

ICEP Shift

Illinois College of Emergency Physicians Advocacy Newsletter

www.icep.org



With ICEP's dedication to enhancing membership value and communication, comes a new electronic publication focusing on all things advocacy called ICEP Shift.

This publication will include updates on state and federal issues, alerts to take action, announcements, and other related information to keep you informed.

ICEP Advocacy Update: Working for You

ICEP has been hard at work with Mercury-Illinois, our lobbying firm, making connections and establishing relationships with fellow like-minded organizations on issues that affect all the house of medicine and our patients.

- ICEP has been continuing to enhance collaboration with the Illinois State Medical Society ([ISMS](#)) on issues that affect not only emergency physicians but the entire house of medicine.
- Our ICEP [advocacy](#) webpage is undergoing a much-needed refresh in the next few weeks. Currently you can find a NEW [one-page flyer](#) in collaboration with ACEP and Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA) for reimbursement. We encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and institutions.

ICEP and IDPH Meeting on Boarding

Howie K. Mell, MD, MPH, CPE, FACEP, ICEP President; Willard W. Sharp, MD, PhD, FACEP, ICEP President Elect; Halleh Akbarnia, MD, FACEP, member of the ICEP Patient and Physician Advocacy Committee, and Bailey McMurray, IOM, MAOL, ICEP Executive Director met virtually February 28, 2024 with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) about boarding.

Information from the recent ACEP boarding summit was shared. IDPH noted that they are working with the IHA on strategies to reduce crowding such as at home health care, telemedicine, and non-ED based emergency psychiatric services.

We look forward to further discussions with IDPH! Thanks to IDPH Officials and staff for taking time out of their busy schedules to meet!

ACT NOW >>

Share Your Boarding Stories

We need **YOUR** personal stories of boarding that have affected you (or your fellow colleagues including nurses, techs, and all the staff) in the ED.

Your experiences matter! We need as many real-world stories and experiences as possible as we push to craft and pass legislation with real, meaningful change to improve our working lives in the ED.

- Please note that your responses are completely *anonymous*. Any information shared that could be potentially identifying will be redacted and ensure you are protected.

Submit Your Story



Photo from Advocacy Day 2015.

ICEP Advocacy Day in Springfield, Illinois: Your Voice Matters!

Are you attending [ICEP Advocacy Day](#) on April 11, 2024 in Springfield, Illinois?

Join us for legislative visits where we will champion key issues affecting emergency medicine in our state.

Our program is going to be the best yet! Join us interactive and educational program that will include advocacy/lobbying training, networking, and invited speakers focusing on what matters most to you! We will be covering issues such as boarding, reimbursement, scope of practice, and violence against healthcare workers.

Legislative visits will be scheduled by our lobbying firm with more information to come. There is no charge to attend ICEP Advocacy Day for ICEP members, but advanced registration is required, and space is limited.

Your voice can make a difference—don't miss this opportunity to advocate for positive change in Illinois for our profession and patients!

Learn More

Register Here

ACT NOW >>

Urge Congress to Prevent Workplace Violence in the ED

ACEP is continuing its mission to bring both Congressional and public attention to the growing problem of violence against health care workers. [A recent video article](#) in the *New York Times* highlights the crisis of violence in emergency departments and includes compelling testimonials from emergency physicians and other health care workers about its impact on their ability to provide care to patients.

We urge you to share the video with your legislators to reinforce the urgency of the problem and the need for Congressional action. Your legislators need to hear from physicians who are experiencing and witnessing this crisis on the frontlines of our health care system so they will prioritize swift action in this Congress.

If possible, please add a personal story about an attack or injury you or a colleague experienced, and the aftermath of violence in the emergency department, in your message to legislators.

[Contact Your Legislator Today!](#)

FTC Holds Workshop on Private Equity in Health Care, Issues RFI

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Department of Justice (DOJ), and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) held a virtual workshop, "Private Capital, Public Impact: An FTC Workshop on Private Equity in Health Care," on Tuesday afternoon. The Departments then issued a request for information (RFI) seeking public comment on deals that involve health care providers, facilities or ancillary products or services. [READ MORE.](#)



Picture from LAC 2015.

ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference (LAC)

Join your fellow Illinois and ACEP members for a one-of-a-kind experience in Washington, DC. Whether you are a returning participant or first-time attendee, the [ACEP Leadership & Advocacy Conference](#) will cover topics such as:

- Using Social & Traditional Media to Influence Congress
- Boarding Panel Discussion with Government, Private Sector, and EM Representatives
- Stadium, Speedway, or Space? New Practice Models Outside the ED
- Advocacy Day Training & Issues
- Election Updates

And much more to come!
[Register Today](#)

Emergency Physicians Call on Congress to Help Stop Violence in Health Care

On March 22, leaders from ACEP, the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA), and the American Nurses Association (ANA) led a [congressional briefing](#) to call for legislation to mitigate violence in emergency departments.

“It’s not right that we expect to be assaulted when we go to work,” said Aisha Terry, MD, MPH, FACEP, president of ACEP. “Violence in the emergency department is a dangerous distraction and delay. These attacks create unnecessary and challenging situations that we must try to make a thing of the past.”

The speakers emphasized that current challenges are making threats and attacks more prevalent today than ever before.

With patients [boarding](#) for hours, days or longer, there are not enough available beds. Few communities have resources to manage mental health concerns and many of these patients come to the emergency department as the best option, they explained.

“I became a nurse because I wanted to care for people,” said ENA President Chris Dellinger, MBA, BSN, RN, FAEN. “Now, on any day we may be fearing for our lives at work.”

“We have to make sure this is not par for the course,” said Katie Boston- Leary, PHD, MBA, MHA, RN, NEA-BC, director of nursing programs at ANA. “We need federal policies and workforce policies. We have to make the ED a safe place for everyone.”

An ENA spokesperson put it in more succinct terms, “We expect it, but we don’t have to accept it.” Dr. Terry explained that responses to violent incidents are inconsistent at best. “We have a [checklist](#) so that physicians can talk to hospital administrators about what is, or what is not, in place at their facilities. Legislation would help standardize the prevention and response to these incidents,” she said.

[Watch a recording of the briefing.](#)

Soon emergency physicians from all over the country will bring their concerns about violence and other priority topics to the nation’s capital. Seize the opportunity to advocate for change during the [Leadership and Advocacy Conference](#), April 14-16 in Washington, D.C.

Source: [ACEP](#)



ICEP Committee Spotlight: Patient and Physician Advocacy (PPA) Committee

The committee supports ICEP’s political action committee and key contact network with state legislators. The committee recommends and collaborates with the ICEP Board of Directors to identify key issues for action and develop strategies ensure a positive practice environment for emergency physicians and maintain the quality of care for emergency department patients. The committee is also designed to increase public awareness of ICEP, emergency medicine and emergency medicine issues. The committee plans special activities and projects to promote the interests of emergency medicine.

In the News

- Half of rural hospitals in the red, pressured by high Medicare Advantage enrollment ([Healthcare Finance News](#))
- Emergency physicians relearn how to spot measles amid outbreak ([Becker's Hospital Review](#))
- Addressing the Challenge of Emergency Department Boarding: Insights and Strategies ([Medriva](#))
- How scope creep is pushing beyond primary care ([American Medical Association](#))

- Mitigating the harm of the overburdened healthcare system: How paramedics can take action to protect patients from falling through the cracks ([EMS1](#))

Resources for You

- [ICEP Advocacy Website](#)
- [Illinois General Assembly](#)
- [Find Your Local Legislators](#)
- [ACEP Federal Advocacy](#)

Questions? 630-495-6400 or reply directly to this email.

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