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President's Message, June 2018



*Lisa Maurer, MD
WACEP President, 2018*

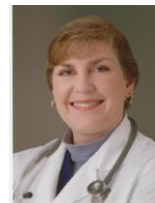
At the risk of addressing a sensitive topic perhaps not ideally discussed via email newsletter, WACEP needs feedback from our members on how, or if, we should be involved in possible future Wisconsin firearm regulations.

Inspired by Dr. Stephen Hargarten's presentation at WACEP Spring Symposium 2017, I believe there is room for growth in how physicians discuss firearm safety from a health perspective while steering clear of political biases. Who better to give input than my colleagues working in Wisconsin's EDs every day?

This will be a timely legislative topic for Wisconsin in the near future, judging by the fact that the Wisconsin Legislative Council released an [Information Memorandum](#) on Firearm Regulation this last session. If we should be involved in possible future regulations, it is useful to learn about the regulation currently in place in Wisconsin. The memorandum summarizes that Wisconsin's constitution gives people have the right to keep and bear arms for security, defense, hunting, recreation, or any other lawful purpose.

Our country has seen growing momentum for a particular type of firearm regulation known as "red flag laws," where courts and police may temporarily seize an individual's firearms if they are thought to be a threat to self or others. This type of regulation now exists in six states and is being considered in 20 more, including Wisconsin. [Read more.](#)

Initiative Aims to Provide Statewide Dispatcher-Assisted CPR Instructions



*Suzanne Martens, MD
State of Wisconsin EMS Medical Director*

The Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Endowment has awarded funding to the Wisconsin EMS Association, which will help expand a Milwaukee County pilot project for dispatcher-assisted CPR instructions statewide.

The Milwaukee County Dispatcher Assisted Bystander CPR program was created to increase the overall cardiac arrest survival rate within the

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Milwaukee County. Through the program, dispatcher assisted bystander CPR pre-arrival instructions are made available to all callers in the County.

Out-of-hospital cardiac arrest is a significant health problem. In Milwaukee County, only 10% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients survive to hospital discharge. When CPR is started by bystanders, the odds of survival double; however, bystander CPR is attempted on only 19% of cardiac arrest victims in the County. This rate could be improved if every 911 caller received CPR coaching. With the implementation of dispatcher assisted CPR instructions in Seattle, Washington, the rate of bystander CPR doubled and survival rates for the entire County increased.

[2017 Wisconsin ACT 296](#), Dispatcher Assisted CPR, mandates that by May 21, 2021, every Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) will provide dispatcher assisted CPR in one of two methods, either by dispatcher training or call transfer to a trained PSAP. This program will also include monitoring and continuous quality improvement. [Read more.](#)

My LAC Experience



Rosalia Holzman, MD

Univ. of WI Emergency Medicine Residency, Class of 2020

As I have progressed through my training, I have realized more and more that I cannot expect things to change just because I believe something is wrong or unfair. It takes initiative from those who identify different issues to work towards a solution. It finally occurred to me that this includes myself. I need to speak up for what needs to change. My residency program passed along information about the ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference (LAC) and I knew immediately I wanted to go.

It was an amazing experience (especially for my first national conference as an emergency intern) and I cannot wait to go back again. I met so many motivated and passionate emergency physicians that are going to change our practice and our country for the better. I sat through different sessions on the opioid epidemic, medicare reimbursement, drug shortages, and more. There was an amazing panel discussing women in leadership in emergency medicine and how women like myself need to step up to the table and make ourselves heard. We also had the opportunity to listen to the Surgeon General as our keynote speaker!

On top of conference sessions and discussions, we spent an entire day on Capitol Hill advocating for 3 particular issues: the opioid crisis, drug shortages, and disaster preparedness. It was an eventful day working alongside fellow Wisconsin EM physicians. This conference really opened my eyes as to everything that is being done and all of the opportunities there are for me to really advocate for my patients and my profession. I would like to thank WACEP for helping me attend the conference, and I cannot wait to get more involved!

WACEP FitWell Contest Runs July 1 through August 31

FitWell is a wellness initiative of the Wisconsin Chapter, ACEP, that encourages members to exercise and share their successes. The contest is open to Wisconsin EM physicians, EM residents, medical student members of an EMIG, and APPs. One contest participant will be randomly selected to win a WACEP branded fleece, and \$200 to be applied toward a gym/club membership of their choice. Contest Guidelines include:



- On Twitter or Instagram using hashtag *#fitwellWACEP*, post pics of yourself being active, during a workout, or tips on how to squeeze physical activity into your busy day. Make sure your posts are public!
- Tag your EM friends on your posts and your entries will count double!
- One entry per post with unlimited entries.
- All entries must be posted by August 31, 2018. Winner will be chosen by random drawing on September 1st.

Questions? Contact us at WACEP@badgerbay.co.

It's an Election Year...Donate to the PAC!

WACEP's political action committee affords members an opportunity to engage in the political process and advocate for our profession. The PAC is designed to strengthen current and new key relationships with state lawmakers by supporting candidates who support our issues, and who can help shape effective policy.

Through the PAC, WACEP collects voluntary contributions and distributes them—at the direction of the PAC Board and with the advice of consultants—to candidates for state office who share our policy goals and vision for the future of emergency medicine, to organizations that support those campaigns. Political contributions are an important part of legislative advocacy in that they help elect candidates who support WACEP's legislative priorities.

As we enter election season, your participation NOW can help WACEP make an impact in the fall! Please contribute to the PAC today. Visit www.WisconsinACEP.org/PAC to make a donation.