

SPECIAL EDITION EPIC

COVID-19 in Illinois: News and Updates

The information, news and updates about COVID-19 in the state of Illinois, across the United States, and worldwide continues to evolve on a constant basis. The stay-at-home order for the state of Illinois is in place until April 30 and the number of positive cases and deaths continue to rise.

This special edition of the Illinois EPIC won't attempt to provide you with the latest statistics and data, but it will provide the many resources available to you from ICEP, from the state of Illinois, from ACEP and from EMRA.

We are using all of our communications channels to provide updates and resources to our members. It's a great time to connect with ICEP on Facebook (Facebook.com/icep-emergency) and Twitter (@icepemergency). We have also set up an ICEP chapter-specific ACEP engaged Forum to share COVID information and resources and have automatically enrolled all members, including residents and medical students; we encourage everyone to create posts on the Forum for distribution to the membership (ICEP moderates all messages before they are sent). ICEP also sends key announcements via blast email.

If there are other resources you are looking for, please reach out to ICEP at info@icep.org.



Sign up or find more information at illinoishelps.net. The Governor has stated the state would expedite licensing and waive fees for retired health care workers answering his call back into the health care system. Workers whose licenses will soon expire will be automatically extended through September.

Governor Issues Executive Order Providing Immunity for Providers

The Governor has signed an executive order that gives immunity from liability for those who provide care during the governor-declared emergency. ICEP was one of the groups urging the governor to issue the executive order. View the full Executive Order at ICEP.org.

SIREN Notifications for Physicians

All emergency physicians should register to receive SIREN (State of Illinois Rapid Electronic Notification) alerts from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Sign up at: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/siren>. SIREN serves as a single central point for finding, creating, and sharing information. It also provides emergency preparation for federal, state and local offices. In short, SIREN is an all hazards approach to emergency preparedness, response, outbreak notification and investigation, and recovery.

Retired Healthcare Workers Urged to Volunteer

Gov. J.B. Pritzker has encouraged all retired physicians, APPs, nurses, and other healthcare workers to volunteer during the pandemic.

ICEP Member Develops Program to Follow Up with COVID Patients By Text Message

Tom Scaletta, MD, FAAEM, FACEP, ED Chair of Edward Elmhurst Health and President of SmartER, has developed a program to check on COVID patients by text message. SmartER is offering the program to every ED in the United States at no cost/obligation, as SmartER's business partners are fully bearing the price of this project.

SmartContact automates patient follow-up by SMS. If a provider enters a cell phone number, the patient is contacted the next day and if the patient is worse, an alert goes to the ED case manager (or designee).

■ **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

InsideEPIC

COVID-19 Special Edition Vol 2

Specific Considerations for Illinois EMS

■ page **2**

ICEP Hosts Series of COVID-19 Webinars with ED Leaders

■ page **3**

News and Resources from National ACEP

■ page **3-4**

Resources for Residents and Medical Students from EMRA

■ page **6**

COVID-19 in Illinois: News and Updates

from Page 1

Dr. Scaletta noted that he and his colleagues combine this with sending high-risk patients home with a pulse oximeter. As a result, this is a framework for you to derive revenue via the

recently modified Remote Patient Monitoring (RMP) billing codes.

SmartContact is a web-based, standalone program that requires no IT staff time or EMR integration.

You can review a synopsis of the program at smart-er.net/covid, including a recent case study of one of Dr. Scaletta's patients.

Continue to watch ICEP.org and your email for more COVID-19 updates for members.

Specific Considerations for Illinois EMS

ICEP WhatsApp Group for EMS Medical Directors

ICEP has started a WhatsApp group to bring together Illinois EMS Medical Directors to share resources and information. To be added to the group, download WhatsApp to your mobile device and email Ginny Kennedy Palys at ginnykp@icep.org with your mobile number.

EMS Resources and Information from Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)

IDPH presented an EMS-focused webinar last week with updates and information. Speakers included Ashley Thoele, RN, as well as ICEP Board member Jason Kegg, MD, FACEP, and Leslee Stein-Spencer, RN. The presentation noted that statewide, 26,000 medical professionals have offered to assist to date.

Highlights of the presentation include:

IDPH will allow EMS systems to provisionally certify EMS personnel

- Intended for those who could not complete training or certification requirements because of COVID-19, generally for students in last month of training
- Could be used for retired personnel coming back into the system during the emergency
- Returning providers must meet EMS system requirements for their intended level of emergency credentialing, or can test for lower level

- Returning provider needs CPR card, no felonies, can't be suspended
- Must ride with licensed personnel (e.g., paramedic or PHRN) when providing patient care
- EMSS must submit system amendment with regional IDPH representative
- Must review at least 5 calls/month with provisional providers
- Provisional certifications expire June 30, 2020
- Records of provisional certifications are kept by EMSS. There is no state license per se but must be acknowledged by regional IDPH rep

EMS systems continue to have PPE challenges

- First resource should be the regional resource hospital
- Alternative source is regional IEMA office

IDPH is issuing emergency rules for ambulance providers

- Need to provide oversight to those who are leaving the state to provide assistance, i.e., now have Illinois providers working in New York
- Hospital bypass is not allowed during the governor-declared disaster; all hospitals have been notified but some may need the message reiterated

IDPH working with National Registry on testing challenges

- Most Pearson Vue centers are closed (only

- 2 testing centers open in state)
- Considering home testing with monitoring by cameras
- Weekly calls with National Registry

IDPH goals for EMS during the emergency

- Ensure 911 response
- Provide transport for priority patients who need hospital ED care
- Transport to appropriate destination

IDPH offering Alternate Transport Guidance

- Flow charts with alternate destinations, e.g., urgent care or primary care
- Allows treatment with no transport when indicated
- Telephone triage protocols in place
- No EMS transport to COVID-19 isolation facilities

Guidelines for patient transport

IDPH has released decision support algorithms for EMS transport guidance during COVID-19 pandemic for three patient populations:

- Critical patients
- Non-critical patients who do not have COVID-19-like illness symptoms
- Non-critical patients who do have COVID-19-like illness symptoms

The algorithms for patient transport are included in recent SIREN communications and posted at ICEP.org. If you have not already signed up to receive SIREN communications, register to receive them at www.dph.illinois.gov/siren.



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ICEP Presents COVID-19 Webinar Series with President Ernest Wang



**Ernest Wang,
MD, FACEP**

ICEP and President Ernest Wang, MD, FACEP, have presented two webinars on COVID-19 preparedness for emergency department leaders to share resources and strategies.

The next webinar will be presented April 22 and will feature Dr. Tom Spiegel of The University of Chicago. Register online at ICEP.org.

The webinars are less than an hour long and open to all. More than 60 physicians from across the state have participated in one or both.

The first webinar was presented March 26 and focused on Dr. Wang's data and experience leading a large 4-hospital system through the evolving outbreak. He showed the strategies implemented by NorthShore University HealthSystem and shared his best practices.

The second webinar was presented April 8 and



ICEP ED COVID-19 PREPARATION

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Healthcare for what's **>** next.

featured ICEP Past President Edward Ward, MD, MPH, FACEP, of Rush University Medical Center.

Dr. Ward shared the COVID-19 Respiratory Playbook compiled by Rush as well as his slide-set used for his presentation. These resources are available on ICEP's COVID-19 Resources

page at ICEP.org/covid.

Recordings of both webinars are also available in the same location, as well as from ICEP's Facebook page. ICEP and Dr. Wang plan to continue the webinar series; if you have a question or topic to be addressed, email Kate Blackwelder at kateb@icep.org.

News and Resources from National ACEP

ACEP updates its COVID-19 Clinical Alert repository daily to assist all emergency physicians with patient care and other necessary resources during the pandemic. You can access the main page at: www.acep.org/covid-19. In addition to the wealth of information provided by ACEP, the page also links to key sources including the CDC, WHO, NIH, and other tracking sites.

Register Now for Webinar Presented by ACEP This Week

The COVID CARES Act Reimbursement & Regulatory Webinar will be presented at 1 pm CT April 17. Dr. Granovsky will discuss how to financially protect your practice. Register online at: www.acep.org/rc/education/webinars/

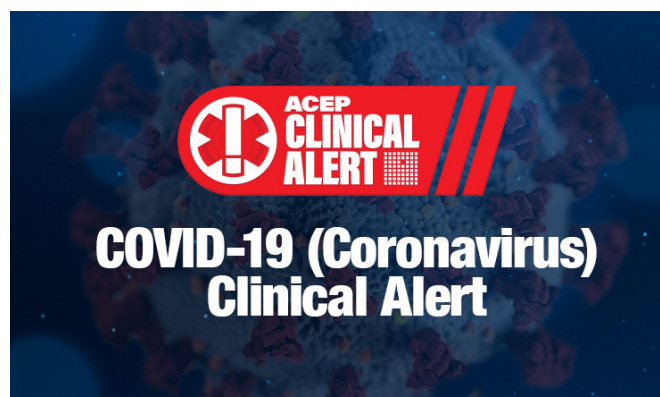
ACEP Releases COVID-19 Care Field Guide

ACEP assembled a Field Guide to COVID-19 Care in the Emergency Department to assist you on the front lines in this crisis.

This resource is a compilation of what we know now on the evaluation and treatment of COVID-19. It is a living document that will be updated as new information, guidance, and best practices evolve.

This field guide aims to provide the information emergency physicians need to assess the available resources in their community and determine their local applications. This document is not meant to set a standard of care and does not represent ACEP policy, unless explicitly stated.

Get the Field Guide at: www.acep.org/coronavirus/covid-19-field-guide/cover-page/



ACEP Taking Hill Day Online on April 28

ACEP is going virtual for Hill Day this year! Virtual Hill Day is your chance to advocate on behalf of your patients, yourself, and your practice as you discuss the issues and resources you

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



News and Resources from National ACEP

from Page 3

need most during the COVID-19 pandemic with Members of Congress and their key staff. State-based teams will have phone meetings with legislators about COVID-19 on April 28 from 11 AM to 4 PM Central Time (specific times to be scheduled by ACEP). Virtual Hil Day is free for all ACEP members, but limited to 600 participants. The deadline to register is April 22, 2020.

ACEP Partners with Hilton and Marriot Hotels to Offer Discounted or Free Rooms

ACEP is partnering with Hilton and American Express to provide 1 million hotel rooms to frontline medical professionals during the pandemic. ACEP members can already access discounted rooms across the country, but beginning April 13, you will be able to access these rooms at no cost to you. Free rooms will be offered through May 31, based on availability.

Marriott's Rooms for Responders program also offers to provide no cost rooms to ACEP members in some of the hardest hit cities in the United States, including Chicago. The Community Caregivers Program offers reduced rates in many locations for those concerned about the wellbeing of loved ones at home.

ACEP's Partner Discounts page at www.acep.org/membership/membership/benefits-of-membership/partner-discounts/ also provides other discounts and offers available to members.

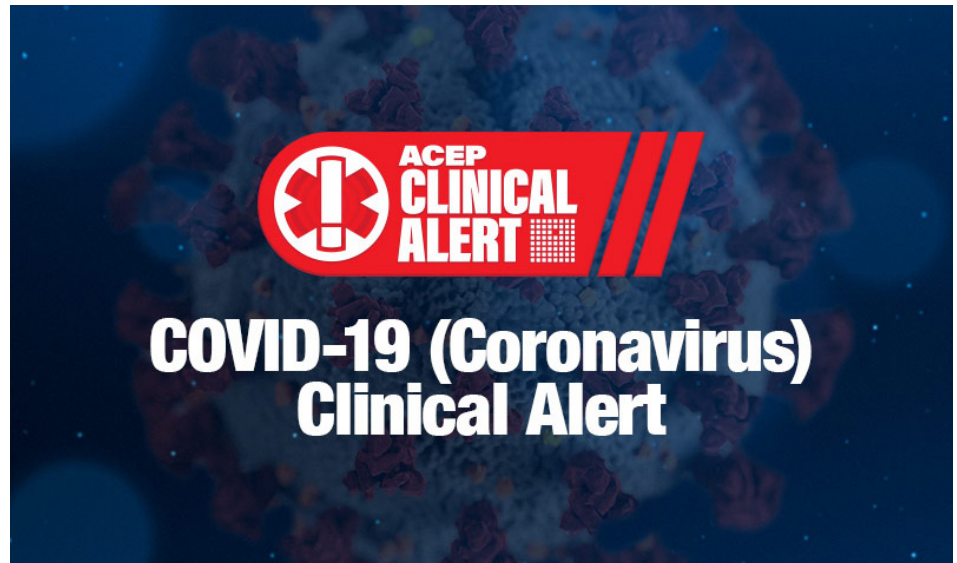
CDC Tracking Counterfeit Respirators, PPE

The CDC has issued a warning about counterfeit, substandard PPE coming from a number of manufacturers in China. The CDC has started publicizing counterfeit PPE they find out about and provide information on what suppliers and users should be looking for to ensure the product is legitimate. Review the latest at: www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html

COVID-19 ACEP Spokesperson Toolkit

ACEP's public relations team has developed a toolkit, including talking points, for members who are speaking to local and national media: Created to empower members to speak to the media on ACEP's behalf and keep them abreast of our messages to members of the public and policymakers. The toolkit includes:

- General messaging guidance;
- An overview of ways members can engage with ACEP's public social media campaigns; and



- Talking points when speaking with the public and policymakers.

ACEP Continues Fight for Liability Protections for Working Physicians in All States

ACEP is actively working to secure immunity from liability. Here are some of the specific actions we have taken:

- Raised this issue on a call with Vice President Mike Pence
- Actively worked with Congressional lawmakers to include liability protections in future COVID-19 legislation
- Included this issue in our list of top policy priorities that has been distributed to every member of Congress;
- Provided a template letter to every state chapter asking for full immunity
- Reached out to many state chapters offering to help individualize the letter to contact their governors asking for an emergency declaration on this issue.

Illinois is one of the few states that have made declarations that have included strong liability protections for frontline health care practitioners. New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts have as well. ACEP believes that this issue will be addressed in many more states soon.

ACEP Releases Statement on the Role of Pediatric EM in COVID-19

ACEP recognizes that the training* of the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) based Pediatric Emergency Medicine (PEM) physician may allow these individuals to safely care for certain patients with common disease patterns

that extend beyond traditionally assigned age limits.

ACEP supports redeployment and utilization of ABP boarded/eligible PEM providers to meet the increased demand for care of patients during the current COVID-19 pandemic situation that overwhelms local or regional healthcare systems, or to improve institutional pediatric readiness.

ACEP appreciates the preparation and efforts already implemented by pediatric and PEM providers in pediatric emergency departments and hospitals targeted to meet the current and anticipated surge demands for care of patients outside the typical pediatric age range.

*occurring both in medical school and during reciprocal training during fellowship (i.e. training in a specialty reciprocal to the fellow's prior residency)

ACEP Offering Free Trial Membership

Do you know an EP who needs ACEP's COVID-19 resources? ACEP is offering a free 3-month trial membership right now! Trial membership provides access to all of ACEP's COVID-19 resources (including PPE updates), the COVID-19 discussion forum and more.

Looking for other resources? Visit ACEP.org/corona/COVID-19. The site organizes information into categories that include Clinical Assessment & Management, Testing, Personnel, ED/Hospital, Federal Updates, System/Community, EMS/Disaster, Literature and more.



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Resources for Residents, Med Students

The Emergency Medicine Residents Association (EMRA) continues to serve as a resource for navigating the specific challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic for residents, fellows, and medical students. Visit EMRA.org for the latest news and resources.



ACGME Statement on Early Graduation from U.S. Medical Schools, Early Appointment to the Clinical Learning Environment

The ACGME has issued an updated statement that supercedes all other guidance regarding early graduation from US allopathic and osteopathic medical schools and early appointment to the clinical learning environment.

Many health care facilities in the United States are facing or will face significant challenges as they respond to the COVID-19 (SARS COV2) pandemic. Through public information, the ACGME has become aware that some US allopathic and osteopathic medical schools are hoping to assist these facilities by planning for the early graduation of their fourth-year medical students to facilitate graduates' participation in the pandemic response. Except in unusual or exigent circumstances, the ACGME does not recommend the early graduation of medical students.

The ACGME recognizes that most medical students will graduate with binding match commitments to enter ACGME-accredited residency programs in 2020 and 2021. Most graduate medical education programs are currently encountering either increas-

ing clinical volume related to the COVID-19 pandemic, or are sponsored by institutions that have self-identified as being in Emergency Pandemic Status. Institutions such as these are ill prepared to offer the comprehensive orientation and training in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and direct supervision required for new residents at the start of their residency. Furthermore, and well documented in the lay press, these same medical students have been removed from fourth-year clerkships in these same institutions due to inadequate supplies of PPE. Thus, it is the opinion of the ACGME that except in unusual or exigent circumstances, graduating medical students should matriculate to their PGY-1 position at the intended National Residency Match Program (NRMP) start date, or other date that is nationally determined to be the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year.

Read the full statement at ACGME.org.

Joint Statement Released on Education and Safety Concerns for Medical Students

ACEP, EMRA, and the Council of Residency Directors in Emergency Medicine (CORD) recognize the impact on undergraduate medical education as institutions respond to the coronavirus outbreak. We understand that COVID-19 will have a significant impact on medical education programs moving forward. Residency directors should be prepared to adjust and understand the need to be flexible during this time. It is in our nature as emergency medicine physicians to be adaptive and flexible, especially in times of uncertainty. We encourage you to work with your medical students and engage them in creating solutions.

The statement includes specific recommendations for student support, novel alternative, clinical rotations, and EM-bound student advising. The full statement is available at EMRA.org and ACEP.org.

Compiled Resources from EMRA Committees

EMRA indexes more than 50 emergency medicine specific FOAMed, educational sites, online journals, blogs, and popular content every day. See publicly curated COVID-19 content or search using your own topic. Several of EMRA's committees are also compiling specific resources, including the Critical Care and Wellness Committees. All of these repositories of information are linked at EMRA.org.

Spring Symposium Moved to Virtual Format

In light of the evolving COVID-19 outbreak, ICEP is moving the educational content of the Spring Symposium to a pre-recorded online format.

The program will be available starting May 7 and can be watched at any time with the opportunity to earn *AMA PRA Category 1* credit.

On the revised virtual agenda:

- The impact on legalized recreational cannabis in Illinois, presented by Trevonne M. Thompson, MD, FACEP, FACMT, will explore clinical implications of recreational cannabis use in emergency department patients, including physical and psychological manifestations, legality, and clinical care experiences in Colorado and Illinois.
- E-cigarette and vaping-associated lung injury presented by Dan McCabe, MD, will illustrate the rising incidences of EVALI, discussing how patients with vague respiratory symptoms without an obvious etiology should be questioned about electronic cigarette and vaping use. This session will also demonstrate how to explain appropriate return precautions and counsel all patients about the acute and chronic effects of these products.
- Update on key ICEP activities, COVID-19 response, and ED boarding presented by ICEP President Ernest Wang, MD, FACEP,
- Online collection of research posters and oral presentations

Watch your email for more details from ICEP about how to access the virtual program on May 7 and beyond.



What is PMPnow?



PMPnow allows your electronic health record system to automatically send requests to the PMP. Patient information is then viewable within seconds inside your EHR.

No more logging on to the website and remembering passwords. For more information visit: www.ilpmp.org or email: dhs.pmp@illinois.gov.

www.ilpmp.org

Don't Forget to Vote in ICEP Elections!

If you haven't yet cast your ballot, don't forget to do so before the election window closes on April 21. ICEP's online voting process makes casting your ballot quick and easy. Voting is conducted online at: <https://vote.association-voting.com/icep/>

To log in and cast your ballot, you will use your ACEP Member number (beginning with A) and your last name (as recorded by ACEP).

If you cannot sign in to the voting platform at the link above with your last name and ACEP Member ID, please contact Kate Blackwelder at kateb@icep.org for assistance.

2020 ELECTION INFORMATION

Five active members and one resident member will be elected to the ICEP Board of Directors this spring for the 2020-2021 term. Results of the elections will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting that will be held during the Spring Symposium.

The full membership will also vote on the proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Illinois Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (Chapter).

Board of Directors Elections

Board Candidates

- Sunil Arora, MD, MBA, FACEP
- Amit Arwindekar, MD, MBA, FACEP

- Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA, FACEP
- Howie Mell, MD, MPH, FACEP
- Adam Rodos, MD, FACEP
- Jon P. Strotkamp, DO, FACEP
- Jack S. Wu, MD, FACEP

Resident Member Candidates

- Tehreem Rehman, MD, MPH
- Regina Royan, MD, MPH
- Nupur Shah, DO

NOTE: The Candidate members of ICEP (residents and medical students) elect the Resident Board member and are not eligible to elect the regular Board members. The Regular members of ICEP (including attendings, retired, and life members) elect the Board of Directors and are not eligible to elect the Resident Member. Members only vote in 1 category.

Each candidate has completed a short profile as well as a personal statement in response to the following question: What is ICEP's most important service for emergency physicians in Illinois, and what is your vision to help grow and develop that service in the next two years?

All candidate materials are found in the voting portal.

Bylaws Amendment

There are significant proposed revisions to the Bylaws of the Illinois Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (Chapter)

that must be reviewed and voted on by the ICEP membership.

An Executive Summary has been prepared by Janet Lin, MD, MPH, MBA, FACEP, Chair of the ICEP Bylaws Committee.

Certain proposed revisions were recommended or required by the American College of Emergency Physicians (the "College"), denoted by "[ACEP]" following the description of the revisions. Other proposed revisions were recommended by legal counsel to the Chapter, denoted by "[Counsel]" following the description of the revisions.

- Minor changes were made throughout the Bylaws for greater clarity and for internal consistency.
- For purposes of this Summary, the "Proposed Bylaws" means the Bylaws as revised and updated by counsel and ACEP.

This summary does not address each and every change. Members should review the marked copy of the Bylaws showing all proposed revisions in connection with this summary.

All Bylaws files can also be found in the voting portal for review before you vote.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we hope you will carefully consider this material and cast your ballot.

ICEP Calendar of Events 2020

POSTPONED EVENTS

(ICEP is working to reschedule cancelled courses and will announce new dates ASAP)

April 6-7, 2020
Oral Board Review Courses

April 17, 2020
Emergent Procedures Simulation Skills Lab

May 7, 2020
Spring Symposium & Annual Business Meeting
Presented virtually!

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Subject to change)

May 19, 2020
2019 EM4LIFE LLSA Article Review Course
ICEP Conference Center, Downers Grove

June 1-5, 2020
Medical Spanish in the Emergency Department
ICEP Conference Center, Downers Grove

August 27, 2020

Resident Career Day
Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Chicago

September 10-11, 2020

Oral Board Review Courses
Chicago O'Hare Marriott Hotel, Chicago

October 2, 2020

Emergent Procedures Simulation Skills Lab
Grainger Center for Simulation and Innovation, Evanston

November 17, 2020

2020 EM4LIFE LLSA Article Review Course
ICEP Conference Center, Downers Grove

December 2, 2020

Ultrasound for Emergency Medicine
ICEP Conference Center, Downers Grove

Register for all courses online at [ICEP.org](https://www.icep.org)!

