

A Newsletter for the Members of the Colorado Chapter - Fall 2024

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CO ACEP President's Corner



Rebecca Kornas, MD, FACEP

President CO ACEP

Getting a Handle on EMTALA in a Post Roe World

Congress enacted and President Ronald Reagan signed into law the Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA) on April 7, 1986. EMTALA, the anti-dumping law, is still an unfunded federal mandate for universal access to all, regardless of ability to pay, citizenship, or legal status, with no designated means to cover all the "safety net" care that EMTALA ensures, which shifts the cost of this care to the hospitals instead

of the patients. The expansion of Medicaid, under the Affordable Care Act has increased coverage, but a significant portion of the cost is absorbed by individual hospitals and health care systems, as well as taxpayers. A basic assumption within EMTALA was that private hospitals would continue to have open beds to accept these patients. [Read more.](#)

CO ACEP Board Member Spotlight

Meet Dr. Laura Edgerley-Gibb



Q: *Where did you train?*

Medical School: Stanford University

Residency: Stanford EM

Q: *Where do you practice?*

I practice at Mount San Rafael Hospital in Trinidad, CO and San Luis Valley Hospital in Alamosa ,CO.

Q: *Why did you choose to practice there?*

I grew up in a rural community and I love practicing rural emergency medicine. Our skills as board certified emergency physicians are most needed in communities with very few or no specialists and the sense of community and cooperation in rural hospitals truly is unique and exceptional.

Q: *What are your hobbies outside of medicine?*

I love to ski, spend time in the mountains, and travel with my husband and 3 daughters.

Q: *Where is your favorite place to visit in Colorado?*

My favorite place in CO is Steamboat - any season is beautiful and there is so much to see and explore.

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

I would love to see CO ACEP continue to support legislation that promotes patient safety and equitable access to care.

Colorado ACEP 2024 Interview
Representative Kyle Brown

Hometown: Louisville



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

I am a lifelong public servant that has served my communities at the federal, state, and local government levels. I decided to run for state legislature so that I could effectively advocate for my community at the state level. For example, I was on the ground the day after the Marshall Fire to help his community recover. First while as a Louisville city councilmember, I helped obtain thousands of gallons of bottled water from

local partners until potable drinking water was restored and helped clear debris. With the City Council, I was also provided millions of dollars in tax relief for families who are underinsured and rebuilding. Coming into the legislature, I wanted continued to fight to help every family rebuild and recover from the Marshall fire by removing barriers on the state level. I secured \$14 million in state relief for those rebuilding from the Marshall fire, leading efforts to exempt Marshall fire rebuilds from state sales tax. I have passed legislation to make sure that renters whose homes suffered damage in the fire had healthy and safe homes to return to. I have also led efforts to fight underinsurance and hold insurance companies, mortgage servicers, and HOAs accountable to their role in wildfire mitigation and response. It's issues like this where I am proud to advocate for my community at the state level at the Capitol.

If you could change one thing about healthcare in Colorado, what would it be?

I work every day so that every kid and family have the opportunity to succeed and thrive. If I could change one thing about Colorado, it would be to make sure everyone has access to affordable, quality housing and health care, a quality education and the ability to get ahead.

What is the biggest similarity or difference in your career as a State Representative you can associate to working in an ED?

As a state legislator, there are a large number of issues and priorities to keep track of and respond to. Similar to working in an ED one must juggle the needs of multiple patients at the same time, legislators are constantly juggling the needs of different constituencies in order to most effectively serve our community. My calendar fills up quickly with many different tasks at once, but it's good honest work and the juggle is worth it.

What do you consider your greatest achievement in the legislature?

After only one term in the legislature, I am proud to have passed 34 different bills on housing, climate change, health care, and disaster recovery. I am most proud of the legislation that I have been able to pass that has come directly from our community and their needs after the Marshall fire. The Marshall Fire community has really come together to advocate for themselves, but also for the larger issues at play that would otherwise negatively impact any future residents who lose their home to wildfire. So being able to engage with my community and create the results they need is something I am most proud of.

What hobbies do you enjoy in your off time?

My kids keep me very busy, but I really just enjoy being a dad and having some flexibility at different parts of the year to be there for them.



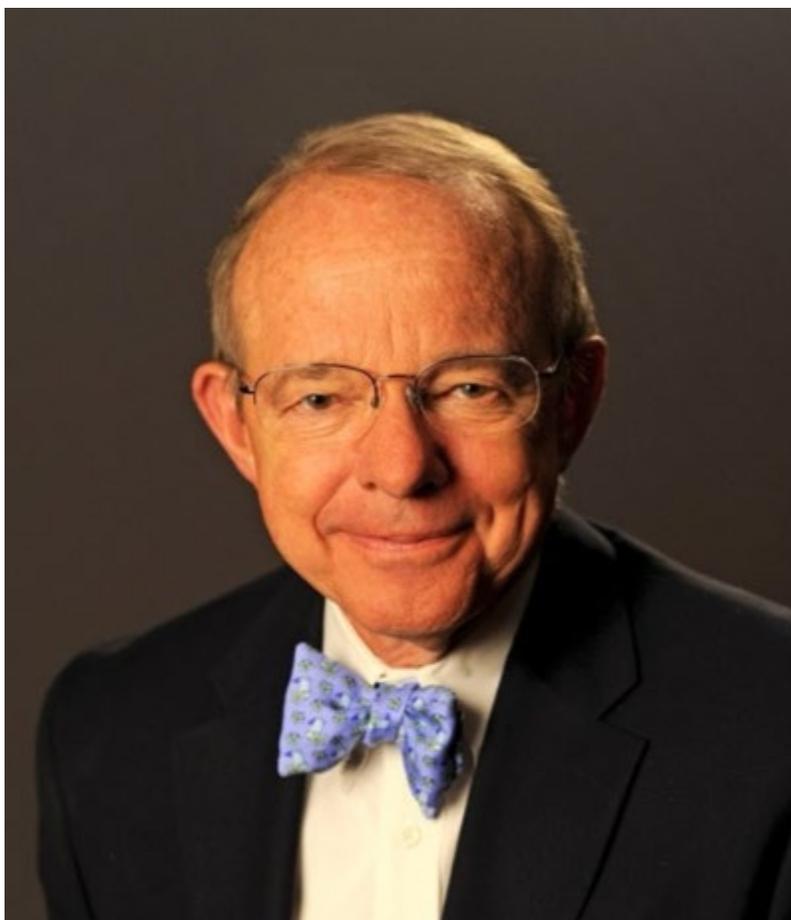
Doug Hill, DO, FACEP



Carla Murphy, DO, FACEP

Stephen V. Cantrill, MD, FACEP

Recognized at ACEP Council Meeting



At the 2024 annual national ACEP Council Meeting in Las Vegas in September, Dr. Stephen Cantrill of Colorado was recognized with a commendation resolution.

The commendation resolution, a prestigious recognition, reads as follows: “Resolved that the American College of Emergency Physicians commends Stephen V. Cantrill, MD, FACEP for his outstanding dedication and contributions on behalf of the College and the specialty of emergency medicine.”

Dr. Cantrill's contributions to emergency medicine are unique and far-reaching. He earned his MD from The College of Medicine, University of Vermont. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at Denver

Health Medical Center, where he subsequently served as Associate Director and Medical Director of the Department of Emergency Medicine.

He was well-loved by the residents, who were grateful for his teaching and always glad to see him come on shift wearing his signature bow tie. He was awarded Denver Health's Master Teacher Award and Outstanding Teaching Award. He was president of the medical staff of Denver General from 1992-1994. He is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Dr. Cantrill served on the State of Colorado Governor's Expert Emergency Epidemic Response Committee. Dr. Cantrill was active in disaster management and weapons of mass destruction education. He has been extensively published on many diverse subjects in the medical literature. Dr. Cantrill has been involved in numerous CO ACEP chapter committees over many years and served as president of CO ACEP from 1985 -1986. He was awarded the Legacy Award from the Colorado Chapter in 2016.

His service to national ACEP is legion, as attested to by his receiving the 2015 John R. Rupke Legacy Award. He served as a councillor representing Colorado at the annual national Council Meeting from 1981 to 1995 and, in 1992, received the Council Meritorious Service Award. He has chaired and served on numerous ACEP committees, commissions, task forces, and panels, including Reference Committees, Quality of Care and Patient Safety Committees, and the Steering Committee. Dr. Cantrill was the sole emergency medicine representative to the National Institute of Health's COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel.

His most impactful legacy may be his long tenure on the Clinical Policy Committee. He served on that committee for 16 years, beginning in 1996, and was the chair for many of those years. Dr. Cantrill's local, national, and international roles have significantly advanced our specialty's frontiers. He has acted on academic, political, and administrative fronts. This recognition at the annual Council Meeting is a testament to his influential leadership. Dr. Cantrill remains a trusted visionary, mentor, and advocate whose contributions have left an indelible mark on the specialty.

A Tribute to Marilyn Gifford, MD, FACEP



The American College of Emergency Physicians honored Dr. Marilyn Gifford on September 27, 2024, at the Council Meeting with a memorial resolution introduced by the Colorado Chapter. Marilyn's legacy is deeply ingrained in our chapter's history, as she was the 8th President of Colorado ACEP in 1979, a role that she carried out with utmost dedication.

Marilyn Joyce Gifford, born in Denver on August 3, 1943, was a woman of service. She graduated from Mount Sinai Medical School in New York and continued her service in the United States Navy as a Lieutenant at the

United States Naval Training Center, Bainbridge, Maryland, from 1970 through 1972.

She then relocated back to Colorado, initially practicing in Boulder and Longmont, and subsequently moved to Colorado Springs, where she joined the staff at Memorial Hospital in 1980. There, she served as an attending physician in the Emergency Department. While at Memorial Hospital, she became Medical Director of the ED, earning a reputation as a staunch advocate for her colleagues, staff, patients, EMS personnel, and the community at large. During her directorship, Memorial Hospital had the highest volume of any Emergency Department in Colorado.

Dr. Gifford's impact on the Colorado medical community was profound. She authored protocols used by ambulance and fire services to assist first responders in helping patients in Colorado. Her service to the El Paso County Medical Society of Colorado on many committees and in many capacities from 1982 to 1996, including as Council on Legislation, Pre-Hospital Care Physician Advisory Committee, and Board President from 1993 to 1994, further solidified her as a local hero.

She served several terms as a Delegate to the Colorado Medical Society (CMS) House of Delegates from 1984 to 2015 and on the CMS Board of Directors from 1996 to 1998.

Dr. Gifford was a trailblazer, becoming the first woman to hold the position of Board Chair of the National Registry of EMTs from 1992-1993 and again from 1998-1999. During her tenure, she endorsed the EMS Education and Practice Blueprint and pledged support for the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) as the accrediting body.

Dr. Gifford's respect for first responders was evident when she received national ACEP's EMS Award in Chicago on October 17, 2001, at the Scientific Assembly held just 5 weeks after 9/11. In her acceptance remarks, she paid tribute to the many first responders who gave their lives in the line of duty on that fateful day, inspiring all those present.

Marilyn Gifford passed away on January 16, 2024, in Colorado Springs at the age of 80. The American College of Emergency Physicians and the Colorado Chapter extend to her family, friends, and colleagues condolences and profound gratitude for her advocacy for Emergency Medical Services and her commitment to the specialty of emergency medicine. At the annual national ACEP Council meeting on September 27, the resolution honoring Dr. Gifford was read aloud to the Council and presented to her two sons in attendance, followed by a moment of silence. Her legacy lives on, an enduring inspiration to those in emergency medicine and the many lives she touched throughout her career.

Council Meeting & ACEP24



The annual meeting of ACEP's representative Council was held in Las Vegas, Nevada, from September 26 to 28, and it was a resounding success, with numerous achievements and milestones.

- The Council considered 70 resolutions.

- ACEP has 37 thousand members nationwide.
- Dr. Sandra Schneider is serving as ACEP's interim executive director after our executive director resigned.

ACEP Board of Directors elected:

The Council elected four women to the Board this year:

- Dr. Jennifer Casaletto (NC)
- Dr. C. Ryan Keay (WA)
- Dr. Heidi Knowles (TX)
- Dr. Diana Nordlund (MI)

Board Officers elected:

- President: Dr. Alison Haddock
- President-elect: Dr. Anthony Cirillo
- Chair: Dr. Gabe Kelen
- VP Communications: Dr. Jeffrey Goodloe
- VP Membership: Dr. Kristin McCabe-Kline
- Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Heidi Knowles
- Immediate Past President: Dr. Aisha Terry

Colorado ACEP councilors representing our state were Drs. Jasmeet Dhaliwal, Ramnik Dhaliwal, Laura Edgerley-Gibb, Anna Engeln, Rachelle Klammer, and Rebecca Kornas. Alternate councilors were Drs. Douglas Hill, Carla Murphy, Megan Purdy, Parth Shah, Bradley Shy, and James Thompson. Dr. Kristen Nordenholz served as a councilor representing the Wellness Section, which she chairs.

The Emergency Medicine Residents Association (EMRA) is 50 years old and has over 20,000 members. Over 95% of EM residents are EMRA members. This year, emergency medicine faced an unprecedented Match cycle in which more than 500 residency spots went unfilled prior to the SOAP (Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program). Some contributing factors were the rapid growth of EM residency programs and fewer applicants. EMRA provided educational content on unionization for resident organizers. At this year's meeting, EMRA had Sim Wars, Quiz Shows, a Residency Fair, and a job and fellowship fair. EMRA provides a wealth of resources, including on-shift guides covering topics such as antibiotics, pressors, and nerve blocks and procedural pain management. Check out EMRA on Instagram @emresidents or the free podcast EMRACAST.

Due to ACEP's advocacy regarding the boarding crisis, AHRQ convened a multistakeholder director roundtable on the topic in Washington, DC, on October 8. AHRQ is the federal government's arm to improve healthcare.

Some resolutions adopted by the Council and Board of Directors, including those on workplace violence and healthcare access, will significantly impact our field and the safety of our members.

Resolution 22 - for ACEP to promote best practices as defined in the "Well Workplace" Policy Statement.

Resolution 24 - that ACEP prioritize advocacy to remove the Medicare three midnight Rule for Post-Acute Rehabilitation for skilled nursing placement.

Resolution 26 - that ACEP ensure that hospitals consider the contributions of boarding and crowding to safety events as "Root cause type" and "Causal factor" as part of the root cause analysis.

Resolution 29 - that ACEP promote the maintenance of more specific minimum standards for freestanding emergency departments (FSEDs) pertaining to appropriate staffing, lab, security, service availability, and imaging capabilities, and update the FSED policy statement accordingly.

Resolution 30 - that ACEP formally request appropriate federal government agencies to investigate whether health insurers and hospitals violate antitrust or other laws by requiring emergency physicians to be in-network as a condition for an emergency professional service contract.

Resolution 38 - that ACEP work on the federal and state levels to ensure that all patients have access to the full spectrum of evidence-based pregnancy care, including, but not limited to, termination of pregnancy of a non-living fetus, a fetus with no hope of survival, or to protect the health or life of a pregnant person.

Resolution 39 - Urgent Care Transparency - that ACEP advocate for legislation requiring signage visible to patients prior to entering urgent care centers, listing what resources are available and listing the credentials of care providers on site.

Resolution 41 - Workplace Violence - RESOLVED, That ACEP advocate for all emergency departments to preserve and protect the accurate reporting of each workplace violence incident while preserving employee confidentiality without repercussion or recrimination for employment purposes; and be it further RESOLVED, That ACEP officially work with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Justice, and other relevant stakeholders to advocate for national legislation that standardizes the prevention and the response to harmful acts of violence on health care workers in emergency departments.

This resolution is important because Healthcare workers represent 50% of all workplace assault victims.

Resolution 43 - Addressing Challenges Related to the New ABEM Oral Board Exam Format - that ACEP will engage with the American Board of Emergency Medicine to explore delaying implementation of the new oral board examination format in 2026, with concerns regarding preparation, test evaluation, cost, and safety for candidates compelled to travel to North Carolina, the only oral board exam site.

Several resolutions were passed to support rural emergency medicine and several to support data collection on climate-related health emergencies. A resolution was adopted encouraging the use of tap water to irrigate wounds.

Two adopted resolutions honored Colorado ACEP members:

Dr. Stephen Cantrill was commended for his work on ACEP's Clinical Policies Committee and ACEP's Epidemic Expert Panel. He was the sole emergency physician on the National Institute of Health's COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines Panel.

A resolution submitted by our Colorado chapter recognized the late **Dr. Marilyn Gifford**, a past president and a pioneer in the field of EMS. Her two sons, Brian Caplan, JD, and Eric Caplan, MD, were present to receive the recognition.

The Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF) is the largest EM research organization in the US, giving over one million dollars in grants this year.

The Council's Town Hall Meeting explored an ongoing Rand Corporation study of emergency medicine focusing on the value of emergency care, evaluating impediments to ED resources and capacity, trends in emergency

medicine reimbursement, and proposing new innovative funding strategies for emergency care.

The Scientific Assembly educational part of the ACEP24 meeting followed the Council Meeting, with 4 days of educational content and over 6 thousand registrants. There were hundreds of exhibitors and additional networking and social events. Some notable events were a trauma escape room and a format that included some very short lectures. New this year, there was no requirement to register ahead for specific routine courses, allowing flexibility to move on the fly between courses.

ACEP's next annual Council Meeting will be on September 5 and 6 in Salt Lake City, Utah, followed by the Scientific Assembly (ACEP25) on September 7-10, 2025.

Report on Combined Resolutions between our CO ACEP and the Wellness Section



Kristen E Nordenholz MD, MS, FACEP

CO ACEP Board member

ACEP Wellness Section Councilor

ACEP Wellbeing Committee Chair

Your Colorado ACEP Chapter and the Wellness Section jointly supported two resolutions this year namely: 22 and 41 and these are the outcomes below.

This work represents collaboration on improving workplace conditions, and safety from workplace violence.

RESOLUTION 22(24): Support for the “Well Workplace” Policy Statement

The Well Workplace Policy written by the ACEP Wellbeing Committee was approved by the ACEP Board <https://www.acep.org/patient-care/policy-statements/well-workplace> as a document listing 20 important influences which are part of a work environment which cultivates wellness of the staff which is critical for wellness of our patients.

Resolution 22 was divided into 2 parts (A and B) and the first was adopted but the second half was not. What this means is that ACEP will support promoting the Well Workplace Policy but did not go as far as to guarantee that Well Workplace Policy will be incorporated into the ED Accreditation process which is currently being constructed nationally. The actual language from the reference committees was as follows:

“RECOMMENDATION PART A:

Madam Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that the first resolved of Resolution 22(24) **be adopted**.

RESOLVED, That ACEP promote, advertise, and support the best practices as defined in the “Well Workplace” policy statement; and be it further

RECOMMENDATION PART B:

Madam Speaker, your Reference Committee recommends that the second resolved of Resolution 22(24) **not be adopted**.

RESOLVED, That ACEP develop and comprehensively support a system to track adherence to the “Well Workplace” policy statement in an effort to create a wellness certification mechanism or incorporate adherence to this well workplace policy into the ED Accreditation Program.

Summary of Testimony

Testimony was entirely supportive of the first resolved. Speakers in support referenced the desire to promote and encourage ACEP’s well workplace policy and through those efforts to support its members. The Chair of the ED Accreditation Board of Governors (Gillian Schmitz) offered testimony pertaining to the second resolved that well workplace principles are already being systematically incorporated into the ED Accreditation Program.”

Outcome: The Wellbeing Committee will work with Gillian Schmitz on ED Accreditation to help ensure that Well Workplace is incorporated. This is currently one of the objectives of the WellBeing Committee and the Subcommittee Co-chairs are Dr Diann Krywko and Dr Rita Manfredi.

AMENDED RESOLUTION 41(24): Workplace Violence (in lieu of Resolutions 41 and 42) Wellness and CO worked with the NY section to combine extremely similar resolutions to support the reporting of workplace violence in a central repository without any repercussions to reporters and this resolution **passed resoundingly**.

The actual language from the reference committees is as follows:

“RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED, That ACEP advocate for all emergency departments to preserve and protect the accurate reporting of each workplace violence incident while preserving employee confidentiality without repercussion or recrimination for employment purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP officially work with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Justice, and other relevant stakeholders to advocate for national legislation that standardizes the prevention and the response to harmful acts of violence on health care workers in emergency departments.

ORIGINAL RESOLUTION LANGUAGE AS SUBMITTED

RESOLVED, That ACEP both advocate for and support the ability of victims and witnesses to report workplace violence events without repercussion and recriminations; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP create a mechanism for tracking workplace violence reports such that the scope of the problem can be identified.

RESOLVED, That ACEP advocate for all emergency departments to preserve and protect the accurate reporting of each workplace violence incident while preserving employee confidentiality without repercussion for employment purposes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That ACEP officially work with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Justice, and other relevant stakeholders to advocate for national legislation that standardizes the prevention and the response to harmful acts of violence on health care workers in emergency departments.

Summary of Testimony

Asynchronous testimony was overall in support of the first resolved, with one comment questioning the financial estimation of the entire resolution. Further comments reflected concern with the cost of the original Resolution 41 second resolved and if the College is best suited to create a tracking mechanism instead of a federal agency. Comments also called to combine Resolution 41 Resolution 42. Live testimony was limited based on anticipation of amended language and suggestions to combine Resolutions 41 and 42. Given the significant overlap of Resolutions 41 and 42, and to address testimony on both resolutions, your Reference Committee recommends adoption of Amended Resolution 41 in lieu of Resolutions 41 and 42.”

Outcome: The Wellbeing Committee will work with the New York Chapter and Colorado Chapter to ensure that ACEP creates a mechanism for reporting of Workplace Violence. This is currently one of the objectives of the WellBeing Committee and the Subcommittee Chair is Dr Abbas Husein.

ACEP Council 2024 was very productive and demonstrates the power of collaboration between sections and chapters. Please feel free to bring new ideas to CO ACEP as soon as possible and we can start working on drafting resolutions for ACEP Council 2025. This will occur on September 5-6 in Salt Lake City and will be followed by Scientific Assembly on September 7-10. This is EARLIER than usual so please hold these dates. This also means the resolution deadlines will likely be in JUNE 2025.

From the Capitol



Dan Jablan

CO ACEP Lobbyist

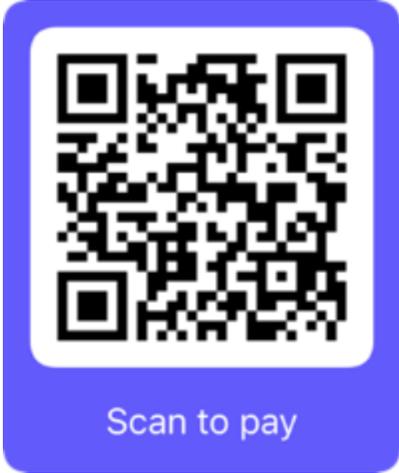
As I write this report the General Election remains days away. I can say that Election Day ranks right up there with my birthday and Christmas, however I am funny that way.

Regardless of the outcome of our federal or state races, rest assured that CO ACEP is will navigate the outcome and advocate for you regardless of who won and who lost their bid to represent the various areas of Colorado.

CO ACEP's advocacy on behalf of EM physicians and your patients will never be more important. We are aware of dozens of legislative proposals which will be introduced when the 75th General Assembly convenes on January 8, 2025. These proposals run the gambit from scopes of practice expansions to those that will impact the way you practice medicine to private insurance hurdles and Medicaid reimbursement. These will not overshadow an anticipated run at the confidentiality of peer review all couched within a legislature facing a nearly \$1 billion budget deficit. Buckle up and hold on!

A comprehensive list of expected and rumored legislation will be sent to you along with a post-election analysis via EngagED as soon as the dust of November 5th settles.

And speaking of November 5th, it is very important to understand that our wins and losses next year will depend on your investment in your profession. Your CO ACEP Leadership spends innumerable hours reading and discussing legislative bills, taking positions on those bills and testifying before the legislature. I would encourage you to invest, if not your time, \$50 to the CO ACEP Small Donor Committee. This committee was formed to maximize CO ACEP's voice at the Capitol. A small contribution, no more than a week's worth of coffee and much less than an hour of your time, will make a BIG impact. You can use the QR code below or go to our [website](#) to invest in the practice of emergency medicine in Colorado. The maximum contribution is \$50.



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3rd Annual Leadership Symposium



Est. 2022

3rd Annual

LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM & EMERGENCY MEDICINE: HIGH RISK - DO NOT MISS

November 14 & 15, 2024
Park Hyatt Beaver Creek Resort & Spa
This program has been approved for
AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)[™]



COLORADO CHAPTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS
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Book your Hotel [Here](#)

Colorado Physician Health Program (CPHP) – Healthy Doctors Give Better Care

The [Colorado Physician Health Program \(CPHP\)](#) is a **confidential and free** resource to help all medically licensed professionals in Colorado. CPHP provides true peer support (physician to physician) for all health problems and wellbeing issues such as burnout, stress from the workplace, a bad outcome or malpractice case, depression, anxiety, substance related issues, and chronic illness. CPHP provides evaluation, treatment referral, monitoring, and supportive services to safeguard your best health and wellbeing.

CPHP's latest offering, in collaboration with [Colorado Medical Society](#), is the [Doc2Doc Wellbeing Consulting Program \(Doc2Doc\)](#). Doc2Doc provides Colorado medically licensed professionals access to brief impactful consultations related to your health or wellbeing by a physician peer expert, bypassing lengthy documentation or evaluation. This service is geared especially for burnout but can assist all professionals who just need a peer to talk with. This program is free and confidential.

Be your best self and best doctor with CPHP. Healthy Doctors Give Better Care!



Upcoming CO ACEP Events Calendar

CO ACEP 2025 Annual Meeting

- January 23, 12pm-2pm

CO ACEP 2024-2025 Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule

- November 14, 11am – 1pm
- January 23, 2pm – 3pm
- March 6, 12pm – 2pm
- May 1, 12pm – 2pm
- July 17, 12pm – 2pm
- September 4, 12pm – 2pm

CO ACEP 2024-2025 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

- December 5, 12pm – 2pm
- February 6, 12pm – 2pm
- April 3, 12pm – 2pm
- June 5, 12pm – 2pm
- August 7, 12pm – 2pm
- October 2, 12pm – 2pm
- December 4, 12pm – 2pm

Additional Important Meeting Dates

- November 14, 1pm – 5pm Leadership Symposium
- November 15, 8am – 5pm CME Program “EM: High Risk – Do Not Miss”

- April 27-29, ACEP's 2025 Leadership & Advocacy Conference, Washington, DC
- September 5-6, ACEP's 2024 Council Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah
- September 7-10, ACEP's Scientific Assembly, Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information about participating in any of the meeting listed above, please contact CO ACEP Executive Director Suzanne Hamilton at suzanne.acep@comcast.net.

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ACEP Continues to Lead the Call for Accountability, Solutions to the Boarding Crisis

When it comes to boarding, ACEP leaders are keeping the pressure on. Last week, ACEP met with the Biden Administration to discuss our proposal to require hospitals to have plans in place when they reach capacity. [READ MORE](#)

ACEP Calls for Action to Address Drug Shortages, Protect Patients

In the aftermath of two recent hurricanes, ACEP wrote the Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration, and Federal Trade Commission to address concerns about the medical supply chain disruption, drug shortages and patient safety. Read ACEP's list of demands. [READ MORE](#)

ACEP Releases Migraine POC

ACEP's new Migraine in the ED point of care tool is now available. This tool aims to help emergency physicians better diagnose and treat patients who present with this common complaint. [READ MORE](#)

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance Exchanges

The Federal Marketplace open enrollment period for the health insurance exchanges starts this Friday. ACEP has professional liability coverage options, a new program for emergency physicians looking for 1099 coverage and much more. See what's available. [READ MORE](#)

ACEP-Supported Bill Introduced to Stop Medicare Payment Cuts, Provide Inflationary Update

On October 29, the ACEP-supported bipartisan “Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act” (H.R. 10073) was introduced in the House of Representatives by congressional physician champions and physician allies. Now, it needs emergency physician support to help enact it into law.

This bill fully addresses the impending 2.8% Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) cuts scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2025, and goes further to provide a temporary update to the PFS via a one-year inflationary update of half the 2025 Medicare Economic Index (MEI), a proposal similar to recommendations that the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) recently shared with Congress.

[Click here to urge your elected official to stop these cuts and support this bill.](#)

ACEP continues to prioritize long-term, sustainable physician payment reform as a key pillar of our federal advocacy efforts.

This bill is a vital stopgap to fully prevent the imminent cuts facing emergency physicians at year-end, establish an important precedent of reflecting inflationary pressures in the Medicare physician payment system, and to provide the physician community and Congress additional time to collaborate on long-term physician payment reform.

ACEP and 130 organizations representing physicians, health care providers, hospitals, and other organizations support passing this bill into law. Read the press release from the bill sponsors [here](#).

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

- **Nov. 12:** Learn how to manage your student loans and navigate repayment or forgiveness options in the live webinar, "Find Freedom From the Stress of Student Loan Debt." Hosted by Laurel Road, this one-hour live event is set for Noon. [Register](#).
- **Nov. 12:** Prepare for the 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule impacting your pay starting Jan. 1, 2025. Hot Off the Presses: Reimbursement Updates for 2025, a live one-hour webinar, begins at 1 p.m. (Central). [Register](#).
- **Dec. 4:** Explore tax strategies for health care leaders in both nonprofit and for-profit organizations: maximize retirement contributions, leverage donor-advised funds, charitable strategies, Roth conversions, HSAs, and more in this webinar, Tax Plan Your Way

to Wealth for Physicians and Medical Professionals. This one-hour live event starts at Noon. [Register](#).

- **Jan. 13, 2025:** Get the most out of your Reimbursement & Coding Conference experience with Nuts and Bolts of Physician Reimbursement 2025. This one-hour live webinar begins at 1 p.m. (Central). [Register](#).
- **Jan. 18-23, 2025:** With multiple meetings in one place, ACEP Accelerate in Orlando offers something for everybody. [Register](#)
 - AAWEF Power Up: Women in Leadership - Jan. 18, 2025
 - Observation Medicine Science and Solutions - Jan. 18-19, 2025
 - Teaching Fellowship Phase 1 - Jan. 18-22, 2025
 - ED Directors Academy Phase I - Jan. 19-23, 2025
 - Pediatric Emergency Medicine Assembly - Jan. 20-22, 2025
 - Reimbursement & Coding - Jan. 20-22, 2025
 - And more! See the full [ACEP Accelerate](#) schedule online.
- **Feb. 10-13, 2025:** Chart your own course with the Independent EM Group Master Class. [Register](#)

Contact Us

Rebecca Kornas, MD, FACEP - President

Suzanne Hamilton - Executive Director

303.905.8777 | suzanne.acep@comcast.net | [Website](#)

Colorado Chapter ACEP

1520 W Dry Creek Rd.

Littleton, CO 80120

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