

April 28, 2022



President's Message: Dr. Leslie Algase

NYACP Colleagues,

I hope many of you have the chance to attend this week's ACP IM22 meeting in Chicago. It's wonderful to be able to gather in person again. On the other hand, I know others of you are covering the bases at home

while COVID variants continue to raise hospital admission rates in NY, especially Upstate. Wherever you are, I hope you are safe and healthy.

Next week NYACP is hosting Advocacy Week. I encourage all members to take part with us as we work on pending legislative issues that have a huge impact on the patients we care for and the work that we do. Here's a summary of the issues we are addressing:

SUPPORT

Three issues are pending that enhance the clinical experiences for patients and physicians:

- **Prior Authorization "Gold Card":** For physicians who are successful in securing authorization for particular procedures recommended for patients from carriers, this bill will help you by eliminating the need to request future authorizations for the same type of procedures. The bill applies a 6-month look-back period and, when a physician's authorization request for a particular procedure is approved 90% of the time, no additional authorizations will be required.
- **Adult Vaccinations added to NYS Immunization and Information System:** Patients can access vaccinations in multiple venues and knowing what your patients have and have not received can be difficult to ascertain. By requiring all adult immunizations to be added to NYSIIS, physicians will be able to access vaccination information for patients more readily, thereby improving the accuracy of information shared during clinical encounters, and enhancing the health care we provide to our patients.
- **Patient CoPayment Accumulator Bill:** When patients use coupons, vouchers, or other financial support documents to access items such as prescription drugs, oftentimes the value of the coupon/voucher is not applied toward their copayment or deductible annual obligations by their health insurance carrier. This bill would therefore amend the NY's Insurance Law to require health insurance companies to apply third-party payments, financial assistance, discounts, vouchers, or other financial support to a patient's cost



sharing requirements. This change will have immediate benefits for patients by improving a patient's ability to afford prescriptions that are critical to manage disease.

OPPOSE

One issue that is pending will diminish the clinical experience for patients and physicians:

- **Authorization for Physician Assistants to be classified as "Primary Care Practitioners" under Medicaid Managed Care:** PA's in NY are not defined as primary care practitioners under health care programs. Yet, for one of the most vulnerable patient populations, specifically enrollees in Medicaid Managed Care programs, this bill constructively establishes a lesser standard of care by authorizing PA's to be principle primary care providers under this plan. Passage of this bill raises the severity of health disparities in NY by undermining access to physicians for Medicaid Managed Care patients, and decreases health equity as historically marginalized patient populations will encounter increased barriers to high quality care.

NYACP will provide you with a variety of ways to support our advocacy efforts next week. Please watch your email each morning for details on how to support your patients and your colleagues through the Chapter's advocacy activities.

Safe travels for fellow ACP IM 22 travelers, and safe wishes for everyone working this week on the home front.

Leslie

Join Us for NYACP Advocacy Week: May 2-6, 2022

During Advocacy Week 2022, the Chapter will unfold a daily advocacy activity that provides a simple way to get involved and helps increase awareness of various NYACP priorities being discussed this year in the New York State Legislature.



Monday, May 2nd: Learn about "**Advocacy at ACP**" podcast

Tuesday, May 3rd - Respond to NYACP Call to Action

Wednesday, May 4th- Learn about "**NYACP Advocacy Wins**" podcast

Thursday, May 5th - NYACP Virtual Advocacy Day

Friday, May 6th - Advocacy Week Recap on Social Media

All information and links are found on the [Chapters Advocacy Week webpage!](#)

For additional information, contact NYACP at info@nyacp.org

Members in the News

Neil R. Scheier, MD, M.Econ, M. Fin, FACP

Thank you Dr. Scheier for sharing your story about helping Ukraine refugees in Poland.

My daughter and I continue to debate as to who made the initial suggestion to go to Poland and volunteer in a Ukrainian refugee camp, but April 4th found us on Air France, escorting medical supplies collected via the efforts of University of Rochester physicians Alex Paciorkowski and Yuliya Snyder (www.RocUkraineMedRelief.net) with intended first stop Warsaw for a drop off of the medical supplies, and then to the refugee camp. What we saw and what we did will remain with us forever.



Dr. Scheier with
Medical Supplies Carry-
on

My daughter Rachel Kaplan currently serves as the Executive Director of Hillel at the University of Cincinnati; in 'retirement' I work part-time as a practicing physician for the University of Rochester, with the remainder of my 'usual' week filled with activity as Board President of the Joseph Avenue Arts and Culture Alliance. For both of us comfortable jobs, comfortable lives, and neither of us with any prior relationship or interaction with either Poland or Ukraine. However, like many, inflamed at the horror of the Russian invasion and the evident lives disrupted. Which somehow led to the refugee camp at Medyka, Poland.

Warsaw itself is a major city. Although we were there only a few hours, it's big and its streets and buildings remind one of Boston; it has a modern flavor amidst older buildings, fifteen story steel and glass structures side-by-side with three story brick boxes. After our medical supply drop off we immediately began our trip to the border, a four hour drive through farmland, villages with cobblestone streets and colorful houses, and one lane highways that somehow allow for the passage of cars going in opposite direction from each other.

[Read More](#)

Chapter Awards - Deadline to submit is July 31st!

NYACP is excited to increase member recognition for excellence and distinguished contributions to Internal Medicine. This year, the committee will issue a total of 3-5 awards. The categories for candidate



nominations include: Education, Advocacy, Clinical Excellence, Research, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and Public Health.

Here is the link to the online form: [Chapter Awards Nomination Form](#). The nomination requires a completed online form, a 500-word Letter of Nomination, and a copy of the nominee's CV. The **submission deadline is July 31, 2022**.

Please help the New York Chapter ACP recognize, honor and congratulate the truly deserving members of our Chapter for their amazing and outstanding work.

MLMIC's April 2022 Albany Report

The latest edition of the Albany Report looks at the final enacted 2022-2023 New York State budget, detailing four items of interest to our medical community and two that were in the Governor's proposed budget but were ultimately rejected by the Legislature.



The Physician's Excess Medical Malpractice Program, commonly known as the "Section 18 Program," will continue with no modifications from prior years.

- The budget includes a one-year extension of the Department of Financial Services (DFS) Superintendent's authority to "set and establish" primary and excess rates for physicians' and surgeons' medical professional liability insurance.
- An appropriation of \$52 million was included for the NYS Medical Indemnity Fund (MIF).
- Reimbursement parity for telehealth has been established, mandating commercial health plans, including those in Medicaid, reimburse physicians and other healthcare providers for services delivered through telehealth on the same basis and at the same rate as services delivered in person.
- The budget rejected the Governors proposition to place New York in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.
- Finally, the budget did not adopt the Governor's proposal to lower New York's current 9 percent judgment interest rate to the federal market rate, which would have helped reduce the excessively prohibitive costs of New York's medical professional liability insurance system

[Read More](#)

[NYACP Events](#)

NYACP and Joint Medical Schools Reception - tonight!

ACP IM 22
Thursday, April 28, 2022 / 8:00 pm

Marriott Marquis Chicago
Grand Horizon Ballroom G



[RSVP Here](#)

[ACP 2022 Internal Medicine Meeting Information](#)

NYACP Early Career Physicians Task Force Presents the following zoom webinar:

How to Prepare Great Abstract and Poster Presentations for your Next Academic Conference
Wednesday, May 4 / 6:00 - 7:00 pm



Objectives:

1. Prepare an effective abstract poster and oral presentation
2. Identify general features of high-quality abstract poster and oral presentation
3. Avoid common pitfalls in preparing an abstract poster and oral presentation

Speakers:

Ofek Hai, DO, FACP
Evan Siau, MD, FACP
Raphael Rabinowitz, MD

[Register Here](#)

Sponsored by: California Region 3, Illinois, New York, Oregon, and Texas Chapters of the American College of Physicians

Influencing Change in Medicine: Leadership in Equity

Saturday, May 14th / 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Objectives:

- At the conclusion of the program, attendees will be able to define health equity in terms of impacting advocacy and describe why it matters.



- Chapter successes and challenges will be shared and consensus for effective approaches will be developed.
- Methods for advancing the health equity agenda within advocacy will be shared, and best practices for developing successful coalitions and stakeholder communities will be addressed.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Hilden, ACP HPPC Vice Chair

Moderator: Dr. Omar Atiq, ACP Pres-Elect

Chapter Panelists:

Dr. Moro Salifu, NY ACP DEI Chair

Dr. Kelsi Manley, OR ACP Advocacy Day Chair

Dr. Cynthia Jumper, TX ACP Past President

Dr. Susan Hingle, ACP BOR Chair Emeritus

Dr. Stony Anderson, CA Colorectal Cancer Coalition Pres

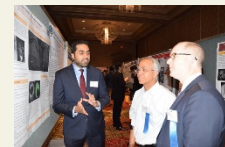
[Register Here](#)

[More Information](#)

2022 NYACP Resident and Medical Student Forum

Friday, May 27, 2022

Save the date and plan to join us on Friday, May 27, 2022, as we return to an in-person poster competition and welcome back Dr.'s Dilemma!



Crowne Plaza/Desmond
660 Albany Shaker Rd
Albany, NY 12211

12:30 pm - Poster Competition

2:00 pm - Dr's Dilemma Competition - [Dr's Dilemma Teams Competing](#)

Save the Date!

2022 NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting

Saturday, November 5, 2022

Join us as we return to an in-person Annual Scientific Meeting on Saturday, November 5, 2022.



Westchester Marriott
670 White Plains Rd
Tarrytown, NY 10591

[Preliminary Schedule & Information](#)

To ensure deliverability of our emails, please add info@nyacp.org to your contacts or accepted senders list in your email client.

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