

A Newsletter for the Members of the Oklahoma College of Emergency Physicians

Fall 2017



Jeffrey Goodloe, MD, FACEP, President

[Gabe Graham](#), Executive Director

Phone: 918.809.9464

President's Message **Jeffrey Goodloe, MD, NRP, FACEP**

Another deadline loomed this week, and I'll confess to a reverse form of writer's block: too much information to efficiently share with you! That's a great challenge to have and it honestly is most reflective of what a great Board of Directors that serves you and that I'm so fortunate to work with throughout the year. So here's my attempt to cram a lot of stuff in as few words as possible, always respecting your time away from family, friends, and patients.

For those of you that attended ACEP17 in Washington D.C., held October 29 – November 1 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, you undoubtedly have nice memories of networking with some of the brightest minds in emergency medicine today. Excellent educational options abounded and the exhibit hall was full of innovative products and services designed to support our practices. This annual ACEP conference has grown so much over the years that it is absolutely physically impossible to "take it all in" no matter how hard you try.

Even prior to most of the OCEP members arriving in D.C., your OCEP Councillors were diligently at work throughout this year's ACEP Council. Drs. Kennedye, Johnson, Synovitz, and Guthrie, and I took the now annual "ACEP Council Just Adjourned" photo below.



The full slate of resolutions and actions taken by the Council can be found at acep.org. You'll be pleased to know that your representatives consistently voted with your interests first and foremost. One resolution advocated for better 911 access in rural parts of the United States and it passed with essentially unanimous voice. I highlight this particular resolution as it was formally co-sponsored by OCEP, helping to bring it to the ACEP Council for consideration and action. Our friends and colleagues in Missouri reached out to us over the Spring and we were delighted to lend our support. This brings a reminder that OCEP is a great resource for you in crafting a resolution that just might be the answer you seek if you've ever had a thought beginning with "I wish that ACEP would..." Please contact me personally and I'll be happy to explain the process of translating your wish to a resolution for the 2018 ACEP Council. Also, we'd be remiss without congratulating all the officer election winners, including our new national ACEP President-Elect, Dr. John Rogers, from Macon, GA.

Before we leave ACEP17, I have to share the great time had by all at another now annual OCEP tradition: the OCEP Social Function at ACEP's main annual conference. Last year we traveled by cuisine to Mexico. This year, our food and libations took us to Cuba at one of D.C.'s trendiest restaurants, Cuba Libre. While we carefully budgeted \$1000 to cover the costs so any OCEP member could come and enjoy without cost, you'll be almost as happy as Dr. Tim Hill, our perpetual Secretary/Treasurer to know that everyone was served for \$534. We are always

mindful of being the best stewards of OCEP funds, your dues dollars. Please enjoy some on the fly snapped photos of your colleagues reveling in D.C.:



Now, already onto ACEP18! San Diego, California, from October 1st-4th. It's already beyond "too early" to reserve a hotel room. I personally waited 15 minutes in line at the convention center in D.C. to book my room for next year. I may have had to trip Bill Gray and Bo Burns to get ahead a bit in line, but hotel reservations at ACEP is becoming a serious proposition! Seriously, though, do yourself a favor and take 10 minutes of your rare downtime and go to acep.org, look for information on ACEP18 housing, and book a room. They really are going, going, going fast. This will be ACEP's 50th Anniversary Celebration and it's sure to be a big one. Dr. Kennedy is already scouting out our options for your next OCEP Social Function at ACEP.

Some quick legislative notes because government never stops. I am thrilled to report to you the bill we've been tracking federally over the past 2+ years allowing for controlled substances standing orders in EMS (essentially keeping your practice as it has been and not requiring you to take an EMS consult for every administration of every benzodiazepine for active seizures or opioid for femur fractures) was successfully passed by the House and Senate, sent to 1600 Pennsylvania NW, and now bears the President's signature. We have an official law. It will still take some time to translate that into DEA regulations but this is a true win for patient safety and emergency medicine sanity.

Your BOD looked carefully at the costs associated with hiring a full-time lobbyist for the upcoming Oklahoma legislative session. Realistically, that would mean thousands of dollars (as in \$10,000+ at minimum and far beyond that for what many would term a "high power" lobbyist) for consistent representation. We simply don't have those monies on an annual basis. We are utilizing national ACEP's state legislative tracking resources and are poised as an entire BOD to be carefully watching state legislative actions so that we can best protect the interests of our patients and you. Stay tuned as any given year can produce some very "interesting" pieces of legislation. We will certainly be respectful of your time and energies, so if we reach out and ask you to send a word or two to your particular state representative and/or senator, please know it really is important to act.

Now, here's this newsletter's bonus news: we are finalizing plans for OCEP Social Functions in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa in the March-May timeframe. Look for exact dates and locations in the next few weeks. We are working to bring you a program with a short educational presentation and a long time of fun, food, and drinks at a bowling alley/games locale and a baseball game if plans come to full fruition. We know many educational options are yours for the taking throughout the year, though networking and fellowship among your colleagues are equally important. We're working to make that happen and to make those events annual OCEP traditions as well.

Oh, and one more bonus: OCEP has now formally joined our friends and colleagues in hosting the Southeastern ACEP Chapters (SEC) Conference to be held at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort in Miramar Beach, Florida from June 4th-7th. We'll send more on this just as soon as conference brochures become available. For now, please think about bringing some friends or family to join you at a conference that does amazingly well in balancing some education for you and fun in the sand and sun for everyone!

See what I meant when I said I've struggled with reverse writer's block? Thanks again for who you are, the values you represent, and the great emergency medical care you collectively give to Oklahomans 24/7/365. It's always an honor and privilege to serve you in OCEP.

State Legislative Issues for 2018 **by Harry J. Monroe, Jr.** **ACEP Director, Chapter and State Relations**

Two years after the nearly miraculous successful retreat by the British army from Dunkirk, Prime Minister Winston Churchill remarked on the first actual British victory of the war by declaring, "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

We may be at a similar point in our legislative battles over balance billing and out of network reimbursement. In many states, policymakers that have been considering the issue for multiple sessions will look to address the issue once and for all. Thus, it will be important that we stand ready to engage an issue that continues to pose a threat to our specialty and most importantly, access to care for our patients. Certainly, we want to be paid fairly, but we also want to focus on making sure that insurer practices are not causing patients to delay receiving emergency care out of uncertainty as to what the insurer will pay.

ACEP has developed, and is continuing to refine, resources to help states engaging this issue. On [our website](#) you will find numerous documents that will be of help in working on this issue, including talking points, copies of written testimony produced in a number of states, information on why Medicare is not a sound benchmark for determining reimbursement, and many other materials. I would encourage you to take a look.

Additionally, we have worked hard over the last two years to build relationships with other specialty societies and the AMA, based on shared consensus principles and solutions

documents that are included on the website, that have helped us collaborate on these issues. In most states that we have engaged, the national collaboration has helped with building alliances at the state level, with the result that the house of medicine has been largely united in our response to legislation. In addition to fighting off bad legislation, we have looked for opportunities to promote positive legislation on the issue, and model legislation has been developed to that end. In addition, to our collaboration with other specialties, another outside organization, Physicians for Fair Coverage, has been formed and has helped to provide and coordinate resources in this fight.

At the time of this writing, we are also working on developing regional teams of experts that can help provide assistance in terms of legislative interpretation, understanding financial impacts, and advocacy. These should be in place by the time 2018 sessions begin.

We believe that as many as 25 states will see significant efforts by legislatures to address balance billing and out of network legislation this year. If you are facing it in your state, reach out to me [via email](#) or at 972-550-0911, ext. 3204.

In addition to balance billing and out of network issues, there will be many other important issues to address in the coming year. The prudent layperson standard remains under attack in many places by both Medicaid and commercial payers. The opioid epidemic continues to be a critical public policy concern. Of course, what the federal government does about health care, and how that filters down to the state level, promises to require our attention. This will be a busy year at the state house!



ACEP – You make 50 look good!

As we wind down 2017, we kick off a year-long celebration of ACEP's 50th anniversary starting January 2018. Plan to participate in social media campaigns that highlight the highs, lows and life-changing moments in EM. Get hyped for a historical timeline following the history of our specialty as well as anniversary-themed podcasts. Watch for anniversary editions of ACEP Now and Medicine's Frontline in addition to proclamations from members of Congress and sister medical societies. Don't forget to order copy of our commemorative coffee table book featuring the breath-taking photographs that capture a day in the life of emergency physicians collected by famed photographer Eugene Richards. [Book tickets now to ACEP18](#) and our blow-out anniversary celebration in San Diego featuring an interactive history museum showcasing the journey of emergency medicine from battlefield to inner city to rural America to every spot in between.

As we enter 2018, we begin the celebration of 50 years of life saving and boundary pushing. Are you on call for 50 more?

Show Your Commitment to High Standards for Clinical Ultrasound

You have the highest standards when it comes to your clinical ultrasound program. Show that commitment to your patients, your hospital, and your payers with ACEP's Clinical Ultrasound Accreditation Program (CUAP). ACEP's [CUAP](#) is the only accreditation program specifically for the bedside, clinician-performed and interpreted ultrasound. Now also available - accreditation for non-ED clinical settings, including freestanding EDs, urgent care centers and clinics. [Apply Today!](#)

Ensure safety and efficacy of patient care

Meet ACEP's high standards for point-of-care delivery

Use your own policies or draw from expert-reviewed sample documents

Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation Program

ACEP is gearing up to accredit geriatric emergency departments. The [Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation Program](#) will be accepting applications after the first of the year. There will be 3 levels of accreditation ranging from a minimal commitment to better elder care

to a comprehensive well-rounded robust program. Accreditation shows your patients, your institution and your payers that your ED is ready to provide care to seniors and is a quality program that meets the high standards of the American College of Emergency Physicians. [Find out more](#).

Articles of Interest in *Annals of Emergency Medicine*

Sandy Schneider, MD, FACEP

ACEP Associate Executive Director, Practice, Policy and Academic Affairs

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. [Read More](#).

Policy Statements and PREPs Approved by the ACEP Board

The following policy statements and PREPs were approved by the ACEP Board of Directors at their October 2017 meeting.

Policy Statements

[Medical Transport Advertising, Marketing, and Brokering](#) – revised

[Clinical Emergency Data Registry Quality Measures](#) – new

[Mechanical Ventilation](#) – new

[Hospital Disaster Physician Privileging](#) – revised

[Unsolicited Medical Personnel Volunteering at Disaster Scenes](#) – revised

[Sub-dissociative Dose Ketamine for Analgesia](#) – new

Writing Admission and Transition Orders – revised

[The Clinical Practice of Emergency Medical Services Medicine](#) – new

[The Role of the Physician Medical Director in EMS Leadership](#) – new

[State Medical Board Peer Review](#) – new

Pediatric Medication Safety in the Emergency Department – new

[Distracted and Impaired Driving](#) – revised

PREPs

Sub-dissociative Dose Ketamine - new

Writing Admission and Transition Orders – new

Welcome New Members

Shcarry R Chatmon

Stanley Brown

Christopher Smith

Yakiji Bailey

Donald Sanders

Typ Whinnery

Taylor S Scott

**Oklahoma College of Emergency Physicians, 44065 E. 221st Street S,
Porter, OK 74454**

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