

**FEBRUARY 2013**



**PRESIDENTIAL REPORT**

**LAURA PIMENTEL, MD**

MD ACEP had a very active and positive start to the New Year. The first Board of Directors meeting of the year was held on January 11. The Board welcomed Dr. Suzanne Doyon, the Medical Director of the MD Poison Center, [more info here](#). Dr. Doyon gave a presentation on the problem of prescription drug abuse in MD and the impact it has on our emergency departments and patients. We voted to form an opioid task force to make recommendations to the chapter on a position statement on the prescription of narcotics from the emergency department. Drs. Arjun Chanmugan and Jason Adler will work with Dr. Doyon on this task force.

The Emergency Medicine Resident Association (EMRA) has embarked on an ambitious project to honor the Legacy of emergency medicine by the making of a very professional high end documentary [CLICK HERE](#). MD ACEP voted to contribute \$2500.00 to EMRA for the project.

The chapter voted to support the candidacy of Dr. Todd Templeman, an EM physician at Suburban to the Maryland Board Of Physicians.

I am happy to report that under the stewardship of Treasurer Dr. Bill Jaquis and Executive Director Beverly Lynch, the chapter continues to function in the black with a comfortable surplus for contingencies and emergencies.

Members of the Public Policy Committee and Board of Directors continue to advocate for the specialty by attending political functions and fundraisers. One of the recent events was a fundraiser for Speaker of the House of Delegates Michael Busch. Lt. Governor Anthony Brown was in attendance and spoke on behalf of Speaker Busch.

**Nation's Emergency Physicians Call for Increased Investment in Mental Health Resources and a Ban on the Sale of Assault Weapons**

In addition to December 19 press release [HERE](#), ACEP signed on to a letter sent January 8 to the House, Senate, and President reiterating the need for increased research on violence prevention, as well as sufficient access to mental health services.

**MD ACEP Advocacy Program -  
Get Involved Two Ways!**

**Day at the State House:** Spend the day meeting legislators and staff....discussing MD ACEP issues and concerns....participate in a blood pressure screening

**Wednesday, February 13, 2013 in the Maryland State House, House Office Building from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.**

Please let us know if you are able to attend so we can plan accordingly. Email [Lauren@amg101.com](mailto:Lauren@amg101.com) for additional details.

**Volunteer to Serve as the Doctor of the Day:** Pick a day and agree to serve as physician-of-the-day in the Capital. As physician-of-the-day you and a nurse will spend the day in the first aid room and will have privileges to the legislative chamber floors. It's a great opportunity to interact with legislators up close. Email [Lauren@amg101.com](mailto:Lauren@amg101.com) for form.

**2013 Blue Jay Consulting/EMF  
Emergency Department of the Year Award**

All ACEP members are encouraged to nominate an emergency department physician leader who they believe is qualified and deserving of the prestigious 2013 *Blue Jay Consulting/Emergency Medicine Foundation Emergency Department Director of the Year Award*.

**The deadline for nominations is approaching rapidly -  
February 18, 2013 at 5:00 pm CST.**

For the fourth consecutive year, this honor will be awarded to an outstanding Emergency Department Director who is committed to exemplary collaboration with nursing, quality patient care, operational effectiveness, education, community service, and who has a synergistic approach to leadership within the hospital or hospital system. The award will be presented at the ACEP Emergency Department Directors Academy, Phase II, on April 29, 2013, and the winner recognized throughout the year, including during Scientific Assembly.

To submit your nomination, please [CLICK HERE](#). You will see all the details about the award criteria and selection process. After completing the nomination entry form, you will be asked to upload one PDF file that includes the nominee's abbreviated curriculum vitae and any supporting materials.

**Please submit your nomination before the deadline – February 18, 2013 at 5:00 pm CST.** If you have questions, please contact Cynthia Singh at 800-798-1822 ext. 3217 or email [csingh@acep.org](mailto:csingh@acep.org).

**SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 18, 2013**

**MD ACEP ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**WESTIN BWI HOTEL**

**PROGRAM INFORMATION ON PAGE 2**

### MD ACEP is looking for a few good men and women....

Have some good ideas to make MD ACEP better and stronger? Have just a little spare time to support your profession? If so, consider a run for the Board of Directors or Councillors. Board meets in January, March, June, and September. Additional responsibilities listed below. Interested? Three Board of Directors slots and Three Councillor slots available! Send MD ACEP a short bio, e-mail Lauren at [lauren@amg101.com](mailto:lauren@amg101.com). **Deadline: March 4, 2013**

**For more information regarding expectations, requirements, major duties, and responsibilities please contact Lauren Myers at [lauren@amg101.com](mailto:lauren@amg101.com)**

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE MARYLAND ACEP 2013 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2013 THE WESTIN BWI

7:30 – 8:00a	General Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 8:05a	Welcome
8:05 - 9:00a	High Risk Scenarios in EM: Strategies and Solutions <i>Presenter: Kevin Klauer, DO, EJD, FACEP</i>
9:05 – 10:00a	Nurses Are from Saturn, Physicians from Jupiter, Administrators from Mars - How Can We Speak the Same Language? <i>Presenter: Jay Kaplan, MD, FACEP</i>
10:00 - 10:30a	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
10:30 - 11:30a	The ED Guide to Suicide Risk Assessment <i>Presenter: Robert Orman, MD</i>
11:30a - 12:20p	Advanced Pediatric Procedural Sedation <i>Presenter: Alfred Sacchetti, MD, FACEP</i>
12:20 – 1:20p	LUNCHEON AND AWARDS Maryland ACEP Business Meeting
1:30 – 2:00p	Recent Cardiology Articles You've Got to Know! <i>Presenter: Amal Mattu, MD, FACEP, FAAEM</i>
2:00 – 2:30p	Avoiding Common Errors <i>Presenter: Arjun Chanmugam, MD, MBA, FACEP</i>
2:30 – 3:00p	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
3:00 – 3:30p	Nightmare ENT Emergencies <i>Presenter: Laura J. Bontempo, MD, FACEP</i>
3:30 – 4:00p	Discharge Disasters <i>Presenter: Tina Latimer, MD, MPH, FACEP</i>
4:00 – 4:30p	I'm Short of Breath and I Have a Flolan Pump <i>Presenter: John Greenwood, MD</i>
4:30p	END

### O'Malley Budget Does Not Include Physician Tax for Exchange

MedChi members who attended the Montgomery County Medical Society meeting last week heard firsthand from Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Secretary Josh Sharfstein, M.D., that the governor will not propose taxing physicians to pay for the Health Insurance Exchange. Secretary Sharfstein shared this positive piece of information, answered questions and addressed various policy issues.

MedChi had made it clear prior to the legislative session that it would oppose any attempt to raise taxes on physicians and would fight any proposal that would raise fees on doctors or their offices.

The idea of a physician tax had been raised at a Health Insurance Exchange financing meeting last fall. It was repeated by the Health Exchange Executive Director, and recently restated by a member of the powerful Senate Finance Committee at another meeting. See [THIS](#) Family Practice News story (login required). MedChi had been in contact with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to express its displeasure with this idea.

The reason the Health Insurance Exchange is currently considering this measure is due to the fact that Maryland is moving quickly with the new Insurance Exchange, and needs a mechanism to fund its activity once the Federal grants expire. MedChi has long felt an increase in the tobacco tax is the best way to fund the operation of the Exchange. From a policy perspective, it makes no sense to require physicians to pay for an insurance exchange that helps insurance companies sell their products. The budget does not create a new source of funds for the exchange.

MedChi is very pleased that the Administration supported our position, and the fact the tax is not included in this budget is a major victory.

Gene M. Ransom, III  
CEO, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society

### PRACTICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

NEEL VIBHAKAR, MD, FACEP

#### ED CALL SYSTEM

Does every group have a call schedule or system? Would you be willing to share your system? If you don't have a call system, how do you manage emergency shift vacancies?

#### SUMMARY

There were a total of 14 responses.

- 10 stated that they have a physician on-call to address surge or call out issues.

- 3 stated that they also have a similar call system for their PAs.

- 4 stated they do not have a call system and rather have providers come in early, stay late, and/or have the open shift filled voluntarily by the group.