

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Last Word: Looking Back On an Eventful Year as ICEP President



Dino P. Rumoro, DO, FACEP

My year as President has ended quickly but not uneventfully. As an organization, we were tested. It's these trials and tribulations that can either tear apart an organization or mobilize its members and make it stronger.

For ICEP, we took the latter path and became stronger and wiser in the process. As for me, the experience of presiding over the Chapter through trying times made me understand my desire to help our organization be the leading voice of emergency medicine in Illinois.

Over the course of this past year, we faced a realignment of organizational strategic programs when IMERT made the decision to become a stand-alone organization for the purpose of being able to secure various other lines of funding. That decision forced ICEP to reevaluate its mission and vision in an effort to redesign its future plans.

A very productive leadership summit was convened, bringing together past leaders and presidents to discuss the situation and offer advice, resources and their own knowledge and skills. This was a year of evaluation and collaboration.

We tackled the problem of selling our former office in a poor economy and succeeded in finding a potential buyer. While outside forces seem to have aligned against us, we continue to pursue our goal of selling an empty office suite while simultaneously looking to diversify our ownership status in the current property by offering shared ownership or a renting opportunity.

As if this wasn't enough, ICEP has had to fend off the attack of insurance companies and argued strongly against HB 5085, the out-of-network bill. Our efforts were successful. We partnered with other hospital-based specialty organizations and traveled to Springfield to debate the values of the bill for the Senate Insurance Committee. An amendment is currently in development.

We have been successful in relying on our strength in education by hosting one of our largest oral board preparation courses, which could not have occurred without the assistance of our many members who answered the calls to serve as faculty. We were also able to create a partnership for the development of the first procedural medicine simulation course.

Through all of this, ICEP's current Board members have been engaged and informed in providing knowledgeable guidance for our Chapter. The officers of the Board have been active in far more meetings and impromptu confer-

ence calls than I can remember and always welcome a chance to assist when needed.

Finally, the ICEP staff, lead by its Executive Director, have sacrificed on our behalf and have worked long, hard hours helping us to achieve our vision. To everyone, I want to extend a very appreciative 'thank you' for all that you have done on behalf of our Chapter.

As for me, I learned a lot about ICEP and my own goals as they relate to this fine organization. Upon graduation from residency, I immediately became involved with ICEP. I joined committees and became a committee chair. I eventually was elected to the Board of Directors and worked up the officer ranks.

I always wanted to be president of the Illinois Chapter and believed that to be the "end game" of my commitment to emergency medicine in the state. But now I have a different understanding of ICEP, what we stand for, and where we need to be as an organization.

I am now convinced that all of my work to date is just the beginning. Now that I have a more thorough understanding of the organization, I believe I can offer more over the long term to serve our interests. Being an active member does not require formal authority but rather a desire to work together to achieve a common goal.

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2011 Spring Symposium to Recognize Illinois Emergency Medicine Leaders

One ICEP member and one long-time advocate for pediatric emergency services will be honored during the Annual Business Meeting at the Spring Symposium on May 12, 2011 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

ICEP member George Hossfeld, MD, FACEP and Illinois EMSC Program Manager Evelyn Lyons, RN, BSN, MPH, will be honored by ICEP for their contributions to the college and emergency medicine.

The presentation of the annual awards will be held during the Annual Business Meeting, from 8:45 AM to 9:30 AM. The results of the Board of Directors elections will also be announced at this time.

All members are encouraged to attend the Spring Symposium & Annual Business Meeting to honor Dr. Hossfeld and Ms. Lyons.

Bill B. Smiley Award

Dr. Hossfeld, of Wilmette, is the recipient of the Bill B. Smiley Meritorious Service Award, which honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the advancement of emergency medicine in Illinois. The Bill B. Smiley award is ICEP's highest honor.

Dr. Hossfeld is a Past President of ICEP, proudly serving two terms on the Board of Directors and as president in 1993. He was one of the first recipients of ICEP's Meritorious Service Award, in 1997. He remains active within ICEP, serving on the Practice Management Committee and as faculty for ICEP's Oral Board Review Course.

Dr. Hossfeld is passionate about providing support to physicians involved in malpractice litigation, a cause close to his heart after he was involved in a lawsuit stemming from a 2001 incident. The lawsuit turned into several years of depositions and a six-day trial that ended in



**George Hossfeld,
MD, FACEP**

**Bill B. Smiley
Meritorious Service
Award Recipient**

Dr. Hossfeld's favor in April 2007. As a result of his experience, which he calls "life-changing," he has formed a grass-roots network of physicians who have gone through trials. He has also spoken out publicly to encourage his peers to break the silence and stigma over physicians getting sued.

In addition, as a representative for the Medicare Carrier Advisory Committee, Dr. Hossfeld has worked extensively with the (former) Illinois Department of Public Aid, which resulted in rate increases for emergency physicians.

Dr. Hossfeld is an assistant professor of emergency medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is a frequent contributor to Emergency Medicine News and writes a column called "Pocket Doc" for the UIC student newspaper, The Chicago Flame.

ICEP Meritorious Service Award

Ms. Lyons, of Oak Lawn, is the recipient of the ICEP Meritorious Service Award, honoring her significant contributions to the advancement of emergency medicine by exemplary service.

Ms. Lyons coordinates the Illinois Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) pro-



**Evelyn Lyons,
RN, BSN, MPH**
**ICEP Meritorious
Service Award
Recipient**

gram, serving as Manager and Co-Principal Investigator of Illinois EMSC within the Division of Emergency Medical Services & Highway Safety, Illinois Department of Public Health. In this position, which she has held since 1999, she is responsible for the implementation and administration of childhood emergency care and pediatric disaster preparedness initiatives within the state of Illinois.

She is also responsible for developing grant proposals and securing grant funding to support EMSC activities as well as several data related projects that have received funding through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Ms. Lyons has been involved in EMSC development in Illinois since the program began in 1994. Her background includes over 30 years experience in the areas of emergency nursing and emergency medical services. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from St. Xavier University, Chicago, Illinois in 1977 and a Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Benedictine University, Lisle, Illinois in 1998.

Spring Symposium Registration

The 2011 Spring Symposium begins at 7:30 AM on Thursday, May 12 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital's Feinberg Pavilion, 3rd Floor. The cost for ICEP member is \$95 and residents, \$25. Medical students may attend at no charge.

The Symposium concludes at 1:30 PM and is followed by the NEXT Forum, in which young speakers compete for a lecture spot at next year's Symposium. There is no charge to attend the NEXT Forum, which concludes at 4:00 PM.

View the complete course brochure or register online at ICEP.org, or call staff at 630-495-6400, ext. 200. Registrations can be faxed to 630.495.6400. Hope to see you in May!



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Last Chance to Vote: Polls Close April 27 for ICEP's Board of Directors Elections

The ICEP Board of Directors elections are going on now, with voting available online anytime. If you haven't already cast your ballot, make sure to log on to the voting website, www.associationvoting.com/icep, by the end of the day Wednesday, April 27 to vote.

The polls close at 11:59 PM on April 27 and the online voting platform will not allow you to log in after that time to cast your vote.

All ICEP members received an email with voting details at the end of March. This email included a direct link to the voting website as well as the individual's ACEP member number and last name exactly as it should be entered to log in to the platform.

If you did not receive this email and haven't yet voted, please contact Kate Blackwelder at 630-495-6400, ext. 205, or kateb@icep.org for assistance.

Four active members and one resident member will be elected to the Board this term.

Active members standing for election are:

- **Helene Connolly, MD, FACEP (incumbent)**
- **Scott Cooper, MD, FACEP**
- **Marc Dorfman, MD, FACEP, MACP (incumbent)**
- **Chad Kessler, MD, MHPE, FACEP**
- **Heather Prendergast, MD, MPH, FACEP (incumbent)**

Resident members standing for election are:

- **Michael Paddock, DO, MS**
- **Ted Samawi, DO**

Candidate profiles and personal statements are available as part of the online ballot. When you log in and proceed to the ballot, click the link by each candidate's name to "Show Biography." This will show a brief candidate profile as

well as the candidate's response to the following question: *The Illinois College of Emergency Physicians advances emergency medicine in Illinois through advocacy, working to improve best practices/patient care, and providing education to improve the skills and knowledge base of its members. In your opinion, what are some of the major issues facing the practice of emergency medicine and what strategies do you consider important in improving and advancing our specialty?*

If you prefer to vote by paper ballot instead of online, please contact Kate Blackwelder to have your materials mailed. Return ballots must be postmarked April 27 or earlier in order to be counted.

The online voting process simplifies voting for members and allows them to cast their ballot in under 5 minutes. Cast yours before the deadline to make your vote count!

ICEP's Dr. Dan Sullivan to Be Honored with ACEP Rorrie Award in Health Policy

ICEP member Daniel J. Sullivan, MD, JD, FACEP, has been selected as the recipient of ACEP's 2011 Colin C. Rorrie, Jr., PhD, Award for Excellence in Health Policy.

Dr. Sullivan will be presented with the award at the Fellow Convocation and Awards Ceremony during ACEP's Scientific Assembly in October.

The Rorrie Award is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to achieving ACEP's health policy objectives and/or who has demonstrated outstanding skills, talent, and commitment as an administrative or political leader.

Dr. Sullivan has been a practicing emergency physician since 1981. Shortly after completing his post-graduate training, he completed a law degree, graduating Cum Laude from the Kent College of Law.



Daniel J. Sullivan, MD, JD, FACEP

For more than 20 years, he has combined his expertise in emergency medicine with his understanding of law and litigation to identify risk reduction skills and educate emergency physicians, helping to improve patient safety.

In 1998, he founded The Sullivan Group, and through this organization he has educated and helped develop thousands of emergency physicians. His tireless efforts to reduce risk in the practice of emergency medicine and to improve patient safety are well recognized throughout the field.

Dr. Sullivan has been an ICEP leader for more than 20 years as well. He is a past president and has held several Board positions prior to serving as President in 1996. He has been a mentor for countless ICEP leaders, organizing the chapter's Leadership Meeting to help foster the

grassroots development of future chapter leaders. His contributions were recognized in 2003 with the Bill B. Smiley Award for Meritorious Service, ICEP's highest honor.

Dr. Sullivan is a frequent and popular lecturer for ACEP and ICEP education programs. He was even selected to be the Opening Speaker and present the James D. Mills, Jr. Memorial Lecture at the ACEP Scientific Assembly in back-to-back-years for 2009 and 2010.

In 2009, he was honored by ACEP with an Honorable Mention for Outstanding Speaker of the Year.

ICEP President Dino P. Rumoro, DO, FACEP congratulated Dr. Sullivan on his accolade.

"It is hard to imagine an individual who has had the lasting impact on the practice of emergency medicine and the College that Dr. Sullivan has," Dr. Rumoro said.

Presenters Selected for 2011 NEXT Forum, Research Showcase at Spring Symposium

Presenters for the NEXT Forum and the Statewide Research Showcase have been selected! Plan to attend the 2011 Spring Symposium on May 12 to support your colleagues who are presenting and earn CME credit.

Ten young speakers will compete during the NEXT Forum directly following the Spring Symposium. The NEXT Forum provides an additional two hours of CME credit for attendees.

Presenters selected are:

- Nathan Allen, MD, University of Chicago
- Teresa Davis, MD, Rush University Medical Center
- Jon dela Cruz, MD, Southern Illinois University
- Benjamin Kemp, MD, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center
- Samuel Lam, MD, FACEP, Advocate Christ Medical Center
- Christopher Lloyd, DO, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Jenny Lu, MD, MS, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County
- Christine Patte, DO, Northwestern University
- David Pinto, MD, Resurrection Medical Center
- Emilie Powell, MD, Northwestern Memorial Hospital
- Stephanie Wagner, MD, Resurrection Medical Center

The Research Committee received nearly 20 abstracts for consideration for the Statewide Research Showcase. Four oral presentations will be given during a morning session, and ten research posters will be on display in the exhibit area throughout the meeting, with investigators on hand to answer questions.

Oral Presentations

- David Barounis, MD, Advocate Christ Medical Center
- Katie L. Tataris, MD, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County
- Lauren Pierce, MD, Northwestern Memorial Hospital

Poster Presentations

- Karl Ambroz, MD, FACEP, Resurrection Medical Center
- Christina Hantsch Bardsley, MD, FACEP, Loyola University Health System
- Alyssa Bryant, MD, University of Chicago
- Alice Kim, DO, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County
- Samuel Lam, MD, FACEP, Advocate Christ Medical Center
- Kristen Maguire, MD, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Yanina Purim-Shem-Tov, MD, FACEP, Rush University Medical Center
- Kori Sauser, MD, Northwestern Memorial Hospital
- Nicole Schneiderman, MD, FACEP, Resurrection Medical Center
- Amber Vogt, DO, Northwestern University

Emergent Procedures Courses Target High Risk Critical-Care Skills for EM Physicians

ICEP's newest education program, the Emergent Procedures Simulation Skills Lab, helps physicians sharpen their high-risk low-frequency procedural skills.

The 10-hour course focuses on procedures that are seldom performed day-to-day in the emergency department because clinical presentation is rare.

The hands-on program uses simulation technology to allow physicians to review and practice airway, cardiovascular, pediatric/obstetric, and ultrasound skills.

In one intensive day, physicians will refine their techniques for all of the following:

Airway Modules

- Cricothyrotomy
- Bougie
- Intubating LMA
- Glidescope
- Difficult airway assessment
- Difficult airway algorithm



Cardiovascular Modules

- Transvenous Pacemaker
- Pericardiocentesis
- Percutaneous chest tube
- Pediatric chest tube

Pediatric/Obstetric Modules

- Normal and breech delivery
- Shoulder dystocia
- NALS resuscitation/umbilical line
- PALS resuscitation
- Pediatric airway

Ultrasound Modules

- FAST scan
- Gall bladder
- AAA
- Vascular Access
- Central Line

Participants rotate through the skills stations in small groups and work closely with faculty to maximize the effectiveness of the instruction.

Courses are held at NorthShore University Health System's Center for Simulation Technology and Academic Research at Evanston Hospital on three dates in 2011:

- Friday, April 29
- Friday, August 12
- Friday, November 4

A limited number of spaces remain for the April 29 course! Register today online at ICEP.org or by calling 630-495-6400, ext. 200. Registration is \$545 for ACEP members and \$585 for non-ACEP physicians. The course sessions provide a maximum of 10 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.



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ICEP Launches Facebook Page as New Tool to Stay in Touch with Membership

ICEP is building its chapter Facebook community one fan at a time. ICEP just launched its Facebook page last week and encourages all members to sign on and become a part of the community.

Find us on Facebook:



Illinois College of Emergency Physicians on Facebook



to keep its members up to date on the Chapter's activities, current events, and more.

To find ICEP on Facebook, visit www.facebook.com/ICEPfan or search "Illinois College of Emergency Physicians" on Facebook. There is also a direct link with a "Like" button on the ICEP.org home page. Be sure to "like" us to get our status updates on your news feed.

ICEP's goal is to connect with as many emergency physicians as possible through the social networking site, creating a new portal for members and others in the field of emergency medicine to network and share information. It provides another communication tool for ICEP

ICEP encourages its fans to write on ICEP's Facebook wall, post photos from an event, and share links. All of ICEP's educational programs will be created as Facebook events as well, with links to registration and course brochures.

ICEP also "likes" other emergency medicine Facebook pages, including ACEP, EMRA, Annals, and more. Please note that because ICEP is set up as an organization, it cannot join other Facebook groups or request Friend status.

Find us on Facebook today and connect with other physicians from Illinois and across the country.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Last Word: Looking Back On a Year as ICEP President

from Page 1

The last days of my term as President do not signify an end but rather a new beginning. A chance to help as a mentor to younger members, to offer advice based on experience instead of conjecture. I look forward to this new role and am thankful for the opportunity to serve as president.

ICEP is an outstanding organization with many offerings and is considered a leading Chapter in the nation. It has the finest members and hardest working staff. Therefore, my final plea is for everyone to get involved. Volunteer for a committee, teach a course, or attend a meeting. This is your representative state organization, so make it your own.

Thank you for a fulfilling and eventful year.

— Dino P. Rumoro, DO, FACEP
ICEP President

Career Center Introduces Member Discount

The ICEP Career Center is now making a 20% discount available to all members! The discount may be deducted from any package the Career Center offers to employees.

To receive the discount, ICEP members need to have created an account to the ICEP.org Members Only section. (If you are unsure if you have an account, please contact Kate Blackwelder at kateb@icep.org or 630.495.6400, ext. 205.)

A link from the Members Only section provides a unique Member Discount Code that can be

used when purchasing packages from the Career Center.

The ICEP Career Center is a new feature of the ICEP website launched at the end of 2010 to serve as a portal for finding and advertising open positions within the field of emergency medicine.

Job seekers can create a Career Center account to look for the latest postings of job opportunities from employers from Illinois and surrounding states.

Employers can create an account to purchase, post and manage recruitment ads for open positions within their hospital, group or practice.

To find out more information about Career Center advertising opportunities or to peruse current ads, log on to ICEP.org and click the "Emergency Medicine Jobs" graphic located along the lefthand side of the page. If you have not created a Career Center account, you are encouraged to, as creating an account allows you to manage your email preferences, post your resume, purchase ad credits, and more.





JOB OPPORTUNITIES

FOR BOARD CERTIFIED EM PHYSICIANS

A new private EM physician group for top ER doctors has partnered with a new hospital on Chicago's south side. Metro South Medical Center, formerly known as St. Francis Hospital in Blue Island, has awarded Emergency Care Physician Services (ECPS) with a 10-year EM physician-staffing contract.

ECPS is a Chicago-based, physician-owned, financially democratic Emergency Medicine group with **Full & Part-Time Positions Available Now for Board Certified EM Physicians.**

The newly renovated Emergency Department facilities of MSMC offer 30 State of the Art Medical Exam Rooms with integrated LCD televisions. 42,000 patients are evaluated annually by double to triple staff coverage, with 43 hours of physician coverage.

Base salary is \$190/hr for day shifts, \$200/hr for night shifts.

ECPS will provide malpractice insurance.

If you are interested in participating in a financially democratic EM physician group, please contact

Seth Guterman, MD FACEP
(773) 255-1236 or sguterman@ecps.md

More information can be obtained at www.ecps.md

Registration Now Open Online for 2011 EM|MOREinFOUR Board Review Options

Choose EM|MOREinFOUR Online Programs to Get a Head Start on Preparation

ICEP's EM|MOREinFOUR Emergency Medicine Board Review course dates are set for 2011 and course registration is open online now.

The 4-day course will be held twice in 2011:

- **September 6-9** (Tuesday through Friday)
- **October 3-6** (Monday through Thursday)

Sign up for the September course if you are taking the course for recertification prep. ABEM's EMCC ConCert exam dates are October 3-8.

If you would like to get a jump start on preparing for your boards, EM|MOREinFOUR Online programs are a great option, allowing you to review online anytime. Register online and start the program a day later — it's that easy!

ICEP's EM|MOREinFOUR Online program includes two components, which can be purchased



together or individually. The Webcast course or Webcast topic selections include video lectures featuring the top-rated EM|MOREinFOUR faculty and their PowerPoint presentations. Each topic is available to watch individually and ranges from 30 minutes to two hours in length.

The Webcast lectures are available through ICEP's course portal, which tracks what you've watched so you can easily monitor your progress and pick up where you left off. The course portal also offers the PDF syllabus files online

to follow along with the lectures.

The second review option, EM|MOREinFOUR Self-Study Online, is ICEP's web-based independent study tool that features 650+ visual stimuli-based questions on EKGs, X-rays, infectious disease, EENT, dermatology, trauma, and more. The program tests your knowledge and exam preparedness with multiple-choice questions referenced to the 7th ed. Rosen and 7th ed. Tintinalli.

Whether purchased together or separately, EM|MOREinFOUR Webcasts and Self-Study Online provide 90 days of online access to the materials, allowing you to choose the intensity of your review and work at your own pace.

To view the complete course brochure for more information about the online options and live courses, please log on to ICEP.org.

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Make Contacts with Legislators at ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference

ACEP invites all of its members to join emergency medicine leaders from throughout the country in shaping the future of health care reform at ACEP's 2011 Leadership and Advocacy Conference. The conference will be held May 22-25 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

There's never been a better time to get involved on advocacy issues, as the future of the U.S. health care system and its impact on emergency patients, the public and the profession of emergency medicine will be determined in the coming months.

Educational sessions by nationally recognized speakers and key decision makers will provide you the inside information and skills you need to maximize your impact as an emergency medicine leader and advocate.

The program includes Capitol Hill visits with key legislators and staff arranged for every attendee. This year, attendees will spend an entire

afternoon on Capitol Hill with legislators and their staff to discuss the most pressing issues facing emergency medicine and patients including the recently debated and enacted health care reform legislation. ACEP's National Lobby Day is preceded by Advocacy Training sessions to help participants prepare for their meetings with Senators and Representatives.

The Leadership and Advocacy Conference will give you the opportunity to:

- Acquire information critical to serving as a leader at the state or national level.
- Identify your role in advancing key issues facing emergency medicine.
- Meet with members of Congress and other key policy makers.
- Understand the elements of conducting successful meetings, projects, and chapter operations.
- Gain skills in media relations, making presentations, and networking for influence.
- Hold one-on-one discussions with ACEP leaders and staff.

Featured speakers include:

- Joe Heck, DO, FACEP, US Representative (R-NV)
- Walter J. Koroshetz, MD, Deputy Director, NINDS, Office of the Director
- Carolyn M. Clancy, MD, Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Steven J. Stack, MD, FACEP, Secretary, AMA Board of Trustees
- Gregory L. Henry, MD, FACEP, ACEP Past President

Registration fees for the conference are underwritten by ACEP and are set at \$100 for members and \$25 for residents. This fee includes all education sessions as well as 3 breakfasts, 2 luncheons, 2 receptions, transportation to Capitol Hill for visits with your legislators, and daily refreshment breaks. Legislator visits will be scheduled for you by ACEP; individuals will not need to contact their legislators' offices directly regarding appointments.

To find out more or to register, visit ACEP.org.

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY HEALTH SYSTEM

Loyola University Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine, Department of Surgery, Division of Emergency Medical Services is expanding its full-time faculty with positions available for physician board certified/prepared in emergency medicine at both the Loyola University Medical Center and Loyola Gottlieb Hospital.

- Active EMS Resource Hospital, Level I Trauma Center, regional burn, and cardiovascular facility with active aeromedical transport program.
- Faculty appointments to Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine.
- Competitive university compensation package includes occurrence malpractice coverage. Opportunities for rotation at both centers as well as in education, research, and administration.



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Please contact:

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Director, Emergency Department
Loyola University Medical Center
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Last Call for Research for ACEP's 2011 Research Forum in October in California

The American College of Emergency Physicians is seeking research abstract submissions for its 2011 Research Forum on October 15-16 in San Francisco. The deadline to submit abstracts is April 29.

The ACEP Research Forum is dedicated to the presentation of original research related to emergency medicine by investigators in clinical and basic science.

Abstracts will be peer reviewed for presentation at the 2011 Research Forum. Abstracts will be accepted that are judged scientifically valid and that yield important information which will ultimately affect patient care.

Abstracts will be reviewed for oral or poster presentation. Oral presentations will be allowed 10 minutes followed by discussion. Poster presentations will be grouped by topic and will be scheduled during the program.



Several awards will be presented to the top research as part of the Research Forum:

- The Emergency Medicine Foundation will present an award to the outstanding established researcher and a special award to an outstanding young investigator.
- An annual Excellence in Research Award (Best Paper) will be presented to an investigator based on the abstract, presentation, discussion, and subsequent of research manuscript.
- An annual Best Presentation by a Young Investigator Award will also be chosen. Investigators at the assistant professor level or below with fewer than five years of faculty appointment may request that their abstracts be considered for review in the young investigator category.
- The ACEP Research Committee will also present awards for best medical student paper and best resident paper (given to the

primary investigators of outstanding abstract presentations).

Abstracts must be submitted online through ACEP's website. For the complete rules and guidelines as well as the online submission form, please visit: www.ACEP.org/rf. All abstracts must be received by 5:00 pm Central Time, Friday, April 29, 2011 to be considered.

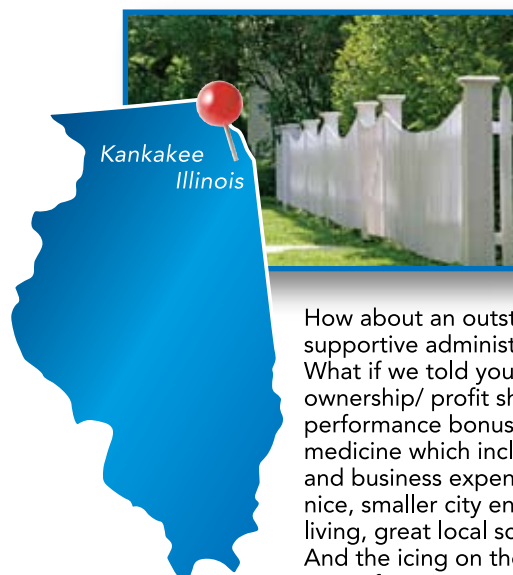
Call for Moderators

The Research Committee/Research Forum subcommittee is looking to increase and update its moderator pool. If you have expertise in areas of EM research and have the people skills to facilitate critique and enhance scientific presentations, the ACEP Research Forum wants you.

Please submit supporting documentation for each category of expertise including study sections, publications, and grants to academicaffairs@acep.org by May 28, 2011. Review the 30 abstract categories online at ACEP.org/rf. (Click on "Call for Moderators" link.)

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EM4LIFE

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REVIEW CME PROGRAM AND COURSES

Have fun and get it done...

Meet your EMCC requirements in just 8 hours!



Let **EM4LIFE** help you meet the challenge of continuous certification and strengthen your emergency medicine knowledge ... for life.

The Illinois College of Emergency Physicians and noted author Deborah E. Weber, MD, FACEP, present EM4LIFE review courses to help you meet your EMCC requirements by getting your LLSA done in just one day — including the exam. Sessions that cover the 2009, 2010 and 2011 required articles are available (2011 text coming summer 2011). All sessions include the opportunity to take the LLSA exam online after the course.

The **EM4LIFE** program delivers:

Register today!

**Course space is limited.
Register early to
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'Bath Salts' and 'Plant Food': The Latest 'Legal' Street Drug to Appear in Illinois

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Background

Recently, the Illinois Poison Center (IPC) described the abuse of synthetic marijuana products commonly called K2, Spice, etc. Within recent months, another legally sold recreational drug has made its emergence in Illinois. A group of chemicals under the street names of "bath salts" or "plant food" are being sold in "head shops," convenience stores, and on the Internet.

Bath salt products are marketed under names such as Hurricane Charlie, Ivory Wave, Cloud Nine, Ocean, and Scarface.¹ These products have been found to contain stimulants generally referred to as "cathinones," with the most commonly encountered one being mephedrone (4-methylmethcathinone).² Cathinone, which is a naturally occurring amphetamine-like alkaloid, has historically been extracted from the Khat plant (*Catha edulis*), typically grown in the Middle East and Africa.

Pharmacology/Clinical Effects

Very little is known about the pharmacology of cathinone and derivatives such as mephedrone.² These agents are thought to act as an amphetamine-like central nervous system stimulant and inhibit reuptake of neurotransmitters (e.g., norepinephrine, dopamine, serotonin) and promote their release.

Likewise, there is also a paucity of pharmacokinetic data regarding these agents. One source describes the peak absorption of orally administered cathinone to occur within 30 to 90 minutes and eliminated with a half life of 1.5 hours.³ The usual duration of effect is 2-4 hours following oral administration; shorter via nasal insufflation.² The metabolites are eliminated in the urine.

Case Series

In one published case series of 47 self-reported mephedrone users treated in the emergency department, the most common clinical effects were tachycardia, hypertension, agitation, palpitations,

vomiting, chest pain, self-limiting seizures, and headache.⁴ No patients developed significant hyperthermia. 15% of patients were treated with benzodiazepines. 76% of the patients were observed and discharged from either the emergency department or a short-stay ward.

Other observed clinical effects include mydriasis, diaphoresis, and elevated creatinine kinase.³ Some neuropsychiatric symptoms which have been recorded include anxiety, euphoria, hallucinations, paranoia, impaired memory, nightmares, and insomnia.^{2,3} In several anecdotal case reports, severe paranoia has induced acts of self-harm or physical injury to others.¹

A peculiar behavior associated with mephedrone abuse is called "fiending".² This is the uncontrollable urge to continue using the drug repeatedly to maintain the drug's effects. Although strong drug cravings are reported, withdrawal symptoms are not commonly described.

Clinical Management

Treatment of cathinone intoxication is primarily symptomatic and supportive.^{2,3} IV hydration and sedation with benzodiazepines (e.g., lorazepam or diazepam) are the mainstays of therapy for agitation, delirium, hypertension, tachycardia and/or seizures. Patients should be placed on a continuous cardiac monitor, and an EKG should be obtained. Monitor for hyperthermia and employ cooling procedures as indicated. Indications for admission to the intensive care unit admission include significant CNS toxicity (seizures, coma, delirium), hyponatremia, or cardiac abnormalities.

Follow creatinine kinase, renal function tests, and electrolytes to monitor for rhabdomyolysis and hyponatremia.^{2,3} Standard urinary toxicology screens for street drugs performed in emergency departments do not detect cathinone derivatives. Some reference labs include mephedrone in their hallucinogenic screen.⁵

Legal Status

In Europe, mephedrone has been made a controlled drug.² Due to recent increases in exposures resulting in serious injury and even death, a few states in the U.S. have banned the sale of bath salts



and moved to make the various chemicals which compose them illegal.^{3,6} At this time, Louisiana has added the following six compounds to their Schedule I list: methylene, methylenedioxy-pyrovalerone, mephedrone, 4-methoxymethcathinone, 4-fluoromethcathinone, and 3-fluoromethcathinone.⁶ As

of this writing, there is currently no proposed legislation in process toward making these compounds illegal in Illinois.

Clinical Consultation

The IPC is currently conducting surveillance for the state of Illinois in regards to bath salt exposures. Clinicians are encouraged to report any known or suspected bath salt cases to the IPC.

The specialists and medical consultants at the IPC are available at any time to assist health professionals in the triage and management of these patients. The IPC can be reached at 1-800-222-1222, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

References

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Save the Date, Make Plans to Recognize National EMS Week 2011 on May 15-21

Mark your calendar and start thinking about how your hospital, emergency department, practice, or group can celebrate National Emergency Medical Services Week 2011. The dates are May 15 through May 21, with May 18 set aside as Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day.

The theme in 2011 is "Everyday Heroes." This theme celebrates the exceptional service being provided to countless patients every day, often under incredibly challenging circumstances. It illustrates the fact that EMS providers are dedicated to saving lives and limiting suffering on a daily basis.

National EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to publicize safety and honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." This information can be used throughout the year for public education and safety programs.



ACEP provides staff and financial support for the production and distribution of EMS Week promotional materials as a public education service. Order copies of the 2011 EMS Week Planner from ACEP through the website at www.acep.org/emswweek. Handouts, clip art, templates and other support materials are available from the ACEP site for your use at any time during the year.

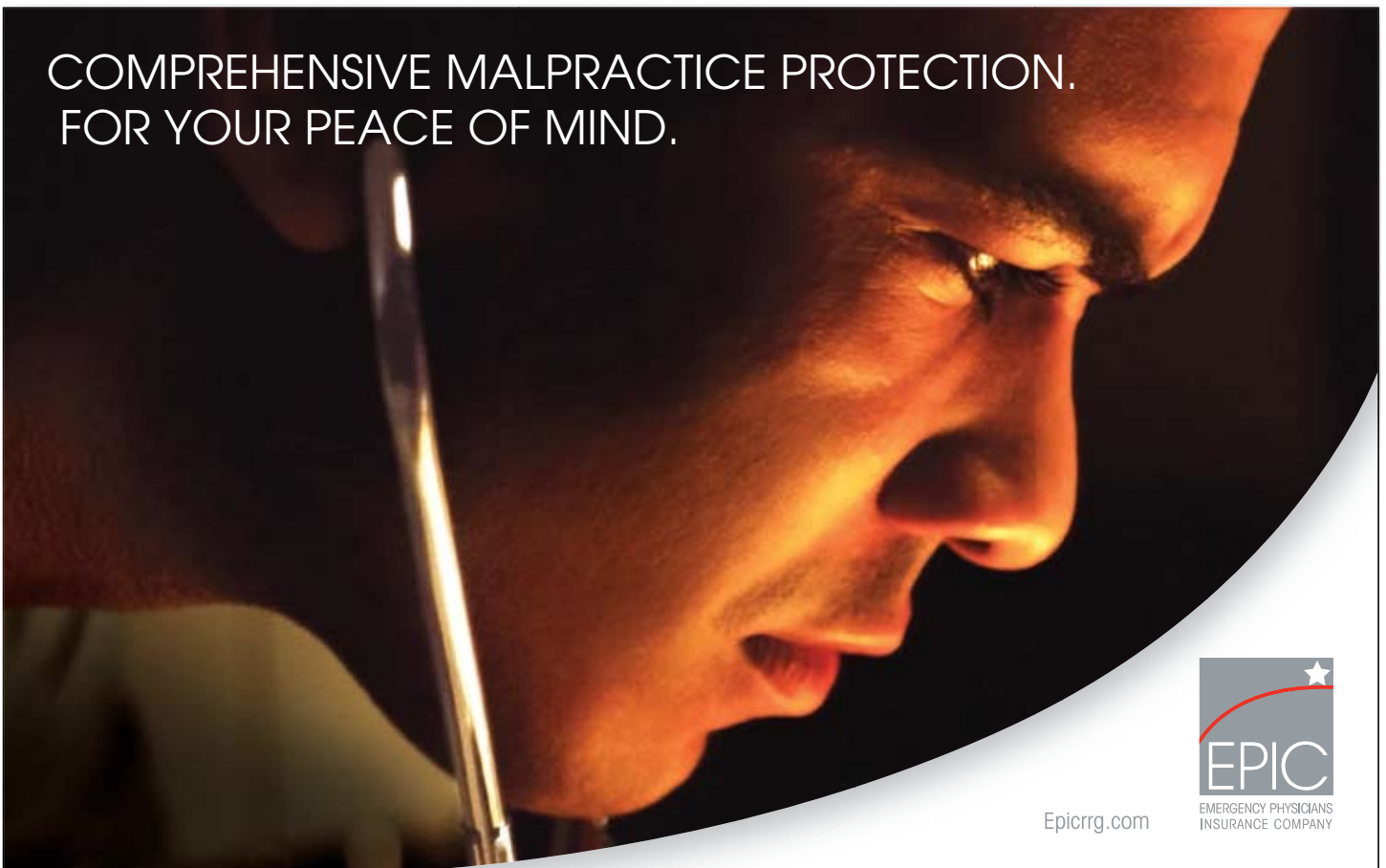
Or, log on to the National EMS Week Facebook page: www.facebook.com/National.EMS.Week. See what other "fans" are doing to celebrate, and post your own events and ideas to share.

Locally, the Illinois Department of Public Health will present its annual EMS Week Awards honor individuals and services making exemplary contributions in the areas of instructorship, EMS response, non-EMS emergency response, and public education. IDPH will also present certificates for years of service in EMS in five-year increments (five, ten, fifteen years, etc.) for all levels of pre-hospital personnel.

As in previous years, organizations are asked to direct their activities and eventson Wednesday May 18th to specifically center on child safety and injury prevention. On this day, we recognize our partners at EMS for Children (EMSC Day), and their efforts for the improvement of pediatric emergency care.

Merchandise and promotional items for EMS Week can be purchased through Jim Coleman, Ltd., online at www.JimColemanLtd.com. For additional information about EMS Week activities, contact ACEP at emswweek@acep.org.

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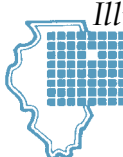
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April 29, 2011

Emergent Procedures Simulation Skills Lab

Evanston Hospital, Evanston

May 12, 2011

Spring Symposium & Annual Business Meeting

Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago

May 17, 2011

2010 EM4LIFE LLSA Article Review Course

ICEP Conference Center
Downers Grove

May 17, 2011

EM | MOREinFOUR Committee Conference Call

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
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May 19, 2011

2009 EM4LIFE LLSA Article Review Course

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May 22-25, 2011

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Omni Shoreham Hotel
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May 30, 2011

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June 6, 2011

ICEP Educational Meetings Committee Meeting

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
ICEP Board Room
Downers Grove

June 27, 2011

ICEP Finance Committee

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

ICEP Board of Directors Meeting

10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
ICEP Board Room
Downers Grove

July 4, 2011

Independence Day Holiday

ICEP Office Closed

August 8, 2011

ICEP Educational Meetings Committee Meeting

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
ICEP Board Room
Downers Grove

August 12, 2011

Emergent Procedures Simulation Skills Lab

Evanston Hospital, Evanston

August 26-27, 2011

Oral Board Review Courses

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September 1, 2011

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ICEP Conference Center
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September 6-9, 2011

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September 22-25, 2011

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November 3, 2011

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