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President's Message

Michael D. Smith, MD, MBA, CPE, FACEP

I write to you after watching the Cincinnati Bengals come so close but not quite make it. As an Ohio native living in Louisiana, the love for the team was palpable. Even Browns fans set aside their rivalry to support an Ohio team to the Super Bowl. As a native Clevelander, I grew up with the slogan "There's always next year." This is true for Joe Burrow, and it's true for emergency physicians of Louisiana.

We successfully defended our profession and specialty against scope creep by both a physician assistants and nurse practitioner independent practice bill. But "there's always next year," and in 2022 we expect continued attempts to independently practice medicine by non-physicians.

We must proactively defend our profession and specialty, and by extension, the patients we take care of. This is not about greed, close-mindedness, and the various attacks that have been hurled at us. This is about transparency, proper training, patients' rights, and patient safety.

I invite all Louisiana emergency physicians to attend our annual meeting on **Wednesday, March 9**, in New Orleans at the Benson Cancer Center on the campus of Ochsner Health. Dr. Nicole McCain, the chair of emergency medicine, is planning an exciting meeting. We must remain vigilant and united against scope creep and other statewide issues and this is a great way to start.

We understand that you've been through two years of a pandemic and many in the state have suffered significant hurricane damage over that time period as well. We are here to make your practice better, your career more fulfilling, and patient care across the state exceptional. Hopefully, there will be no more pandemic surges until the Cleveland Browns make it to the Super Bowl.

JOIN US!
Ochsner Clinic Foundation and the
Louisiana Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
invite you to attend the
Louisiana ACEP Chapter Annual Meeting
Wednesday, March 9, 2022
8:00 am - 2:00 pm CST
Riverview Terrace 6th Floor : The Gayle and Tom Benson Cancer Center @
Ochsner Health New Orleans

The event highlights multiple nationally renowned speakers including Ryan Stanton, MD, FACEP, with a national update, as well as Keith VanMeter, MD and Nicole McCain, MD. We will be holding our Inaugural Louisiana ACEP State Residency Competition. Our Louisiana ACEP President, Mike Smith, MD, FACEP will also be providing updates from our state and holding our Annual Louisiana ACEP Statewide Meeting. Lunch and CME will be included.

It is our goal to bring physicians from across Louisiana together to engage, share ideas, and network in person. If you are logistically unable to attend in person, we will offer a zoom option. However, in person attendance is encouraged. We are excited to bring us all together again, and there will be great lectures, friendly competition, and even some door prizes for those attending in person.

[Please register in advance](#) to help us plan for seating and lunch.
Please mark ahead of time if you have any allergy restrictions.

CME Statement

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint providership of Ochsner Clinic Foundation and the Louisiana American College of Emergency Physicians. The Ochsner Clinic Foundation is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Ochsner Clinic Foundation designates this live activity for a maximum of 4 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

LSMS and Legislative Update

Debbie Fletcher, MD, FACEP
Secretary/Treasurer

It is that time again! We are getting ready for legislative season!

Important dates to know:

February - now - Feb 20: Special session for redistricting

March 14 : Session Convenes

March 29 : Legislative Reception

March 30 : White Coat Wednesday at the Capital

June 6 : Session Adjourns

The Louisiana legislature is currently in a special session to do redistricting, prior to the start of the regular legislative session. Apparently, it can get pretty hostile with groups wanting to hold on to their district seats and other groups wanting to expand their district. There will be arguments on both sides, and this will be their mindset prior to coming into the regular session - they will be tired. They likely do not want to entertain scope of practice issues this year, but we know they will be presented from the non-physician side. We need to be ready to inform our legislators on the truth that increased scope of practice does not improve access to medical care, and that transparency is needed for all patients to know who is providing their medical care, and who the collaborating physician is at each non-physician practitioner. Please make your calls and emails now - today - to your legislators in the LA House and Senate to at least have your name and information and offer to be of service for any questions they have for physicians during this time.

The Legislative Reception March 29 - This is hosted by the Louisiana Physician Coalition and is a great way to meet and greet your legislators. It is a nice cocktail reception where you can network with other physicians, LSMS staff, and legislators. Last year, LaACEP joined the Physician Coalition, and hopefully we will do the same this year. This allows us to send 10 members to this event to represent LaACEP.

White Coat Wednesday March 30 - This date also happens to be "National Physicians Day"! This event is open to all physicians (including residents) and we want record turnout! Last year was better than the year before, and I know this year will be even better. More physicians understand the need to speak up and be present in policy - because this affects our patients and our ability to care for them. The nurse practitioners and nurses also have a day they show up at the capital, and they show up en masse. We just don't have the ability to leave work like they typically can for these events - so please try and schedule this now or trade shifts to go, if you can. We will have breakfast at the museum that morning, and then go over to the capital. Hopefully, we can sit in on committee meetings relating to our issues, or be able to speak to legislators on our behalf.

Please watch your email or the [ACEP engagED page](#) for further information on our legislative issues and BE INVOLVED. Patients are depending on us to speak up for them.

Editorial - The Importance of the Physician Led Team

Teresa Camp Rogers, MD, MS

Managing Editor, JMSMA

Regarding the Mississippi data on NP/PA independent practice- the Hattiesburg clinic found that having NPPs in independent settings was not beneficial for costs, and patient experience, among other metrics. [READ THE FULL TEXT](#)

Welcome New LaACEP Members!

Miguel A Aguilera, MD
Sarah Bertrand
Toria Brown, MD
Emily Kate Brumfield, MD
Robert Tanner Burgess
Gianluca Cerri, MD, FACEP
Rafe Coker, DO
Matthew Cully, DO
Raven Davis
Blane Edwards
Marcelle T Fournet
Nicholas Gorham, M
Whitney A Hampton, MD
Jessica Heap
Kirsten Hughes
Rebecca A Hutchings, MD
Ireal Johnson Fusco, MD
Thomas James McCarthy
Nicole Streiff McCoin, MD
Justin Moore, MD
An L Nguyen
Charles David Sisk, Jr
James Wilkinson, DO

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

Black History Month: Don't miss this week's *Frontline* episode featuring [Dr. Ray Johnson and Dr. Sandra Coker discussing their experiences](#) working in EM. Dr. Coker founded the Black Girl White Coat nonprofit, and Dr. Johnson's been a leader in EM for more than 30 years. Find more BHM22 resources related to this year's theme, [Black Health & Wellness](#).

Nominate a Colleague for ACEP Awards! ACEP is accepting nominations for its 2022 Leadership Awards and Teaching Awards. [Leadership Award nominations](#) are due **March 8**, and Teaching Award nominations are due **April 15**.

Get New [Point-of-Care Tools](#) in emPOC App

Advocacy:

South Dakota scored an important [scope of practice victory](#) (2/23/22)

[ACEP applauds the Texas court ruling](#) that the No Surprises Act implementation fails to follow the letter of the law. The concerns validated by this ruling are some of those shared by ACEP, ASA and ACR in a [separate lawsuit](#) currently in a Chicago district court (2/24/22). Amplify on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#).

- **The No Surprises Act:** [What You Need to Know](#)

ACEP Applauds Passage of Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act: On Feb. 17, 2022, the Senate passed the ACEP-supported "[Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act](#)" (H.R. 1667) by voice vote. It now heads to President Biden for his signature into law. [Read the full press release](#) and [additional background](#) about ACEP's efforts to develop and progress this bill through the legislative process.

ACEP and EMRA Send Workforce Statement to Senate HELP

Committee: ACEP partnered with EMRA to submit a statement for the record for a Senate HELP Committee hearing on workforce shortages (2/11/22). [Read more](#)

Regulatory Updates:

- [ACEP Provides Feedback on New Emergency Medicine Cost Measure](#) (2/24/22)
- [CDC Releases Long-Awaited Revised Opioid Prescribing Guideline: Open for Public Comment](#) (2/17/22)
- [The Flip Side of the Coin: A Look at the Increase in Health Insurer Consolidation](#) (2/10/22)
- [Update on ACEP Actions to Address Physician Mental Health Needs and Wellbeing](#) (2/3/22)
- [Recent Federal Efforts to Address Provider Consolidation](#) (1/27/22)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

March 8: Deadline to apply for [ACEP Leadership Awards](#)
April 11-12: [Virtual Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)
April 1 – May 31: [ED Directors Academy, Phase I](#)
April 15: Deadline to apply for [ACEP Teaching Awards](#)
May 1-3: [Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#)
May 15: Deadline to apply for [ACEP committee involvement](#)
May 18: Deadline for submissions to the [ACEP22 Research Forum](#)
May 23-25: [SIM Training Course](#)

Contact Louisiana ACEP

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