

A Newsletter for the Members of the Colorado Chapter - Winter 2022



**In this edition:**

CO ACEP's President's Corner  
From The Capitol

CO ACEP 2022 Annual Meeting Review  
CO ACEP Member Spotlight

Clinical Corner: Should We Drain Pericardial Effusions in Aortic Dissection?

Current Calendar of Meetings  
Welcome New CO ACEP Members

**News from ACEP:**

Resources and Latest News  
Upcoming Events and Deadlines



## CO ACEP President's Corner

by Allison Trop, MD, FACEP

It is my honor and privilege to be your incoming 2022 Colorado ACEP President. It has been an amazing 5+ years of involvement with CO ACEP, and personal growth for myself. I could not have picked a better group of driven and dedicated individuals to work with.

This crew of physicians truly works tirelessly to advocate for our fellow EM docs across the state, day and night, 24/7/365. My journey with ACEP began way back in residency under the tutelage of my mentor, Dr. Richard Robinson, who instilled a desire to be involved and effect change in all the residents he trained. I am thrilled to be following in his footsteps with my participation in ACEP advocacy efforts.

I know this has been a difficult 2 years for EDs across our state. As EM docs, we pride ourselves on rising to a challenge. I am constantly amazed at the inventive ways groups have handled the pandemic and the resiliency we have shown as a specialty. We have seen mobile MAB administration units, tele-triage, ED COVID units, and much more. We are still holding strong and continuing to provide excellent emergency care to Coloradoans despite these new limitations and speed bumps. One positive we have discovered through the pandemic is the rise of Zoom and virtual meetings. I think this has been a blessing on many fronts. It has allowed us to socially distance and most importantly, has allowed for greater involvement in all aspects of medicine. EM docs are famous for being problem solvers and go-getters. I encourage you to consider joining our board meetings, as they are virtual now and can be attended from anywhere (even in the car or on the slopes between runs).

Over the past several months, we have built a name and reputation for ourselves as the go-to healthcare organization for advice and guidance in the legislature. This has been a goal of ours at CO ACEP for the past several years, and it is amazing to see this hard work come to fruition. We have a voice that is being sought out regularly by legislators and others in the government. We have a seat at the table to help craft our future response to COVID, Crisis Standards of Care, and beyond. We have been having regular meetings with the CDPHE and the governor's office to discuss our current state of the union in EDs across the state and ways to help out on the ground. This has led to a push by the state to encourage patients to seek COVID testing outside of the ED, as well as outpatient treatments, to offload some of this burden from our daily ED census. I hope to use this relationship to continue to collaborate for inventive progress in emergency medicine in Colorado. Our monthly Medical Director calls are key to this effort, and I strongly encourage those available to join. We need your voices and daily experiences to help us guide the change we need in real-time.

The legislative session kicked off this January, and we have hit the ground running. We have weekly meetings to discuss many important pieces of legislation for EM docs. Back again this year is the PA independent practice bill and also concerning changes to our practice around mental health and holds in the ED. I encourage you to reach out to us with your concerns and experiences, and even consider testifying virtually at bill hearings for

topics you may be particularly passionate about. The best way to effect change is showing up and telling our stories.

This is going to be a busy and exciting year in Colorado. I look forward to Emergency Medicine continuing to lead the way as we navigate our way through this pandemic and improving health across our beautiful state.

---

## **From The Capitol**

### **Physician Assistance Proposal**

The bill (HB1095) will go to the House Health & Insurance on February 23. Please watch for updates via EngagED. CO ACEP opposes the bill in its current form. HB22-1095 severs the team-based approach to emergency medicine. This year's version of the bill decreases the number of hours of collaboration (no supervision) to 3,000 hours. Upon completion of the 3,000 hours, the PA no longer requires any formal relationship with a physician. Further, the bill allows a facility or employer to require a physician to "collaborate" with a PA for those first 3,000 hours as a conditional of the physician's employment.

[Click here to read more updates on:](#)

- 27-65 Legislation
  - Out-of-Network
  - Workforce
  - Leadership Changes in Colorado
- 

## **CO ACEP 2022 Annual Meeting Review**

We celebrated the Colorado ACEP Annual Meeting on January 26th, 2022. In typical Covid style, Emergency Medicine physicians across the state connected via Zoom due to the Omicron surge.

Ramnik Dhaliwal, MD, JD and now past president of COACEP kicked off the meeting by leading us through this past year. His legacy includes COACEP's continued advocacy for Emergency Medicine throughout the pandemic, the creation of the medical directors' monthly meeting to better understand issues facing CO ACEP members across the state and sharing solutions together. We would like to especially thank Dr. Ramnik Dhaliwal for his leadership, innovation, advocacy, and energy during his presidency.

Our renowned lobbyists Suzanne Hamilton and Dan Jablan reported on what to expect in the 2022 Legislative Session as we anticipate an active year and are lucky to have them advocating for our patients and our specialty at the capital.

The following awards were presented:



**The Legacy Award was presented to Dr. John Kendall MD, FACEP** for his impactful legacy in Emergency Medicine innovation, education, ultrasound, leadership, and clinical care.



**The Meritorious Service Award was presented to Dr. Don Stader, MD, FACEP** for the incredible work he has done in the midst of the opioid crisis and his leadership in Emergency Medicine. His work has saved 100's of lives and has positively impacted so many more.



**The John Marx Educational Award was presented to Dr. Bonnie Kaplan** for her commitment to Emergency Medicine education and dedicated leadership that is actively leaving a long-lasting positive impact on the world of Emergency Medicine.



**The Physician Advocate Award was presented to Dr. Don Lefkowitz, MD, FACEP** for his altruistic advocacy for Emergency Medicine Physicians health and wellbeing.

**Welcome to our newest Board Members:**

- Dr. Sabrina Adams
- Dr. Jacob Nacth
- Dr. Laura Edgerely-Gibb

**Welcome back for a second term:**

- Dr. Bradley Shy
- Dr. Mark Hinton

**Your 2022 elected executive leadership includes:**

- Dr. Allison Trop – President
- Dr. Anna Engeln – President-Elect
- Dr. Rebecca Kornas – Secretary/Treasurer
- Dr. Ramnik Dhaliwal – Past President

We are excited to work with you this next year as we advocate for the best care for our patients and for the future of Emergency Medicine.

---

**CO ACEP Member Spotlight**

**Jessica Rainey-Clay**



**Where did you train?**

Medical school: University of South Florida, Morsani College of Medicine

Residency: Stanford Emergency Medicine Residency

**Where do you practice in Colorado?**

Currently, I am an Emergency Physician in the Denver area working with US Acute Care Solutions at St Anthony Hospital, St Anthony North Medical Campus, Avista Adventist Hospital and the Centura Emergency Urgency Centers.

**Why did you choose to practice where you do?**

I wanted a job in Colorado to be near my family and where I could live in the mountains. My family loves the amazing outdoor recreation opportunities and the general culture and values of Colorado.

**Hobbies outside of medicine?**

I love spending time with my family, which includes chasing after my amazing two little girls. We love to explore all Colorado has to offer like biking, hiking, and skiing. I love gardening and cooking delicious food for friends. Other hobbies that make me happy include painting and music, in fact, I just started to learn how to play guitar.

**Favorite place to visit in Colorado?**

My list is ever expanding. However, my top three today are: Steamboat, Telluride and Crested Butte.

**Anything else you would like us to know about you?**

Provider wellness is very important to me. We have all been through a whirlwind, professionally and personally over the last two years, and it has taken a toll. I truly appreciate how strong and resilient my colleagues (and the entire emergency medicine team) continue to be together. It is so important that we openly acknowledge the stress and burnout, the exhaustion and frustration. In doing so, we can support each other and ourselves, connect, find joy in our work, and give the best care to our patients.

**What issues would you like to see CO ACEP address this year?**

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the cracks in the health care system and specifically in the mental health care field. Problems that were starting to evolve became more apparent with the stress test of COVID. I am particularly interested in Colorado's accessibility to mental health resources and the importance of continuity of mental health care for our patients.

---

## **Clinical Corner**

### **Should We Drain Pericardial Effusions in Aortic Dissection?**

**Introduction**

Ascending aortic dissection, also known as type-A aortic dissection, carries a very high morbidity and mortality rate. One of the leading causes of mortality is cardiac tamponade associated with dissection into the pericardium. It has long been taught that draining pericardial fluid in type-A dissections is contraindicated. This contraindication was based on the thought that complete drainage results in increased atrial pressure and worsening of the tear/leak leading to catastrophic results from drainage. However, the current recommended approach takes into consideration that partial and repeated small volume drainage may provide the benefits of having a small volume of fluid in the pericardium as well as prevent death from tamponade physiology. This article presents a case of aortic dissection with pericardial tamponade. [READ MORE](#).

---

**Current calendar of meetings (subject to revision)**

- Board of Directors - March 23 | 12 Noon - 2PM
  - [ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#) - May 1-3, Washington DC
  - Board of Directors - May 25 | 12 Noon - 2PM
  - Board of Directors - July 27 | 12 Noon - 2PM
  - ACEP Council 2022 - September 29 & 30, San Francisco, CA
  - [ACEP 2022 Scientific Assembly](#) - October 1-4, San Francisco, CA
  - Board of Directors - September 28 | 12 Noon - 2PM
  - CME Program/Medical Directors Mtg. in Beaver Creek - November 3 & 4
  - Board of Directors - November 30 | 12 Noon - 2PM
- 

**Welcome New CO ACEP Members!**



Victor Adan, MD  
Austin Almand  
David Baumgartner, MD  
Tyler Rowen Beals, MD  
Guillaume Cachot  
Cameron Colvig, MD, FACEP  
Paul R De Saint Victor, MD, FACEP  
Joseph Farrell  
Wyatt Jason Hall, MD, FACEP  
Bonnie L Kaplan, MD  
John Lawrence Kendall, MD, FACEP  
Da Young Kim  
Paul A Leccese, MD  
William Lubinsky, DO  
Darren Morris, MD, FACEP  
Bonita Nuanez, MD  
John C Pawlik  
Ethan Ross, DO  
Clark S Smith, MD  
Rachel Ann Smith, Smith  
Jeremy Arthur Stueven, MD, MBA  
Chris Michael Thomson, MD, FACEP  
Lynde Jean Tucker  
Sara Van Horne  
Tessa N Warner, MD  
Krista E Wiese, MD  
Jason Younga, MD

---

## 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 Us

Allison Trop, MD, FACEP - President  
Suzanne Hamilton - Executive Director  
303.905.8777 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

**Colorado Chapter ACEP**  
**1520 W Dry Creek Rd.**  
**Littleton, CO 80120**

© 2022 Colorado Chapter ACEP. All rights reserved.