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A promotional graphic for the WACEP 2019 Spring Symposium. It has an orange background with white text. The text reads: "Emergency Medicine: Where the Rubber Meets the Road", "WACEP 2019 Spring Symposium", and "April 3-4, 2019 Harley-Davidson Museum, Milwaukee WI".

A graphic for the Wisconsin Emergency Medicine PAC. It features the letters "ER" in a large, bold, blue font, followed by a red ECG line. Below this, it says "Wisconsin Emergency Medicine PAC" and "Donate Today!" in a red, bold font.

A graphic with a light blue background and white text. It says "Advertise with WACEP" in a large, bold font, and "Learn more today!" in a smaller font below it.

President's Message, February 2019 What Matters to You? vs. What's the Matter?



*Jeff Pothof, MD, FACEP
WACEP President*

I hope all of you are as eager as I am to attend the WACEP Spring Symposium and 27th Annual Emergency Medicine Research Forum. We have secured a great venue in the Harley-Davidson museum and have some top-notch programming ready to go. I hope to see all of you there April 3rd and 4th. If you haven't already registered, [sign up today](#).

A handful of years ago I had an opportunity to hear Maureen Bisognano, then president of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), deliver a keynote address at the Institute's national forum in Orlando. It was simple enough. Instead of asking your patient "what's the matter?", we were challenged to ask our patients "what matters to you?"

This seemingly small change in words, can lead to a much deeper understanding of the patient and will improve the care you deliver. I've used this approach in the ED and anecdotally can say it's been effective in illuminating why a patients come to my ED, and allows me to better meet their needs. Each patient brings to the ED a different set of life circumstances, they have their own fears and they have their own logic for seeking us out. [Read more](#).

Buprenorphine in the ED: Busting the Myths



*Julie Doniere, MD
WACEP Board of Directors*

I know... another article about opiates. Bear with me, I am writing this because I am anxious to start some conversations about treatment of opiate abuse. Specifically, I am eager to hear about what is happening in the ED's across Wisconsin.

In my practice, I feel like the biggest challenge is finding treatment for those patients that are seeking help with their opiate abuse. Current practice is often symptomatic treatment, a referral list, and a "good luck!" We see people at their most vulnerable. We are either taking care of them after overdose, identifying their abuse disorder by looking at old

Submit a News Story for the Website



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charts, or being there when they realize they have a problem and present themselves to the ED.

There are some caveats to opiate treatment. Opioid addiction does not respond to the same treatments as alcoholism. Abstinence therapies do not typically work. These patients have a desperate need to avoid withdrawal. This is where buprenorphine can be helpful. [Read more.](#)

Free X-Waiver Training Courses

Between February and August, a series of ten complimentary buprenorphine X-Waiver courses are being made available across the state to all eligible prescribers in Wisconsin. The training, presented by the Wisconsin Society of Addiction Medicine (WISAM) in partnership with Wisconsin DHS, is designed to increase treatment capacity for opioid use disorders in Wisconsin. [Learn more.](#)

Emergency Medicine: Where the Rubber Meets the Road

In just six weeks, the annual WACEP Spring Symposium and EM Research Forum will take place at the Harley Davidson Museum in Milwaukee. View the [lineup](#) and [register here](#) to join us April 3 & 4 at this high-energy, high-impact educational and networking activity. The program has been, accredited for a maximum of 10.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™ and 10.5 hours of ACEP Category 1 Credit..

Doctor Day is May 1 - Are You Registered?



Wisconsin's Doctor Day, the premier advocacy event for physicians in our state, is expected to draw over 500 physicians and medical students to Madison on May 1st. Be part of the excitement and let your voice be heard. Participation is free but registration is required.

As a co-sponsor/co-host, WACEP will again hold a private policy primer meet-up for members. Meet us for breakfast just prior to the official opening session. Learn more and sign up at www.WIDoctorDay.org.

Distinguished Service Award - Last Call for Nominations

Wisconsin ACEP's Distinguished Service Award Program annually recognizes a WACEP member who has demonstrated exceptional service to Wisconsin ACEP and/or made a significant contribution toward the advancement of emergency medicine in Wisconsin. Nominee must be a WACEP member. [Submit a nomination](#) before March 1st.

Midwest Medical Student Symposium & Residency Fair

Medical students considering Emergency Medicine for residency are encouraged to attend the Midwest Medical Student Emergency Medicine Symposium, April 13 in Toledo, Ohio. Wisconsin-ACEP is teaming up with the MCW and UW Emergency Medicine Residency Programs to co-sponsor the event. [Read more.](#)

DHS Announces EMS Meeting Schedule

Beginning in 2019, the Wisconsin EMS Board has adopted a quarterly meeting schedule with the first taking place March 5/6 in Madison. State EMS meetings are open meetings and WACEP members are welcome to attend as members of the general public and/or at the Physician Advisory Committee. [Read more.](#)

MEB Modifies Opioid Prescribing Guidelines

The State of Wisconsin Medical Examining Board modified the Opioid Prescribing Guideline at its monthly meeting in Madison on Wednesday. Expressing a desire to be less prescriptive in the "Discontinuing Opioid Therapy" section of the guideline, the Board has removed specific clinical suggestions for situations when opioid therapy leads to evidence of addiction risk or is proving ineffective. [Read more.](#)

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