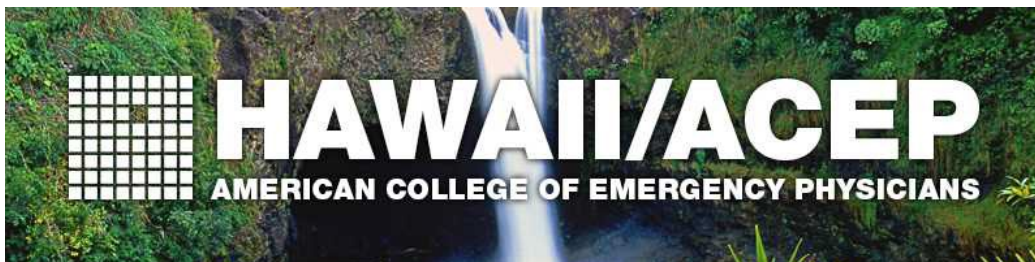


A Newsletter for the Members of the Hawaii Chapter - Fall
2023

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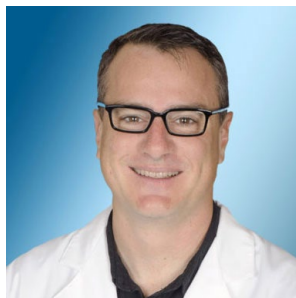
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**From the Hawaii ACEP President
Gregory A. Suarez, MD**

Hawaii ACEP Colleagues,

As many of you may know, Hawaii ACEP conducted a workforce assessment for Hawaii in 2018.

I recently solicited the various groups that staff our island's emergency departments and wanted to share some of the preliminary data from that post-COVID survey. Of the eight groups, five responded at the time of publication. See some of the data collected below:

- Total yearly patient volumes for those groups/sites: 386,758.
- Average patients per hour for full-time physician: 1.81 (improved from 2018 which was 2.1).
- All but one group felt the current staffing was inadequate.
- None of the groups felt the workforce was sustainable.
- All groups are currently hiring.

There are several significant limitations to this data as the numbers provided were self-reported estimates from each group. Acuity/level of service/admission rates were also not captured.

My hope is that I'll get data from the remaining sites and collect more granular details regarding acuity across the islands.

Big thanks to everyone participating and I appreciate your feedback and support!

2023 Council Meeting Summary
Mark Baker, MD, FACEP
Alexander Berk, MD, FACEP

Greetings Hawaii ACEP,

The 2023 Council Meeting took place in Philadelphia, October 7 and 8. Dr. Alex Berk and Mark Baker represented Hawaii.

Below is a summary of the meeting:

- The Council Meeting includes members from each state Chapter and ACEP sections. Think of it as the ACEP House of Representatives (states are allocated Councillors based on the number of ACEP members in the state.)
- The Council Meeting takes place the two days prior to the Scientific Assembly.
- There are informational updates on College issues. Membership is a concern. One often repeated statement is that only 5% of ACEP revenue comes from Contract Management Groups. ACEP officers and staff are not controlled by funds from large contract groups.
- The primary responsibilities of the Council are to consider resolutions and to vote for National ACEP Board Members and the President-Elect.
- Resolutions can be submitted by any Chapter, Section, or two individual ACEP members.
- Prior to the Council Meeting all ACEP members are able to comment on any of the resolutions.
- This year, the most controversial resolutions were related to ACEP's role advocating to decrease gun violence. Social issues that are nationally controversial usually don't get passed and the same was true for the firearms resolutions this year. There were resolutions related to the scope of practice of APPs.
- Resolution of note that passed include advocating that all states bring Medicaid payments to at least the level of Medicare payments and a resolution that ACEP support compensation for required non-clinical activities similar to compensation that nurses receive when they do required modules. Final wording of resolutions will be available in the future.

Elections

- Our new President is Aisha Terry, MD, MPH, FACEP, following her term as President-Elect.
- The new President-Elect is Alison Haddock, MD, FACEP.

- The Speaker (of the Council) is Melissa Costello, MD, FACEP, taking the position after being Vice-Speaker.
- The newly elected Vice-Speaker is Michael McCrea, MD, FACEP.

New Board Members

- Chad Kraus, DO, FACEP
- Abhi Mehrotra, MD, FACEP
- Henry Pitzele, MD, FACEP
- Jamie Shoemaker, MD, FACEP

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

Consider informatics related issues that you think should be presented as a resolution during the 2024 Council Meeting in Las Vegas.



From Left to Right: Dr. Berk and Dr. Baker



*2023 Council Meeting Luncheon
Philadelphia, PA.*

Hawaii ACEP Chapter Bylaws

We continue to do all we can to streamline our Chapter processes. For this reason, we have simplified our Chapter Bylaws. We will be voting on changes to the Bylaws 30-days from the date of you receiving this newsletter. Keep a look out for information on how to vote for the approval of the Chapter Bylaws.

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ACEP Blunts Medicare Cuts in 2024 Physician Fee Schedule

CMS recently released the Physician Fee Schedule PFS for calendar year 2024, which includes some wins for you and your patients, thanks to ACEP's involvement. Other provisions are concerning and ACEP continues to fight for favorable solutions. Our goal is to ensure your work is valued appropriately. [Read ACEP's detailed analysis.](#)

ACEP Council Tackles Key Issues During Philadelphia Meeting

More than 60 resolutions were considered during the ACEP23 Council Meeting in Philadelphia in October, with many of them drawing considerable debate before 44 were ultimately adopted. [Learn more](#)

New Career Resources:

- You asked for it. ACEP delivered. ACEP's **Open Book** addresses your need for employer transparency. Gain access to information about employer group structure, leadership and more | openbook.acep.org
- **Practice Essentials of Emergency Medicine** augments your knowledge of several critical business topics: Reimbursement, Contracts and Practice Models, Negotiations, Operations Management, Risk Management and More. It's **FREE** for ACEP members | acep.org/practiceessentials
- **Find More Fulfillment in Your Career.** ACEP has published a new wellness guide, [From Self to System – Being Well in Emergency Medicine](#), which offers practical solutions to many of the systemic issues that plague emergency physicians today. Thank you to the countless authors and contributors who brought together these valuable resources.

ACEP in Action: We are committed to listening to, and learning from, the challenges that physicians face on each shift and to being your network of support in this difficult environment. Actions speak louder than words. We are tackling the issues that matter most to you. Our efforts are stronger when we stand united. [Read More.](#)

Fighting for You on Shift

- ACEP convened health care stakeholders in September to discuss barriers and solutions at our ED Boarding Summit
- We have released poll results about the public's concern about boarding in the ED | acep.org/boarding
- This [ACEP Now boarding series](#) keeps you updated on the latest boarding news and opinions

- [Contact Congress about the ED Boarding Crisis](#)

Getting it Done in D.C.

- ACEP has been involved in **NINE recent lawsuits** to protect your autonomy and [ensure fair reimbursement](#)
- We have invested more than \$1 million of member dues dollars to [push back on scope creep](#) at the federal and state levels

Member Benefit Spotlight: Map out your spending and investment accounts, retirement projections, and goal projections in one secure online platform with My Financial Coach. [Read more.](#)

Learn More about OUD Management With E-QUAL, a free online, low-burden quality improvement program. E-QUAL is now accepting enrollment in its 2024 substance use disorder initiative where you can discover best practices for ED opioid prescribing, earn credit for CMS' MIPS program and get real-time benchmarking data. [Learn more and sign up today.](#)

ACEP Grassroots Advocacy

Urge Congress to Prevent Workplace Violence in the ED

ACEP is continuing its mission to bring both Congressional and public attention to the growing problem of violence against health care workers. [A recent video article](#) in the *New York Times* highlights the crisis of violence in emergency departments and includes compelling testimonials from emergency physicians and other health care workers about its impact on their ability to provide care to patients.

We urge you to [share the video with your legislators](#) to reinforce the urgency of the problem and the need for Congressional action. Your legislators need to hear from physicians who are experiencing and witnessing this crisis on the frontlines of our health care system so they will prioritize swift action in this Congress.

Be an Advocate for Emergency Medicine and Patients

Join with your ACEP colleagues to advocate to Congress. As a physician, health care issue expert, and constituent - you have a unique story to share. [Visit the ACEP Advocacy Action Center.](#)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec 7: [Hot Off the Presses: Key Reimbursement from the 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#)

Jan 9-10: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Jan 29-30: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Feb 6-8: [Independent EM Group Master Class](#)

Hawaii ACEP Chapter
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