

2021 ICEP Resident Member Candidate Profiles

Name and Credentials as you want it to appear on ballot:

Robert Alleyne, M.D

Title and Place of Practice:

Emergency Medicine Resident Physician University of Chicago
Medical Center

Medical School (institution, city, state):

Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

Residency (institution, city, state):

University of Chicago Medical Center, Chicago, IL



ICEP Activities:

Political Advocacy

ACEP Activities:

N/A

Other Relevant Activities:

University of Chicago Street Medicine Outreach Program Resident Director of Quality and Safety

Practice Time:

Divided as percentages 100% Clinical

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

None

The current COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted some of the unique challenges faced by Emergency Medicine physicians in Illinois. As a candidate for the ICEP Board of Directors, which of these challenges do you feel are most important and what strategies can ICEP undertake to improve and advance our specialty?

The COVID-19 pandemic created unprecedented psychosocial strains on the field of Emergency Medicine and the communities it serves. With over twenty-thousand deaths and an overwhelmed healthcare system, it is clear that in Illinois, much like the rest of the country, the burden of disease has fallen largely along the lines of race and socioeconomic status. As an organization composed of frontline medical providers, ICEP is uniquely positioned to connect its social mission of addressing healthcare disparities with practical steps to remove boundaries to care in the COVID pandemic.

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As a member of the Board of Directors, I would advocate for employing ICEP's extensive sphere of influence to promote and guide constructive, culturally informed conversations about the importance of vaccination. Both within the Emergency Department and in social outreach initiatives, I have encountered widespread hesitation to COVID testing and vaccination, especially within communities of color, mostly due to profound distrust in medicine. ICEP can initiate grassroots efforts through webinars and Calls-to-action to help foster trust. These efforts can instruct providers on how to have open discussions about patients' concerns regarding medicine's historical transgressions while addressing their specific fears and skepticism about vaccinations. I would also encourage ICEP to politically advocate for a more equitable distribution of vaccinations throughout the state. Although Illinois celebrates nearly 6 million vaccinations, a closer look at the dispersal of resources reveals that underserved areas have received significantly less vaccines despite having higher rates of infections and COVID related deaths. Specifically, the density of vaccination facilities sharply declines in communities of color, presenting a clear healthcare access barrier. Given this disparity, ICEP should lobby on the state level to increase state budget allocation to bolster the amount of vaccination and testing sites and access to COVID testing by targeting churches, rural communities, and homeless shelters.

Name and Credentials as you want it to appear on ballot:

Cameron Justice, DO

Title and Place of Practice:

PGY1 Emergency Medicine University of Illinois College of Medicine
Peoria/Saint Francis Medical Center

Medical School (institution, city, state):

Pacific Northwest University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Yakima, WA



Residency (institution, city, state):

University of Illinois College of Medicine Peoria - Saint Francis Medical Center Peoria, IL

ICEP Activities:

None, yet

ACEP Activities:

- Conference Attendance, "ACEP Scientific Assembly," American College of Emergency Physicians, Denver, CO. (October 25th, 2019 - October 29th, 2019)
- Conference Attendance, "ACEP Scientific Assembly," American College of Emergency Physicians and Emergency Medicine Residents Association, San Diego, CA. (September 29, 2018 – October 4, 2018)

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Other Relevant Activities:

- Conference Attendance, "CORD Annual Assembly," Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors, Seattle, WA. (March 30th, 2019 - March 31st, 2019)
- EMRA Leadership Academy – Emergency Medicine Residents Association, various locations (April 2018 – April 2019)
- Conference Attendance, "CORD Annual Assembly," Council of Emergency Medicine Residency Directors, San Antonio, TX. (April 21, 2018 – April 24, 2018)
- Conference Attendance, "ACOEP Scientific Assembly," American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians, Denver, CO. (November 4, 2017 - November 6, 2017)
- Emergency Medicine Residents Association Medical Student Council, Osteopathic Coordinator (March 2019 - March 2020)
- Emergency Medicine Residents Association Medical Student Council, Pacific Regional Representative (March 2018 - March 2019)
- Yakima County Medical Society, Committee Member. (February 2018 - February 2019)

Practice Time:

100% Clinical Completed at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

I have not conflicted of interest to disclose

The current COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted some of the unique challenges faced by Emergency Medicine physicians in Illinois. As a candidate for the ICEP Board of Directors, which of these challenges do you feel are most important and what strategies can ICEP undertake to improve and advance our specialty?

Of the many challenges faced by Illinois Emergency Medicine Physicians, there are a couple that especially stand out to me. The shrinking job market due to decreased emergency department visits, and the push of midlevel providers towards independent practice. These issues have huge implications on our current and future workforce, ICEP could work with local and national stakeholders to preserve the physician-led team, through preserving that the care of Emergency Department patients should be provided by only board certified/eligible Emergency Medicine Physicians. Suspension of supervisory requirements for midlevel providers during the pandemic coupled with the aggressive PR campaigning by the NP and PA associations has put not only our job prospects, but our patients at risk. ICEP could work to create a robust legislative campaign to highlight the importance to patient safety of the physician led team. ICEP could work to provide education and support towards maintaining midlevel providers as an important part of the physician led team. This campaign could involve more residents as well as attending physicians to campaign from the local/state to the national level. ICEP could also work with rural regional localities to assist in creating an EM telehealth system outline which could link rural sites without access to a BC/BE EM Physician to regional higher level care centers with board certified Emergency Medicine physicians to provide high level EM care to our rural patients. A robust rural EM

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telehealth system would help expand the reach of the EM physician to some of the places we are needed most. Telehealth would be a feasible solution to help with both expanding job prospects and helping to provide the highest level of emergency care to our rural underserved patients.

Name and Credentials as you want it to appear on ballot:

Dennis McKinney, MD

Title and Place of Practice:

Emergency Medicine Resident, Rush University Medical Center

Medical School (institution, city, state):

Rush Medical College, Chicago, IL

Residency (institution, city, state):

Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, IL

**ICEP Activities:**

Member

ACEP Activities:

Member

Other Relevant Activities:

N/A

Practice Time:

Resident physician

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

None

The current COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted some of the unique challenges faced by Emergency Medicine physicians in Illinois. As a candidate for the ICEP Board of Directors, which of these challenges do you feel are most important and what strategies can ICEP undertake to improve and advance our specialty?

Completing residency during the COVID-19 pandemic has been a nuanced experience. Caring for the sickest patients under uncertain and evolving circumstances continues to be challenging, rewarding and heartbreaking. However, the effects of the pandemic extend far beyond the emergency room. COVID-19 continues to influence health policy and legislation. It has created an increased need for physician

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presence in hospital administration and advocacy. It also has created a complex job market, perhaps the most daunting aspect to residents. In the face of an ever-expanding pool of information, it can be difficult to stay informed during residency. It is my belief that residents would benefit greatly from exposure to these topics, and that ICEP can be an incredible force in diversifying residents' knowledge base and preparing them for careers beyond the emergency department.

To address this, I would work with ICEP to provide targeted resident education focused on health policy, legislation, administration, and career planning. Initially I feel this may be best accomplished by a video or podcast series comprised of interviews and lectures. The series would be continuous throughout the year and would comprise a blend of the topics. Integrated subjects including job market outlooks, fellowship highlights and healthcare in business would also be included to aid in career guidance.

The ultimate goal is to give residents resources to help clarify career interests and available career paths while expanding knowledge beyond the emergency department. This is particularly important during the COVID-19 pandemic, as any future vision of health care is hazy. With these resources interest in hospital administration, advocacy, and legislation will only increase. As more residents become involved with leadership and advocacy, it will ensure that the voices of emergency medicine are at the forefront of the COVID-19 response.

Name and Credentials as you want it to appear on ballot:

Donna Okoli, MD

Title and Place of Practice:

Resident Physician, PGY-1, Advocate Christ Medical Center

Medical School (institution, city, state):

Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA

Residency (institution, city, state):

Advocate Christ Medical Center, Oak Lawn, IL

ICEP Activities:

N/A

ACEP Activities:

EMRA/ACEP EDDA Scholarship Recipient

Other Relevant Activities:

Social EM/Community Engagement at ACMC

Practice Time:

Full Time Resident



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Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

N/A

The current COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted some of the unique challenges faced by Emergency Medicine physicians in Illinois. As a candidate for the ICEP Board of Directors, which of these challenges do you feel are most important and what strategies can ICEP undertake to improve and advance our specialty?

As emergency medicine physicians, we have a unique look at the consequences and devastation of COVID-19. While the duration of our relationships with our patients might be short, they are impactful. We saw our communities ravaged by the pandemic, but also desperate for accurate information on how to keep themselves safe.

What has remained true is that our communities trust us and need to hear our collective voice as we move forward through this pandemic. Most notably, they need to hear our voice on the importance of getting vaccinated.

At the height of the pandemic, we saw that black residents of our state, who make up about 15% of the state's population, accounted for 41% of COVID-19 deaths. Current IDPH statistics reflect that only 13.9% of the Illinois population has been fully vaccinated. 70% of those vaccines have been administered to people who identify as white, and only 7.95% to people who identify as Black.

ICEP has the opportunity to be at the forefront of the public health campaigns that intentionally focus on the issues surrounding vaccination in Black and Latino communities. We have the opportunity assuage the fears and combat misinformation regarding the vaccine. COVID-19 is yet another disparity that highlights how structural racism affects health outcomes. Addressing vaccine education and administration is an actionable item that ICEP can spearhead to make impactful change in the communities that have been most affected by this pandemic.