



In this Edition

[President's Message](#)

[Update: Legislative Committee](#)

[Welcome New Members](#)

[News from National ACEP](#)



Aloha Colleagues,

This month, I am wrapping up my second term as President of the chapter. With this last writeup, I would like to thank the current Board members and highlight some of the work they are doing.

Dr. Beth England has done fantastic work advocating for our patients and our specialty. She heads our Legislative Committee.

She quickly moved into the Vice Chair position of the Legislative Committee of the Hawaii Medical Association. She has a passion for health care policy and it shows in her work. I hope we will garner more support and participation in the Legislative Committee next year. The committee needs help from other members and is a fantastic way to become involved and learn about the legislative process.

Dr. Mark Baker's EndMeth initiative has led to a website and discussions at the state level on how to address the urgent need to combat methamphetamine abuse in Hawaii. Visit his website, EndMeth.org, for more information and to find out how you can become involved.

Our soon to be chapter President, Dr. Greg Suares, leads the University of Hawaii Emergency Medicine student rotation. He has successfully incorporated several neighbor island emergency departments as options for students. His hard work and the education you provide in your departments draw students into our field and help develop the next generation of emergency physicians in Hawaii.

These are just a few examples of the work Board members are doing. Physicians in our communities have moved into or created their roles by taking the initiative to connect with others in the community channeling their passions into work that enhances their careers and improves health in their communities. While becoming a Board member is a great way to interact with others and find avenues to impact your community, one of the important roles of our organization is to connect emergency physicians with similar career interests. I hope you'll connect with our Board with your ideas for improvement in community health. We can help you help those you serve.

It has been a pleasure to serve in chapter again. I am excited to see the fresh faces in our organization finding ways to advocate for our patients and our departments. In a state as small and isolated as Hawaii, we have an outsized opportunity to have our voices heard. I encourage you all to become involved in what matters most to you in your communities, departments, hospitals, and organizations like ours. Even small contributions add to our combined impact.

Thank you for all you do for the safety and health of our communities. I'm honored to work alongside all of you.

Update: Legislative Committee **Elizabeth England, MD**

I had the privilege of attending the ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC) held in Washington, DC at the beginning of May this year. I had a fantastic time and would encourage everyone to consider attending. I was very impressed with the quality of the lectures and enjoyed the opportunity to meet fellow ED doctors from across the country. The Washington ACEP Chapter was even kind enough to invite me to their group dinner and really made me feel welcome.

ACEP has done a phenomenal job advocating for emergency medicine physicians across the country. While ACEP as a whole has a very politically diverse membership, the advocacy leadership has successfully focused on issues that bring us together as a specialty rather than divide us. The top advocacy issues this year were as follows:

- 1) Addressing workplace violence and setting a standard of safety for healthcare workers.
- 2) Ensuring all ED physicians have due-process rights to protect them from being fired for advocating for their patients.
- 3) Advocating against Medicare payment cuts and for an improved, more sustainable payment schedule

On the last day of the conference, we received training on how to communicate effectively with legislators and convey the importance of our concerns. Despite it being my first time at LAC, I felt comfortable discussing these topics after participating in the training. I had the opportunity to speak to Hawaii's representatives and their staff and am pleased to say that they were supportive of our goals. I plan to follow up with them in the next few weeks and look forward to continuing these advocacy efforts in the future.

Welcome New Members

A special welcome to the new members of the Hawaii ACEP Chapter and to those that renewed their membership with the chapter. We are excited to have you!

Contact the chapter if you would like to get involved at chapter or national level. We can help!

Andrew Summersgill, MD
Carolyn R. Annerud, MD, FACEP
Charles Duke, III, MD
Chaz C. Kuniyoshi
Daniel Spicer, DO

John M Gallagher, MD, FACEP
Julie K. Wachtel, DO, FACEP
Melissa Dianne Hummelke, MD
Michael T. Wyman, MD
Teresa M Dunphy, DO

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ACEP President Dr. Gillian Schmitz [issued a statement on the Uvalde tragedy](#). "We offer support to all emergency physicians, who bear witness to this epidemic as we treat victims of firearms-related violence. We will continue our work to reduce gun violence through research, innovation and evidence-based practice."

ACEP Calls for Stronger Protections for Emergency Physicians Who Raise Workplace Safety Concerns: ACEP spoke directly to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) during a public meeting about whistleblower protections. ACEP Council Speaker Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD, MMM, FACEP, [raised the need for due process protections](#) for emergency physicians on the job.

ACEP Clinical Alert: [Shortages in Iodinated Contrast Media, Baby Formula](#)

Workforce

- **A new analysis of the EM physician resident workforce in [Annals of Emergency Medicine](#)** finds that while the number of residency programs is increasing, new programs are disproportionately located in urban areas in states with existing programs, rather than rural communities with limited access to emergency care. [Read more](#)
- **Building toward a better future, ACEP is moving forward on EM workforce initiatives.** [Watch an update](#) from ACEP President Dr. Gillian Schmitz on ACEP's progress during this April 28 town hall webinar hosted by the EM Workforce Section.
- **The Changing Role of Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners in the Emergency Department:** On May 26, ACEP's Democratic Group Practice Section is hosting a webinar with a panel discussion about best practices when using PAs and NPs in the emergency department. Topics will include ACEP's new policy on the role of PAs/NPs in the ED, economic considerations, workflow challenges, and how shared visits work. [Register for this free webinar](#).

ACEP has launched a **public campaign ["Who Takes Care of You in an Emergency?"](#)** that includes a series of videos outlining unique aspects of the job and explaining the significant difference in training and education required for physicians. Here are [new scope of practice talking points](#).

Problem solving: It's what we do. [Take a look at the issues we're tackling](#) and how you can join the cause.

More than 100 leaders, members and staff worked together to create **[ACEP's new strategic plan](#)**! **It's an important roadmap for our future.** Together we'll build a better future for emergency physicians everywhere!

It's Mental Health Awareness Month and [EM Wellness Week](#). Check your physical and financial vitals. Did you know ACEP has a page with [EM-specific financial planning resources](#)?

The [May issue of ACEP Now](#) features new articles focused on behavioral health, including [The Importance of System-Level Wellness](#) and [How to Approach Psychiatric Patients who Wish to Refuse Treatment in the ED](#).

Advocacy

Help Move the Workplace Violence Prevention Bill Forward! Ask your U.S. Senators to co-sponsor and support the "Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act" (S.4182). [Take Action!](#)

On May 4, ACEP and the Emergency Nurses Association hosted a press event at Capitol Hill to increase public awareness of workplace violence in the emergency department and to push for swift passage of the "Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act." [Read the press release with more information about the bill](#). Watch the [Facebook Live recording](#) of the press event.

No Surprises Act

In the latest twist, the government requests Texas court place a "hold" on its surprise billing appeal. [What does this mean for ACEP's lawsuit?](#) [Dive deeper and learn more](#) about ACEP's many years of advocacy on this issue that led up to this law.

Prioritize Physician Mental Health

It's Mental Health Month and a good time to look at the recently-passed Dr. Lorna Breen Act. This vital legislation, named after an ACEP member who struggled and was tragically lost during the first surge of the pandemic, went from an idea to a law that will help protect the emotional health and wellbeing of emergency physicians. [See ACEP's Role](#).

Regulatory Updates

- [Surgeon General Issues Advisory Addressing Health Worker Burnout: Gamechanger? \(5/26/22\)](#)
- [NEW BLOG SERIES: Value based Care in Emergency Medicine-- an Overview \(5/19/22\)](#)
- [CMS Finalizes New Network Adequacy Requirements for Certain Private Health Plans \(5/12/22\)](#)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

- **June 16:** [Breaking Down Barriers to ED Care for People with Sickle Cell Disease](#) - Webinar hosted by the CDC
- **June 16:** [EM Clinical Support Tool for Sickle Cell Disease](#)
- **June 17:** Last day to apply for the new [EMF health policy scholar grant](#)
- **June 20:** [Caring for our Heroes: Special Considerations for Treating Veterans in Emergency Departments](#) - Webinar hosted by ACEP
- **Aug. 23-25:** [Independent EM Group Master Class](#)
- **Nov. 11:** Last day to submit [ACEP23 course proposals](#)

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