

President's Message:

pandemic, I unfortunately
physicians and
facing challenging
to spread in many
average positivity rate as
have positivity rates that
Lakes region which is at
hospitals over capacity
patients. Governor



Dr. Leslie Algase

At the 2 year anniversary of this terrible
do not bring good news. Primary care
hospitalists/intensivists in Upstate NY are
workplace environments as COVID continues
counties. Although the statewide 7-day
of December 4 is 4.7%, many Upstate areas
are much higher, including my own Finger
10.7% and has been high for weeks with
and ICU's completely full of COVID
Hochul issued an Executive Order on

November 26th addressing hospital capacity and workforce shortages by allowing DOH to limit non-urgent procedures when the hospital or healthcare system has less than 10% available capacity. In our area, all inpatient elective surgical procedures requiring hospital stays are being postponed until at least the end of the month. The Omicron variant was identified by the WHO on November 26th and quickly found to be widespread. Although we don't yet know for sure what the trajectory will be for this variant, its discovery feels ominous to all of us who were praying for relief from burnout, work stress, isolation and moral injury. We need to keep vaccinating. Each time my partners and I convince someone to get their first shot, we celebrate a victory. If you have ideas on combatting rampant misinformation, we would love to hear from you so that we can spread best practices among us.

So my plea today is to please take care of yourself. Your ACP Governors and Staff are here to try our best to help you through this challenging time. We are happy to personally take your calls and [emails](#) if you are struggling and just need a supportive ear to listen and try to help find solutions. Use the time off over the holidays to try to focus on your family and find ways to relax and step away as best you can.

A great way to celebrate the holidays is by giving to a special cause. Your ACP governors have chosen to register in the 2021 #HCWvsHunger campaign. The website is hcvshunger.org and our team is NYStateofKind! The competition starts 12/13 and runs through 12/19! Please amplify on social media [#NYStateofKind](#) and [join us in donating](#) with our team to show that we are NY Strong!

If you have time to join us for the upcoming programs listed in this email, we would love to see your faces on Zoom and have you take an hour to engage in [Small Feedings of the Soul](#). You won't regret it!

Stay safe and take good care of yourself!

Leslie

Join NYACP leaders in a #NYStateOfKind Healthcare Workers vs Hunger: Dec 13th-19th

You can help fight hunger and mix in a little friendly competition, too. [Healthcare Workers vs Hunger](#) was started by two physicians as a friendly competition to address food insecurity. The winning team collectively donated over \$90,000 and the competition raised over \$360,000, which went directly to foodbanks.



NYACP Leaders Dr. Dan Pomerantz (Governor, Hudson Valley Region) and Dr. Susan Lee (Governor, Long Island Region) have entered a team in this year's competition. Help the team address hunger, show the kindness of New Yorkers, and compete for the glass apple trophy!

Ready to join team #NYStateOfKind? Here are the simple steps:

1. Choose a local food bank. Below are lists to help you find one in your area.
 1. [Find your local Food Bank using Feeding America](#)
 2. [Find your regional food bank using NYS DOH](#)
2. Between December 13th and 19th, donate any amount directly to the food bank of your choice.
3. Screenshot or take a picture of your receipt and use one of three options to attribute your donation to the #NYStateofKind team:
 1. Option 1: [Complete this Google form](#).
 2. Option 2: Tweet your donation with #HCWvsHunger, #NYStateOfKind, the amount you donated and your receipt.
 3. Option 3: Use Twitter to send a Direct Message to [@HCWvsHunger](#) with #HCWvsHunger, #NYStateOfKind, the amount you donated and your receipt.
4. Encourage friends, family, colleagues, residents, med students to donate and join our team! Non-healthcare workers are welcome to be part of **NYStateOfKind**.

Healthcare Workers Vs Hunger will [gather the donations reported by each team](#) and maintain the [leader board](#). The winning team will be confirmed after December 19th.

Questions? [Healthcare Workers vs. Hunger has helpful answers for FAQ's](#).

ABIM's Longitudinal Knowledge Assessment

To pursue a career in internal medicine, you must have it—an absolute dedication to putting progress into practice, a constant search for better care, healthier patient outcomes, and life-changing discoveries. Yet the path to sustained achievement requires a support system, and that's where ABIM comes in. ABIM has dedicated the past 80 years to advancing the practice of internal medicine, innovating our programs along the way to help you keep up. Today, they are redefining the maintenance of certification experience as they open the door to the Longitudinal Knowledge Assessment. Connect to a revolutionary, on-demand, interactive continuing assessment platform that gives you convenient access to questions, references, and rationales that flex to the variable demands of your lifestyle.



[More Information](#)

[MOC Points](#)

ACP's I Raise the Rates Newsletter Available Now

In this month's *I Raise the Rates* Newsletter (*IRtR*), you will learn more about ACP's new video series, Ask Your Internist, where physicians answer the top questions from the public about vaccines. Created in partnership with YouTube, this initiative was developed in an effort to counter misinformation around COVID-19 and routine adult vaccines.



Also included in this issue: new studies on the risks of COVID-19 during pregnancy; updated CDC COVID-19 Booster Recommendations; the CDC's FluView weekly surveillance report; COVID-19 Booster Dose Messaging and Outreach tools and so much more.

[ACP's I Raise the Rates program](#), which is supported by funding from the CDC, Merck, and GSK, provides QI education and virtual coaching support from ACP Advance expert coaches to support increased adult immunization coverage. The New York Chapter is proud to partner with the American College of Physicians in supporting the I Raise the Rates Adult Immunization Program.

NYACP is pleased to welcome Christina D'Agostino, MD, 3rd Year Resident, Stony Brook, to the Team as an Advocacy Intern! Dr. D'Agostino is interested in studying the intersection of primary care medicine and advocacy and will be helping NYACP by monitoring legislative proposals at the federal and state levels. Watch for updates from Dr. D'Agostino in IM Connected in the weeks and months ahead. Welcome aboard Christina!



A National ACP Advocacy Snapshot By Christina D'Agostino, MD

The daily demands of clinic management make it difficult for healthcare providers to stay up to date on the policies that govern how to best deliver care to patients. To help harried healthcare providers, this article's goal is to summarize some of the National ACP's most recent advocacy aims.

ACP advocates for policies that address issues arising or exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, including vaccination, access to mental and behavioral healthcare, and healthcare disparities.

Examples include the College fully supporting the requirement that all healthcare workers be vaccinated against COVID-19 as a condition of employment, and advocating for vaccine counseling reimbursement - even if the vaccine is not administered during the patient's visit. Counseling is generally unpaid by Medicare/Medicaid if the vaccine is not administered during that same visit.

The pandemic's negative impact on the mental and behavioral health of patients has been highly documented. In hopes of improving mental and behavioral healthcare delivery, ACP is advocating for the extension (and hopeful permanent retention) of telehealth and audio-only service coverage of mental and behavioral health encounters by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The pandemic also shined an unflattering light on existing health disparities in this country. To help address those disparities, ACP is advocating for certain provisions to a recently-passed House bill, H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act (BBBA) at the Senate level. As it stands, the BBBA currently includes four weeks of paid family leave; ACP is advocating for six weeks to be standardized. Additionally, ACP urges for a more robust allowance for direct negotiation of prescription drug costs between Medicare and drug manufacturers.

While the above aims are just a small taste of the policies that the College is advocating for, we hope that the snapshot helps to provide some transparency as to what is occurring at the national level at ACP, and I look forward to bringing you regular updates in the weeks and months ahead.



New Podcast Released: Physician Spotlight on Maria Maldonado, MD, FACP

NYACP's Medical Student Committee has created podcasts focused on individual professional journeys in Internal Medicine. Click below to hear 2 episodes of inspiring career stories and practical advice for navigating a career in medicine from Dr. Mario Maldonado.

This is an engaging interview that unfolds in a storytelling format and will leave you anxiously awaiting our next podcast installment.

Available now on the [NYACP Website](#), [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Spotify](#)

Attention All DANY Applicants!

The DANY Cycle VIII Question and Answer Document has been posted on the NYS Department of Health's Website at:



https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/doctors/graduate_medical_education/doctors_across_ny/

Review of this document may help you complete your DANY application. **The deadline for application is December 22nd prior to 4:00 PM.**

Now Accepting Submissions for Annals of Internal Medicine: Clinical Cases

ACP's newly launched journal, *Annals of Internal Medicine: Clinical Cases (AIMCC)*, is now accepting manuscript submissions. AIMCC is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes case reports, case series, and image/video cases across the spectrum of medicine. AIMCC is a joint publication of the American College of Physicians and the American Heart Association.



AIMCC will consider original case report manuscripts and provide expert peer review, timely online publication, and immediate global open access. Cases published in the journal will serve as an educational resource for clinicians and promote critical thinking around the prevention, diagnosis, and management of challenging clinical situations. The new journal will cultivate awareness of new or unique clinical entities by disseminating real clinical cases encountered by physicians and other medical professionals. It will also serve as a source to generate hypotheses and advance knowledge.

To learn more or submit, visit the [journal site](#) and review the *Annals of Internal Medicine: Clinical Cases* [Information for Authors](#) page.

[Submit Now](#)

Become a peer reviewer for AIMCC! Help the American College of Physicians and the American Heart Association build a useful, informative journal by becoming a peer reviewer. Develop your career and stay informed about your field. To sign up as a reviewer for Annals of Internal Medicine: Clinical Cases, [please create an account](#) on our submission page

Deadline Extended!

Last chance to join the Jan. 2022 cohort.



Register today for ACP's Certificate in Physician Leadership program! This flexible, online 18-month program teaches essential career-building skills and offers opportunities to demonstrate your new leadership abilities, with tracks in either Hospital Medicine or Primary Care.

Final Reminder

Enhance your CV with this ACP-exclusive program. **Apply online by Dec. 10, 2021**, to enroll in the cohort that begins in Jan. 2022.

[All Information](#)



Apply for Fellowship by 12/31 to be considered for Convocation Ceremony participation at ACP's Internal Medicine Meeting 2022.

Celebrate the exemplary care you've given to patients during an extremely challenging year. Throughout it all, you continued to provide tremendous care, support, and leadership to the community in which you live and practice. You deserve to be recognized.

[Watch the video](#) to learn more about what it means to be an FACP®.

Then [use this handy chart](#) to identify whether you're ready to apply.

[Apply by 12/31](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Small Feedings of the Soul: Readings and Reflections

Thursday, December 16, 2021: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Explore the practice of medicine through shared experiences! Come for discussion, camaraderie, and to meet authors of select pieces from 'On Being A Doctor'.

Please note that this event is not recorded.



December's theme: **Self-care and Work-Life Balance**

Readings and Guest Authors:

["A New Triple Threat"](#) by Jayshil J. Patel, MD

["Lunch"](#) by Christine Y. Todd, MD

Facilitated by: Cori Salvit, MD, FACP

Program Directors: Nandini Anandu, MD, FACP, Lynn Cleary, MD, MACP, and Cori Salvit, MD, FACP

[Registration](#)

Zoom Webinar hosted by the ACP Massachusetts Chapter !

Finding a J1 Waiver Job

Registration Required - FREE and open only to ACP Members

Panelists:

- Dr. Camille Edwards, Hematology/Oncology, Boston Medical Center, MA
 - Dr. Aalok Khole, Infectious Diseases, Cheshire Medical Center, NH
 - Dr. Raghuv eer Rakasi, Hospital Medicine, Baystate Medical Center, MA
 - Ms. Elissa Taub, Immigration Lawyer Partner, Siskind Susser, TN
-
- Are you an IMG in internal medicine or its subspecialties on a J1 visa?
 - How do you approach and navigate your job search while you're on a J1 visa?
 - How is this different post residency compared to post fellowship?

Please join MA ACP with a panel of physicians and an immigration lawyer for an exclusive Q&A session. They will share their knowledge, experience, and advice.

This event is sponsored by the Council of Residents and Fellows and Early Career Physicians of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Physicians (MA ACP).

Once registered - you will receive a confirmation email with your unique Zoom link.

[Register Here](#)
