



WACEP President's Message, January 2021
Brad Burmeister, MD, FACEP

Welcome to 2021! We are off to a great start. This is my first message as the new President, so "hello" to those of you I do not know. Just a bit about me... I work for an independent group in Green Bay which staffs Bellin Hospital.

Before we get to some updates, I want to thank our now Immediate Past President Ryan Thompson, MD, FACEP for all the important work he has done. I'm particularly thankful for his leadership along with our legislative committee and the lobbying team (HWZ) for their hard work on the WI CARES act, efforts on Surprise/Balance Billing at the state level, and ongoing work on Medicaid Reimbursement. I think we are in a great spot moving forward and have some excellent ground work accomplished.

On that note, the legislative team at ACEP has been very busy ensuring the voice of the Emergency Physicians are heard across the country. As a result, we have many favorable outcomes with the "2020 Year End Package" which Congress passed. In particular we have reasonable legislation on Surprise/Balanced Billing as well as better outcomes with Medicare cuts that what had been pending.

WACEP has been working on our own Surprise/Balanced Billing battles at the state level, ongoing efforts for Medicaid reimbursement increases, extending liability protections due to COVID-19, among many other things!

If you haven't already checked out our virtual Spring Symposium please do so. It will be held Thursday, April 8th, so coming up quickly! We have some great speakers including Dr. David Talan with some insights into infectious disease and Emergency medicine, education on Buprenorphine (Suboxone) and Dexmedetomidine (Precedex), an ATLS update, and an update from Dr. Ryan Westergaard ("The Dr. Fauci of Wisconsin").

If you have any questions or issues you want us to look at, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please follow us on Facebook! @WiACEP

Stay safe!

~Brad

Distinguished Service Award Nominations Sought

Nominations are now being accepted for the WACEP 2021 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](#).

Registration is Open! WACEP Virtual 2021 Spring Symposium | April 8th

[Sign up today](#) to participate in the 2021 Spring Symposium on Thursday, April 8, 2021. This year's conference will be presented virtually and will include a keynote presentation from David Talan, MD, fACEP, FIDSA on "What I've Learned Studying ID in EM."

Other hot topics include an emergency medicine state advocacy update; pharmacology update that will review TXA, Buprenorphine in the ED and Dexmedetomidine for Sedation; trauma update that will include a review of ATLS 10th Edition, chest tubes and pigtail catheters, and more!

In continued partnership with the Departments of Emergency Medicine at both the University of Wisconsin and the Medical College of Wisconsin, WACEP hosts the annual Wisconsin Emergency Medicine Research Forum during the Spring Symposium. The Forum includes poster sessions and oral presentations. The Research Forum is not accredited for continuing medical education. Abstract submissions are being accepted [here](#).

Doctor Day is May 5

While this year's Doctor Day has shifted to a virtual format, the event promises to offer the same important content including updates from legislative leaders, policy breakouts, priority issue briefings, a keynote presentation and of course, legislative visits!

Here's your chance to get involved in the advocacy process and make your voices heard! The unique multi-specialty nature of Wisconsin's Doctor Day offers all physicians across the state from all specialties to come together and

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advocate for issues affecting their patients, their practices and their specialty.

Sign up and plan to participate in Doctor Day on Wednesday, May 5, 2021. [Learn more and register.](#)

X-Waiver Removal Expands MAT for OUD

Join ACEP's Webinar on January 20 to learn more

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has effectively remove the X-Waiver requirement for physicians, expanding their ability to utilize medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for patients struggling with opioid use disorder (OUD). [Learn more](#), and join ACEP at 12:00 pm CST on Wednesday, January 20 for [a webinar](#) discussing this new policy

Now Available On Demand

- Rural Connect 2020: Updates in Pediatric Trauma and Pediatric Burns
- Advances in Medical Stabilization for Psychiatric Patients in the Emergency Department
- Virtual LLSA Workshop - A Review of the 2019 LLSA Articles

All webinars are available through the [WACEP website](#).

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