

A Newsletter for the Members of the Louisiana Chapter - Summer 2022

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In this Edition

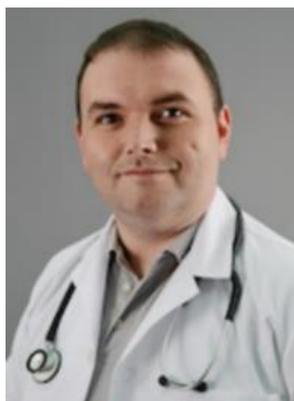
[From the Louisiana ACEP President](#)

[Legislative Updates](#)

[Adriana's Corner](#)

[Welcome LaACEP Members!](#)

[News from National ACEP](#)



President's Message

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

As we enter fall, another school year, and another hurricane season, your LaACEP Councillors are preparing to go to the ACEP Council Meeting at the end of September. For those that have not been, the council is made up proportionally of representatives as to the size of each chapter or other represented group.

LaACEP will send five Councillors. During the meeting, we'll participate in debates and discussions to pass resolutions that will guide the work of the ACEP Board of Directors.

Of special mention during the Council Meeting, LaACEP will accept the [ACEP Council Teamwork Award](#) for its work on state issues especially scope of practice.

Also, Dr. Jim Aiken will receive the [Council Meritorious Service Award](#), the highest honor bestowed by the council. There was another award – the curmudgeon award – but it was unanimous that Jim was way too nice to be called a curmudgeon.

Your state ACEP Board has worked hard against scope creep from several professions wanting to practice medicine. Those bills did not progress forward. However, these issues will continue to appear perennially. We've also weighed in

with our expertise on issues during the COVID pandemic and other national issues that would cause statewide ripples.

My interest has always been to view my position, not so much as a leader, but as a representative of the will of the emergency physicians of this state. Please feel free to [reach out to me](#) if you have any questions or comments about your chapter.

I wish you a happy return to school and safe passage through this hurricane season.

Legislative Updates **Deborah D. Fletcher, MD, FACEP**

Your Louisiana ACEP chapter was active at the Capital this year! Financially, we contributed to LSMS/Physician Coalition of Louisiana, and to Louisiana Physicians for Patients (a non-profit group I started with Dr. Jamie Kuo and Dr. Ed Shaheen to advocate for safe healthcare legislation, with a focus on scope of practice).

Physically, we went to the Capital, and participated in the Legislative Reception for the Physician Coalition and White Coat Wednesday.



Many signed up to be doctor for a day at the Capital, making good connections with the legislators. On a grassroots level, LaACEP came out strong against many issues, contacting legislators by email, phone, and even fax during the calls to action, some which were created by the AAEM Quorum program. It was great to see the dual effort by LaACEP and AAEMLa working together at this state level.

We were able to hold off 6 scope of practice bills! The nurse practitioners presented companion bills for independent practice for nurse practitioners - SB 175 by R. Barrow, and HB 543 by Stagni. Neither of these bills moved forward at all. The PA bill, SB 158 by J. Luneau, wanted to decrease “supervision” of physician assistants to “collaboration” only. It passed the Senate Health and Welfare Committee with unfortunate help from Dr. Culotta of LSBME. Senator Luneau decided to withdraw this bill from the House floor, thus ending it for this year. He would like for both physicians and PAs work together to find a solution to this issue.

The pharmacists even got involved this year, with THREE bills to advance pharmacists into (practicing) medicine. SB 329 by Senator Fred Mills (interestingly a pharmacist and bank owner) would have allowed pharmacists to order lab tests, interpret the tests, prescribe medications, and dispense medications - One stop

shop! That bill did make it out of Sen. Mills H & W Committee, but then it returned to the calendar and died. They did not aggressively push it this year but signaled that will push forward in the future. SB 296 from Sen. Regina Barrow would have allowed for pharmacist clinical services within Medicaid. It would have had a significant cost, therefore was to be heard in Senate Health and Welfare and Senate Finance committees. It died as it was not heard in Finance. Lastly, HB 424 from Rep. Chris Turner would have given pharmacists, pharm interns and techs scope of practice to give ANY immunization to ANY child over 7. This bill passed out of House Health and Welfare but was one vote short of passing the full House.

There were a number of vaccine bills, but HB 54 by Bagley passed then was vetoed by the governor. This bill would have made it a crime to ask vaccination status of anyone who is seeking entrance to any premises.

There were four non-compete bills, but none made it out of committee. There were also four bills to help decrease administrative burdens. Notably, SB 112 by Sen. R. Mills would have a type of “gold card” for prior authorization. It was amended in the Senate Insurance committee, that instead of one gold card, each insurance company will be required to develop and post its own plan for prior authorization relief for physicians.

There were also other controversial bills this session. SB 276 almost passed - which would have exempt all MCOs from any provision of the law including antitrust statutes. It failed by one vote. The abortion bill trigger laws were also controversial - and are still being worked out.

Through Louisiana Physicians for Patients, we were able to get a bill sponsored by Senator Barrow Peacock, SB 439. This creates a “bridge year graduate physicians’ program” for rural areas. Unmatched medical school physician graduates will preceptor with a physician in an underserved rural area for a year until reapplying for the match the following year.

Overall, it was a good session - as physicians, we worked together with other specialties to keep patients safe and decrease costs and burdens. We thank ACEP, AAEM, LSMS, Louisiana Physicians for Patients, and everyone who participated. It takes all of us to be successful.

Adriana's Corner
Know Before you Go!

If you are planning to attend [ACEP22](#) in San Francisco. Find information about the COVID protocols [here](#). Your safety & health matters to us!

Welcome LaACEP Members!

A special welcome to the new members of the LaACEP Chapter and to those that renewed their membership. Please [reach out](#) if you would like to become involved at the chapter level, including leadership opportunities.

We are excited to have you!

Alyssa Victoria Gonzales, MD	Kayleigh J. Jeffrey, DO
Annie Gosserand	Kent Van Donge
Ashley Nicole Trent, MD	Lauren Nicole Cooper, MD
Blake S. Holbrook, MD	Leat Halpert
Cameron P. Williams, MD	Logan Anthony Primeaux
Charles Mayeux, DO	Maria Dominguez, MD
Christine Yang, MD	Mark Edward O'Brien
Christopher Mcvicker, MD	Michael A. Cerjance, MD
Conner Bancroft, MD	Michael Mcdonald
Derien Mikel Pacetti	Nixon Nguyen, DO
Douglas Cushner, MD	Omeed Faghieh
Dustin Goodwin, MD	Payton Davis, MD
Hannah Lane Bollich	Richard C. Tsen, MD
Hernando Jay Aro	Sean Michael Bloos
Jacob Ari Hurwitz	Steven Durham, MD
Jared Destin Smith	Gabrielle Espy, MD
Kalli Henning, MD	Vincent Paul Corso, III
Kara C. Plasko	Yousef Mueen Abdulla, MD

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

New Monkeypox Emergency Medicine Project Requests Case Images

ACEP has partnered with VisualDx to create the [Monkeypox Emergency Medicine Project](#). Together we are asking you to contribute your confirmed monkeypox case images to the initiative. Images will be deidentified and made freely accessible to ACEP members to better assist recognition, clinical care, and education. It will also be available within the VisualDx system. [Learn more.](#)

More Monkeypox Resources: We are regularly updating our [Monkeypox Field Guide](#) and providing weekly rundowns in the [Emerging Threats Communication Hub](#), an open discussion forum for all ACEP members.

Current Insurer Calculation of Qualified Payment Amount for Out-of-Network (OON) Care May Violate No Surprises Act

A new study indicates health insurers are trying to game the system again. [Learn more.](#)

Apply for ACEP's Reimbursement Leadership Development Program by Sept. 8.

ACEP is sponsoring three members to attend several key events in order to train the future leaders in EM reimbursement. Commitment is estimated at 25 days of travel during the 18-month program. [Learn more.](#)

Advocacy at Home: August Recess Toolkit

Elected officials are heading back to their districts for the month and our [Advocacy At Home: August Recess Toolkit](#) can help you set and prepare for local meetings with federal legislators or staff. This is a great time to share your stories that personalize our calls for policy changes. Find this toolkit and more helpful resources for speaking with media and legislators in [ACEP's Media Hub](#).

Get Your Bike Helmet Ready! Dr. and Lady Glaucomflecken are Speaking at ACEP22

Don't miss these social media sensations as they share their perspectives about the physician, patient and family experience. Join us Oct. 1-4 in San Francisco for the [world's largest EM educational conference!](#)

ACEP22 Travel Discounts You Need to Know About

- Hotels: Seven ACEP22 hotels have [recently discounted rates](#) for you! If you already booked through OnPeak, your rates will be automatically lowered. If not, you can still book with these discounted rates.
- Airfare: ACEP + TripEasy = [savings up to 20% off flights](#)

Myth BustED: Patients' Rights in the Emergency Department

ACEP recently launched a “Myth BustED” video series to debunk common misconceptions and educate the public about emergency care. In our first video—[Patients' Rights in the Emergency Room](#)—Dr. Avir Mitra educates patients about laws like EMTALA and the Prudent Layperson Standard that protect access to emergency care. [Watch now to see how ACEP is encouraging patients to always seek care when they need it.](#)

New Bedside Tool for Patients Experiencing Cancer Immunotherapy-related Issues

ACEP has a new point-of-care tool, ImmunoTox, focused on caring for patients who are experiencing adverse events related to cancer immunotherapy. The pathway includes history/physical, testing, management, disposition and immunotherapy pearls. The tool also includes six PDFs for optional download. [Learn more.](#)

Introducing the EM Opioid Advisory Network

Receive clinical guidance, discover tools and resources, and get your questions answered through ACEP's EM Opioid Advisory Network. ACEP's new initiative connects emergency physicians combating the opioid crisis with expert advice on managing Opioid Use Disorder patients presenting in the ED, creating a protocol to initiate buprenorphine, and more. The expert panel is here to help ALL emergency health care professionals, free of charge. [Learn more.](#)

ACEP is seeking comments on a **draft clinical policy for patients with suspected appendicitis**. [Weigh in.](#)

Podcast: Have you checked out the [newest Frontline podcast](#) episode featuring EM physician and astronaut Dr. Thomas Marshburn?

Now Accepting ACEP23 Course Proposals

As we start our countdown to ACEP22 in San Francisco, we're already thinking about ACEP23 in Philadelphia! ACEP's Educational Meetings Subcommittee is now accepting course proposals for the 2023 Scientific Assembly. [Learn more.](#)

In Memoriam: [ACEP remembers emergency medicine pioneer Jim Roberts, MD, FACEP](#). One of the first five board-certified emergency medicine physicians, Dr. Roberts became a household name in our specialty through his authorship of *Clinical Procedures in Emergency Medicine and Acute Care*, a prominent book that printed seven editions.

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

October 1-4: ACEP Scientific Assembly in San Francisco

October 17-22: [EM Basic Research Skills \(EMBRs\)](#)

November 11: Last day to submit [ACEP23 course proposals](#)

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