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President's Message, March 2019

Jeff Pothof, MD, FACEP

Fellow emergency medicine physicians,

This will be the last newsletter before the [Spring Symposium](#) on April 3rd and 4th at the Harley Davidson museum in Milwaukee. We have secured some exciting speakers and incredible and timely content for the symposium.

Does your pulse quicken, and palms get just the tiniest bit sweaty when you see a young child presenting with an unknown overdose? If so join us as legendary pediatric EM physician Richard Cantor talks about both must know pediatric toxins and refreshes us on the most current evidence-based practices in pediatric emergency medicine.

Do the frequent and tragic breaking news reports (some way to close to home) of active shooters make you wonder if your emergency department is ready to handle an event like that? Join us at the symposium as Dr. Jay MacNeal discusses active shooter readiness.

Are you fully up to speed on the latest evidence on managing traumatic brain injury? If not, we have Dr. Daniel Spaite coming up from Arizona to share with us some of the surprising findings he and his team have discovered.

I'm sure all of you are battling the opioid epidemic in your practice environments. I believe emergency medicine is well positioned to be part of the solution to this deadly public health crisis. If you agree consider attending our MAT waiver course being offered for the first time this year at the spring symposium.

The above topics are just a smattering of what's in store for emergency physicians who plan on attending the symposium. Many of you have already registered for the symposium and we are excited about the large number of you planning to attend. If you haven't yet registered there is still time by [registering online here](#).

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you at the symposium, and sharing what WACEP leadership has recently accomplished, what we are working on right now, and hearing from you on how we can improve your practice moving forward.

Thank you for your commitment to our specialty and the patients who depend on us every day.

-Jeff



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**Wisconsin Chapter, American
College of Emergency
Physicians**

563 Carter Ct Suite B
Kimberly WI 54136

920-750-7725
920-882-3655 (fax)

Email: WACEP@badgerbay.co

Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019

In a vote of 240-190 earlier this month, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the ACEP-supported bill [H.R.8 - The Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019](#). Under the nation's current federal law, licensed gun dealers are required to run a background check to make sure buyers don't have a criminal record or a history of mental illness, but law currently excludes private sellers/unlicensed dealers. H.R.8 would close this loophole.

Big Brother is Watching



Bobby Redwood, MD, MPH, FACEP

George Orwell's 1984 really gave big brothers a bad rap. Sure, you can view the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) as our government overlords squeezing the art (and fun) out of emergency medicine...but I tend to view their role as that of a real big brother. Big brothers can be overbearing, they smack us when we're acting the fool, but they also keep us out of trouble and help us navigate tricky areas of our practice.

Enter HEDIS measure "FUA": Follow-Up After Emergency Department Visit for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence. We all know that the opioid epidemic in Wisconsin is getting out of hand and we all see these patients suffering from maladaptive behavior, overdose, and withdrawal. [Read more.](#)

Medical Student Road Trip to Ohio?! Attend the Midwest Student Symposium on April 13

The annual Midwest Medical Student Symposium is just over three weeks out, taking place on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at the Hilton Garden Inn Toledo in Perrysburg, Ohio. The event runs from 7:30 am to 3:15 pm with a Residency Fair taking place from 12:45 to 2:45 pm. Wisconsin's EM Residency Programs will be well represented along with many other programs from the Midwest.



A \$25 registration fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, workshops, EM Residency Fair, and Airway & Ultrasound Skills Labs. Gather a group of students together for a road trip to Ohio! Be sure to register first. Sign up today: www.ohacep.org/medicalstudents.

May Will Be Here Soon - Sign up for Doctor Day!



Join emergency medicine colleagues and physicians from all specialties and practices at Wisconsin's premier advocacy event. Doctor Day 2019 is expected to draw over 500 physicians and medical students to Madison on May 1, 2019. 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.