

A Newsletter for the Members of the Louisiana Chapter

Winter 2018



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Welcome New Members!

President's Message

J. Michael Cuba, MD, FACEP

The business of Emergency Medicine is tough. My thanks go out to all of you that weather the storm out there in the trenches - you really are heroes. But, our chosen field IS interesting, action packed, fulfilling, and no doubt gives us the chance to significantly impact thousands of people's lives every single day. Our chosen profession is difficult - please know that LaACEP is out there fighting for you and your ability to practice in a safe and effective way. Let us know if you are interested in being more involved in any way.

That brings me to my first major issue - our membership and finances. We are looking at multiple options to bolster membership and participation by eligible providers in Louisiana. Materials we look to distribute will include benefits of ACEP membership and "what ACEP has done for you." I speak to many docs that state they used to be members but have let their membership lapse. We will be looking at a grassroots effort to get people signed up once again. Please make the effort to bring this up with your groups to encourage them to get involved.

Finances are not great for the chapter on the whole - a membership drive can help change that. But we also have other financial needs that I need to bring to you. The "ED Howell account for education" is one of LaACEP's initiatives I am most proud of. The money in this account can be used for multiple things advancing Emergency Medicine education but the overwhelming majority has been used to fund residents from the three Emergency Medicine residencies to go to ACEP's Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington DC each spring. Giving \$1000 to residents is not a huge amount but it still goes a LONG way to making it possible for them to make the trip. This account needs to be funded and I believe we could find a way to do that through fundraising, corporate/hospital sponsorship, and, most critical, personal giving. Please let me know if you can think of ways we can fund this account and continue this great tradition. Also consider opening your wallet and making a donation - every dollar helps. Nancy can provide additional information if you would like.

I also wanted to update you on another topic covered on our recent call with the LaACEP board. Most of our time was spent discussing a Notice of Intent issued by the LSBME to the change process/timeline by which physicians can obtain their license. The change in licensure would require the applicant to have completed three years of postgraduate clinical training, as opposed to current law that allows for licensure after one year of postgraduate clinical training (PGT). This change in licensure requirements is in part being proposed based on the results of

a study conducted on physician disciplinary actions taken by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME). The study showed there were increased adverse events (mostly behavioral) in providers that only partially completed their residency. We thought the study was interesting but had some flaws when applied to Emergency Medicine residents that were still in residency and in good standing.

The LaACEP Board and I had concerns with this proposed rule change and felt it might affect Emergency Medicine in a different way than it would affect other sub-specialties. In a letter to the LSBME last week I expressed those concerns including removing the ability for any Emergency Medicine residents (particularly those in residency and in good standing) to "moonlight." This decreases their ability to experience departments and hospitals other than where they train, to augment their learning and income during residency, and to help bolster a workforce in Louisiana that is in need of additional well-trained emergency physicians. We felt there could be a trickle-down effect that could scare off prime residency applicants from choosing to come to Louisiana for their residency. We will stay involved as this issue progresses and keep you informed of any progress.

Finally, I want to introduce a man that probably needs no introduction. LaACEP was blessed to gain one of the most passionate, hardworking, and engaged leaders in Emergency Medicine when Dr. Jay Kaplan moved to New Orleans last year. Most of you know he is the immediate past president of national ACEP. He brings a wealth of knowledge (and connections) that helps us to identify what we as a chapter in Louisiana are doing well. More importantly he can help us understand what we could do to better to represent Emergency Medicine and our providers. He greatly improves our chapter's ability to help impact your practice and your career for the better and has already been very involved here locally. Please help me welcome Dr. Kaplan and thank him for all he has done for our great specialty.

Sincere thanks for all that you do,
J. Michael Cuba, M.D., FACEP, President - LaACEP

Liability Reform and Balance Billing Resources- We'll Be Ready!

The ARC has released the 2018 edition of "Medical Liability Reform-Now!" This comprehensive medical liability reform (MLR) compendium is available through the office and is [accessible electronically](#).

Medical Liability Reform-Now! provides MLR advocates with the information they need to advocate for and defend the MLR legislation. It includes background information on the problems with the current system, proven solutions to improve the liability climate and a discussion of innovative reforms that could complement traditional MLR provisions. The ARC is also pleased to share three new AMA research reports from the Health Policy department. For more information regarding liability issues you may contact our state chapter or [Harry Monroe](#), Director of ACEP Chapter and State Relations.

On the issue of balance billing, ACEP along with its partners has worked out a plan to ensure that staff will be reviewing all balance billing/out of network legislation that is introduced or amended. In addition, ACEP has worked collectively to organize regional "strike teams" composed of members that have expertise and experience in dealing with this issue. The purpose of these teams is to provide chapters with any assistance we might need regarding legislation under consideration or compromises that are being considered as part of negotiations.



ACEP's Viral Video Campaign to Expose Anthem Policy

ACEP recently launched a video campaign to expose Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield for denying coverage to emergency patients, based on an undisclosed list of diagnoses, for

conditions the insurance giant considers non-urgent. For a copy of the full press release, please contact [Michael Baldyga](#), ACEP Senior Public Relations Manager. This policy is active in six states - Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire and Ohio - but more Anthem states will follow, and more health insurance companies, if this effort isn't stopped. Anthem's policy is unlawful, because it violates the prudent layperson standard that is in federal law and 47 state laws.

Special thanks to ACEP video cast members Dr. Jay Kaplan, Dr. Alison Haddock, Dr. Ryan Stanton and Dr. Supid Bose - and ACEP staffers Mike Baldyga, Elaine Salter, Darrin Scheid and Rekia Speight!

Help us make [the video](#) go viral and top last year's that generated nearly 300,000 views on YouTube and Facebook! Please post it to Facebook pages, e-mail it to colleagues and Tweet about it using [#FairCoverage](#) and [#StopAnthemBCBS](#).

Louisiana State Medical Society Transfers Leadership

Thank you to William "Beau" Clark, MD, FACEP, for an outstanding term of service as president of the Louisiana State Medical Society! Dr. Clark has been a long-time member of La-ACEP and served as president of our organization in 2007. He is active in several other medical organizations and currently is holding the elected position of Coroner, EBR Parish. Dr. Susan Bankston will succeed Dr. Clark as the lead for LSMS. Dr. Bankston has a rich history of involvement in EMS. She served as governor appointee on the EMS for Children Advisory Committee and represented pediatrics on the EMS Certification Commission. Congratulations to both of these outstanding physicians!

Leadership and Advocacy Conference-Join Your Colleagues!

Make plans to join your colleagues from others states in Washington to advocate for Emergency Medicine. The annual [Leadership and Advocacy Meeting](#) will be held in Washington, DC on May 20-23, 2018. The meeting will be held again at the Grand Hyatt in Washington, DC. The LAC Conference will celebrate emergency medicine's accomplishments and continue to work for a better political environment for our specialty and our patients. The LAC continues to get bigger and better and each year we send a stronger message to the

United States Congress. We'll train first-timers to educate your Members of Congress while seasoned participants will build upon your already valuable Congressional connections. LAC's goal at this conference is to highlight and advocate for legislation advancing emergency care, regardless of party labels. National experts will be brought in to lead the discussions. Problems facing our specialty will be tackled, tools developed to advocate at all levels and relationships built, all while having a good time!

All La-ACEP members are welcomed to attend at their own expense and our chapter intends to support the attendance of three residents, one from each of the Emergency Residency programs. These exciting meetings are a great opportunity to view firsthand the work that our Congressional leadership is doing for Louisiana. There will be scheduled visits to the "Hill" and presentations from Healthcare advocates, lobbyists and a few surprise visits from legislators on both sides of the aisle. If you would like more information on the annual event you may contact us or go to [L&A on the ACEP website](#). What an exciting time to be in our nation's capital. Who better than Louisiana know all about swamps!

What are your concerns? If you are unable to attend but you would like to have your voice heard please contact our office or Dr. Cuba directly to carry your message. We will have a programmed agenda but during our Hill Visits we have the opportunity to share our state concerns with our Senators and Representatives or their key healthcare staffers. Also, if you have personal relationships with any of our Louisiana delegation feel free to let them know that we are coming and encourage them to make themselves available during the week. Usually our Hill visits are mid-week. In addition to possible photo ops this is a great chance to see how Congress really operates and to register your concerns as respected members of the healthcare profession.

La-ACEP Annual Meeting/State Legislative Update- Save the Date Now!

Our Annual Meeting will be held **Thursday, April 26, 2018** at the Emergency Residency Building in Baton Rouge. The BR Emergency Residency Program will host our annual ACEP update, meeting and lunch will be provided. The morning will be spent with the residents and the faculty and after lunch we will hold our annual business meeting for members and guests. If there is a topic that you would like discussed, or an issue that you want addressed please feel free to contact us our one of our board members. You will receive meeting details and a

request for RSVP under separate cover. Please look for the e-mail and mark your calendars now to attend!

Southeast Conference ACEP Meeting- Schedule your Vacation!

This year's meeting will be held on June 4-7, 2018 at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in San Destin, Florida. Join your colleagues from the SEC states of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma and Tennessee for a well-balanced conference of education and relaxation. There will be poster presentations for the residency programs, national speakers and a satisfying combination of clinical updates to stimulate your interest. After a "hard day" at class treat yourself and your family to the white sand and blue-green waters of the Florida gulf. Accommodations can be found at a reduced rate for the conference and there is a good deal of entertainment on the property and in nearby Destin. This is an excellent opportunity to refresh and refocus in a relaxed environment. Stay tuned for additional information and copies of the brochures to be sent under separate cover.

Executive Director's Report Nancy Bourgeois

It is my pleasure to continue to represent you as your chapter exec, this has afforded me the opportunity to witness many of the great achievements in emergency medicine in our state and to stay involved, as your monitor, in all of the EMS activity that is unfolding this year. I am looking forward to the upcoming legislative session which begins early on March 1st and it is my hope to be able to accompany you to DC for LAC in May. In the meantime please plan to join us for our Annual Meeting in Baton Rouge April 26th. I am sure you'll enjoy what we have planned!

Website- Our website is under revision. We intend to make the social media site a more dynamic and useful resource for our Louisiana chapter. We would like photos, announcement, promotions, honors received from our members so we can personalize the site and make it a complement to the main ACEP site. If you have any information that you would like to see placed there or suggestions for content please let us know, by [e-mail](#) or phone call to (985) 507-1797.

YouTube Videos

Michael Baldyga, Senior Public Relations Manager for ACEP would like to encourage you if you have not already done so to sign up for the [ACEP YouTube Channel](#) so you can view the latest developments coming out of Washington that affect emergency physicians and patients.

EMS Issues and Updates

EMS Certification Commission

Dr. Jeff Elder currently serves as the chair of the Commission which meets on a regular basis to address issues of EMS practice and disciplinary measures to protect the public and the practice of pre-hospital medical services. If you are interested in a future position on the Commission please advise our office and send a short bio/resume.

EMS Task Force

Dr. Angela Cornelius and Dr. Jeff Elder also represent ACEP on the EMS Task Force. Both of these board members also serve as Medical Directors for EMS services in Shreveport and New Orleans respectfully. They serve to advise the Bureau of EMS, the Office of Public Health and the Louisiana Department of Health on matters related to pre-hospital care and the licensing of EMS practitioners. Currently the Task Force is addressing the feasibility and possible structure of a free standing EMS Board, similar to the state boards of medicine and nursing. A sub-committee will bring a recommendation to the full Task Force for approval. There is a strong possibility the Task Force may recommend legislation this upcoming session once a bill is drafted and sponsors committed.

Committees

There are several other state and local commissions and committees that La-ACEP sits on. For example: LERN, PEC, Non-emergency transportation and the Committees on Opioid Crisis and the Prevention of Human Trafficking. If you are interested in any of these nominations for future positions you may contact [our office](#) and submit a bio/resume and letter of desire to serve. Nominations will be vetted and sent to the State Boards and Commissions for final appointments.

Mark Your Calendars!

March 1st - State legislative session- be ready!

April 26th - Chapter Annual Meeting and elections- sign up now

May 20-23rd - Leadership and Advocacy- get active in advocacy

June 4-7th - SEC Fun in the Sun

***Note- if there are other events that you would like to highlight or share with all of our chapter members just e-mail me (Nancy) and I will distribute for you. The best way to reach me is (985) 507-1797 or [via email](#).**



Help Us Celebrate ACEP's 50th Anniversary

You can help us ensure we have the most diverse, and most complete, historical collection of everything!

Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to see our weekly Tues/Thurs 50th Anniversary posts

Talking 50th Anniversary on social media? Use [#EMeverymoment](#)

Show your EM pride with ACEP's [new "Anyone. Anything. Anytime." Facebook profile frame](#)

Visit our 50th Anniversary site [here](#) for year-round updates

Got something cool to share about the college's history, or your own with EM? [Click here!](#)

Upcoming CEDR Webinar

In depth review of the steps and process involved using CEDR for Group or Individual 2018 MIPS Reporting. Topics for this webinar will include selection of reportable measures, Advancing Care Information data entry, and Improvement Activity reporting through CEDR.

Register for the [Reporting MIPS through CEDR](#) webinar to be held on **March 13, 2018** at **1:00 PM CDT**. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



New ACEP Tool Helps you Keep Track of Ultrasound Scans

Emergency physicians regularly apply for hospital credentials to perform emergency procedures including emergency ultrasound. Theoretically, ultrasound training, credentialing and billing should be no different than other emergency procedures where training occurs in residency and an attestation letter from the residency is sufficient for local credentialing. When such training occurs outside of residency, "proctored pathways" often serve to assure competency. There is still a lack of understanding and awareness in the general medical community that emergency physicians routinely train in and perform point-of-care ultrasound.

The [ACEP Emergency Ultrasound Tracker](#) was created to assist members in achieving official

recognition of ultrasound skills. This tool allows you to easily keep track of ultrasound scans you have performed over the course of your career in emergency medicine. It also allows you to upload relevant documents that attest to your training. After inputting and self-attesting to your ultrasound information you may download a letter of recognition from ACEP so long as you have attested to meeting the recommendations for emergency ultrasound training put forth in the [ACEP Ultrasound Guidelines \(PDF\)](#). We hope you find this tracker tool helpful and useful in your practice.

New ACEP Award

Community Emergency Medicine Excellence Award

We are pleased to announce that the ACEP Board of Directors approved a new award to recognize individuals who have made a significant contribution in advancing emergency care and/or health care within the community in which they practice. While the College currently has a number of awards to recognize excellence in emergency medicine this award is focused on the emergency physician who has made a significant contribution to the practice of emergency medicine in their community. Examples of significant contributions to the specialty and community may include, but are not limited to, community outreach, public health initiatives, or exemplary bedside clinical care.

Nominees must be an ACEP member for a minimum of five years and not received a national ACEP award previously. **Entries are due no later than May 14, 2018.**

The nomination form and additional information can be found [here](#).

Articles of Interest in *Annals of Emergency Medicine*

Sandy Schneider, MD, FACEP

ACEP Associate Executive Director, Practice, Policy and Academic Affairs

ACEP would like to provide you with very brief synopses of the latest articles in [Annals of Emergency Medicine](#). Some of these have not appeared in print. These synopses are not meant to be thorough analyses of the articles, simply brief introductions. Before incorporating

into your practice, you should read the entire articles and interpret them for your specific patient population.

Babi FE, Oakley E, Dalziel SR, et al.

Accuracy of Physician Practice Compared to Three Head Injury Decision Rules in Children: A Prospective Cohort Study.

This study looks at the application of common decision rule regarding head injury in children and compare this to clinical judgement of experienced physicians. The authors did a prospective observational study of children presenting with mild closed head injuries (GCS 13-15). They found their group of clinicians were very accurate at identifying children who had a clinically important traumatic brain injury (sensitivity 98.8%, specificity of 92.4%). This was better than the decision rules also applied to these children which included PECARN, CATCH and CHALICE.

April MD, Oliver JJ, Davis WT, et al.

Aromatherapy versus Oral Ondansetron for Antiemetic Therapy Among Adult Emergency Department Patients: A Randomized Controlled Trial.

Inhaled isopropyl alcohol as an aroma therapy has been described as effective in treating post-operative nausea. In this study, the authors compared inhaled isopropyl alcohol to placebo, alone or with oral ondansetron. They found that the aromatherapy with or without ondansetron had greater nausea relief than placebo or ondansetron alone. They recommend a trial of aromatherapy for patients with nausea who do not require immediate IV treatment.

e Silva LOJ, Scherber K, Cabrera d, et al.

Safety and Efficacy of Intravenous Lidocaine for Pain Management in the Emergency Department: A Systematic Review.

This is a systematic review of the literature on IV lidocaine for pain. There were only 6 randomized control trials of lidocaine for renal colic. The results were variable. Lidocaine did not appear to be effective for migraine headache but there were only 2 studies of this. The authors concluded that we do not have enough data at this time to definitively comment on the use of lidocaine for pain in the ED.

White DAE, Giordano TP, Pasalar S, et al.

Acute HIV Discovered During Routine HIV Screening with HIV Antigen/Antibody Combination Tests in 9 U.S. Emergency Departments

This study looked at HIV screening programs in 9 EDs located in 6 different cities over a 3 year period. There were 214,524 patients screened of which 839 (0.4%) were newly diagnosed. Of the newly diagnosed 14.5% were acute HIV (detectable virus but negative antibody) and 85.5% were established HIV (positive antibody test). This study reminds us that many patients with

acute HIV will have a negative screening test that relies strictly on antibody. Many of these patients present with flu like illness as their initial presentation.

Axeem S. Seabury SA, Menchine M, et al.

Emergency Department Contribution to the Prescription Opioid Epidemic.

There has been much discussion of the opioid epidemic in both the professional and lay press. Emergency physicians tend to write a lot of prescriptions but for very small amounts. This study examined prescriptions for opioids from 1996-2012. During this period opioid prescription rates rose in private office settings and declined in the ED. For patients receiving high numbers of opioids, only 2.4% received opioids from the ED.

Welcome New Members

Katherine Braxton, MD

Scott Bugsch

Heath Burchfield, MD

Samuel T Crist

Horacio D'Agostino

Robert C Deveny

Anthony V Edholm

Darren H Garner

Timothy B Harmon

Kelli I Harris

Cheryl Hickey, MD

Geoffrey Hogan

Lindsay B Hymel, MD

Bhavik Jariwala

Jonathan R Jindia

Elizabeth Johnson

Kyle P Leonard

Ryan Lesch

Jacob Ling, MD

Caleb S Manasco

Hannah Ridder Mezan

Brittney N Mitchell, MD

Andrew P Mullet

Thuy-Mai Cristina Nguyen
Jacob A Noel
Chis Orf
Michelle Payette, MD
Christa M Pulvino
Mark Saigh, MD
Andrew M Schock
Victoria Serven
George M Smith, Jr.
David Somers
Rachel Spann
Hannah Spungen
John T Stockton
Shirly J Teller
Tseng-Che Tseng, MD
Ryan Turkington, MD
Anne K Watson
Sarah Wolochatiuk
Jarrett C Woock, MD
Israel Wootton, MD
Andrea Yun
Shana M Zucker

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