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From the President Ethan A. Booker, MD, FACEP

[ACEP16](#) Las Vegas

I hope you enjoyed the Opening Session, Kickoff Party, Educational Programs, and Closing Celebration at [ACEP16](#) in Las Vegas.

Fellow Designation

We would like to recognize the following member for receiving the designation of Fellow at [ACEP16](#):

Demetrios E. Tavoulareas, MD

Future Meetings

The next time the chapter will meet will be at the **Fall Member Benefit Event**.

Come join us for brunch on **Saturday, November 12th at 11:30am** at [Pinstripes](#) in Georgetown.

Please send us an [email](#) if you plan on attending the Fall Member Benefit Event.

[Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#)

The [Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#) will be held early this year. **March 12-15, 2017**.

During LAC, we plan on holding our **Chapter Annual Meeting**. A final date will be provided soon.

From a Chapter Board Member Natalie Kirilichin, MD, FACEP

Introducing the DC ACEP Health Policy Committee

At his inaugural chapter meeting, Dr. Booker established the DC ACEP Health Policy Committee and appointed [Dr. Natalie Kirilichin](#) and [Dr. Philippa Soskin](#) to co-chair the committee. Dr. Kirilichin is an attending physician and assistant professor with the George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates Department of Emergency Medicine. She serves as co-director for the GWU School of Medicine's Health Policy Scholarly Concentration and is also a policy advisor for the National Safety Council. A graduate of GWU's Health Policy Fellowship, Dr. Kirilichin studied at the Milken Institute School of Public Health and spent a year working with the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions. She completed her M.D. at Georgetown University and her residency training at the University of Chicago Hospitals.

Dr. Soskin is an attending physician and assistant professor at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. She serves as the co-fellowship director for the MedStar Emergency Medicine Health Policy Fellowship. Dr. Soskin graduated with her MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, received her M.D. from Stanford University, and completed her emergency medicine training at the University of California, San Francisco and San Francisco General Hospitals.

The DC ACEP Health Policy Committee has three major goals: (1) providing resources and support to visiting and local ACEP members looking to connect with health policy organizations and initiatives; (2) working with the greater chapter membership to select, develop, and influence a local policy initiative; and (3) to support the collaborative efforts of the area medical schools and residency programs in creating access to education and discussion in the area of health policy.

The committee will work to create and foster relationships with local and federal government and regulatory agencies in order to serve as a resource and liaison for both visiting and local ACEP members. Part of this initiative is the creation of an online resource and database of contacts and opportunities; we envision that this will be a valuable resource, not only for ACEP members, but for local and visiting students, residents, fellows, and other emergency medicine providers looking to explore and tap into the DC policy landscape.

The committee also seeks to better the local emergency medicine practice environment through a simple policy intervention designed for implementation over the course of the next term. Its leadership is interested in grassroots level feedback from DC ACEP membership on salient issues affecting this community. The committee thanks you in advance for your future participation in a short survey assessing your level of interest in several intervention options. Additionally, please feel encouraged to contact the co-chairs via e-mail with suggestions.

Finally, the Committee will partner with the recently established Baltimore Washington Transforming Health Policy Forum in its mission to gather local clinicians and researchers with interests in health policy for regular journal club discussions on leading health policy issues. Committee leadership looks forward to serving you, sharing resources, and learning with you.

From a Secretary/Treasurer Jessica Galarraga, MD

The Emergence of the Baltimore Washington Transforming Health Policy Forum

The health policy arena in the United States is in a volatile state, riddled with experimentation in new health care delivery and payment reform models and gaining attention from the news cycle that underscores the call for public health legislation, such as opioid abuse, gun control, and mental health reform. Considering the elasticity and openness to change in our nation's health policy, it is all the more important that emergency medicine physicians take a lead in the dialogue on health policy issues. We are in the front lines witnessing the needs of our public's health and are best equipped to advise on policy approaches that support our patients' interests and the integrity of our health care infrastructure.

In the spirit of bringing the emergency medicine perspective to the forefront, I have co-founded the Baltimore Washington Transforming Health Policy Forum in collaboration with my esteemed colleagues in emergency medicine, Dr. Aisha Liferidge, at the George Washington University, and Dr. Elizabeth Phillips, at the University of Maryland. The mission of this forum is to create a space where diverse circles of health policy professionals intersect to have a dialogue on leading health policy issues, the evidence behind its policy approaches, and the best next steps that serve the needs of the public's health. Our trio of emergency medicine academic

physicians have composed a curriculum of cutting edge health policy issues that are relevant to the field of emergency medicine and discussed in a forum on a quarterly basis throughout the academic year.

Our inaugural forum in August 2016 focused on gun violence and was hosted by the University of Maryland. The interplay of medical, legal, and community health perspectives shared during the event provided our audience a comprehensive understanding of the obstacles to reducing gun violence and concluded with a synthesis of a multi-faceted approach needed in effective gun violence legislation.

We look forward to many productive future dialogues with other professional leaders in health policy, while incorporating the emergency medicine perspective along the way. Our next forum will be hosted by the Georgetown University on November 9, 2016 and will examine the public health effects of marijuana legalization and medicinal use and its unique challenges in the health care sector. We hope to see many of our DC ACEP members participating in the conversation.

If you have requests for future health policy topics during the next academic year, please [share](#) them with the forum leadership.

2016-2017 Academic Schedule
Baltimore-Washington Transforming Health Policy Forum

August 23, 2016
Gun Violence
University of Maryland

November 9, 2016
Marijuana Legalization and Medicinal Use
Georgetown University

February 7, 2017
Sobering Centers for Chronic Inebriates
George Washington University

May 2017 (Date TBD)
End of Life Care
University of Maryland

Adriana's Corner

Please don't forget about [sharing](#) your interesting cases, an article recognizing your fellow colleagues or any photos you'd like posted on the chapter website.

I'd love to post the information on the chapter website or on the next chapter e-newsletter.

Clinical News

Endovascular Therapy May be Effective for Strokes from More Distal Occlusions

Endovascular therapy (EVT) may be effective for acute ischemic stroke caused by occlusion of the middle cerebral artery M2 segment, suggests a multicenter retrospective study.

[Read More](#)

Pain Scales Often Fail to Capture What ED Patients Feel

Asking patients in the emergency department to rate their pain on a visual scale or to rank it from zero to 10 doesn't really convey what the patient is feeling, suggests a study from Sweden.

[Read more](#)

Researchers Find First U.S. Bacteria With Worrisome Superbug Genes

New Jersey researchers say they have identified perhaps the first strain of E. Coli bacteria in the United States with mobile genes that make it resistant to two types of antibiotics now considered last-line defenses against superbugs.

[Read more](#)

News from National ACEP

New Epinephrine Labeling

There has been a change to the labeling of epinephrine. Epi 1:1000 used for anaphylaxis and asthma is now labeled 1.0mg/ml. Epi 1:10,000 used for cardiac arrests is now labeled 0.1 mg/ml. There has been concern that the current labeling caused confusion and inappropriate dosing.

New Crowding Solutions Resource

A new information paper on the causes, impacts and solutions to the crowding and boarding problem has been approved by the Board of Directors. Members are encouraged to distribute this reader-friendly paper to their hospital administrators or local policymakers who may benefit from a better understanding of why they must, and how they can, address this vexing and dangerous problem. A link to the new paper entitled "[Emergency Department Crowding: High Impact Solutions](#)" is available.

Blood Clot Information for Patients Developed

ACEP (through an educational grant from Bristol Myers Squibb) is providing UNBRANDED resources to patients with newly diagnosed VTE/PE. The program provides text messages to connect patients to video based education which discusses the importance of taking medication and getting follow up. No product name is mentioned or implied. The program is called [Know Blood Clots](#), and is explained on the website. Patients can also text CLOTWEB to 412-652-3744 to sign up for the Know Blood Clots program. If you have questions, feel free to email [Sandy Schneider](#) and I will try to supply further details.

For your convenience, we have created a smart phrase (dot phrase) that you can copy and paste into your electronic medical record then add to the discharge paperwork, which will provide your patients with this information:

“You have been diagnosed with a blood clot. You and your family/caretakers will likely have a lot of questions over the next few weeks. There is a program that that might help. It provides text messages to connect you to videos and other education. In addition the messages will remind you to make a doctor’s appointment and get your medicine. Please go to www.knowbloodclots.com or text CLOTWEB to 412-652-3744. If you don’t have a smart phone, perhaps a family member can enroll you. Normal text message charges may apply.”

New Sections at ACEP

A sufficient number of members have come together to officially form three new Sections in the College. The Pain Management Section was formed earlier this year and is now being followed by the creation of the Medical Directors Section and the Event Medicine Section. The new Sections will meet at **ACEP16** for the first time. Members interested in any of these topics are invited to attend the Section meetings and/or join the new Sections.

Welcome New Members!

Charles Han, MD - Georgia
Nicole Lucas - Washington
Tiffany Sin - Washington
Evan Shapiro - Washington
Ahmed Allabban - Washington
Carolyn R. Lanam, MD - Washington
Andrew Morton, MD - Washington
Eric Murakami, MD - Washington
Daniel Berman - Washington
James F. Martin, MD - Washington

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