

**American College of Emergency Physicians
Freestanding Emergency Centers (FEC) Section**

**ACEP19 Meeting
Denver, Colorado**

October 27, 2019 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm MT

MINUTES

Participants

Officers present were John R. Dayton, MD, FACEP; Angela Straface MD, Carrie de Moor, MD, FACEP; MD, FACEP; Gillian Schmitz, MD, FACEP; Edward Shaheen, MD, FACEP; Lonnie Schwirtlich, MD; and Jay Woody, MD, FACEP

Other presenters present: Erin Simon, DO, FACEP; Brad T. Shields; Peter Jacoby, MD, FACEP; and from Brainscope, Kent Butler, Director of Market Development and Kara Brink, PhD, PMP

Staff attending all or part of meeting: David McKenzie, CAE, Adam Krushinskie, MPA

21 other Section members and interested parties were also present.

Call to Order

Dr. Dayton welcomed the group and asked for introductions around the table for all of those present. A roster was sent around the room for each section member to verify their email address.

Board Update

Dr. Shaheen gave an overview of the 2019 Board and President election results in Dr. Schmitz's absence. It was announced that Dr. Mark Rosenberg was chosen as President-elect and Drs. Schmitz, Goodloe, Kellen, and Stanton were elected to the Board. Gary Katz becomes Speaker and Kelly Gray-Eurom was elected Vice Speaker. Dr. Schmitz thanked the section for its work to establish accreditation for FECs and summarized the goals of President William Jaquis in Workplace, Workforce, and Wellness, as well as continued emphasis on surprise billing and technology. Dr. Schmitz also noted the work of the PA/NP Utilization task force and the Workforce study underway. She closed with a request for donations to NEMPAC to help fund our advocacy efforts and invited all present to a reception for Congressman Raul Ruiz, an emergency physician and ACEP member who is in Congress, to be held at the NEPAC lounge the following morning.

Section Update

Dr. Dayton gave the section update and reviewed the section survey that was sent the month prior to ACEP19. Demographics of the section, as well as a review of ideas for future education sessions at section meetings was discussed. The survey will remain open through November for members wishing to participate but have not yet done so.

Council Update

Dr. Shaheen gave the Council update with a focus on the changes proposed to Councilor allocation during the town hall held the previous day. There were four options considered; no

change to the current allocation, cap of 35 councilors per state, additional councilor for every 200 members, and removing section councilors. The motion failed. Part of the reason it failed was because the growth of ACEP sections has been responsible for most of the growth in councilors. Dr. Shaheen also gave an update on the Council's focus on the use of the name "emergency department" or "ER" and how the Council wants to identify the specialty going forward.

Chair-Elect Update

Dr. Straface updated the section on messaging and the need for further promotion of section activities. She would like to have more interesting cases to share with section members. More importantly, she called on members to provide data when requested to help fight against misinformation campaigns by insurers and academics that do not reflect the realities of practice in an FEC.

Newsletter Update

Dr. Woody updated the section on future newsletters. He called for topics and interesting cases to be sent to him as soon as possible for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Research Update

Dr. Simon gave an update on new data available on independently-owned FECs. 97,473 visits in 18 FECs was collected in 2018-19. Most FECs are in suburban areas, have a lower volume, faster operational metrics than hospital-owned FECs, and are almost exclusively owned by board-certified emergency physicians.

Legislative Update

Mr. Shields, a lobbyist for TAFEC, reviewed bills from the 2019 legislative session in Texas. HB 2041, by Senator Oliverson, was a transparency bill which required CPT codes to be listed online as well as certain signage for EDs. This bill passed and went into effect September 1st. HB 1941 allows the attorney general of Texas to pursue penalties against an FSED that is charging more than 200% of Medicare for a service compared to a local hospital. SB 1264 placed a ban on OON/BB and instituted an IDR process. It will go into effect on January 1, 2020. A Washington, D.C. update was also given with a focus on a bill filed last year that recognizes FSEDs in Medicare. Rural hospitals and FSEDs are exploring ways in which they can work together in 2020.

Action Agenda

Presentation by BrainScope:

Mr. Kent Butler, Director of Marketing Development for BrainScope spoke about traumatic brain injury in the ED and how BrainScope can help. Over 4.8m TBIs result in 3.9m head CT scans of which only 354k are positive, so lots of radiation is given to patients without a real emergency need for it. BrainScope works to reduce the number of CTs by 30%. With 27 peer-reviewed publications in support, it is now available for use in the ED.

NEMPAC:

Dr. Jacoby gave a pitch for National Emergency Medicine Political Action Committee (NEMPAC)

New Business

Mr. Krushinskie briefed the section on the move away from the EngagED email platform back to Basecamp effective the first week in November. Section members should get an invitation to the section Basecamp site. Be sure to log in only using your preferred email address. Do not log in

with google or it will create a new account for you, which will cause problems in receiving emails. Time zones will not automatically be adjusted in Basecamp, so you will have to manually alter that setting if you are not in Central time.

Adjournment

Dr. Dayton adjourned the meeting at 4pm MT.