

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

AUGUST 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CCEP Members and Friends,

It is my pleasure to bring you up to date with the current events in and surrounding CCEP this year. Change is the word of the times. Foreshadowed in the presidential election and the phrase that propelled Mr. Obama to President Obama has now overshadowed the last nine months. We see change presenting itself in many important venues: domestic politics, global politics, economic, and healthcare most importantly.



Here in Connecticut, we have seen a shift in the state legislature to a democratic

majority and a change towards the ideals, which will set a new stage for the delivery of healthcare in the state, as well as, a possible solution to reimbursement. On the other side a republican governor responsible for the fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of the state providing the check and balance. This spring's legislative session was clearly defined by a strong budget neutral sentiment sending out a message of financial restraint to all coming to Hartford advocating their causes.

CCEP, with the combined efforts of additional state societies, proposed the establishment of a statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program. Advocating for the benefit of our patients and proposing a budget neutral solution to fund the program inspired the governor to earmark additional money from the federal stimulus funds designated for Connecticut. Once the state budget is passed, we will see the development of a statewide program to provide specialized, consistent care to victims of sexual assault. The development of this program will result in a win-win situation for patients, emergency department personnel, and the legal system. Special recognition goes out to Dr. Gregory Shangold for his persistent dedication to this project over the last two years. As the state legislature remains in special session to resolve the state budget, we remain vigilant to protect the safety of our patients.

On a federal level, anyone in healthcare has witnessed the deterioration of the healthcare delivery system and some type of adverse or less than perfect care of a patient. For years, CCEP has participated with ACEP to communicate

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L&A CONFERENCE 2009

GREGORY SHANGOLD, M.D., FACEP, PRESIDENT-ELECT



Once again, CCEP was well represented at ACEP's annual Leadership and Advocacy conference in Washington, DC. In addition, to the outstanding lectures, Connecticut's delegation met with emergency medicine leaders from throughout the country and advocated for Connecticut's emergency patients by meeting with Connecticut's members of congress, Rep. Himes, Rep.

Murphy, Rep. Larson, Rep. DeLauro, and Rep. Courtney and legislative assistants for Sen. Dodd and Lieberman.

The topics covered a broad range of leadership and advocacy subject matters. The highlights included an emergency physician from Massachusetts, Dr Peter Smulowitz, who updated the attendees on the affects of the Massachusetts' Universal Health Care Mandate on the population and how it influences emergency departments. Many Washington appointees and legislative staffers spoke to the group. Neera Tanden, a top Obama health adviser, addressed the group about the President's perspective on Health Care Reform. Ms. Tanden consistently said the President would like a plan that would cover more people and reduce cost but Congress would provide the details. The president-elect for ACEP, Angela Gardner, challenged her that coverage does not equal access for patients. Repeatedly, ACEP's leaders challenged all the government officials that emergency physicians are in a unique position to see many of the troubles with the current health care system and how important our perspective is to developing solutions.

Connecticut's delegation advocated for our patients by



CCEP Members attending L&A Conference in Washington, DC

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE L & A CONFERENCE

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with our Washington legislators to identify deficiencies in the healthcare system that have contributed to the grossly insolvent and inefficient administration of medical care in the country. Suggestions to resolve major deficiencies related to the care of emergency patients have fallen by the wayside. Attempts to improve the environment in which we practice have been put aside by the efforts of our detractors. Over the last two years we requested a simpler approach; examine and begin evaluating the Medicare and Medicaid systems to identify a starting point for repair or renovation. And now, the headlines of the news each day are filled with everyone's ideas for "changing," the country's health system. Whether we have significant change or not remains to be seen. Most importantly, the opportunity to change the system to best serve our patients is at its most optimal aspect than it has been in years. As we go to print, in preparation for ACEP's National meeting in Boston, debates are occurring online, in preparations to form a unified response and contribution to the development of the nation's healthcare overhaul.

Concurrently with this atmosphere of change, CCEP has seen new members participating in and dedicated to the process of change. Political advocacy, patient advocacy, and best practice standards are a few of the areas of interest that have seen new participation by active members and residents of both of Connecticut's EM Residency Programs. Additionally, we invite all CCEP members to attend any of our monthly Board of Director's Meetings. We acknowledge the strength of new ideas and opinions. Contact the Executive Directors or any board member for information. CCEP will continue to support and encourage the activity of Connecticut's Emergency Physicians at all levels.

Continuing to explore new opportunities to support Connecticut emergency physicians and improve the service we provide our patients remains a high priority to CCEP. Opening up new channels of communication with organizations that share common ideologies and goals allows the sharing of resources, new ideas, and increases our public voice continues to be developed.

Many have seen and commented about the CCEP website. Thanks to Executive Directors Tricia Dinneen Priebe and Lisa Winkler, we will have a new website supported by ACEP. We invite anyone with experience or interest to contribute to the construction of the website. We will be looking for case presentations, educational opportunities, helpful links, and providing update information about CCEP.

Save the date for November 4, 2009. Our annual Fall Symposium will be held at the Rocky Hill Marriott once again. The curriculum will include a variety of content that will interest every emergency medicine provider.

Sincerely, B. Bryan Jordan, D.O., FACOEP

meeting with Connecticut's congressional representative and senator's offices. We explained the current care of emergency patients in Connecticut and how policy needs to change. Four of the five representatives currently co-sponsor the 2009 Access to Emergency Medical Services Act. For Representative Himes and the two senators we educated and advocated on the status quo. Along with illustrative anecdotes from every



Dr. Janet Anderson and Dr. David Wilcox

day practice, we talked about how Connecticut dropped from 3rd to 14th in ACEP's 2009 report card. Furthermore, we talked about how Connecticut was 35th in the nation regarding the professional liability environment and 29th in the nation for disaster preparedness. Possibly the increasing worries of swine flu might rationalize to politicians the importance of strengthening the nation's emergency departments as an essential emergency resource like fire, police, and ems departments. ACEP recognized Connecticut's own David Wilcox, MD for his role in advocacy. This is a testament to all emergency physicians who volunteer time to meet with policy makers and present the reality about emergency medicine.

In addition to the advocacy work, CCEP reinforced its relationships with ACEP's leaders. Our annual Connecticut dinner was well attended. We shared experiences with our guests Angela Gardner, ACEP's past-president Linda Lawrence, MD, ACEP's executive Director Dean Wilkerson, and ACEP's Vice president Sandra Schneider and residents from both of Connecticut's programs.

Everyday in Connecticut, emergency physicians provide outstanding emergency care to an ever-increasing amount of patients. Connecticut's emergency departments are the safety net for our health care system and they are broken. Our members attempt to provide necessary and essential emergency care. However, the lack of on-call specialists, boarding of inpatients, and the current professional liability environment, hinder emergency physicians from providing the kind of care we expect to impart. CCEP is at the forefront of supporting emergency physicians. Its goal is to create an environment so emergency physicians can provide outstanding and timely emergency care. By meeting with other chapters and engaging our elected leaders, CCEP continues to support Connecticut's emergency physicians as they provide the foundation to Connecticut's broken health care system.

DAY AT THE CAPITOL

In early April, CCEP members arrived at the State Capitol for a legislative breakfast and for the opportunity to talk with lawmakers about important issues impacting emergency medicine. Although the Appropriations Committee had just passed a budget bill earlier that week, CCEP members agreed that it was still beneficial to continue with the legislative breakfast to educate legislators about our legislative priorities just in case the budget battle waged on. As you now know, that was a wise decision!

At the breakfast, CCEP members discussed the funding

needed for a state-funded rapid response SANE/SAFE Program and the state funds needed for LifeStar. In addition, members educated legislators about the issue of boarding in our hospitals and the negative effect it has on emergency medicine for Connecticut residents.

CCEP will host another Legislative Breakfast during the 2010 Legislative Session and we hope to see more CCEP members accepting the invitation to educate legislators about the issues affecting emergency medicine and the delivery of healthcare in our state.



*Dr. Brad Dreifuss, Dr. B. Bryan Jordan,
Attorney General Richard Blumenthal and Dr. Dan Frees*



*CCEP Lobbyist, MaryPhil Guinan
with Representative Kevin Ryan*



*Dr. B. Bryan Jordan, Dr. Greg Shangold and Dr. David Wilcox
talk with Public Health Co-Chair, Representative Betsy Ritter and
Representative Joseph Mioli*



*Representative Linda Schofield talks with
Dr. Greg Shangold and Dr. Andreas Bojko*

GOVERNOR M. JODI RELL RECEIVED CCEP LEADERSHIP AWARD



In March, members of CCEP presented Governor M. Jodi Rell with the 2008 Leadership Award for her commitment to improve Connecticut's driving laws for teenagers. During the presentation of the award, the Governor welcomed Drs. Carius, Ferguson, Jordan, Shangold and Wilcox to discuss CCEP's legislative priorities for 2009. The meeting was timely and terrific!

Later in March, Governor Rell announced that the state would use \$350,000 of the federal stimulus money coming to Connecticut to support medical personnel in the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE) program.

Governor Rell once again has shown her commitment to the health and safety of Connecticut residents. CCEP applauds her hard work on passing the teen driving law and supporting the SANE/SAFE program.

*Dr. Bernard Ferguson, Dr. Greg Shangold,
Governor Rell, Dr. B. Bryan Jordan,
Dr. David Wilcox and Dr. Michael Carius*

The Connecticut EPIC is published quarterly by the Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians. Opinions expressed within this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the College's nor ACEP's point of view.

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LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY 101

ELIZABETH SCHILLER, M.D.

RESIDENT OF THE YEAR – UCONN EM RESIDENCY PROGRAM

"All you newbies raise your hands." As I timidly raised my hand, I glanced around the room and realize that about half the room joined me. For the past twenty-something years the annual Leadership and Advocacy conference in Washington DC has grown in numbers and it only took me a short while to figure out why. While we all know about the problem such as overcrowding, reimbursement, and lack of medical care for the uninsured and underinsured, the majority of politicians do not. This is of particular concern in that this year politicians are looking to allocate a large amount of government funds to health care, and we must ensure that they understand the issues. At the beginning of the conference, I too understood very little about these potential policy changes and the drastic effects they could have on emergency medicine.

Not being an avid follower of politics, I appreciated that the conference began with explanations of the current issues that were appropriate for physicians of all different levels of knowledge. We learned about the gaps in the current plan for universal health insurance and how this may affect emergency rooms based on both projections and direct experiences from Massachusetts. We had the opportunity to hear from and interact with political figures directly involved in the restructuring of health policy, and finally had the opportunity to meet with our state Senators and Representatives on Capitol Hill.

While slightly nervous at first, we learned to draw upon our personal experiences in local emergency rooms and relate this information with key points that grab a politician's ear. With the great number of lobbyist in Washington, it is easy to see how a point that seems so important and clear to us is quickly forgotten. We need more emergency physicians involved in this process. Next time you are trying to explain to yet another patient that they did not get swine flu from eating that pork empanada and just need to escape from the ED for a few days, think about putting those days to use by joining me and others from our state at the Leadership and Advocacy Conference next year.

No Fooling Around: 14TH ANNUAL SPRING SYMPOSIUM A BIG SUCCESS!

It may have been April Fool's Day, but CCEP's 14th Annual Spring Symposium was no joke. This year's meeting focused on pediatric medicine and the topic was well received by the nearly 100 physicians, nurses, PAs and EMTs in attendance.



Board Members: Dr. David Wilcox, Dr. Karen Jubanyik, Dr. Mark Friedman, Dr. Greg Shangold and Dr. B. Bryan Jordan

The morning kicked off with Dr. Bryan Jordan, CCEP President, welcoming the group and the first speaker, Dr. Sharon Smith who presented a terrific lecture on acute asthma management in children. Dr. Adam Silverman followed up with a great presentation on pediatric airway management. After a short break, Dr. James F. Parker



John Brancato, MD, Amy Dunn, DO, James Parker, MD and Zoe Casey, MD

lectured on Diabetic Ketoacidosis Management in Children. Dr. Kristin Welch wrapped up the pre-lunch session with a presentation on Procedural Sedation for Kids.

During lunch, Dr. Jordan's power point on CCEP's involvement in the Sane/Safe legislative initiative provided a terrific backdrop for conversation among attendees. Small Doses, Big Problems, a lecture by Dr. Holly Perry kicked off the afternoon session, followed by Dr. Michael Soltis' presentation on child abuse and pediatric forensic medicine. Dr. Zoe Casey and Dr. John Brancato wrapped up the afternoon with a selection of very interesting cases presenting in the pediatric ED.

Many thanks to all of our speakers and Dr. Alberto Perez, Dr. John Brancato and Dr. Zoe Casey for pulling together such an interesting and informative Pediatric Symposium.



Dr. Fred Tilden with vendor representative



Bridgeport EM Nurses Sharon Jordan and Paula Hartmayer, Dr. B. Bryan Jordan and Dr. Sharon Smith

JOBS IN CONNECTICUT NOW

BRIDGEPORT HOSPITAL

Due to increased volume Bridgeport Hospital is recruiting two new emergency physicians. Join a practice of stable, long tenure hospital employed emergency physicians, at a community teaching hospital with 67,000 visits last year. Level two trauma designation, secondary teaching site for the Yale integrated Emergency Medicine residency, strong, supportive medical staff. Contact Michael Werdmann, Chairman of EM, 203-384-3923 or e-mail pmwerd@bpthosp.org

BRISTOL HOSPITAL

Staffed by Connecticut Emergency Medicine Specialists, LLC. Per diem opportunity for superior ABEM board certified physicians in our 42,000 visit Emergency Care Center. A very pleasant emergency department. We do not board admitted patients in the E.D., nor do we routinely treat patients in the hallway. Excellent medical staff relationships. Bedside Ultrasound available in E.D. 24 hour adult hospitalist program and separate 24 hour pediatric hospitalist program. The group includes six full time emergency physicians (All ABEM B/C), five emergency physician assistants and several wonderful per diem MDs and PAs. Stable group (15 years) dedicated to superior service quality and receives outstanding patient satisfaction surveys. To learn more about this opportunity, please contact: Larry Levine MD FACEP at LPL@aol.com

EASTERN CONNECTICUT HEALTH NETWORK

Eastern CT Health Network: Excellent opportunity for EM residency trained and BC/BE emergency physicians to join a progressive and talented group of 16 Emergency Physicians and 11 PAs. Our group staffs 2 community hospital EDs, located 8 miles apart in Central Eastern CT, with annual ED volumes of 45,000/23,000. Both facilities have recently been renovated and are equipped with ED Ultrasound and Allscripts ED paperless EMR. We offer double and triple coverage and have a dedicated PA staffed fast track in both EDs. Outstanding compensation and benefits package provided, including an RVU based incentive plan. Sign-on bonus available. Contact: Robert F. Carroll, MD, FACEP, MBA; RCarroll@echn.org; 860-647-6475 (office), 860-647-6412 (fax).

HARTFORD HOSPITAL

Per diem and possibly full-time (in the next 2-6 months) opportunity for EM residency trained or EM board certified physicians in our 94,000 visit adult, 60 bed, ED. Our Fast-Track, run by PA/NP's, sees 23,000 visits per year. We are the main clinical site for

the UConn EM Residency, a three year program with 12 great residents per year. We are a Level I trauma center, Stroke Center, Chest Pain/PCI Center, and the major toxicology program for CT with a fellowship. We have experienced PA/NP's, nurses, RT's, and ancillary help. Our call list includes most specialties. Competitive salary and benefits. Contact AJ Smally, MD FACEP at asmally@harthosp.org or 860-545-3536.

THE HOSPITAL OF CENTRAL CONNECTICUT

Seeking per diem emergency physicians

Take advantage of coastal living at its finest or live in an affluent bedroom community in central CT. Enroll your children in some of the nation's finest public or private schools. Located just two hours from Boston or New York City, the ski resorts of Vermont, the mountain biking trails and rock climbing of the Connecticut hill country.

The Hospital of Central Connecticut is the flagship teaching hospital of one of the largest healthcare systems in Connecticut and is a primary

teaching affiliate for the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. One of the most technologically advanced emergency departments in the country. The ER utilizes the Empower Computer System. ED ultrasound is used on daily basis.

We have one of the most lucrative and democratic emergency medicine practices in the state of Connecticut. Salary is base plus incentive for 1620 clinical hours. Service a recently renovated 82,000 volume emergency department that just expanded to 46 beds or an 18,000 volume ED with 13 beds. Benefit from comfortable 9 and 10 hour shifts, work only 7 nights in 14 weeks, have every other weekend off, and the luxury of having your templated schedule two years in advance. Take advantage of one of the most comprehensive benefit packages including LOAN REPAYMENT for selected positions, malpractice insurance, health, dental, disability, long term care, 403b, 457(b), 7 weeks paid time off per year, wellness program, hospital concierge and defined contribution pension plan.

This is one of the best jobs in the Northeast! For more information please contact Patricia Lowicki, Director of Physician Recruitment at 860-224-5576 or email at plowicki@thocc.org. See our web site at www.thocc.org or www.thoccer.com

MIDSTATE MEDICAL CENTER

A new part time position is now available for an EM boarded/prepared emergency physician. Midstate is a busy community hospital seeing 50,000 patients/yr. An entirely new 52 bed ED (and 30 bed inpatient pavilion)

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JOBS IN CONNECTICUT NOW

(Continued from Page 6)

is currently under construction with finish date one year from now. We expect to install a state-of-the-art ED information system (Allscripts) in 6 months. We offer a competitive compensation package and a very pleasant working environment. Our staff is extremely stable – current position is in addition to our 11 physician, 5 PA group. Special consideration will be given to someone seeking night or weekend hours. Please call Fred Tilden MD, FACEP, 203 694-8278. ftilden@midstatemedical.org.

MILFORD HOSPITAL

Milford hospital, a 106-bed community hospital located on the desirable Connecticut coastline, is seeking a full-time BC/BE ABEM / AOBEM emergency physician or BC primary care physician with significant ED experience for our modern 30,000 plus visit E.D. We offer 8 and 12 hour shifts with a 1,800 clinical hour commitment, along with a very competitive salary and benefits package including medical/dental/vision, paid medical malpractice insurance, paid time off including vacation and a CME stipend.

We are also seeking a full-time BC/BE family practice physician or BC/BE emergency physician for our recently opened off-site urgent care center. We offer a very competitive salary and benefits package including medical/dental/vision, paid medical malpractice insurance, paid time off including vacation and a CME stipend.

For both positions please contact Jay Walshon, MD 203-876-4105, jay.walshon@milfordhospital.org or Jeffrey Komornik, Director HR, 203-876-4098, Milford Hospital, 300 Seaside Avenue, Milford, CT 06460. HR@milfordhospital.org, fax 203-876-4224.

NORWALK HOSPITAL

We have a full-time position and per diem positions available for an EM residency trained, ABEM/AOBEM certified/prepared EP with EM experience to work per diem in a modern 50,000 visit ED. Norwalk Hospital is a progressive, teaching, 270-bed Level II Trauma Community Hospital located in Fairfield County on Long Island Sound, not far from New York City. We offer a unique 'virtual private practice plan,' which includes all the advantages of being a hospital employee with many of the advantages of fee-for-service. All shifts are 8 hours or less, with 55 hours of coverage per day. Highest consideration will be given to a full-time candidate willing to work all or mostly night shifts. PLEASE CONTACT: Michael Carius, MD, FACEP, Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine, Norwalk Hospital, at mcarius@acep.org or 203-852-2281.

WATERBURY HOSPITAL

Full Time and Per Diem positions available for ABEM Board Certified/Board Eligible emergency physicians to work in a Level 2 Trauma Center with 58,000 visits per year. Double and triple coverage with in-house medical and surgical house staff. Hospitalist service and pediatric and orthopedic physician assistants in-house. Prompt Care area staffed by experienced Physician Assistants 16 hours daily. Cardiac care center with 24/7 cath capability. Radiology available 24/7. Ultrasound available in the E.D. Dedicated nursing and helpful technician staff. Attractive clinical requirement with templated schedule and overnight shifts virtually eliminated with 2 dedicated overnight physicians. Competitive salary, full benefit package offered. Generous moonlighting rate offered. Contact Chris Michos, MD @ (203) 573-6215 or CMichos@wtbyhosp.org.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR THE 17th Annual Scientific Assembly

The Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians is issuing a "Call for Abstracts" for the 17th Annual Scientific Assembly, in conjunction with CCEP's Annual Meeting, which will be held on **Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at the Rocky Hill Marriott Hotel, Rocky Hill, CT.**

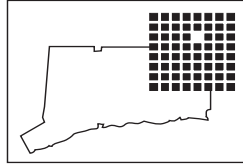
The Chapter is soliciting submission of abstracts emphasizing the topic of "Emergency Medicine Research." The Abstract Review Committee will judge all abstracts and five abstracts will be chosen for oral presentation at the Scientific Assembly. The remaining abstracts will be poster presentations.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is Wednesday, September 16, 2009. To receive the forms for the abstract submissions, please contact Tricia Dinneen Priebe, at (203-234-8055) or email tricia@grassrootsct.com.

grassrootsct.com.

As in past years, Fellows, Residents and Medical Students are strongly encouraged to participate. Abstracts presented to National and International meetings within the past year are eligible for consideration. Please note that case reports will not be accepted.

Awards (**\$500 each**) for the **Best Oral Presentation** and the **Best Poster Presentation** will be presented to that recipient. It is expected that research funded all or in part by CCEP will be presented in oral or poster format at the Scientific Assembly at the Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians Annual Meeting on November 4, 2009. Any publications arising from funded projects should acknowledge the support of the Connecticut College of Emergency Physicians.



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

SAVE THE DATE

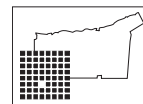
CCEP'S 17TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY
& ANNUAL MEETING

7:30 AM – NOVEMBER 4, 2009

ROCKY HILL MARRIOTT HOTEL, ROCKY HILL, CT.

www.ctacep.org

CCEP'S WEB SITE



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

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Emergency Physician's Interim Communique

CEP IC

CONNECTICUT