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President's Message



Dear Colleagues,

I never cease to be amazed by our resilience as a specialty as we face a pandemic, national nursing shortages, and supply chain issues. We continue to be a community of physicians who are adaptable to any circumstances that arise.

Many of you have likely read the recent Washington Post [article](#) which articulately describes how our daily lives have been impacted. In addition to the many ways that the pandemic has uprooted our lives, there are many legislative and practice-related issues that continue to affect our specialty. On the national level, ACEP leaders are working hard to ensure that we as emergency medicine physicians continue to be fairly compensated for our hard work. During a recent chapter leaders meeting, we continued to discuss supervision of adjunct staff in the emergency department and how we will further define our scope of practice. ACEP leaders are also analyzing the predicted emergency medicine physician surplus and looking for innovative ways to put our skills to work in less traditional venues. Further, we continue to discuss workplace safety.

In other news, US Acute Care Solutions (USACS) recently [acquired](#) Alteon Health. This impacts many DC ACEP members and several clinical sites in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. USACS is solely owned by its physicians and hospital system partners and provides integrated acute care, including emergency medicine, hospitalist, and critical care services.

On a chapter level, we are in the process of planning for spring events. The Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC) is set to be held in-person this May, although visits with legislators are planned to be virtual. We are hoping to resume in-person networking opportunities with our colleagues and are working to plan an event that is safe and accessible to all attendees. Please fill out this [survey](#) to gauge interest and comfort level regarding in-person events.

Additionally, we are working on organizing our annual Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment (LLSA) review conference. Please stay tuned for more details on this annual member benefit.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything we can do to support your practice. We look forward to seeing many of you at LAC and at the upcoming review conference!

In the meantime, stay safe and healthy.

Resident Corner Ashleigh Omorogbe, MD



Many young physicians like myself have only practiced medicine during this pandemic. Residency in itself can be intensive and difficult but undergoing residency in a pandemic has been uniquely challenging. Like so many other young physicians, I spent countless hours in medical school learning how to care for my patients. I spent those years preparing myself both mentally and physically for the rigors of medicine.

Though the road to graduation was not easy, the support of my parents, brothers, friends, and mentors helped me believe that I could face what was ahead. Then shortly before graduation, the COVID-19 pandemic began to pose an unrelenting strain on our communities in a way that I was not prepared for.

Many of us have encountered decreased clinical variety, reduced patient volumes, and unconventional educational experiences. We don't know what it feels like to care for our patients without PPE, but we've learned the power in lending an empathetic ear to those we serve. And though we did not prepare to start our medical careers during a global pandemic, we've risen to the occasion. The strength and tenacity of my colleagues inspires me every day. While the long-term impact of COVID on the healthcare system remains unclear, I still believe I can face what lies ahead. I look forward to growing professionally and developing the skills needed to adequately care for myself and others in this new age.

Welcome New Members!

A special welcome to the new members of the District of Columbia 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!

**Malaak Hamzeh
Alexander O. Tejada
Nana Sefa, MD**

Follow us on Social Media!



FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

Black History Month: Don't miss this week's *Frontline* episode featuring [Dr. Ray Johnson and Dr. Sandra Coker discussing their experiences](#) working in EM. Dr. Coker founded the Black Girl White Coat nonprofit, and Dr. Johnson's been a leader in EM for more than 30 years. Find more BHM22 resources related to this year's theme, [Black Health & Wellness](#).

Get New [Point-of-Care Tools](#) in emPOC App

Advocacy:

South Dakota scored an important [scope of practice victory](#) (2/23/22)

[ACEP applauds the Texas court ruling](#) that the No Surprises Act implementation fails to follow the letter of the law. The concerns validated by this ruling are some of those shared by ACEP, ASA and ACR in a [separate lawsuit](#) currently in a Chicago district court (2/24/22). Amplify on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#).

- **The No Surprises Act:** [What You Need to Know](#)

ACEP Applauds Passage of Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act: On Feb. 17, 2022, the Senate passed the ACEP-supported "[Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act](#)" (H.R. 1667) by voice vote. It now heads to President Biden for his signature into law. [Read the full press release](#) and [additional background](#) about ACEP's efforts to develop and progress this bill through the legislative process.

ACEP and EMRA Send Workforce Statement to Senate HELP

Committee: ACEP partnered with EMRA to submit a statement for the record for a Senate HELP Committee hearing on workforce shortages (2/11/22). [Read more](#)

Regulatory Updates:

- [ACEP Provides Feedback on New Emergency Medicine Cost Measure](#) (2/24/22)
- [CDC Releases Long-Awaited Revised Opioid Prescribing Guideline: Open for Public Comment](#) (2/17/22)
- [The Flip Side of the Coin: A Look at the Increase in Health Insurer Consolidation](#) (2/10/22)
- [Update on ACEP Actions to Address Physician Mental Health Needs and Wellbeing](#) (2/3/22)
- [Recent Federal Efforts to Address Provider Consolidation](#) (1/27/22)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

- March 8:** Deadline to apply for [ACEP Leadership Awards](#)
April 11-12: [Virtual Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)
April 1 – May 31: [ED Directors Academy, Phase I](#)
April 15: Deadline to apply for [ACEP Teaching Awards](#)
May 1-3: [Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#) - **REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**
May 15: Deadline to apply for [ACEP committee involvement](#)
May 18: Deadline for submissions to the [ACEP22 Research Forum](#)
May 23-25: [SIM Training Course](#)

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