



### **Updates on Doctor Day 2020, CARES Act, and Federal Out-Of-Network Billing Legislation**

*WACEP President's Message, Feb 2020  
Ryan Thompson, MD, FACEP*

Multiple WACEP members represented our specialty at this year's Doctor Day, meeting with their legislators to discuss issues relevant to the house of medicine. We were also able to collaborate with physicians of all stripes from around the state. It's such a pleasure to meet with other docs and discover that we are facing many of the same issues across the full spectrum of medicine and come together to advocate for the health of our state. This year, over 315 Wisconsin physicians met with their local legislators, covering 31 of 50 State Senators, and 57 out of 99 Assembly members.

One of the most popular breakout sessions at Doctor Day was a legislative update, and one of the most-talked-about topics was the CARES act. For those who are not aware, the CARES act was put forth by the Wisconsin Academy of Physician Assistants (WAPA) with the goal to improve parity with nurse practitioners in the state, who currently enjoy significantly more autonomy than PAs. The Wisconsin Hospital Association strongly supports the bill, as it makes it easier for hospitals to employ PAs. The bill removes the currently mandated ratios of physicians to PAs, changes the PA-physician relationship to one of "collaboration" rather than "supervision", and allows PAs to work remotely from their collaborating physician. At the time of Doctor Day, several provisions in the bill were causing concern amongst physicians, including a titling change which would allow PAs to call themselves "Associate Physicians", and the creation of an independent PA licensing board separate from the medical licensing board. [Read more.](#)

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## Register Today! WACEP 2020 Spring Symposium and Wisconsin EM Research Forum

This year's Spring Symposium offers not-to-miss updates on a variety of hot topics. [Register here](#). Download program [brochure](#). Schedule at a glance includes:

Wednesday, April 15, 12:00-8:00 pm

- Conference Kickoff Lunch
- Treating Hemophilia A in the ED: New Challenges and Opportunities
- Rapid-Fire Emergency Medicine Updates including: ATLS 10th Edition Updates; Building a Successful EM Team in Rural Wisconsin; Burn Management Update; Intubation Checklist for EM; Sepsis Updates; State Advocacy Update and more!
- Dinner & Discussion on the Evaluation of Psych Patients in the Emergency Department

**AFTER HOURS:** Don't miss an exclusive WACEP reception for all conference goers at Eno Vino West, sponsored by UW Health and UW BerbeeWalsh Department of Emergency Medicine!

Thursday, April 16, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

- Keynote: What I've Learned Studying ID in EM; David A. Talan, MD FACEP, FIDSA
- 2019 LLSA Article Review Workshop
- Hot Topics in Emergency Medicine Roundtable Discussions
- Unique Procedures Workshop (*space is limited and filling up fast!*)
- 28th Annual Emergency Medicine Research Forum, presented by the Emergency Medicine Departments at the University of Wisconsin and the Medical College of Wisconsin in partnership with WACEP
- Pediatric Pain Management
- Second Victim Syndrome
- Managing Acute Dental Problems in the ED

We look forward to seeing you in Madison! [Learn more and register](#).

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### Other Upcoming Events

#### **Leadership & Advocacy Conference (LAC), April 26-28, Washington DC**

Is Advocacy your thing? Plan to attend ACEP's Leadership & Advocacy Conference, April 26-28 in Washington DC. Join WACEP's Legislative Chair Lisa Maurer, MD and others for this important event. Sunday offers a policy primer and an NEMPAC VIP reception for all VIP donors, a great networking opportunity and a launching pad for plans later in the evening! Monday includes a full day of leadership and policy presentations, followed by a meet-up and dinner for all Wisconsin attendees (make sure to [let us know](#) you're attending!). On Tuesday, attendees will hear legislative updates in the morning and will take part in visits on Capitol Hill in the afternoon. [Learn more and register.](#)

#### **WACEP Rural Outreach Program Friday, June 19 | Rice Lake WI**

Wisconsin ACEP is planning a second Rural Outreach Program on Friday, June 19, 2020 at Marshfield Medical Center in Rice Lake, WI. These programs are part of an initiative to engage emergency physicians in more rural settings for education, networking and fun. All are welcome!

The educational program will have a pediatric focus with updates on Peds ICU, Peds Trauma, Best Practices in Burn Care, and much more! So... whether you practice in Northwest Wisconsin or elsewhere, bring your EM team and join us to learn the unique challenges and benefits of practicing in a more rural settings. Learn more and [sign up here](#). There is no cost to attend, but registration is required.

Make plans to stay the weekend and create an adventure that might include swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, parks, golf, tours, and more! Book your hotel stay soon as lodging options can fill up quickly. [Learn more](#).

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### **WACEP Distinguished Service Award Nominations are Due March 1st**

Nominations are now being accepted for the WACEP 2020 Distinguished Service Award.

This award annually recognizes a WACEP member in good standing who has demonstrated exceptional commitment and service to the organization, and/or made a significant contribution toward the advancement of emergency medicine in Wisconsin or beyond.

If you know of an emergency physician who is deserving of this award, [submit your nomination today](#).

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### **ACEP Council and Leadership Awards**

March 1st is the deadline to submit nominations for ACEP [Leadership and Excellence Awards](#) as well as ACEP Council Awards. Descriptions of the Council awards can be [found online](#) and nominations may be [submitted here](#).

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### **Have News to Share?**

[Submit your updates](#) to be considered for future WACEP e-news.

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