

Town Hall Meeting – May 31: Save our EDs!

Members are invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, May 31 from 10 am – 12 noon in Harrisburg. There will be an open forum discussion of the current provision of emergency medical care in the commonwealth, and how Governor Rendell's reform package, Prescription for Pennsylvania, may affect patients' access to quality emergency medical care.

The chapter has also invited other providers of emergency care, business and labor organizations, representatives from the Governor's office, the state Health and Insurance Departments, the media, and the public.

Capital region political commentator G. Terry Madonna, PhD, will be the moderator. Dr. Madonna is Professor of Public Affairs at Franklin and Marshall College, in Lancaster, Director of the Center for Politics and Public Affairs, and Director of the Franklin and Marshall Keystone Poll.

Our emergency departments are overburdened, overcrowded, underfunded and understaffed. This crisis threatens access for everyone – the insured and the uninsured.

We must reduce the dangerous trends that are limiting the public's ability to receive high-quality, lifesaving medical care, and leaving our emergency departments unable to respond to disasters.

Your participation is encouraged. Your input will help ensure all facets of the current provision of emergency care are shared with the governor's staff, legislators, the public and the media. More information can be found at www.paacep.org

Chapter Members Thank Senator Specter as Chief Sponsor of ACEP's Access to Emergency Medical Care Legislation



Members of the Pennsylvania delegation attending the April 30- May 2 ACEP Legislative and Advocacy Conference in Washington paid a visit to Senator Arlen Specter to thank him for introducing the Access to Emergency Medical Services Act of 2007 (S.1003). Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) cosponsored the bill.

In February, a companion bill, H.R. 882, was introduced in the House by Reps. Bart Gordon

and Pete Sessions.

Chapter members commended Senator Specter for his strong leadership in sponsoring this important legislation that calls for the creation of a national bipartisan commission on access to emergency medical services to examine factors that affect and may impede the delivery of care; recognizes the need for additional resources in support of care delivery; and directs a working group within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services be convened to develop boarding and diversion standards, as well as guidelines and incentives for implementation of those standards.

PTSF EM Physician Credentialing Standards Change

A Reminder: The Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) has revised the trauma center accreditation standards for EM physicians.

The new standards require emergency department physicians taking trauma call to "have evidence of being current in the care of the injured patient."

- The Liaison representative from emergency medicine must have evidence of trauma related external CME of 16 hours annually or 48 hours of trauma related external CME in 3-years.
- Other emergency medicine physicians who participate on the trauma team also must be knowledgeable and current in the care of injured patients. This will be met by:
 - Documenting acquisition of 16 hours of trauma related external CME per year or 48 hours of trauma related external CME in 3-years OR
 - By demonstrating participation in an internal educational process conducted by the trauma program based on principles of practice based learning and the PIPS program.

May 11, 2007

Emergency Medicine Written Board Review Course

**September 6-9
Hilton Philadelphia Airport Hotel**
Developed by practicing board certified physicians, this course provides "what you need to know" to pass the board exam in just three days.

Oral Board Simulation Course

**October 12-14, Crowne Plaza
Harrisburg, PA**
PaACEP has offered this highly acclaimed review course for the past 23 years. This course's unique feature is board certified faculty simulate the exam by presenting practice cases one-on-one.

Trauma 2007

**December
Thomas Jefferson University
Hospital, Philadelphia**
The one-day program provides one-half of the required Pennsylvania Trauma System Foundation trauma-related Category I CME credits. (Two out of the eight hours includes pediatric trauma.)

13th Annual National ED Information Systems Symposium

**December 10-13,
Sheraton New Orleans Hotel,
New Orleans, LA**
The "premier" ED informatics course in the country offers the information system purchaser a chance to research and window-shop the various options before purchasing and implementing a hospital information system.

35th Annual Scientific Assembly

**April 6-9, 2008
The Harrisburg Hilton
Harrisburg, PA**

The chapter's premier CME event offers superb speakers on a variety of timely topics and provides an opportunity to dialogue with chapter leaders, attend a committee meeting, and network with your peers from around the state.