

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

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CO ACEP President's Corner

Rebecca Kornas, MD, FACEP

President CO ACEP

“To arrive early, is to be on time. To be on time, is to be late. To be late, is to be dead.” This is a maxim that my middle school coach shared with our team which resonates with me to this day.

The way that you enter a shift as the attending emergency physician sets the tone for the day. If you come in after a poor night’s sleep, hitting the snooze button multiple times and leaving your house late, followed by getting stuck in traffic on your way to work, this sets you up for entering your shift with a near empty cup. This is quite a different tone than one where you go to bed early, wake up early with the motivation (and time) to get a bit of exercise, hit all green lights on your commute to work and then arrive promptly to your shift with a great mental attitude, ready to face the day. This is a day when you start with a full cup.

[Read more.](#)

COACEP Board Member Spotlight
Meet Dr. Patrick Joynt



At his favorite place...
in front of a steamer of soup dumplings



With his wife, Shereen at Oktoberfest in 2023



And his cat “Roe”

Q: *Where did you train?*

I attended the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. I trained at Denver Health 2016-2020, including a chief year. I then did a pediatric emergency medicine fellowship at CHCO 2020-2022.

Q: *Where do you practice?*

I practice at Denver Health, half of my shifts being peds and half adult.

Q: *Why did you choose to practice at Denver Health?*

I chose Denver Health because of the patients, the infolded pediatric emergency department, and the residents.

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

I like to run, mountain bike, XC ski, play tennis and soccer but am mostly concentrating on improving my wok skills and making cocktails.

I love Snow Mountain Ranch but really want to get back to Great Sand Dunes on a very dark night.

Q: *Is there anything else you would like CO ACEP to know about you?*

I am biracial and am interested in further examining the experience of doctors of East Asian descent in medicine, a non-underrepresented minority.

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

I look forward to getting more involved in the political and policy efforts of ACEP and improving the emergency care of children in our great state.

COACEP Supporting Wellness on the Frontlines with Two Resolutions



Kristen E Nordenholz, MD, MSc, FACEP
Wellness Section Councilor
Wellbeing Committee Chair-Elect
CO ACEP Board Member

Your COACEP has been busy supporting work from national ACEP to support the rights of frontline workers by cosponsoring 2 important resolutions for ACEP Council: 1. Supporting ACEP's new Well Workplace Policy and 2. Improving reporting of Workplace Violence.

First, In April 2024 the ACEP Board of Directors approved the [Well Workplace Policy](#).

In summary this policy, which was developed by ACEP's Wellbeing Committee and Wellness Section, lists 20 factors/ initiatives which are intended to support

front line workers. These are divided broadly into three categories: Organizational Influences, Practice Environment Influences, and Culture.

[Read more.](#)

New Attending Tips



Parth Shah, DO
CO ACEP Fellow
Young Physicians Section
CO ACEP Board of Directors

July is nationally known as the month newly graduated medical students begin their residencies. However, it is also the month (August, if you take some time off) when new attendings start their careers, after they have completed their training. Just like the start of residency, starting your career as a new attending comes with its own set of challenges and a period of adjustment.

Here are some tips (some may be familiar from starting residency) to help you transition into your career as a new attending.

1. Introduce yourself to your ED team (nurses, techs, unit clerks, EVERYONE). These are the people that are going to be your support staff moving forward. Introducing yourself is any easy step to help start building rapport.

[Read more.](#)

From the Capitol



Dan Jablan

CO ACEP Lobbyist

Thankfully, the primary election results reveal Colorado voters are moving back to the center as Democratic progressives lost most of their primary races, while conservative business Republicans defeated the MAGA candidates.

You can get additional information about specific races [here](#).

Overall, voter turnout was low, about 25% of active voters. And generally speaking, the legislature appears to be shaping up in a more normal fashion than we had feared. Democrats will most likely remain in control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, but the majority of party extreme candidates were defeated which hopefully creates space for more thoughtful and balanced policymaking.

The Wild Wild West lives on! It's not often that Colorado congressional seats are vacant and with three open seats, the June 25th primary election was reminiscent of scenes from the wild, wild west. A sitting Congresswoman fled her constituents, and moved across the state, only to run in another district. Another Congressman resigns in protest of the politics of Washington DC, only to create voter chaos in finding a replacement. Another federal representative takes the money and runs into retirement. Finally, a herd of candidates jumped into those races.

Straight out of "truth stranger than fiction," the Democrats funded television ads to support MAGA candidates, hoping to run against the weaker candidate in the November general election. National GOP interests ran television ads against the same candidate, afraid of losing the district in November.

Republican Greg Lopez will serve as the U.S. Representative from CD 4 for the remainder of Ken Buck's term, which ends in January 2025.

The Colorado GOP brand has been severely tarnished by the state chair, Dave Williams, who ran in CD 5 and used party resources to benefit his own campaign and other candidates he endorsed. Williams and the Colorado Republican party endorsed 18 candidates, with only four of those leading their contests.

As we move down to the races for the Colorado General Assembly, the races were also ideological battles – moderate versus progressive on the left and conservative versus MAGA on the right. With almost 20 legislative primaries across the state and parties, the results could define future state policies and elections for decades. Three incumbent House Democrats and three Republicans faced primaries. The three Democrats are considered the most liberal in the House, while the Republicans are accused of not being conservative enough. All three Dems (Epps, Hernandez, Marvin) lost their races while all three GOP lawmakers won theirs (Kirkmeyer, Liston, Frizell).

Millions of dollars are being spent across several legislative primary races, as outside groups seek to influence the outcome of the election. In a rare political move, Governor Jared Polis publicly endorsed Democrats in several primary races. In House District 6, Polis supported Sean Camacho over the incumbent Rep. Elisabeth Epps; Rep. Judy Amabile in her bid for Senate District 10; Rep. Lindsey Daugherty in Senate District 19; and Michael Carter in House District 36. All the candidates endorsed by Polis won their races.

Unaffiliateds are now more than 48% of the registered voters in Colorado and they can choose which party ballot to vote in the primary. Democrats represent just over 26% and Republicans make up the remaining 23.5% of the 3.855 million active registered voters in the state.

All of this means the makeup of the Colorado legislature is moving back towards the center. Moderate candidates won their slots on the November 5th ballot.

And speaking of November, it is also very important to understand that our wins and losses next year will depend on the November elections. It is just as important that CO ACEP be involved in the campaigns of candidates and legislators that support emergency medicine and your patients. We encourage you to engage in this process. Please consider donating 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, will make a BIG impact. The maximum contribution is \$50.



Save the Date: 3rd Annual Leadership Symposium & "EM: High Risk - Do Not Miss": November 14-15, 2024



SAVE THE DATE

EST. 2022

3rd Annual
**Leadership
Symposium
&
EM: High Risk -
Do Not Miss**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Nationally Recognized Speakers
- Leadership Development
- Advocacy
- Pediatric Critical Care
- From Rural to Urban
- Hands-on Ultrasound Skills
- Ocular Trauma
- Updates in VTE
- Right Heart Failure

DATE

November 14 & 15, 2024

LOCATION

Park Hyatt Resort & Spa
Beaver Creek, Colorado

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



COLORADO CHAPTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS
ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE

REGISTRATION OPENS SOON

303-905-8777 (Suzanne Hamilton)

WWW.COACEP.COM

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 Events Calendar

CO ACEP 2024 Board of Directors' Meeting Schedule

- September 5, 12pm – 2pm Board Directors
- November 14, 11am – 1pm Board Directors

CO ACEP 2024 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

- October 3, 12pm – 2pm – Executive Committee
- December 5, 12pm – 2pm – Executive Committee

Additional Important Meeting Dates

- September 27 & 28, 2024 ACEP's 2024 Council Meeting, Las Vegas, NV
- September 29 – October 2, 2024, ACEP's Scientific Assembly, Las Vegas, NV
- November 14, 1pm – 5pm Leadership Symposium
- November 15, 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 at suzanne.acep@comcast.net.

FROM NATIONAL ACEP



ACEP Resources & Latest News

Advocacy at Home

As Congress returns home for the annual August recess, you can engage with your members of Congress "back home" in the district. [ACEP's August Recess Toolkit](#) helps you prepare to educate your lawmakers on issues directly impacting your practice and patients.

ACEP Urges US Senate to Pass the SAVE Act, Prevent ED Violence

ACEP and the American Hospital Association (AHA) co-hosted a Senate briefing in support of the bipartisan Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act. ACEP polling, your firsthand accounts and more can be found [here](#). [Read more](#).

It's Time to Call Out Insurance Companies — We Need Your Help

We've all seen how insurers do all they can to delay, reduce or even outright deny payments. Enough is enough — ACEP is calling out their bad behavior and **you can help by [sharing your own story of bad insurance company behavior](#) that put you, your group, or your patients at risk. [Sharing your firsthand experience through this short, anonymous, online poll](#) will help fuel state and federal efforts to push insurers toward transparency and better business practices.**

Urge Congress to Stop Medicare Cuts

We need your help to urge Congress to swiftly identify policy solutions to provide long-term stability for Medicare beneficiaries and the physicians who manage and provide their health care. Without action, physicians and other providers will face yet another cut to Medicare reimbursements, further destabilizing our already fragile health care safety net. [Take action today!](#)

A Big Win and Strong Step Toward Banning Non-Compete Agreements

ACEP strongly applauds the Pennsylvania court decision clearing a way for the FTC ban on non-competes to go forward. ACEP fights for you — impacting these decisions from the start — by sharing your stories and fiercely defending your rights on the job. [Read more.](#)

Defending You. Demanding Better. ACEP's 2023 Impact Report

From advocating for \$25.8 million in vital funding for patient care, to confronting legislation that seeks to expand scope of practice, to influencing laws that protect your clinical authority and autonomy — ACEP is proud to share an incredible journey of advocacy and progress. [Read the report.](#)

Save on Fees With New Payment Option for ACEP Membership

ACH transfers, or electronic checks, are now available for new and renewing ACEP members, allowing a secure bank-to-bank money transfer which eliminates processing fees for you and ACEP. Members on an installment plan or auto-renew can easily update their payment information any time by accessing the “Payment Methods” section of My Account on [ACEP's website.](#)

Register for ACEP24!

Las Vegas is full of action, and this year, you'll have more flexibility than ever - course selection is not needed in advance. [Register before Aug. 30 and get](#)

[FREE Virtual ACEP24](#) - all the courses available online for 18 months. It's your safest bet.



Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Aug. 28, Noon-1 PM CT: [Maximize Scoring in the 2024 MIPS Program](#) - CME
- free, online

Sept. 29-Oct. 2: **ACEP24**, Las Vegas, NV - the world's largest emergency medicine educational conference

Contact Us

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