources](#).

Dangerous toys? ACEP's smart phrase library has a new addition related to consumer product safety to help with reporting injuries from commercial products. [View all smart phrases](#).

ACEP4U: Making it Easier to Find Your Crew with [ACEP's New Member Interest Groups!](#)

Honor Outstanding Medical Students with ACEP/EMRA Awards: Make sure standout students get recognized for going above and beyond! The deadline is Jan. 8 to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award. [Learn more](#).

EMF Grant Cycle is Open, Set to Award \$1.5 Million in Funding: Get those grant applications ready! The Emergency Medicine Foundation is set to award \$1.5 million in grants, with opportunities covering a wide range of critical EM research topics. This cycle includes seven new grant categories. [Apply by Jan. 20, 2023](#).

From the CDC: CDC Releases 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain: The new CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain—United States, 2022 (2022 Clinical Practice Guideline) provides 12 evidence-based recommendations for primary care and other clinicians who provide pain care, including those prescribing opioids, for outpatients aged 18 years and older with acute, subacute and chronic pain. [Read more on the CDC's website](#).

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec. 14: [Virtual Grand Rounds: Advanced Ultrasound-Guided Nerve Blocks](#)

Jan. 8: Deadline to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the [ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award](#)

Jan. 17: [The Nuts and Bolts of Physician Reimbursement 2023](#)

Jan. 20: [Deadline to Apply for an EMF Grant](#)

March 31-April 3: [ACEP's Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)

April 13-15: [EM Basic Research Skills, Session II](#)

Contact Us

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