

A Newsletter for the Members of the Minnesota Chapter

Winter 2019



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President's Message

Drew Zinkel, MD, FACEP

We are one polar vortex and several brutal snowstorms into our winter cold-related illness and injury season. Thank you to those of you who braved the weather and icy roads to make it to our annual Emergency Medicine Summit on January 28th. Even with the difficult road conditions it was well attended. Our invited guest speaker and national ACEP board of directors' member Dr. Marc Rosenberg spoke on geriatric emergency department accreditation and opioids. There were several panel discussions on topics ranging from opioid use disorder and treatment to current state legislative issues with invited congressmen Representative Nick Zerwas (R) and Senator Dr. Matt Klein (D).

The feedback from the day was very positive, stating that we had engaging speakers who presented high yield, valuable information that will change the practice of those who attended.

The Summit was followed by our first Board of Directors meeting of the year in which we introduced three new board members: Anthony Nardi, MD of Emergency Care Consultants, Rob Thomas, MD, of Emergency Physicians Professional Association, and Samreen Vora, MD, of Minnesota Children's Hospitals. In addition, due to our membership numbers increasing to over 700 this past year we have added one new councillor position to the ACEP National Council, bringing our total number of councillors to eight. This strengthens our voice at the national level.

We have several new state and national legislators representing Minnesota in congress, and we have begun setting up meetings with them and our constituent members to get to know each other. When there are issues affecting their constituents, our patients, and our practice they know they can reach out to us and we can help inform them in the future. Our advocacy committee has plans to work with other state medical specialty societies on issues that overlap our specialties and that we can agree on to strengthen our voice at the state level. If you have an interest in participating in any of these activities please consider joining the Policy and Advocacy Committee. Topics of discussion will include integration of the MN Prescription Monitoring Program into the electronic health record, opioid legislation for 2019, the MNCare tax which is set to sunset in 2019, and the MN Emergency Physician Action Fund upcoming fundraiser events.

Please join several of your board members at the American College of Emergency Physician's [Leadership and Advocacy conference](#) in Washington, D.C. from May 5th-9th. You will have the chance to meet in a small group setting with your senate and representative leaders on Capitol Hill and discuss major issues affecting emergency medicine and health care nationally. I look forward to seeing many of you at any and all of these events in the near future. Thank you for your membership and involvement.

Formation of the MN Chapter of the National Association of EMS Physicians (MN NAEMSP)

The MN Chapter of the National Association of EMS Physicians has announced the approval of their charter in January, 2019. The goal of the MN NAEMSP is to serve as a

resource and unified voice for EMS Physicians and Professionals throughout the state of Minnesota.

As a resource, they will serve as a contact to answer questions and help bring concerns to light about the practice of EMS Medicine in MN. Additionally, they serve as a unified voice for the specialty to other medical societies as well as the MN State legislature in order to improve the visibility of the specialty, push for best practices and improve the care of their patients.

For more information, view their [website](#). Interested parties are invited to contact info@mn-naemsp.com to address any additional questions or concerns.

MN NAEMSP Mission: “To Cultivate an Engaged Field of EMS Physicians and Professionals throughout Minnesota”

Legislative Update Buck McAlpin, Legislative Consultant

As we enter the second month of the 2019 legislative session both bodies have now introduced around 1000 bills and the majority of committee time is being dedicated to hearing legislative proposals, including the House and Senate majority party priorities. Both bodies have started hearing Federal Tax Conformity Bills – last session the legislature passed tax conformity legislation that was vetoed by Governor Dayton.

The Legislature is moving forward on a number of key measures that may impact Minnesota businesses, including proposed mandates related to paid family and medical leave and paid sick and safe leave.

Soon the focus at the Capitol will shift to the state budget, Governor Walz will release his tax and budget proposals by February 19. In late February, the state will release an updated fiscal forecast, which will set the target numbers for budget negotiations. Also, a big part of the final budget negotiations will be what the legislature does with the Provider Tax repeal. Republicans in the Senate are vowing not to repeal the 2019 sunset of the tax. Without a repeal of the sunset or a new funding source the state will need to realize a large budget hole in the upcoming forecast.

With the first month of the session under our belts, the MNACEP Policy and Advocacy Committee met on Wednesday February 13th to discuss the 2019 legislative session. Meeting after the session started allowed us to see the tone of the legislature on important issues like the Provider Tax and the Opioid Epidemic. So far much of what we discussed as “positions” for MNACEP have held true:

- Prescription Monitoring Program Integration into the Health Care Systems Electronic Medical Records:
 - MNACEP **Supports** funding from the general fund or other source besides providers to the Pharmacy Board to implement this program
- Mandated Prescription Monitoring Program Utilization by Prescribers:
 - MNACEP **Opposes** mandates on health care providers
- Provider Tax sunset at the end of 2019:
 - MNACEP **Supports** maintaining some type of funding for the health care access fund
- Maintaining Medicaid Coverage for Minnesotans:
 - MNACEP **Supports** coverage for low-income individuals
- Provider Price Transparency:
 - MNACEP is **supportive** of educating the public on the cost of their health care services
- Amending the Health Record Act (HRA) to Align with HIPPA Guidelines:
 - MNACEP **Supports** changes to the HRA to optimize patient care across systems
- Mental Health Crisis Centers and ED over-crowding:
 - MNACEP **Supports** any efforts to increase capacity and resources to limit boarding of patients in emergency departments

As we look ahead to the last three months of the legislative session, committees will begin to meet often and late to process not only individual pieces of legislation, they will also begin the process of assembling large Omnibus budget bills. With the fate of the Provider Tax up in the air, I am concerned that the House and Senate will have differing budget proposals. The House will most likely spend new money in their budget, including the repeal of the provider tax sunset. In the Senate, I am guessing they will cut Health and Human Services spending refusing to replace the funding source for the Health Care Access Fund, at least in the initial round of negotiations between the Governor’s Office and the House and Senate leadership.

Addressing the Opioid Epidemic

Both bodies have introduced legislation to address the opioid epidemic, [SF 751](#) (Rosen – R) and [HF 400](#) (Olson – D). HF 400 has moved through the HHS Policy committee and the Commerce committee with minor changes to the legislative language. In the Commerce Committee, the bill met additional resistance on the proposed funding mechanism requiring drug manufacturers and wholesalers to pay higher licensing fees to produce \$20 M in revenue. SF751 was heard in the Health and Government Operations Committees in the Senate this week and moved through the process with bi-partisan support. The House and Senate proposals are very similar this year, with licensing fees on drug manufacturers and wholesalers. The Senate passed the similar bill last legislative session with a vote of 60-6. Those two bills will move through the process swiftly and will pass off both the Senate and House floors. At this time the bills are somewhat different, when that happens they get sent to a conference committee to reconcile language.

If you are interested in serving on the MNACEP Policy and Advocacy Committee, please let Dr. Tom Wyatt, Advocacy Chair, or [Shari Augustin](#) know. We would be more than happy to add you to our committee roster.

Welcome New Members

Megan Heeney
Alexis Kate Johnson
John Yongjon Lee, Jr
Eastan Marleau , MD
Kristyn N Mcleod
Daniel Osarfo-Akoto
Michelle Patregnani
Abigail Marie Schnaith
Aunika Swenson

NEWS FROM ACEP



Bedside Tools

ACEP has a number of web-based tools for you to use at the bedside. From sepsis, to acute pain to agitation in the elderly – we've got you covered!

- [ADEPT](#) - Confusion and Agitation in the Elderly ED Patient
- [ICAR2E](#) - A tool for managing suicidal patients in the ED
- [DART](#) - A tool to guide the early recognition and treatment of sepsis and septic shock
- [MAP](#) - Managing Acute Pain in the ED
- [BEAM](#) - Bariatric Examination, Assessment, and Management in the Emergency Department. For the patient with potential complications after bariatric surgery

Unscheduled Procedural Sedation: A Multidisciplinary Consensus Practice Guideline

The new ACEP policy statement, *Unscheduled Procedural Sedation: A Multidisciplinary Consensus Practice Guideline*, was approved by the Board in September 2018 and has been endorsed by several other organizations. [Read the final version of the policy here.](#)

Social Media Policy

Make sure you're protecting yourself. ACEP has a new social media policy to help keep you and your patients safe. [Read the policy here.](#)

New Policy Statements, PREP and Information Paper

During their January 2019 meeting, the ACEP Board of Directors approved the following new or revised policy statements/PREP/information paper:

New Policy Statements:

[Autonomous Self-Driving Vehicles](#)

[Reporting of Vaccine Related Adverse Events](#)

Revised Policy Statements:

[Advertising and Publicity of Emergency Medical Care](#)

[Economic Credentialing](#)

[Emergency Physician Stewardship of Finite Resources](#)

[Medical Services Coding](#)

[Patient Information Systems](#)

[Providing Telephone Advice from the ED](#)

Revised Policy Resource and Education Paper (PREP)

[Military Emergency Medical Services](#)

New Information Paper:

[Suicide Contagion in Adolescents: The Role of the Emergency Department](#)

Articles of Interest in *Annals of Emergency Medicine* - Winter 2019

Sam Shahid, MBBS, MPH

Practice Management Manager, ACEP

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.

Shih HM, Chen YC, Chen CY, Huang FW, Chang SS, Yu SH, Wu SY, Chen

WK. Derivation and Validation of SWAP Score for Very Early Prediction of Neurological Outcome in Patients with Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest.

The aim of this study was to establish a simple and useful assessment tool for rapidly estimating the prognosis of patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) after their arrival at an emergency department (ED). A total of 852 patients admitted from January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017 were prospectively registered and enrolled into the derivation cohort. Multivariate logistic regression on this cohort identified four independent factors associated with unfavorable outcomes: initial nonshockable rhythm, no witness of collapse, age >60 years, and pH \leq 7.00. The shockable rhythm–witness–age–pH (SWAP) score was developed and one point was assigned to each predictor. For a SWAP score of 4, the specificity was 97.14% for unfavorable outcomes in the derivation cohort. The study concluded that the SWAP score is a simple and useful predictive model that may provide information for the very early estimation of prognosis for patients with OHCA.

Chinn E, Friedman BW, Naeem F, Irizarry E, Afrifa F, Zias E, Jones MP, Pearlman S, Chertoff A, Wollowitz A, Gallagher EJ. **Randomized Trial of Intravenous Lidocaine versus Hydromorphone for Acute Abdominal Pain in the Emergency Department.**

This randomized, double blind clinical trial compared the efficacy and safety of intravenous lidocaine to that of hydromorphone for the treatment of acute abdominal pain in two emergency department (ED) in the Bronx, NY. Adults weighing 60-120 kg were randomized to receive 120 mg of IV lidocaine or 1 mg of IV hydromorphone. 30 minutes after administration of the first dose of study drug, participants were asked if they needed a second dose of the investigational medication to which they were randomized. The primary outcome was improvement in 0-10 pain scores between baseline and 90 minutes. Out of the 154 patients enrolled, 77 received lidocaine and 77 received hydromorphone and by 90 minutes, patients randomized to lidocaine improved by a mean of 3.8 points on the 0-10 scale, while those randomized to hydromorphone improved by a mean of 5.0 points. The study concluded that IV hydromorphone was superior to IV lidocaine, both for general abdominal pain and a subset with nephrolithiasis.

Ballard DW, Kuppermann N, Vinson DR, Tham E, Hoffman JM, Swietlik M, Davies SJD, Alessandrini EA, Tzimenatos L, Bajaj L, Mark DG, Offerman SR, Uli K. Chettipally UK, Paterno MD, Schaeffer MH, Richards R, Casper TC, Goldberg HS, Grundmeier RW and Dayan PS, for the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN), Clinical Research on Emergency Services and Treatment (CREST) Network, and Partners HealthCare. **Implementation of a Clinical Decision Support System for Children with Minor Blunt Head Trauma at Non-negligible Risk for Traumatic Brain Injuries.**

This study utilized a secondary analysis of a non-randomized clinical trial with concurrent controls conducted at 5 pediatric and 8 general EDs between 11/2011 and 6/2014, enrolling patients <18 years-old with minor blunt head trauma. After a baseline period, intervention sites received electronic clinical decision support (CDS) providing patient-level ciTBI risk estimates and management recommendations. The following primary outcomes in patients with 1 intermediate PECARN risk factor were compared pre- and post-CDS: (1) ED computed tomography (CT) proportion adjusting for age, time trend, and site and (2) prevalence of ciTBI. The results showed that providing specific risks of ciTBI via electronic CDS was associated with a modest and safe decrease in ED CT use in children at non-negligible risk of ciTBI. [Full text available here.](#)

Akhlaghi N, Payandemehr P, Yaseri M, Akhlaghi AA Abdolrazaghnejad

A. Premedication with Midazolam or Haloperidol to Prevent Recovery Agitation in Adults Undergoing Procedural Sedation with Ketamine: A Randomized Double-Blind Clinical Trial

This study evaluated the effect of midazolam and haloperidol premedication for reducing ketamine-induced recovery agitation in adult patients undergoing procedural sedation. They randomized emergency department patients older than 18 years who needed procedural sedation to receive one of the following three interventions in double-blind fashion 5 minutes prior to receiving ketamine 1 mg/kg IV: distilled water IV, midazolam 0.05 mg/kg IV, or haloperidol 5 mg IV. The main study outcomes were recovery agitation as assessed by the maximum observed Pittsburgh Agitation Scale (PAS), and by the Richmond Agitation-Sedation Scale (RASS) at 5, 15, and 30 minutes after ketamine administration. For the 185 patients undergoing adult procedural sedation, premedication with either midazolam 0.05 mg/kg or haloperidol 5 mg IV was shown to significantly reduce ketamine-induced recovery agitation while simultaneously delaying recovery.

[Full text available here.](#)

Remick K, Gausche-Hill M, Joseph MM, Brown K, Snow SK, Wright JL, AAP Committee on Pediatric Emergency Medicine and Section on Surgery, ACEP Pediatric Emergency Medicine Committee, ENA Pediatric Committee. **Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA) published updated joint guidelines, "Pediatric Readiness in the Emergency Department," that recommend ways health care providers can make sure every injured or critically ill child receives the best care possible. The joint policy statement, published in the November 2018, represents a revision of the 2009 policy statement and highlights recent advances in pediatric emergency care that may be incorporated into all emergency departments that

care for children. The statement emphasizes the importance of evidence-based guidelines and includes additional recommendations for quality improvement plans focusing on children and disaster preparedness. [Link to *Annals* publication.](#)



See Your Impact

You serve your community. ACEP is honored to serve you. Since 1968, ACEP has united and amplified the collective voice of emergency physicians across the world. We know you face challenges, and it's our mission to protect your interests and make it easier for you to provide the highest quality care for your patients. As an ACEP member, you are a direct contributor to important initiatives that propel the profession forward. Our [2018 Annual Report](#) illustrates how your support makes an incredible impact on emergency medicine.



embrs

Emergency Medicine Basic Research Skills

Are you interested in increasing and improving research in emergency medicine?

[Emergency Medicine Basic Research Skills \(EMBRs\)](#) is a 9-day, 2-session program where participants learn how to identify clinical research opportunities and become familiar with clinical research and outcomes. Participants are also eligible to receive an EMF/EMBRs grant based on their research grant application. This course targets: Junior faculty with limited research experience; Physicians in academic and community centers who are interested in research basics; Physicians who have as part of their duties involvement in research, including mentoring young researchers; Fellows in non-research fellowships.

[Click here to learn more](#) and to put your name on the interest list. The next course will take place Dec. 2-7th, 2019 (session 1) and April 14-16, 2020 (session 2).

MOC Made Easy

The [New ACEP MOC Center](#) is the "easy button" for MOC! It's a One-Stop-Shop to keep it all together and on track for all things MOC. See what you have to do to stay certified AND what resources ACEP has to help you do it.

ABEM has made (at least) three big changes in the way they present MOC information to diplomates – 1) they launched a new website, 2) they changed the names and order of the MOC components, and 3) they changed the language they use to describe them (no more "Part" anything). ABEM also announced an alternative to the ConCert Exam, which they'll pilot in 2020 and launch in 2021.

**NEWS FROM THE
AMERICAN BOARD OF
EMERGENCY MEDICINE
FEBRUARY 2019**



**American Board of
Emergency Medicine**

Letter Available to Request Becoming ED Designated Trainer for Lab Procedures

ABEM can provide a letter of support to ABEM-certified physicians to request that their hospital laboratory director apply for a waiver for ED point-of-care (POC) testing. If the waiver is granted, a designated trainer, who may be an emergency physician, can provide annual competency testing to other ED personnel for POC testing procedures, such as hemocult or urine pregnancy testing, etc. Waivers to allow POC testing by ED personnel help reduce the burden that emergency physicians face by having to undergo annual training by a laboratory representative as well as expedite patient throughput.

The letter and additional information about the waiver are available from physicians' Personal Page on the ABEM portal. To download the letter:

- Sign in to the [ABEM portal](#)
- On the left navigation, click "Print Verification of ABEM Status"
- Under letter type, click "POCT"
- Click "Continue to Next Step"

The letter is available to physicians participating in the ABEM MOC Program.

This is the most recent letter resulting from the continuing efforts of the Coalition to Oppose Medical Merit Badges (COMMB) and is signed by each representative of the Coalition. The rationale for the letter is that physicians participating in MOC have the knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide such training. Also available is a general letter stating that ABEM certification supersedes the need to complete "merit badge" requirements. That letter explains that ABEM's MOC Program is a rigorous form of continuous professional development that contains content critical to the practice of Emergency Medicine, including procedural sedation, cardiovascular care, airway management, trauma care, stroke management, and pediatric acute care.

Certification, therefore, supersedes the need for certifications sometimes required for medical staff privileges or disease-specific care center designations.

ConCert Fast Facts

- The ConCert Exam is available twice per year—in the spring and the fall
- You can register and take the ConCert Exam during any examination administration in the last five years of your certification
- You do not have to complete all other MOC requirements to register early for the ConCert Exam
- Completing your MOC requirements early does **NOT** reset your certification expiration date (it will be good for the entire ten-year period)
- If you complete your requirements early, your new certificate will be sent toward the end of the final year of your current certification
- 60 *AMA PRA Category 1™ Credits* are available at no charge for passing the ConCert Exam and completing all other MOC requirements (go to www.abem.org, and click on “Stay Certified,” and “CME Credit Available for ABEM Activities” for more information)

If you have any questions about the ConCert Exam or other MOC requirements, please contact ABEM at 517.332.4800, ext. 383, or moc@abem.org.

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