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## President's Message - November 2016

*Bobby Redwood, MD, MPH*

### **Asymptomatic Bacteriuria: Are Emergency Physicians Part of the Problem or Part of the Solution?**

A 72 year-old female presents from your local nursing home with altered mental status. She's comfortable and conversive with normal vital signs and no pain on exam, but thinks its 1956 and calls you and all your staff, "Ralphie". You're handed seven pages of medication administration records without any past medical history or history of present illness. You call for additional information, but they just had a shift change and no one at the facility is able to tell you what happened. After a head CT, chest Xray, EKG and rainbow labs, the only abnormal finding is a urinalysis with bacteria, pyuria, nitrites, and leukocyte esterase. Your nurse reports the urine was dark and foul smelling.

Alright Ralphie, this is where the rubber hits the road...what do you do? [Read more.](#)

### **PROP Act Effectively Ends Pain Scale *CMS Untethers Pain Quality Metrics from Reimbursement***

Until now, pain management questions on patient satisfaction surveys have been seen by some physicians as a barrier to moving toward optimal use of opioids in emergency care. Many thanks to our member, Dr. Timothy Westlake, for working with Senator Ron Johnson (R-Wis) on legislation known as the Promoting Responsible Opioid Prescribing (PROP) Act, which prohibits those pain management questions on satisfaction surveys from being used to calculate Medicare reimbursement. [Read more.](#)

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**Save-the-Date! WACEP 2017 Spring Symposium  
Moving Wisconsin Emergency Medicine Forward**

Make plans to join WACEP in Madison in March!

**M→VINGWISCONSIN**  
EMERGENCY MEDICINE FORWARD

WACEP Spring Symposium  
Tuesday, March 28, 2017  
The Madison Concourse Hotel



Stay for Doctor Day 2017  
Wednesday, March 29, 2017  
At the Capitol, Madison

WACEP is excited to offer this opportunity to bring together members from across the state to join in a forum for learning and networking.

The Symposium will include timely education and updates, including a keynote address by Steve Hargarten, MD on Gun Violence, as well as an in-depth look at the emergency physicians role in combating the opioid epidemic in Wisconsin. ACEP President Becky Parker, MD has will also participate and will be presenting a national advocacy update.

The conference includes an optional pre-conference hands-on Ultrasound Workshop taught by faculty from the University of Wisconsin's Emergency Ultrasound Section. Concurrent to the morning workshop will be a facilitated LLSA study group offered at no cost.

[Learn more and register.](#)

**Come for the Conference... Stay for Doctor Day!**

Stay overnight in Madison after the WACEP Spring Symposium, and attend Doctor Day 2017 at the Capitol on March 29th!



Physicians from across the state will participate in a briefing to learn about key issues, and will then meet in small groups with legislators and their staffs. Doctor Day will again feature speakers at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center prior to visits with legislators at the State Capitol. [Learn more and register.](#)

## **Other Latest News**

MEB Approves Telemedicine Rule ([link](#))

DSPS Approves Rule on Opioid Prescribing CME ([link](#))

More News ([link](#))

## **Upcoming Events**

December 6, 2016: WHN Panel Presentation on scope of practice, team-based care and the future healthcare workforce. [Learn more.](#)

January 17, 2017: WACEP Board of Directors Meeting, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at The Delafield Hotel. All members are welcome! RSVP to [WACEP@badgerbay.co](mailto:WACEP@badgerbay.co).

March 12-15, 2017: ACEP 2017 Leadership & Advocacy Conference (LAC). [Learn more](#)

March 28, 2017: Wisconsin, ACEP Spring Symposium. [Learn more.](#)

March 29, 2017: Doctor Day 2017. [Learn more.](#)