

A Newsletter for the Members of the Colorado Chapter - Fall 2023



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CO ACEP President's Corner

Anna Engeln, MD, FACEP

COACEP just completed its 2nd annual Leadership Symposium and CME conference with an inspiring group of presenters and attendees. As I looked out the window at the snow dusted mountains, I reflected upon the incredible leaders we have in Emergency Medicine. Glancing around the room during one of the lectures, I was humbled by the impact those in the room have had on the lives of others. There were: national and

state leaders who influence the legislation that directly impacts the care we provide; the teachers who share their knowledge, experience, and expertise with us so we can all be the best we can be for our patients; the bedside clinicians who are leaders in their Emergency Departments throughout the state and who selflessly give of their time to be lifelong learners in order to provide expert care to their patients. This is who we are as Emergency Medicine. We are the national leaders at the bedside, in our communities, and in teaching both each other and our patients.

Why do we do it? [Read more.](#)

Colorado ACEP 2023 Interview
Senator Dylan Roberts
Hometown: Frisco, CO



Why did you choose to pursue a career in the legislature?

During law school, I had the chance to intern in the state legislature as a policy analyst for a State Representative. It was during that experience that I saw the state legislature as a place where things actually got done that made the lives of people in Colorado better. Unlike Washington DC, where politics are so divisive and gridlocked, the state legislature was and still is a place where people work together to solve problems.

In 2018, when an opportunity to run to represent communities on Western Slope that I love became available, I decided to take the chance to run to serve and work on some of the challenges my area of the state was facing, including high health insurance costs, an affordable housing crisis, and the need to protect our natural resources and environment. [Read more.](#)

Resources You Need for Collaborative Agreements with Physician Assistants

Important changes have occurred to the scope of practice for physician assistants (PA). After two years of fiercely fought and failed legislative attempts, [SB23-83](#) passed the legislature and was signed into law by Governor Polis earlier this spring. CO ACEP in collaboration with CMS secured important amendments to the bill. The new law changes how PAs practice. Instead of practicing medicine under the direct supervision of a physician, a physician assistant must now enter a “collaborative agreement” with a physician. [Read more.](#)

What Do you Know About Tort Reform?

COPIC presents a three-part series with everything physicians need to know.

Maintaining Colorado's stable tort environment to protect access to care and reduce costs is a top priority of Colorado physicians and COPIC. Starting in July, COPIC released a three-part tort education series to illustrate how and why Colorado's Health Care Availability Act was established, key components of Colorado tort reform, and important legal terms for physicians to know. Access the series through the links below. Visit [COPIC's Legislative Action Center](#) for more education on the issues. Legislative advocacy by physicians is crucial to your practice of medicine. Get involved with CO ACEP through the [CO ACEP website](#) or directly with our executive director Suzanne Hamilton at Suzanne.acep@comcast.net.

Links:

[Part 1 - Tort Reform 101: Colorado's Health Care Availability Act](#)

[Part 2 - Notable Tort Reforms within HCAA](#)

[Part 3 - Differences Between Negligence and Adverse Medical Outcomes](#)

2nd Annual Leadership Symposium & EM: High Risk – Do Not Miss

COACEP was thrilled to host its second annual Leadership Symposium at the Park Hyatt in Beaver Creek on November 2nd. The incredible speakers are inspirational leaders in our field sharing their experience and insight as we all grow in leadership in medicine.

Kicking off the event was Dr. Steve Quach tackling the difficult topic of “Running Towards Discomfort Developing Leadership Versatility.” Ted Lasso got a shout out during his lecture as Ted’s wise advice that “Taking on a challenge is a lot like riding a horse, isn’t it? If you are comfortable doing it, you’re probably doing it wrong.” This mimics the discomfort of growing into a competent leader, and Dr. Quach gave us the insight how to grow effectively into this role. [Read more.](#)



ACEP23 Report



Respectfully submitted by Carla Murphy, DO, FACEP

National ACEP's annual Council Meeting convened in Philadelphia on October 7th - 8th, segueing into the educational annual Scientific Assembly, ACEP23.

Colorado councilors/alternates who participated were Drs. Jamie Dhaliwal, Ramnik Dhaliwal, Laura Edgerley-Gibb, Anna Engeln, Rachelle Klammer, Rebecca Kornas, Allison Trop, Doug Hill, and Carla Murphy. Our contingent was again honored to have Dr. Brooks Bock (past ACEP President, 1983-84) join the Colorado contingent by ACEP custom, as he now resides in Vail. [Read more.](#)

CO ACEP 2024 Annual Meeting Announcement

The CO ACEP Annual Meeting will be held on January 25, 2024, from 12noon – 2pm at the Logan Street Restaurant. We have invited key legislators to come meet with our members and discuss what will definitely be a wild legislative session. Mark your calendar today. An invitation will be sent soon but space is limited so get a jump on the crowd and register to attend [here.](#)

CO ACEP 2024 Meeting Schedule

- January 25, 12pm – 2pm: Annual Meeting – Logan Street Restaurant
- January 25, 2pm – 3pm: Board of Directors
- March 13, 12pm – 2pm: Board Directors
- April 14-16: ACEP's LAC – Washington DC
- May 22, 12pm – 2pm: Board Directors
- July 24, 12pm – 2pm: Board Directors
- September 25, 12pm – 2pm: Board Directors
- September 27 & 28: ACEP Council Meeting – Las Vegas, NV
- September 29 – October 2: ACEP24 - Las Vegas, NV
- November 7, 11am – 1pm: Board Directors
- November 7, 1pm – 5pm: Leadership Symposium
- November 8, 8am – 5pm: CME Program “EM: High Risk – Do Not Miss”

For more information about participating in any of the meeting listed above, please contact CO ACEP Executive Director [Suzanne Hamilton](#).

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ACEP Blunts Medicare Cuts in 2024 Physician Fee Schedule

CMS recently released the Physician Fee Schedule PFS for calendar year 2024, which includes some wins for you and your patients, thanks to ACEP's involvement. Other provisions are concerning and ACEP continues to fight for favorable solutions. Our goal is to ensure your work is valued appropriately. [Read ACEP's detailed analysis.](#)

ACEP Council Tackles Key Issues During Philadelphia Meeting

More than 60 resolutions were considered during the ACEP23 Council Meeting in Philadelphia in October, with many of them drawing considerable debate before 44 were ultimately adopted. [Learn more](#)

New Career Resources:

- You asked for it. ACEP delivered. ACEP's **Open Book** addresses your need for employer transparency. Gain access to information about employer group structure, leadership and more | openbook.acep.org
- **Practice Essentials of Emergency Medicine** augments your knowledge of several critical business topics: Reimbursement, Contracts and Practice Models, Negotiations, Operations Management, Risk Management and More. It's **FREE** for ACEP members | acep.org/practiceessentials

ACEP in Action: We are committed to listening to, and learning from, the challenges that physicians face on each shift and to being your network of support in this difficult environment. Actions speak louder than words. We are tackling the issues that matter most to you. Our efforts are stronger when we stand united. [Read More.](#)

Fighting for You on Shift

- ACEP convened health care stakeholders in September to discuss barriers and solutions at our ED Boarding Summit
- We have released poll results about the public's concern about boarding in the ED | acep.org/boarding
- This [ACEP Now boarding series](#) keeps you updated on the latest boarding news and opinions
- [Contact Congress about the ED Boarding Crisis](#)

Getting it Done in D.C.

- ACEP has been involved in **NINE recent lawsuits** to protect your autonomy and [ensure fair reimbursement](#)
- We have invested more than \$1 million of member dues dollars to [push back on scope creep](#) at the federal and state levels

Member Benefit Spotlight: Map out your spending and investment accounts, retirement projections, and goal projections in one secure online platform with My Financial Coach. [Read more.](#)

Grassroots Advocacy

Urge Congress to Prevent Workplace Violence in the ED

ACEP is continuing its mission to bring both Congressional and public attention to the growing problem of violence against health care workers. [A recent video article](#) in the *New York Times* highlights the crisis of violence in emergency departments and includes compelling testimonials from emergency physicians and other health care workers about its impact on their ability to provide care to patients.

We urge you to [share the video with your legislators](#) to reinforce the urgency of the problem and the need for Congressional action. Your legislators need to hear from physicians who are experiencing and witnessing this crisis on the frontlines of our health care system so they will prioritize swift action in this Congress.

Be an Advocate for Emergency Medicine and Patients

Join with your ACEP colleagues to advocate to Congress. As a physician, health care issue expert, and constituent - you have a unique story to share. [Visit the ACEP Advocacy Action Center](#).

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec 7: [Hot Off the Presses: Key Reimbursement from the 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#)

Jan 9-10: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Jan 29-30: [ACEP Advanced EM Ultrasonography \(AEMUS\)](#)

Feb 6-8: [Independent EM Group Master Class](#)

Contact Us

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