

A Newsletter for the Members of the New Mexico Chapter - Spring 2020



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From the President

Margaret Greenwood-Ericksen, MD, MSc, FACEP

Greetings New Mexico Colleagues:

First, thank you for nominating and supporting me as New Mexico ACEP President for this year. I am very excited to serve in this role and honored to be able to represent our chapter on the national stage.

We find ourselves in an unprecedented time in the world, with novel coronavirus fundamentally disrupting the way we conduct our lives and work. Within this context, Emergency Medicine clinicians face challenges never before experienced -- gripping concern regarding the wellbeing of our patients and communities, learning minute-by-minute how to best treat Covid-19, facing PPE shortages while coping with anxiety about personal and family safety, “working from home” without the support of daycare and school, and operational challenges related to the delivery of Emergency Medicine. Recently we have been wondering - “where did all the patients go,” with concerns that our fellow New Mexicans may be sitting at home, avoiding seeking life-saving care due to concerns of either becoming infected by Covid-19 or trying to adhere to a public health message to only seek care if truly emergent. We are now seeing a return in our ED volumes in the Albuquerque-area in both the medical and psychiatric emergency departments – and are unsure if the future holds a dramatic rise in need or continued avoidance due to loss of insurance, a downturn in the economy, and fear of Covid-19. [Read More](#)

Resident's Corner Ralph Bauer, MD

On May 2nd, the NMACEP annual meeting featured reports on how different emergency departments are coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. Leaders from Presbyterian, University of New Mexico, and Gallup Indian Medical Center presented some of the recent changes and challenges posed by this virus. For this Residents' Corner, I am covering the highlights of this session for those who could not make the meeting. [Read More](#)

Welcome New Members!

Shaun Antonio
William Paul Aragon
Daniel F Becchi, MD
Mike C Butterfield
Nicholas Chajec
James Cotton, MD
Douglas R Dixon, MD, FACEP
Stephanie Garcia, MD Naomi George, MD
Dorothy A Habrat, DO
Wendy A Hanna, MD
Michael D Kelley, MD
Tijana Marjanovic
Carlene S Schleisman
Hank M Spellman
Jordan Torres
Thomas C Wright, MD

FROM NATIONAL ACEP

 American College of
Emergency Physicians®

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 



New COVID-19 Website, Plus Updates to COVID-19 Field Guide

Featuring more than 400 resources, our [revamped COVID-19 website](#) will help you find what you need, when you need it. Our most popular resource, the [ACEP Field Guide for Managing COVID-19 in the ED](#), has grown to more than 230 pages and been translated to 5 additional languages. The following sections are newly updated: decontamination/cleaning, HCW checklist, HFNO, treatment and management.

Public Poll: Emergency Care Concerns Amidst COVID-19

There is a worrisome trend across ERs of people who are avoiding getting the medical care they need. While it's important to stay home and follow social distancing guidelines, it's critical to always know when to go to the emergency department. [Read more.](#)

National EMS Week is here!

We are proud to partner with NAEMT to feature [National EMS Week](#) (May 17-23) as an initiative to create significantly greater visibility of EMS among health professions and communities. ACEP thanks the [generous organizations](#) supporting this year's initiatives.

TJC Statement, COVID 4.0 Package and More in this Week's Capital Minute

Tune into the reimagined ACEP Capital (30) Minutes every other Thursday at 3 p.m. ET to get federal advocacy updates and answers to your questions in real-

time. In the latest edition, we're covering the most recent regulatory changes and funding updates, The Joint Commission statement on mental health that came out earlier this week and what you need to know about the COVID 4.0 package. Watch this week's ACEP Capital Minute [here](#) and register for the next edition [here](#).

Medicare Telehealth Flexibilities...Are They Here to Stay?

We are seeing an expansion of telehealth that we have never seen before, and it is hard to imagine ever going back to where we were before. However, for us to keep up the momentum and not return to the pre-pandemic telehealth world, a few things need to happen---read this week's [Regs & Eggs blog](#) to find out what.

COVID-19 Financial Survival Guide: What You Need to Know

ACEP is standing up for our members who, despite serving on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic, are having their livelihoods threatened. Cutting benefits, reducing shifts or canceling contracts in today's environment is akin to signing a 'Do Not Resuscitate' order for many emergency departments and the physicians who care for patients, especially those in rural or underserved areas. [Access the guide](#).

TJC Statement Supports Removing Barriers to Mental Health Care for Clinicians and Health Care Staff

ACEP recently met with The Joint Commission to discuss physicians being penalized by state licensing boards and other entities for seeking mental health support. On May 12, TJC [released a statement](#) that supports "the removal of any barriers that inhibit clinicians and health care staff from accessing mental health care services, including eliminating policies that reinforce stigma and fear about the professional consequences of seeking mental health treatment." [View more wellness and crisis support resources](#).

Upcoming Virtual Grand Rounds Focused on Physician Wellness

Join us May 27 for our Virtual Grand Rounds! From 10 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. CT, we'll cover physician wellness, second victim syndrome in COVID times, emergency

mindfulness, overcoming self-judgment with self-compassion, and how to support your team during times of crisis. [Register by 8 a.m. CT on May 27.](#)

Related Resources:


- Physician Crisis Support: ACEP collaborated with the American Association of Emergency Psychiatry on a [webinar and podcast](#) related to physician wellness and mental health during COVID-19.
 - ACEP Member Benefit: [Free Counseling and Support](#)
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Did You See This Broadway Tribute to Emergency Medicine?

ACEP and ENA were asked to join the “Resilient Project,” featuring more than 60 Broadway theatre artists to virtually perform “Resilient” as a thank you to emergency healthcare professionals worldwide. [Watch for cameos from several EM physicians and nurses in the video](#), which also aims to raise money for COVID-19 research through EMF.

Member Benefits: COVID-19 No Cost, Discount & Other Offers



You are risking your lives to care for patients from this unprecedented pandemic, and we all appreciate the additional stress on you and your families. We want to help. And, so do a lot of companies out there. So, thanks to you and thanks to the companies willing to support our healthcare heroes. [View the benefits.](#)



**ZOOM EM-FOCUSED
MAT WAIVER TRAINING**

Get Your DEA DATA-2000 X Waiver
June 17th 2020 9am-5pm CT

Eligibility: MD,DO (Including Residents), NP/PA
(including NP/PA in training) and Medical Students

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the American College of Emergency Physicians. The American College of Emergency Physicians is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American College of Emergency Physicians designates this live activity for a maximum of 8.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Opioid Updates

- More than 800 participated in a Zoom version of waiver training hosted by ACEP, Get Waivered, and ED Bridge on May 20. Missed it? Sign up for our next [EM-specific MAT waiver training](#) via Zoom on **June 17**.
- [ACEP's PACED accreditation program](#) is the nation's only specialty-specific program that allows EDs to improve pain and addiction care.
- In January, ACEP convened a summit, Addressing the Opioid Stigma in the ED, and [a powerful 11-minute video](#) from that event is now available. Be part of the solution!
- The [COVID-19 Field Guide](#) has a section focused on the management of patients with substance use disorders.
- Read the latest Regs & Eggs blog post discussing the [Ongoing Efforts to Reduce Barriers to Opioid Use Disorder Treatment](#).

COVID-19 Special Edition of Critical Decisions in EM

Our newest CDEM features lifesaving lessons focused on the ED evaluation and management of COVID-19, including timely information on risk factors, common examination findings, valuable diagnostic tests, and the safe use of pharmacological treatments. The issue also takes a deep dive into PPE, the provision of respiratory support, and what interventions should be avoided when managing these vulnerable patients. [Learn more](#).

EM Research during a Pandemic + Call for Research Forum Abstracts

- Our latest podcast discusses conducting [EM research during a pandemic](#).
- Submit your abstracts to ACEP's Research Forum 2020 by June 11. Abstracts will be peer reviewed for presentation at the 2020 Research Forum during ACEP's Scientific Assembly. [See abstract requirements](#).

Be Accredited to Provide Pain & Addiction Care in the ED

Show your community that your ED is part of the solution. ACEP is now accepting applications for the [Pain & Addiction Care in the ED \(PACED\) Accreditation Program](#), developed for EM physicians by EM physicians.

PACED, the nation's only specialty-specific accreditation program, will provide the education, tools & resources you need to provide better care for patients in pain & those with substance misuse.

Elevate the quality of patient care with innovative treatments, alternative modalities, and impactful risk reduction strategies in a collaborative team setting, resulting in positive outcomes for your patients, families, providers, and communities. Learn more at www.acep.org/PACED or contact us at paced@acep.org.

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