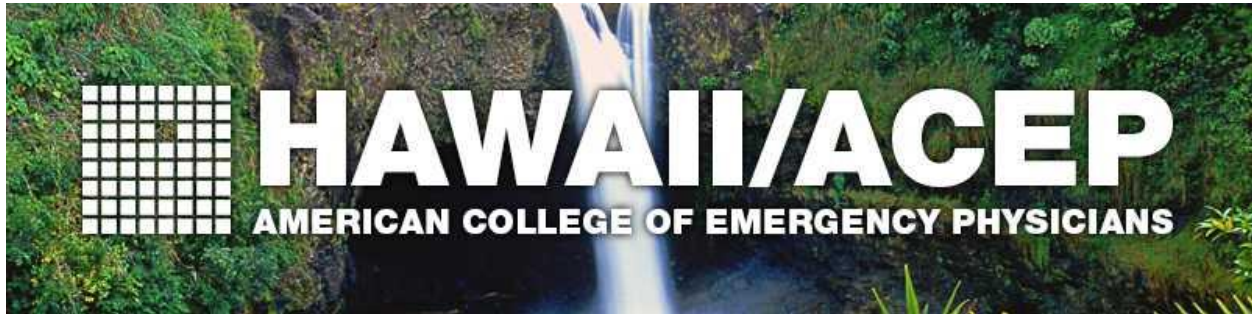


A Newsletter for the Members of the Hawaii Chapter - December 2020



Will Scruggs, MD, RDMS, MBA, FACEP
President

Tiffany Lighthfoot, RN, MS
Executive Director

[Website](http://www.acep.org) | hi.chapter@acep.org

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Hawaii ACEP President's Message **Will Scruggs, MD, RDMS, MBA, FACEP**

Let me start by thanking all of you for the tremendous work you've done caring for your patients and our communities through the COVID pandemic. It has been a difficult year for all, and you have shown the value of emergency physicians with your front-line work and in coordinating systems of care throughout the state.

The appreciation our communities have shown us and our colleagues across the spectrum of the emergency medical system has been well deserved. I hope you take the time to appreciate the thanks of our neighbors.

Through the pandemic and beyond, we will continue our efforts to serve our patients, our hospitals, and our communities. In Hawaii, your hard work in hospital and state systems is increasing our opportunities to influence and improve systems of care for our patients. We're fortunate to have physicians and other colleagues in state administration with whom we have relationships and who understand what we do. Because of those relationships and your dedication to your communities, we are in a unique position to advocate for our patients.

My goal over the next two years is to help emergency physicians and our partners achieve their goals in improving health care in Hawaii. Health care is shifting toward the outpatient setting and we need to respond and help direct change. Success will take creativity and a willingness to listen to our patients and our health care partners.

I hope you'll reach out to the Board of Hawaii ACEP with your ideas and projects. Our first priority is advocating for our patients. Part of that is helping to facilitate patient care and systems of care development locally, island-wide, and across the state. Let's come together to leverage the expertise and dedication of emergency physicians.

Last, I want to thank Mark Baker for the work he has done and welcome Tiffany Lightfoot. Mark took on an extra 6 months as President of Hawaii ACEP because of the pandemic. He's been excellent. Tiffany will be a fantastic resource for us and we're lucky to have her. We'll miss Debbie Sanders. She meant a great deal to our organization. Now, we'll benefit from the experience, expertise, and ideas Tiffany brings.

I look forward to another turn in this role. Please feel free to contact me or any other Board member to tell us how we can help you.

Will Scruggs, MD, RDMS, MBA, FACEP
Chief of Staff, Adventist Health Castle

Hawaii ACEP Board of Directors

Welcome new directors and mahalo to those continuing to serve.

President: Will Scruggs
President-Elect: Greg Soares
Immediate Past President: Mark Baker
Secretary-Treasurer: Grace Chen O'Neil
Councillor: Daniel Cheng
Councillor: Mark Baker
Board Member: Alex Berk
Board Member: Audrey McCandless
Board Member: Bennett Lee
Board Member: Greg Soares
Board Member: James Ham
Board Member: Nathan Chin
Board Member: Vijak Ayasanonda
Board Member: (vacant - Kauai)

Hawaii ACEP Annual Meeting

The annual meeting was held on November 18, 2020 2:45 PM - 5:00 PM via zoom. Mahalo to **Evie Marcolini, MD, FAAEM, FACEP, FCCM**, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Neurology from Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth for the *Neurologic Manifestations of COVID-19* presentation.

For 2021 Annual Meeting suggestions or comments, contact Tiffany Lightfoot at hi.chapter@acep.org.

Social Time: "Name That Musical Artist or Group"

Congratulations to all winners of the *Social Time: "Name That Musical Artist or Group"*.

Artist with covid-themed song and winners:

1. Genesis - Alex Berk
2. Dave Mason - Tiffany Lightfoot
3. Peter Gabriel - Paul Eakin
4. Nirvana - Audrey McCandless
5. Alicia Keys - Bennett Lee
6. Adele - Grace Chen
7. Phish - Debbi Putnam
8. The Rolling Stones - Brian Tobe



Wellness Hawaii: Physician Mental Health

by Grace Chen O'Neil, MD, FACEP

The last few months have been tumultuous in Hawaii with COVID-19 numbers soaring to new heights and then another lockdown. Mitigation efforts helped control COVID to a certain extent, temporarily anyway. We lost a member of our own Hawaii emergency physician community as well. Dr. Pugera Ganapathy, otherwise known as Dr. G, passed away on September 6, 2020. He was the co-owner of Kunia Urgent Care also working at years at Hawaii Medical Center, and later at Kuakini Hospital. He was one of the most mild-mannered and kindest emergency physicians I have ever known. Now as mainland COVID numbers reach record highs and flu season just around the corner, we must again brace for a difficult winter ahead of us.

With more than 10 million cases in the United States and over 200,000 COVID deaths, sometimes there seems to be no end in sight! Burnout among emergency physicians is high. Working long and erratic hours and having a shifting schedule including nights and weekends, all contribute to this. We are exposed to high levels of stress, at risk for malpractice claims, and making life or death decisions at work. Physicians often do not share their emotions and experiences which may contribute to higher rates of burnout and depression. Often, we are taught that there is no room for error, and we are afraid to be penalized for showing vulnerability and therefore avoid seeking help. Many physicians avoid seeking medical care for their psychiatric problems because they are afraid it will affect their career.

I wrote about Dr. Lorna Breen in the last newsletter. Unfortunately, most physicians that die by suicide, like Lorna, do not seek psychiatric care and their death is often a surprise to their colleagues. After Lorna's death, her family created the Lorna Breen Heroes' Fund to provide mental health support to health care professionals, prioritize the protection and well-being of health care workers, and break down barriers that prevent them from seeking mental health support. The rate of suicide among physicians is higher than in any other profession. On July 29, 2020, the U.S. Senate introduced legislation, the Dr. Lorna

Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, aiming to reduce and prevent suicide, burnout, and mental health conditions among health care workers. A national three-digit suicide prevention hotline, 988, will be implemented on July 16, 2022.

ACEP has been working on mental health priorities including research on the mental health impacts of coronavirus on physicians and other healthcare providers. ACEP's Wellness hub has peer support and professional counseling. Let's Talk is an online forum which allows its members to discuss challenges in the emergency department or their life in general. You can post here anonymously. COVID Captures is a new platform that records COVID-19 history as it happens, allowing emergency physicians to record firsthand accounts of the pandemic response and giving members a place to record video diaries, processing their COVID-19 experiences with their peers. ACEP also lists companies offering free crisis support for frontline health care workers on their website. Please check out: www.acep.org/wellness-hub.

During these challenging times, we have to take care of ourselves. After all, you cannot take care of others, if you do not take care of yourself.

Aloha, Grace Chen O'Neil, MD, FACEP
Secretary-Treasurer, Hawaii Chapter ACEP



UH JABSOM Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)
by Gregory Suarez, MD, FACEP

Good news to report! Students have resumed clinical activities after COVID-19 disrupted medical student education by JABSOM students being temporarily excluded. We do know that nothing can replace bedside teaching and learning. For the residency program, three students are interested in Emergency Medicine with an additional student planning on an Emergency Medicine/Internal Medicine track.

JABSOM received funding from the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) federal grant through the Hawaii Department of Health to provide pediatric training to paramedics. Two PEDISTEPPS courses were taught at the SimTiki/JABSOM in October. Experienced paramedics, faculty and trainees all felt the course was useful and necessary to practice infrequent skills. Additional courses are planned in 2021. EMSC hopes emergency physicians continue to see improved care for keiki brought to you by ambulance.

The future still offers many unknowns but we all hope that our educational community is well prepared for the challenges to come. And in the true spirit of Aloha, we will face those challenges together!

Please feel free to visit the [EMIG Website](#).

Mahalo, Gregory Suarez, MD, FACEP
Director, Hawaii Chapter ACEP

Hawaii ACEP Board Meetings

The Hawaii ACEP Board meetings are held every other month. Hawaii ACEP members are welcome to attend the Board meetings – *please contact us in advance* if you are interested. For more information on the meetings, contact Tiffany Lightfoot at hi.chapter@acep.org. Upcoming Board meetings will be held on the following dates: Wednesday, January 27, 2021; Wednesday, March 24, 2021.

Visit our [Hawaii ACEP website](#) where you can view past issues of our [Hawaii ACEP e-newsletter](#).

2020 Hawaii ACEP Emergency Department Leadership Summit

The 7th annual Hawaii ACEP Emergency Department Leadership Summit has been **POSTPONED** until 2021. This is a forum to discuss critical issues impacting Emergency Physicians, ED Nurse Leadership, Trauma Coordinators, and Emergency Departments state-wide. Our goal is to make this summit interactive, allowing participants to discuss challenges and potential solutions for all counties. We are hopeful that there will be an opportunity to meet with some of our legislators, either during or after the conference. We are all leaders, and you are all invited. Contact Tiffany Lightfoot at hi.chapter@acep.org for more information.

Welcome New Members

Jonathan Aki
William Baumgarten-Lee, MD, FACEP
Alvin C Bronstein, MD, FACEP
Benjamin T Brown, MD
Erica Maria Garcia, MD
Anthony Lim
Andrew M Perry, MD, FACEP
Amandalin Chelsea Rose Rock
Byron C Scott, MD, FACEP
Eduardo A Tan, MD, FACEP

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP continues to update its COVID resources regularly to reflect the latest information. Visit the [COVID-19 Center](#) for access to all COVID content, including the following most popular tools from the past few months:

[COVID-19 Field Guide](#) | [COVID-19 Communication Hub \(engagED Forum\)](#) | [COVID-19 Media Hub](#) | [Wellness/Counseling](#) | [COVID-19 Severity Classification Tool](#) | [Elemeno/ACEP Tool](#) | [Literature Library](#) | [ACEP Statements on PPE & Other Physician Protections](#)

NEW Resources and Toolkits

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](#) including [What EM Physicians Need to Know About the COVID Vaccine](#).
 - ACEP's new [COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit](#) has information from the FDA, Pfizer and more to help you prepare for the upcoming distribution to physicians and the public. More information will be added regularly, so check back often.
 - The [Toolkit for Preparing for the Next Wave](#) features helpful resources based on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic first wave in early 2020. Includes webinars, checklists, best practice tip sheets and more.
 - The [Monoclonal Antibody Toolkit](#) provides several resources for the investigational monoclonal antibody therapy bamlanivimab.
-

Take Action to Prevent 2021 Physician Fee Schedule Cuts

ACEP is disappointed and dismayed by the final 2021 Medicare physician fee schedule rule released this week. EM physicians will face a 6 percent cut starting in January unless Congress acts before year end. ACEP is urging Congress to take action, and we need your help. Tell your legislators that halting these cuts will help maintain the fragile health care safety net in the midst of the surging pandemic.

- [Read ACEP's first takes](#) on the final 2021 PFS rule.
 - Read last week's regulatory blog summarizing [the good, the bad and the ugly](#).
 - Read [ACEP's press release](#).
 - Watch last week's [Capital Minute](#) discussing this rule and more.
-

Latest from Regs & Eggs: ACEP's Regulatory Blog

[ACEP Responds to Long-awaited DEA Regulation on EMS Controlled Substances Policies](#)

New EMF Grant Opportunities Available Now

The Emergency Medicine Foundation is excited to announce the release of Request for Proposals for emergency medicine research. EMF is proud to offer new research grants focused on health disparities, climate change and syndromic testing of infectious diseases. [Apply for an EMF grant today!](#) Proposal deadline is Feb. 5, 2021.

Join ACEP for Webinar 3: EMTALA and the Medical Screening Exam

The third webinar in the ongoing [EMTALA series](#) is 2 p.m. CT on Dec. 17. The EMTALA series features six free webinars presented by the ACEP Medico-Legal Committee covering varying aspects of the law and how it applies to everyday practice in emergency medicine. Register today!

- Dec. 17: EMTALA and the Medical Screening Exam
 - Jan. 7: Minimizing Risk of EMTALA Violations During Transfers
 - Jan. 21: The EMTALA Complaint Process
 - Feb. 4: Managing Psychiatric Patients in the ED under EMTALA
-



ACEP20 Access Continues, New Option Available for Non-Attendees

If you participated in ACEP20, remember that you continue to [have access](#) to the education, Research Forum, exhibit showcase and more. This content will remain on the ACEP20 platform for 90 days post-conference before moving to the ACEP Online Learning Collaborative for the remainder of your three-year access period. This is how you [claim CME](#).

Those who were unable to attend can still get the education you missed from ACEP20 Unconventional and earn up to 276 CME hours for three years with the [Virtual ACEP20](#) component. One new element of Virtual ACEP20 compared to previous years is that it includes highlights from Research Forum, including State of the Art and Plenary presentations.

New Frontline Podcasts:

- **High Flow Ventilation:** The latest ACEP Frontline features a discussion with Dr. Casey Bryant from Wake Forest looking at the evidence supporting the use of Nasal High Flow in the ED, its indications and safety for COVID-19 patients, and using the ROX index for therapy implementation. [Listen now](#).
 - **COVID-19 and Stroke:** With stroke being one of the top three causes of death in the nation, timing is everything. Join the conversation between host Dr. Ryan Stanton and Dr. Aisha Terry as they discuss the different factors that affect the presentations of stroke in the emergency department due to COVID-19 and how you can advocate for improved care for stroke patients. [Listen now](#).
-

ACEP Leadership and Excellence Awards

The program provides an opportunity to recognize all members for significant professional contributions as well as service to the College. Nominations will open in December and be accepted until March 1, 2021. Some of the newest awards include the Community Emergency Medicine Excellence Award, the Innovative Change in Practice Management Award, the Pamela P. Bensen Trailblazer Award and the Policy Pioneer Award. [Check out all Leadership and Excellence Awards.](#)



JACEP Open is the official Open Access journal of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Complementing ACEP's flagship journal, *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, *JACEP Open* welcomes high quality reports representing the full spectrum of emergency care.

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- Fast turnaround times: 17 days to decision, < 30 days to publication
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- Podcasts
- Visual abstracts

Submit at www.editorialmanager.com/jacep

JACEP Open is always looking for qualified reviewers. Please send your CV to Stephanie Wauson, Managing Editor, swauson@acep.org.

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EMRA Opportunities for Residents and Medical Students

Applications are due for the Class of 2022 for the [EMRA/ACEP Leadership Academy](#) on December 31. The EMRA and ACEP Leadership Academy is a leadership/professional development program and virtual community for emerging leaders in emergency medicine.

[EMRA Winter Awards Deadline](#): January 10. Awards and scholarships include a travel scholarship for ACEP21, Resident of the Year, Fellow of the Year, Medical Student of the Year, Chair of the Year, Residency Director of the Year, APD of the Year, Residency Coordinator of the Year and more.

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