

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

Emergency Medicine Practice Management and Health Policy Section Meeting

October 1, 2022

San Francisco, CA

MINUTES

Attendees

Jeff A. Wisniowski, DO, Chair; L. Anthony Cirillo, MD, FACEP; Ethan Andrew Forsgren, MD; Daniel Lakoff, MD FACEP; Thom Mayer, MD, FACEP; Robert McNamara; Mark Meredith MD, FACEP; Gee Yoon Suzie Park, DO; John H Proctor, MD, MBA, FACEP; Sundeep Shukla, MD, MBA, FACEP; Christopher Johnson, Staff Liaison

Agenda

1. Welcome and Agenda Overview
2. ACEP Council and Board Reports
3. Presentations
4. Section Election and Business
5. Adjourn

Meeting Discussion

Welcome

Dr. Wisniowski opened the meeting with a welcome to the attendees and provided an overview of the meeting agenda. He thanked the outgoing chair and officers. He also acknowledged a change in staffing of the Section welcoming Chris Johnson as the new staff liaison.

Council Report

Dr. McNamara provided a report on the ACEP Council meeting from the previous day noting the discussion of several resolutions and the election of President-Elect Dr. Ashia Terry and the reelection to the Board of Dr. Jeff Goodloe, Dr. Gabe Kelen, Dr. Ryan Stanton, and new member Dr. Kristin Mc-Cabe-Kline.

Board Report

Dr. Cirillo reported that the Board was examining legislation on provider scope of practice and surprise billing. Dr. Cirillo also highlighted the colleges focus on the newly created strategic plan as a guide for the future direction of the college. The elements of this plan are advocacy, career fulfillment, member engagement, practice innovation and resources and accountability.

Presentations

Dr. Wisniowski thanked the Section sponsors, LogixHealth, and welcomed the guest speaker Dr. Thom Mayer.

Dr. Mayer's presentation titled, "ACEP Practice Management Leadership. Making Intelligence Matter. Battling Burnout and Restoring Resiliency", spoke to the challenges of physician burnout and offered strategies for overcoming burnout. Dr. Mayer shared a copy of his book with each of the attendees.

Dr. Wisniowski and Dr. Sundeep Shukla gave a presentation on Defensive Documentation. During discussion it was suggested that the Section would work on a Macro for documenting conversations with the patient. Additionally, a question was asked if the Section could help residents on documentation that is not part of their regular training.

Dr. Cirillo presented on the latest on the federal "No Surprises Act" (NSA) including updates to the implementation of the law in response to recent lawsuits by numerous physician groups including an amicus brief by ACEP. The original suit by the Texas Medical Association (TMA) forced the federal government to rewrite sections of the law related to "qualifying payment", however, it is the opinion by many that the new text does essentially the same thing. The TMA has filed a new lawsuit challenging the new version of the implementation rules. Dr. Cirillo also walked through the ACEP website highlighting the section specific to the NSA and out-of-network surprise billing encouraging members to utilize the website as a resource for information on the law.

The website which Dr. Cirillo used can be found here:

<https://www.acep.org/federal-advocacy/no-surprises-act-overview/>

Dr. Wisniowski introduced Dr. Mark Meredith. Dr. Meredith presented on recent changes to documents and coding requirements for several E/M CPT codes. He stressed the need for physicians to document more of their thought process and medical decision making into the patient charts including the number and complexity of problem(s) that are addressed during the encounter, the amount and/or complexity of data to be reviewed and analyzed, and the risk of complications and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management. A question was raised regarding down coding of certain visits under the new criteria. An additional questions was raised regarding critical care time coding with APPs.

Section Officer Elections

Dr. Wisniowski explained that due to missing the 90-day deadline prior to the annual meeting, the election of officers would be conducted with floor nominations. The current Section Councilor, Dr. McNamara, had concluded his term and Dr. Richard Austin is elevated into the Councilor position. The Section Alternate-Councilor and Secretary were open for floor nominations. Dr. McNamara nominated himself for the Alternate-Councilor position and was elected unopposed by the members in attendance. Dr. Park nominated herself for Secretary and was elected unopposed by the members in attendance.

Other Business

Dr. Wisniowski announced that there will be a review of the Section's Operational Guidelines to better adapt them to the needs of the membership and examine reducing the terms of the Section's officers. More details will be provided later. The Section membership will need to vote on the changes to the Operational Guidelines at the next annual meeting.

Dr. Wisniowski also announced that the Section will be organizing a three-part webinar series to discuss topics of interest to the membership including on the documents and coding changes.

The Section concluded business and adjourned at 1:00 pm Pacific Time.