

**American College of Emergency Physicians
Freestanding Emergency Centers (FEC) Section**

ACEP20 Meeting

October 20, 2020 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm CT

MINUTES

Participants

Officers present were John R. Dayton, MD, FACEP; Angela L. Straface MD, FACEP; Gillian Schmitz, MD, FACEP; Edward A. Shaheen, MD, FACEP; Lonnie Schwirtlich, MD; Jay Woody, MD, FACEP

Other presenters present: Jeffery R. Beers, MD, FACEP; Harvey Castro, MD, FACEP; R. Lee Chilton, MD, FACEP; David C. Ernst, MD, FACEP; Antonio Gandia, MD, FACEP; Jason A. Gukhool, MD, FACEP; Paul Kivela, MD, MBA, FACEP; Kristen McCabe- Kline, MD, FACEP; John D. Middlebrook; R. Joe Ybarra, MD

Staff attending all or part of meeting: David McKenzie, CAE, Adam Krushinskie, MPA

Call to Order

Dr. Dayton welcomed the group and asked for introductions for all of those present. The roster was sent prior to the meeting for each section member to verify their email address.

Board Update

Dr. Schmitz gave an overview of items the Board is tracking including finding solutions to prevent the 10.6% budget neutrality cuts that would offsetting the expected increases in the ED E/M codes expected for 2021. Legislation from Texas Congressman Michel Burgess and others are working their way through Congress. Surprise billing legality also continues to be considered. She mentioned all of the Council resolutions were online for review and encouraged consideration of Resolution 27 dealing with the use of the words, “resident”, “Fellow”, and “Fellowship”.

Section Update

Drs. Dayton and Straface gave the section update, stressing the need the need to demonstrate value. FEC Section membership has dropped to 129 current members. The FEC Accreditation program was not a pursued standard for member use. There was a discussion of negative stories in the press continuing, especially around charges of “exorbitant” costs for COVID-19 testing. Many of the FECs in Texas have had to close their doors during the pandemic.

Additional discussion was held about partnering with NAFEC and TAFEC and perhaps creating a resource about the myths of FECs for media use and to formalize our messaging. CMS Administrator Seema Verma is on record as saying FECs could help expand access and capacity during the pandemic.

Council Update

Dr. Shaheen gave the Council update. He summarized resolutions on transparency of billing and due process, use of metrics for pay for performance and the one Dr. Schmitz had mentioned about restricting terms like resident to apply to only physicians. He asked for direction from the Section members on how to vote during the President-elect and Board member elections.

Newsletter Update

Dr. Woody updated the section on future newsletters. He called for more participants and topics as well as interesting clinical cases for inclusion in future newsletters.

Research Update

Dr. Dayton gave a presentation summarizing recent research in the FEC space. His slide deck will be shared with the entire Section.

Action Agenda

Elections were held with the following officers chosen:

<u>Chair</u>	Angela Straface, MD FACEP becomes chair as the prior Chair -elect
<u>Chair-elect</u>	Jay Woody, MD, FACEP
<u>Immediate Past Chair</u>	John Dayton, MD, FACEP
<u>Councilor</u>	Lonnie Schwirtlich, MD ascends as the former Alternate Councilor
<u>Alternate Councilor</u>	Harvey Castro, MD, FACEP
<u>Secretary/Newsletter Editor</u>	Harvey Castro, MD, FACEP
<u>Member at Large</u>	Erin Simon, MD, FACEP

New Business

There was general discussion about engaging private payers to encourage better contracts, considering a direct to consumer marketing plan and providing education to Section members on coding and billing.

Dr. Dayton was acknowledged for his work as Chair and presented with a certificate of appreciation. Dr Straface was installed as the new Chair for her two-year term. The Section thanked Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Krushinskie for their support.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 4:54 pm.