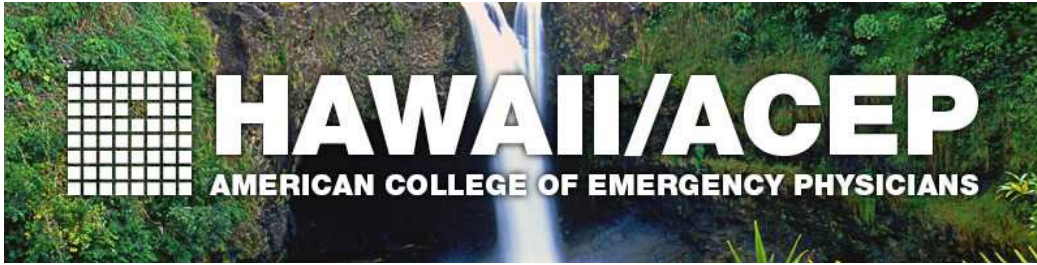


A Newsletter for the Members of the Hawaii Chapter - Fall 2022

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In this Edition

[From the Hawaii ACEP President](#)

[Legislative Committee Update](#)

[Council Meeting Summary](#)

[Don't Meth With Me](#)

[Memorial Resolution: Robert J. Teichman, MD, PhD](#)

[Welcome Members!](#)

[National ACEPs News](#)



President's Message Gregory A. Suarez, MD

Aloha Colleagues,

As I hope you are aware, changes to the documentation guidelines for evaluation and management services will be going into effect starting 2023. I would like to ensure that members understand these fundamental changes and have access to the available resources.

As I understand, the level of service codes will remain the same, however the factors which determine how these levels are assigned have shifted to your medical decision making. Going forward, it will be much more important to document your thought process with particular attention paid to 3 categories:

- 1) Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed
- 2) Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed; and
- 3) Risk of Complications / Morbidity / Mortality of Patient Management

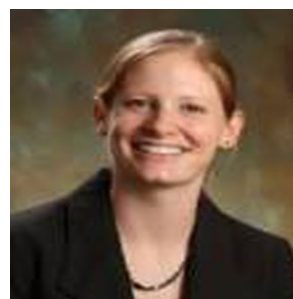
I have included a "[cheat sheet](#)" that I've created in an attempt to provide an overview and examples. There are more details to be found on ACEP's website and I recommend reviewing this [FAQ](#).

Of particular interest is the weight given to acute or chronic illness or injury that potentially poses a threat to life or bodily function. While the ultimate diagnosis does not need to confirm this potential, you will be credited for considering such pathology. You will also be rewarded for your decision making when forgoing further testing, treatment, and/or hospitalization/escalation. In addition, social factors such as homelessness, food insecurity, and lack of access to healthcare are recognized as constituting moderate risk to the patient.

I welcome this new focus on our thought processes and decision-making skills as it seems to recognize and reward our intellectual work rather than elements which might not have been contributory to the patients' care. I hope to share with our membership clarification as we learn more in the coming months and welcome your feedback.

Legislative Committee Update Elizabeth England, MD

We are now only a few months away from Hawaii's 2023 state legislative session. At this time, we are in the process of determining our legislative priorities for this upcoming year. These priorities help inform which bills we will track and advocate for or against during session. Hawaii ACEP selects priorities on based on several factors, the most crucial of which is what you, our members, identify as critical issues.



With this in mind, I would like to thank everyone who has responded to our survey on problems facing emergency medicine physicians in Hawaii. By and large, the most notable concern identified was inadequate compensation for the cost of living, followed by limited ability to connect patients with appropriate follow-up and fear of litigation. Your input is necessary to both inform our priorities and educate lawmakers on the challenges we face. If you have not already, please fill out the survey.

As you are all likely well aware, we are in an election year both on the state and federal level. We are waiting for results to see how this may impact the upcoming session. We will keep you updated on any notable events or changes as they occur.

Finally, if you have any interest in learning more about the legislative process or joining the legislative committee, please contact me. We would love to have more involvement! As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Council Meeting Summary
John M. Gallagher, MD, FACEP
Lisa Jacobsen, MD, FACEP



Aloha,

On behalf of myself (John Gallagher) and Lisa Jacobsen, it was an honor to serve as your ACEP state Councilors at this year's ACEP Council meeting. Please accept this report and feel free to contact either of us with any questions.

The Council includes members from each state chapter and ACEP sections. Think of it as the ACEP House of Representatives.

States are allocated Councilors based on the number of ACEP members in the state. Our current number of members gives us two seats on the council.

The Council meeting takes place the two days prior to the Scientific Assembly. The primary responsibilities of the Council are to consider resolutions and to elect the National ACEP Board Members and the President-Elect.

This year, the most controversial resolutions were related to ACEP's role in reproductive health rights, interactions with law enforcement, and legalization/decriminalization of illicit drugs.

We (your councilors) believe that all of the controversial resolutions were either appropriately defeated or sufficiently revised such that our rights and practices in Hawaii will be preserved. The official Council report will be finalized by the national board of directors at their next meeting, and it will be available on ACEP.com for anyone who wished to review it.

New Board Members elected include:

- Jeffrey M. Goodloe, MD, FACEP (incumbent – OK)
- Gabor D. Kelen, MD, FACEP (incumbent - MD)
- McCabe-Kline, MD, FACEP (FL)
- Ryan Stanton, MD, FACEP (incumbent - KY)
- Our new President is Dr. Chris Kang, presently from WA state. He grew up in Aiea!
- The new President-Elect is Dr. Aisha Terry

Congratulations to those elected and thank you to those that ran for board positions!

If anyone has topics that you feel should be brought before the national council, please reach out to us and we can assist in the process. Again, it was an honor to represent you.

Mahalo nui loa, a hui hou



From Left to Right: Dr. Baker, Dr. Jacobson, and Dr. Gallagher

**Don't Meth With Me
Mark Baker, MD, FACEP**



I am deeply troubled by the meth problem, and I hope you are too. We all practice emergency medicine in the State of Hawaii, we know that methamphetamine is a tragic problem here. What used to be an intermittent cause of heart failure and psychiatric problems is showing itself full force in young patients. The problem started in Hawaii in 1986.

It has spread to the western half of the United States to the point that deaths related to methamphetamine exceed deaths related to opiates. In Hawaii, this problem has become multigenerational, tragically three generations at times. I fear the same will happen to the rest of the country.

Prevention will be the best remedy and it will take time and a lot of effort. To facilitate this, I have done several things and I invite you to join me and other concerned physicians with this effort.

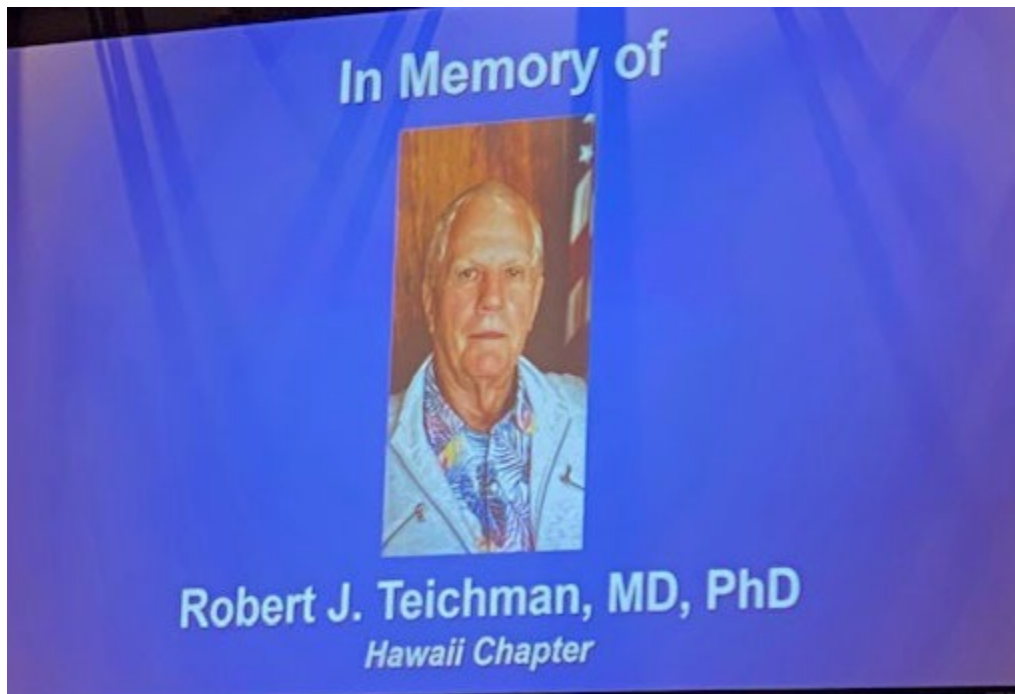
1. Check out the [website](#).
2. Please record a story that can be posted to the website. Look for a link on the main page or [click here](#) for more details.
3. The State of Hawaii awarded my organization a grant to put on a conference. The date is February 15. It will be live and in person at the Laniakea YWCA. Please mark your calendar.
4. I am coordinating a monthly task force that meets at noon on the second Friday of every month, let me know if you are interested.
5. I can give a lecture or provide support for anyone who wants to help.

Please contact [me](#) with your ideas and questions. We need to lead the rest of the country in combating this deadly epidemic.

**Memorial Resolution: Robert J. Teichman, MD, PhD
Mark Baker, MD, FACEP**

Mark Baker accepted this framed resolution on behalf of Dr. Geri Young for one of our Hawaii Members who passed away during the past year. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLVED, That the American College of Emergency Physicians remembers with honor and gratitude the accomplishments and contributions of a gifted emergency physician, Robert J. Teichman, MD, PhD, and extends condolences and gratitude to his wife, Geri Young, MD, of Kapa'a Kaua'i, and his sons Kurt Teichman of Brooklyn, NY and Grant Teichman of Honolulu Hawaii, and other family members for his service to the community, his patients, his students, and the specialty of emergency medicine.



Welcome Members!

A special welcome to the new members of the Hawaii Chapter and to those that renewed their membership. Please [reach out](#) if you would like to become involved at the chapter level, including leadership opportunities.

We are excited to have you!

Amber M. Cibrario, DO	David J. Horn, MD
Ian Randall Keck, DO	Robin A. Edwards, MD
Sarah Marie Armstrong	Thomas B. Fetherston
Travis Thompson, MD	

Congratulations!



Congrats to our new FACEP!

Lauren Rodriguez, MD, FACEP

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

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](#)

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