

Alaska Chapter Update

A Newsletter for the Members of Alaska ACEP



Winter 2012

From the President Carlton Heine, MD, PhD, FACEP, FAWM

I have a few things to report on from our annual chapter meeting held this past November 11th. First, we have a few new faces on our leadership team. Our former Vice President, Keri Gardner, moved to New York. Anne Zink has stepped up to fill this role. Nancy Kragt has stepped up from the board to fill Anne's position as Secretary. Danita Koehler and Stan Robinson were elected to fill the two open positions on the chapter Board of Directors. I can assure you that we have a superb team helping lead our chapter and I am happy to be able to work with each of them. We now have representatives from most of the major population areas in the state and from some folks that live more rurally.

In other chapter business, we voted in the changes to the chapter bylaws presented in the fall newsletter. We also approved a budget for next year that is largely unchanged from this past year. We still have a comfortable amount of money in the bank. We will again operate at a deficit this year to fund the services of a part time chapter staff person located at the national office in Dallas. At the end of this two year experiment, we will re-evaluate our financial position and the services we provide to determine if we should cut back the staff support or entertain a dues increase. Our current dues, at \$25 per year, are the minimum allowed by ACEP. One of the most important responsibilities of the chapter board is to make sure we use your dues wisely.

The other event at our chapter meeting was an excellent presentation by Jenn Dow on the articles for the 2011 LLSA reading list. For those of us that need these to keep our ABEM certification, it was a good review of a number of important papers and was helpful to me when I took the test. Thanks, Jenn! We are planning on having the LLSA review be an annual event so if you need to do these tests make plans to attend the meeting next year. We would also like to add an opportunity to socialize at future chapter meetings. While we know our partners and often speak with the other emergency physicians in the state, many of us have never met some of our colleagues that work just across town. Wouldn't it be fun if all of the south central emergency docs that are not on shift could get together for an adult beverage and compare notes on some of our more helpful specialty colleagues?

As you are reading this, our state elected leaders are converging in Juneau for a new legislative session. While Alaska is in good shape financially, I have not heard of any scary bills being planned. As we watch what is happening in other states, especially Washington, it clearly teaches us that we need to pay attention to what our state politicians are up to. If any of you hear about a bill of importance to emergency medicine, or have a personal relationship with a state legislator, please let me know via [e-mail](#).

Carl Heine

Alaska Chapter ACEP



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Clinical News

New Drug-Eluting Stents Far Safer Than Older Models

Percutaneous coronary intervention with new-generation drug-eluting stents is associated with significantly lower risk of restenosis, stent thrombosis, and death, compared with both older generation drug-eluting stents and bare-metal stents, according to findings from the Swedish Coronary Angiography and Angioplasty Registry (SCAAR).

[Read the entire article online.](#)

Seeing a Seizure? Look for Pulmonary Embolism

A seizure was initially the only presenting symptom in 1% of patients diagnosed with pulmonary embolism during a 5-year retrospective study of cases seen at an emergency department.

[Read the entire article online.](#)

New Scoring System Devised for Youth With Hodgkin's Lymphoma

A simple scoring system identified a subset of young patients with Hodgkin's lymphoma who are predicted to have an event-free survival rate of less than 80%.

[Read the entire article online.](#)



Call for Posters ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference EMRA and Young Physician Section Sunday, May 20, 2012

Submission Requirements

All entrants must be current ACEP members. The first author of abstracts accepted for the Research Poster Award must be willing to attend the ACEP L&A conference (at his/her own expense). Due to finite space, we must limit presenters to a 4' x 4' board.

By submitting a poster to the ACEP-YPS Poster Symposium, you certify that:

- The poster is your original work or original work conducted by you and other authors, and any co-authors are appropriately credited for their contribution and have been informed of the submission.
- Infringements will result in disqualification from the symposium

Any topics related to emergency medicine issues will be considered for submission, but topics related to advocacy issues are strongly encouraged (i.e. boarding, overcrowding, reimbursement, leadership, health policy and education, medical liability reform, advocacy training and fellowships).

Please submit your abstract to academicaffairs@acep.org. Please include a contact phone number and email address.

Abstract Criteria

- Length: Not to exceed 250 words (The 250-word limit does not include the list of authors and their respective institutions, nor does it include the title. The 250-word limit only applies to the body of the abstract.)
- Spacing: Double-space
- Title: Centered, bold-face
- List authors and their respective institution(s).
- Body: must include purpose of research and brief overview on method, result, and conclusion.
- No diagrams or tables should be included in the abstract. Do not include references.

- Your abstract can be about previously reported or current results. If your abstract has been previously accepted and/or presented at other conferences and/or published, please provide the relevant information (conference name, location, date, format, or journal name, volume, edition, date, page numbers). This information will not be considered as part of the 250-word limit. Accepted abstracts must be presented in poster format during the ACEP-YPS Poster Symposium.
- All costs associated with creation of the poster will be the responsibility of the entrants. Push pins will be provided. If you prefer to use Velcro, you must bring your own supplies. Presenters must set up their posters at the scheduled time prior to the poster session. No exceptions will be made.
- Abstracts will be accepted January 23, 2012 - March 30, 2012. Presenters will be notified by April 16, 2012. Questions can be addressed to academicaffairs@acep.org.

Alaska Chapter ACEP

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