

In this Edition

[From the Nebraska ACEP President](#)

[Council Meeting Summary](#)

[Welcome Members!](#)

[News from National ACEP](#)



President's Message

Jordan M. Warchol, MD, MPH, FACEP

Dear Nebraska Emergency Physicians,

As we enter the holiday season, the house of medicine has received some timely gifts in our proverbial stocking-both coal and otherwise. I wanted to take a minute to touch on a few of these.

First, CMS released the final Physician Fee Schedule for Medicare for FY2023 recently, and with that came a massive 10.4% cut on physician reimbursement set to go into effect on January 1st, 2023. Hopefully, as you're reading this, ACEP, the American Medical Association, and other associations in the medical community have come together in the lame duck session of Congress to pass legislation reversing this impending crisis of medicine. Moments like these are why I believe so strongly in the work of organized medicine at the state and national levels as a professional duty. With these cuts, it is no exaggeration to say that many physicians and other providers, including hospitals which employ physicians, may be at grave risk of closure. As it was with the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) in the past, this cut will rear its ugly head every year until we convince Congress that bringing health care to the precipice of collapse each year is in no one's best interest. If you advocate on only one issue this year, please do so on this one.

The other gift to physicians is one that comes in a much nicer package. For the second time in the last year, a study has been published which provides data showing that patients seen by non-physician practitioners (NPPs) receive higher cost and lower quality care. The [first article](#), published in January 2022 in the Journal of the Mississippi State Medical Association looked at the care provided to patients across a health system. What they found is that patients with NPPs as primary care providers cost their Accountable Care Organization \$ 43 per month per patient more than patients with a primary care physician. When adjusted for the complexity of the patients on the NPP or physician's panel, this disparity widened to \$119 per month per patient. Physicians also outperformed NPPs on 9 of the 10 quality measures which were followed. The second study was specific to emergency departments and looked at patients in the Veterans Health Administration (VA) system. It found that patients who were seen by nurse practitioners (NPs) without physician supervision in the emergency department had

7% higher cost of ED care, 20% more 30-day preventable admissions, and an 11% increase in length of stay when compared to care provided by physicians. Both articles show that physician-led teams are irreplaceable when it comes to providing the best care for our patients.

Last, but not least, I want to wish you a warm holiday season. I hope you can celebrate with friends & family into the new year. Here's to 2023!

Council Meeting Summary **Julie Query, MD** **President-Elect**

Happy Holidays! First, thank you for the opportunity to represent the Nebraska chapter of ACEP at ACEP Council Meeting this year. Being there helped me understand that as physicians we do have more power as a group than we do when we stand alone. It was truly a privilege.



In summary, I felt two issues really dominated the discussion time. The first was ACEP's stance on reproductive health care rights and availability as it relates to our specialty. And of course, a full spectrum of opinions was expressed. One Councillor pointed out that lack of access to specialty care on a timely basis did put the ED in the middle of some reproductive options like Plan B, etc. Some resolutions were to adopt extremely general policy statements along the lines of 'all options related to reproductive health should be available to women at all times in all locations.' Another approach asked the College to take a stand by not holding conferences in states that did not support a woman's right to the full spectrum of options related to reproductive health care. Most Councillors seemed to support the idea of a scientifically based statement and to avoid taking a stand that would be viewed as more political.

The second issue that was heavily debated was the role of mid-level providers in the ED. The resounding theme was to reiterate that the level of education and experience achieved during prolonged training for ED physicians was far more standardized and superior to the level of training of a mid-level provider. One resolution proposed that if an ED was not staffed by a physician that it should be posted outside the entrance (did not pass). There was discussion about appropriate staffing levels, physician to mid-level ratios etc. This dovetailed with the discussion of ED accreditation through ACEP, similar to trauma level designation, where there would be a set of standards developed to let the public know in which kind of facility, they are receiving care. The issue also overlapped to some extent with the discussion of how to recruit physicians to rural areas. Using tele-health to have an ED physician available to evaluate patients even at very small, rural EDs was discussed. No clear outcomes were achieved despite prolonged debate, but the sentiment was overwhelmingly pro-physician.

This is a very brief and incomplete summary of the total amount of resolutions and topics that were touched upon. I know we are all leading very busy lives, so I err on the side of keeping it short and sweet I will happily provide more detail to anyone interested if you [contact me](#).

Thanks again for the opportunity to be at Council. See you in the New Year!



**2022 Council Meeting
Hilton Union Square
San Francisco**

From Left to Right: Dr. Query (Councillor & President-Elect and Dr. Engler (Councillor & Secretary/Treasurer)

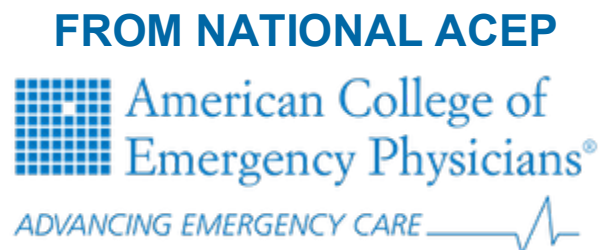


Welcome Members!

A special welcome to the new members of the Nebraska Chapter and to those that renewed their membership. Please [reach out](#) if you would like to become involved at the chapter level, including leadership opportunities.

We are excited to have you!

Christopher Martin Heli	Eric Boggess, DO
-------------------------	------------------



ACEP Resources & Latest News

ED Boarding: Advocacy on the Front Lines: ACEP launched an [advocacy and public awareness campaign](#) to sound the alarm on the ED boarding crisis.

- The campaign centers around more than [100 boarding stories](#) sent in by ACEP members that paint a picture of the grim situation in many EDs across the country.

- Your stories formed the heart of the [letter ACEP sent to the White House](#) on Nov. 7, cosigned by 34 health care and patient advocate organizations.
- In [the latest regulatory blog](#), ACEP Senior Vice President for Advocacy & Practice Affairs Laura Wooster provides a progress report on these efforts and previews next steps.
- ACEP continues to collect stories. [Submit yours via this anonymous form](#).
- Visit our new [ED Boarding resource page](#) to view the stories, read the advocacy letter and get talking points on the issue.

Prepare for the Potential Pediatric Triple Demic: ACEP's Pediatric EM Committee has pulled together some resources to help.

- [The Pediatric Triple Demic: How to Survive](#) presented by Annalise Sorrentino, MD, FACEP
- [Managing RSV and Bronchiolitis](#) presented by Christopher Amato, MD, FACEP, and Jessica Wall, MD, FACEP
- [Managing Difficult Pediatric Airways](#): In this episode of ACEP Frontline, Dr. Al Sacchetti reviews the approach and management of difficult pediatric airways.

CMS Finalizes Requirements for Rural Emergency Hospitals: Will any Hospitals Convert to this New Facility-type Next Year? In Regs & Eggs this week, [get ACEP's analysis of the final REH policies](#) and whether they will improve access to care.

The 2023 Physician Fee Schedule Final Reg-- Highlights and Analysis: Two major Medicare final rules were recently released, including the 2023 Physician Fee Schedule that has a big impact on reimbursement. ACEP's regulatory team analyzed 3,000+ pages of content and wrote [a special edition of Regs & Eggs](#).

New Data Underscores Cost and Health Outcome Concerns with Independent Practice: We know that everyone on an emergency care team is integral and valued. But our experience shows that nobody else has the training or expertise of an emergency physician. As lawmakers and administrators evaluate whether to empower nurse practitioners and physician assistants beyond the scope of their training, new data from Stanford University reinforces our reservations about exposing non-physician practitioners to responsibility they are not prepared to assume. [Read more in the November ACEP Board Blog](#).

Childcare challenges + solutions: ACEP's Young Physicians Section convened a panel of YPs who utilize au pairs, nannies, at-home daycares and more. [View the episode and related resources](#).

Dangerous toys? ACEP's smart phrase library has a new addition related to consumer product safety to help with reporting injuries from commercial products. [View all smart phrases](#).

ACEP4U: Making it Easier to Find Your Crew with [ACEP's New Member Interest Groups!](#)

Honor Outstanding Medical Students with ACEP/EMRA Awards: Make sure standout students get recognized for going above and beyond! The deadline is Jan. 8 to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award. [Learn more](#).

EMF Grant Cycle is Open, Set to Award \$1.5 Million in Funding: Get those grant applications ready! The Emergency Medicine Foundation is set to award \$1.5 million in grants, with opportunities covering a wide range of critical EM research topics. This cycle includes seven new grant categories. [Apply by Jan. 20, 2023](#).

From the CDC: CDC Releases 2022 Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain: The new CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain—United States, 2022 (2022 Clinical Practice Guideline) provides 12 evidence-based recommendations for primary care and other clinicians who provide pain care, including those prescribing opioids, for outpatients aged 18 years and older with acute, subacute and chronic pain. [Read more on the CDC's website.](#)

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

Dec. 14: [Virtual Grand Rounds: Advanced Ultrasound-Guided Nerve Blocks](#)

Jan. 8: Deadline to nominate a 4th year EM-bound medical student for the [ACEP/EMRA National Outstanding Medical Student Award](#)

Jan. 17: [The Nuts and Bolts of Physician Reimbursement 2023](#)

Jan. 20: [Deadline to Apply for an EMF Grant](#)

March 31-April 3: [ACEP's Advanced Pediatric EM Assembly](#)

April 13-15: [EM Basic Research Skills, Session II](#)

Jordan M. Warchol, MD, MPH, FACEP - President

(469) 499-0177 | ne.chapter@acep.org | [Website](#)

Nebraska Chapter ACEP

c/o National ACEP

4950 West Royal Lane

Irving, Texas 75063-2524

© 2022 Nebraska Chapter ACEP. All rights reserved.

Getting too many emails? Update your [ACEP Email Subscription Center](#) and select only what you want to receive.