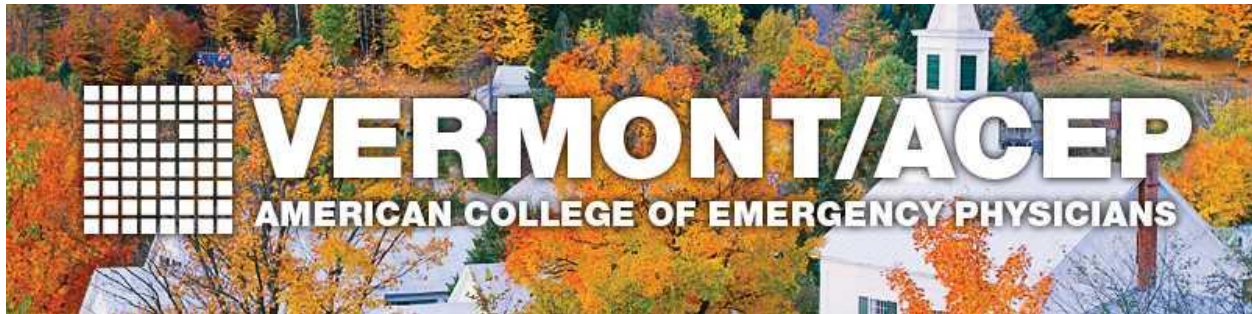


A Newsletter for the Members of the Vermont Chapter - Summer 2021

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Leadership and Advocacy Conference Update

Niki Thran, MD, FACEP

Secretary/Treasurer, Vermont ACEP

LAC21, ACEP's annual Leadership and Advocacy Conference in DC was well worth the trip, even though our meetings with **congressional staffers** were virtual. It was wonderful to see the **ACEP leadership** live and in person. I always relish the opportunity to meet members of the **US House and Senate**.

Many of us were shocked by the first-hand accounts of **January 6th**. It was terrifying for them. Hearing **Dr. Raul Ruiz**, a US Congressman from the great state of California, and emergency physician, describe helping others put on their gas masks, will be something I won't easily forget.

We heard from many eloquent speakers, including **Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)**, who spoke about the **Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act**, which he co-sponsored. Dr. Lorna Breen was an emergency physician from Columbia Presbyterian, who, during the height of the COVID pandemic, took her own life. This important legislation seeks to **remove barriers to accessing care and treatment**(including consideration of **stigma and**

licensing concerns) and support grants to study and develop policies preventing **burnout and depression** among health care clinicians. I urge you to call or email **Senators Leahy and Sanders** since it passed the house on August 6th!!

The second piece of legislation involves rescinding the “**X waiver**,” required for prescribing **buprenorphine**. This would remove the cumbersome waiver and allow all health care practitioners with a standard controlled medication license to prescribe.

Finally, we addressed the upcoming Medicare cuts to physicians’ reimbursement. You can read more about the issues on [ACEP's website](#). I would be happy to discuss any further issues.

Hope you are all asking for Oct 23-28 off for the ACEP council meeting on the 23rd & 24th and [ACEP21](#) on the 25-28 in Boston! I am defending a resolution I wrote that I am told is destined to fail miserably. Would love some local support!!!

Medical Student Council Update

Edom A. Girma, M.Sc.

M.D. Candidate, Class of 2024

Larner College of Medicine at the University of Vermont

My name is Edom Girma, I am currently a first-year medical student at UVM Larner College of Medicine and will be the editor for our MSC group. Please refer below for our newsletter, and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me via email at Edom.Girma@med.uvm.edu.

This past year has undoubtedly been challenging for everyone. Over the past couple of months, while many of the EM SIG events were put on hold, our group was still able to deliver informative experiences through zoom. Since the start of 2021, our EM SIG group was able to host several EM subspecialty series where we were able to introduce students to a variety of options available to them in the field including how to apply to residency programs, fellowships, and research opportunities. Most of our attendance came from UVM students but we are hoping to include other nearby medical schools for future events.

Despite the many limitations placed on in-person clinical activities, the class of 2024 was able to receive their full COVID vaccinations which allowed them to engage in early clinical experiences in the emergency room (and other specialties of interest) through our Doctoring in Vermont curriculum. We also had our second-year medical students complete their Step 1 exam and transition into the clinical wards in mid-March of this year. As vaccine distributions and frequent COVID testing continues, we are hoping to be able to host in-person EM SIG events to allow further engagement within the medical student community. We will continue posting any updates/recent events as our new MSC leadership progresses using our [Facebook page](#). We hope that all of you continue staying safe and are getting ready to enjoy the summer!

Welcome New VT ACEP Members!

Tara Bugbee
Robert Chung
Patrick Clarke
Carl W Dobson, III, MD, FACEP
Nicholas Kovacs
Erica M Lash, MD
Mark E Logan, MD, FACEP
Tierra Lynch
Taylor Daniel Marquis
John B Motley, MD
Jesse Michael Naumann
Sam F Paskin
Sarah M Rich, MD
Nathan S Schweitzer
Johndavid M Storn, MD
Jenna B Wells
Patricia Yang

You may wonder if you should get involved with Vermont ACEP, EMRA or National ACEP?
Contact the chapter at vt.chapter@acep.org.

FROM NATIONAL ACEP

 American College of
Emergency Physicians®

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 



Webinar: Rural Emergency Medicine: Where We Are and Where We Are Headed

Host: Rural Emergency Medicine Section

August 20, 2021 | 3:00 PM CT

[Register here](#)

Leaders of ACEPs Rural Section will be giving an update on current hot topics regarding rural emergency medicine. Many see rural America as the new frontier for EM workforce, and there is truth to that, but the issue is much more complex and nuanced than it may seem. Please join Drs. Scott Findley, Ashley Kochanek Weisman, and Stephen Jameson as they update ACEP sections and state chapters on rural EM workforce, Council resolutions to expand EM physician opportunities and improve rural ED patient care, rural health political initiatives, and the collaboration efforts that are underway with our NP, PA, and non-EM trained physician colleagues. There will be opportunity for Q&A during this 90-minute session as well.

Featured News

Senate Passes Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act

ACEP is pleased to announce that early Friday morning, the Senate approved S. 610, the "Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act." This comes on the heels of hundreds of ACEP members joining together to lobby for this legislation during last month's Leadership & Advocacy Conference, conducting 287 meetings with legislators and staff from 44 states. [Read more details and view next steps.](#)

EM Physician Workforce of the Future:

- The EM Workforce Report Session from the recent Leadership & Advocacy Conference [is now available](#). Listen in as ACEP leaders discuss the data & next steps.
- The Young Physicians Section [hosted a Q&A session](#) with ACEP President Elect Dr. Gillian Schmitz and EMRA President Elect Dr. Angela Cai, asking workforce-related questions submitted by YPS members.
- "[The Emergency Medicine Physician Workforce: Projections for 2030](#)" was recently published in *Annals of Emergency Medicine*.
- **New ACEP Policy Statement:** [Emergency Medicine Workforce](#)
- Get the latest workforce updates at www.acep.org/workforce.

[Resident Voice: Where Medicine and Literature Meet](#) (ACEP Now, July 22)

New ACEP Policy Statement & Information Paper

- [Definition of Emergency Medicine Residency](#)
- [Medication Therapy for Psychiatric Crisis Events](#)

COVID-19

Press Releases:

- [ACEP Urges FDA to Prioritize Emergency Physicians for COVID-19 Booster](#) (August 13)
- [Emergency Physicians to Parents and Students: Prioritize COVID Safety in Back-to-School Plans](#) (August 13)
- [Emergency Physicians Increase their Calls for Concerns around COVID-19 Delta Variant and Support Mandate to Vaccinate Healthcare Workers](#) (July 28)

Do You Have a Vaccination Program in Your ED?

As new variants continue to emerge, there is more urgency to vaccinate as many people as possible against the virus. If you have set up a vaccination program in your ED, [please take a few minutes to complete our survey for national data gathering](#). If you haven't, please consider working with your institution to provide vaccines to appropriate patients who will be discharged from the ED. An [on-demand webinar features ACEP members](#) explaining how they set up vaccine administration programs in their EDs and their lessons learned. And [there are more resources online](#), including helpful tools for addressing vaccine hesitancy.

New Podcast: COVID-19 Myth Busting

ACEP members are all fielding questions and concerns from friends and family. ACEP Frontline host Dr. Ryan Stanton sits down with Dr. Howie Mell to dispel some ongoing myths around vaccines, variants and more. [Share this episode on social media to help us battle disinformation](#).

New: [COVID-19 Vaccination Smart Phrase](#)

Upcoming Webinars:

[White House Conversation: Health Systems, Providers and the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort](#) (8/18, 11am CT)

[COVID-19 Variants: What Emergency Physicians Need to Know](#) (8/20, 12pm CT) During this live, free webinar we will provide an overview of Coronaviruses and the SARS-CoV-2 variants and review their classifications. The presenters will also present on the clinical implications, relevance and trends based on variants of interest, concern, and high consequence, including prevention, presentation, treatment, and management. [Register here](#).

Get the Latest Tools in the [COVID-19 Clinical Alert Center](#)

ACEP Member Benefits

Get the Support You Need

Stress is high right now, on so many levels. Everyone has unique needs depending on personal circumstances, but the following free support services are available:

- [Crisis counseling/wellness sessions](#) available 24/7 and strictly confidential
- [Peer support line](#) for physicians and medical students, available 24/7
- [Let's Talk forum](#) for ACEP members, our only forum to allow anonymous posts

Upcoming ACEP Events and Deadlines

August 18: [White House Conversation: Health Systems, Providers and the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort](#) (11 am CT)

August 20: [COVID-19 Variants: What Emergency Physicians Need to Know](#)

August 25: [Medical School Loans and the CARES Act: What You Need to Know](#)

August 30: [Rural Emergency Medicine: Where We Are and Where We Are Headed](#)

September 23: [Dental 101 for ED Physicians \(Webinar\)](#)

October 25-28: ACEP21 in Boston — [REGISTRATION IS OPEN!](#) Use promo code ACEP21CHAP for \$100 off the in-person meeting price.

Improve the Quality of Acute Care to Patients with ACEP Accreditation

When you choose accreditation, you are choosing to pursue a commitment to excellence across the spectrum of care that will help attract more patients and elevate your institution— providing a competitive edge in the marketplace.

- Strengthen community confidence in the quality and safety of care, treatment, and services – achieving accreditation makes a strong statement to the community about an organization’s efforts to provide the highest quality services.
- Provide a framework for organizational structure and management – accreditation involves maintaining a high level of quality and compliance with the latest standards. Accreditation provides guidance to an organization’s quality improvement efforts.
- Align emergency departments with one of the most respected names in emergency health care – being accredited by ACEP helps organizations position for the future of integrated care.

[Learn more about ACEP's Accreditation Programs](#)

Contact Vermont ACEP

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Rochelle Ross - Executive Director
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