President's Message, March 2018
Lisa Maurer, MD, FACEP

A huge thanks to all who came to our 2018 Spring Symposium in Madison last week! I’m still riding high from all the amazing connections and inspiration. Nothing like getting a bunch of problem-solving EM docs together in one place! Our WACEP board is happy to have all the homework of following up on the fresh ideas and connections started there.

I was especially excited to see the electric partnership between WACEP, MCW-EM, and UW-EM with the 26th Annual Wisconsin Emergency Medicine Research Forum. An unstoppable trio that you can expect more from for years to come. No offense to my urban community docs (my people!), but the residents and the docs from rural Wisconsin definitely were the VIPs of the event. Your unique perspectives on our common issues are invaluable to us as an organization. Keep ‘em coming.

Next up, WACEP looks ahead to having a big presence at Wisconsin Medical Society’s House of Delegates meeting on April 14th in Madison and then at ACEP’s Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington DC May 20-23. Have a flare for Wisconsin public health, the business of medicine, or medical ethics? Check out the HOD next month with our WACEP posse lead by Brad Burmeister and Jamie Schneider. Want to dive into federal issues important to EM and meet with our federal legislators in person to discuss? I promise ACEP makes it easy. Let us know if you’d like to take advantage of WACEP funding available to support your travel expenses to the LAC.

This month, I would especially like to extend an invitation to those of you who are feeling rundown by the holes in the healthcare system that present themselves repeatedly in our departments. I can guarantee that participation in
our organization in an active way will help you feel a new sense of control in your practice, and many have found it to be extremely life-giving for their careers. Give us a heads up if we can welcome you as a guest at our next board meeting on June 12th in Delafield.

Ultrasound guidance of central lines: Archive images for reimbursement
Dana Resop, MD

After reviewing some ultrasound images, I recently noted that we have few archived images of procedures, although we use ultrasound in procedures often. Likely we get distracted by the procedure and forget to record screen images, but the images required vary by the procedure and this may be part of the issue. If you have an ultrasound machine in your department, most likely this is at least partly due to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) recommendation to use dynamic ultrasound guidance for central lines. You have devoted time and money to learn to use the ultrasound and stay proficient at it. It also costs money to keep that machine working, supply sterile probe covers and gel, as well as to support the infrastructure to get the images into the patient medical record. To reimburse you for this additional knowledge, materials and practice, there is an additional reimbursement for use of ultrasound for procedural guidance in central lines (and codes for peripheral lines, procedures, etc.)

The current CPT description for Code (76937) applies to central venous access with ultrasound guidance. The description follows. Read more.

2018 Award Honorees

At the Spring Symposium, several WACEP members were recognized for the extraordinary work they do! Congratulations to each of our award recipients!

2018 Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Azita Hamedani

2018 Resident Advocacy Awards: Dr. Jamie Schneider (MCW) and Dr. Matt O’Connor (UW)

Outgoing President's Award: Dr. Bobby Redwood
Redwood to Present Antimicrobial Stewardship Webinar Series

As part of the Wisconsin Hospital Association's Antimicrobial Stewardship Journal Club Series, Bobby Redwood, MD, MPH, FACEP, Immediate Past President of WACEP, will be presenting a four-part webinar series focusing on hot topic issues affecting health care antimicrobial stewardship.

The Antimicrobial Stewardship Journal Club is a four-part series of education and conversation focused on clinical decision making and population health considerations in Antimicrobial Stewardship. Each Club includes a review of current literature, discussing case scenarios, and a time for questions. The series is intended for physicians, mid-level providers, quality improvement leaders, and others with a special interest in the Club topic being discussed. Read more.

ICEP Spring Symposium - May 3

ICEP's 2018 Spring Symposium program features keynote presentation on "Deep Work in a Distracted Environment" with REBEL EM Creator Dr. Salim Rezaie.

Also on the agenda in 2018: "Getting Things Done - Working in a Distracted World" with Salim R. Rezaie, MD, FACEP, Creator and Founder of REBEL EM, illustrating the concept of "Deep Work" and demonstrating a mental construct that helps to eliminate technology-focused hyper-distraction.

Lightning rounds on innovations and hot topics in emergency medicine, including:

* Dr. Alisa McQueen presenting "Thicker Than Water": The Latest on the Bleeding Pediatric Patient
* Dr. Steven Aks presenting What You Can Do About the Opioid Epidemic in Your ED Today
* Dr. Adam Rodos presenting From (A)ndexanet Alfa to (V)itamin K: Anti-Coagulation Reversal in the ED
* Dr. Yanina Purim-Shem-Tov presenting ICEP & ACEP Value of Advocacy
* Dr. David Chestek presenting How to Not Hate Your EMR: Tips and Tricks
* Dr. Frederic Starr presenting Trauma Pearls: Blunt Cardiac Injury
* Dr. Joseph Palter presenting Thromboelastography (TEG) and Its "Off Label Uses"
Plus: Annual favorites including the Resident Speaker Forum, Statewide Research Showcase, and the Annual Business Meeting and Awards Presentation!

WACEP members qualify for ICEP Member price. Learn more and register.

**Senate wraps up work, passes opioid bills**

The Senate approved more than a dozen bills during its final planned floor period of the session Tuesday, sending them to Gov. Scott Walker’s desk for approval.

The bills range from creating an intensive care coordination program in Medicaid, supporting efforts to fight the opioid epidemic and providing grants to increase awareness of Alzheimer’s and dementia.

But the chamber didn’t take up some proposals approved by the Assembly in recent weeks. That includes bills that would define direct primary care in state law and allow small businesses to band together and self-insure their health plans. Read more.