

February 2, 2023



President's Message: Dr. Jitendra Barmecha
Progress Note:

Last week, we concluded our first council meeting of the year with leaders participating from all five NYACP Regions across the State. The highlight of the meeting was felicitating Assemblyman Richard Gottfried, who served in the NYS Assembly for over 52 years before announcing his retirement, effective 12/31/22, and stepping down as Chair of the NYS Assembly Health Committee. The council thanked Assemblyman Gottfried for his many years of public service, for being a great physician advocate, and a good friend to NYACP. NYS Assembly Member Amy Paulin (newly appointed Chair of the NYS Assembly Health Committee) and Senator Gustavo Rivera (Chair of the NYS Senate Health Committee) joined the meeting virtually and also addressed the council.

ACP is partnering with state chapters to launch a new quality improvement coaching program focused on improving COVID-19 management in the outpatient setting (funded in part by an independent educational grant from Pfizer). The goal is to increase the capacity to manage prevention, rapidly diagnose, and appropriately treat COVID-19 in the outpatient setting. The NY Chapter is participating in this QI initiative. More information can be found [here](#). Ambulatory practices interested in participating in the COVID-19 management program can [apply online](#) by March 1, 2023.

Last week, ACP released an updated [clinical guideline on treatment recommendations for Depression](#). In the new guideline, ACP recommends the use of either cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) or second-generation antidepressants (SGAs) as the initial treatment in adults with moderate to severe major depressive disorder (MDD) and suggests the combination of both, as an alternative initial treatment option. The updated clinical guideline has been published in Annals of Internal Medicine.

The American Geriatrics Society (AGS) / AGING LEARNING Collaborative has launched a new [website](#) featuring tools and strategies for investigators interested in including older adults with multiple chronic conditions in research. The website is authored by leading internal medicine physicians specializing in geriatrics and, so far, it includes the first two domains of a planned eight domain curriculum, with the remaining domains to be published throughout 2023.



Last but not the least, through the joint “[Heart of New York](#)” campaign, the Healthcare Association of NYS (HANYS) and Greater NY Hospital Association (GYNHA) are spreading the word on how New York hospitals are the heart and soul of New York, providing care and compassion 24/7, while generating meaningful jobs and substantial economic benefits.

February is [American Heart Month](#). Therefore, let us spread the awareness of the importance of heart health and prevention measures (#OurHearts).

Stay Safe and Healthy!



Jitendra Barmecha, MD, MPH, FACP, SFHM
President

P.S. On January 30th, Governor Hochul **VETOED** the Wrongful Death Bill (S.74-A/A.6770)! Many thanks to all NYACP members who reached out to Governor Hochul’s office by phone, letter, or email to express opposition to this bill. More on this topic below.

Message from MLMIC:
Grieving Families Act Vetoed by Governor Hochel
Michael Schoppmann, Esq.



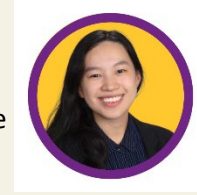
On behalf of everyone at MLMIC, I wanted to take a moment and express our deep appreciation for all of the hard work and advocacy which you, your leadership and your members have provided in support of the efforts in opposition to the Wrongful Death Bill, also known as the “Grieving Families Act”. We believe that it is yet another great illustration of the strength of our partnership, the alignment of our interests and our ability to work together to protect the physicians of the state of New York. It has shown how truly aligned we are and what we can do when we work together.

Unfortunately, the fight is not over as the trial lawyers are already advocating for a new bill to be passed and pushed to the governor. We will need to renew and redouble our efforts in the coming weeks and months. As we have for almost the past 50 years, I know that we can count on each other to come together and bring the fight to those who would support any new version of this piece of legislation.

In the meantime, thank you again for your help in bringing about this great result.

NYACP Advocacy Intern Shares Her Experience

Winnie Chu, DO



In the past, when I encountered an issue related to residency or patient care, the reflex would often be to accept that it is “just the way it is.” I felt adrift at times, but through the invaluable experience of the NYACP Steven Walerstein, MD, MACP Advocacy Internship and seeing the power in having a shared voice through the platform that NYACP provides, I am motivated to no longer be on the sidelines.

Over the past month (in what can only be described as a boot camp in health policy and advocacy), I participated in various meetings, including the New York State Department of Health Joint Workgroup on Vaccinations, MSSNY and NYS Specialty Society Executive Directors, Let's Get Immunized Campaign Meeting, Step Therapy, as well as meetings through NYACP —the Upstate NY regional leaders, education committee, health and public policy committee, resident/fellow committee, and member engagement committee. As it was the start of the legislative session, I also had the chance to summarize and present at the Council Board Meeting on the Governor's State of the State address and analyze the State of the State Book that was later released (I look forward to correlating her agenda with the budget that will come out later in February.) I observed how NYACP crafts its own legislative agenda and works with other professional societies (e.g. MSSNY) to formulate action plans. Reading through the assembly and senate bills that were introduced on State Watch (my personal favorite, though not directly health-related is AB 1848: Exempts lemonade stands operated by persons under sixteen years of age from department of health permitting requirements) also helped me appreciate that whether we notice or not, legislative action has far-reaching implications in both our professional and personal lives.

We have so many hurdles to overcome throughout our medical training – residency/fellowship applications, board examinations, interviews – and it feels impossible to add advocacy on top of everything else. My main takeaway from this rotation is that involvement in advocacy is built up out of an aggregation of many small steps. Advocacy can take all forms. This can range from becoming an informed citizen by keeping up to date about health policy to submitting a resolution and meeting with your local legislators.

Four weeks went by quickly and I feel it is only an introduction – I hope to continue my involvement in advocacy events such as the NYACP Advocacy Day and ACP Leadership Days, as well as continue to be involved as part of the resident/fellow committee. I am also interested in following the progress of SB 713 (Establishes aging in place task force) and SB 466 (Relates to the use of psychotropic medications in nursing homes, imposing limits and requiring informed consent under certain situations), as well as SB 74-A: Wrongful death and actions (“Grieving Families Act”) and changes related to scope of practice.

Through this internship, I have the tools to begin work in advocacy, which includes setting up meetings with my own district senate and assembly councilmembers and staying informed with legislative updates. These experiences will be beneficial in my future as a physician and as a voice for patient care!

Seeking NYACP Member to Speak with NYACP Health Disparity Fellow (30 min approx time commitment)



Each year, NYACP welcomes several Presidential Fellows from the Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities, SUNY Albany, to work with the Chapter throughout the academic semester. Fellows are working toward completion of a doctorate across various disciplines. This year one of the Chapter's Fellows is Jazmin High. Ms. High is a 3rd year PhD student in the Department of Anthropology with a focus in medical anthropology. Her primary research interests are healthcare disparities and health disparities, including maternal, sexual, and reproductive health. She is interested in exploring how culture, class, the built environment, and race intersect and influence health outcomes and health-seeking behavior among minorities.

Here are a few sample questions she would like to ask for this project: (1) What are the most difficult cases you have worked on? What made them especially challenging? (2) What systemic changes, if enacted, would have the biggest positive impact on the patients you care for? (3) How can advocacy at the state and federal levels help?

If interested in speaking with Jazmin, please send an email to: lpnesse@nyacp.org with "HD Fellow" in the subject line. Part of this project contemplates the production of a 15 min podcast with the participating physician if agreed upon.

Members in the News



Jitentra Barmecha, MD, MPH, FACP, Chapter President is presenting on **Telemedicine** at the ACP Delaware Chapter Annual Meeting.



John Hall, MD, FACP, Upstate Governor was published in the Journal of General Internal Medicine: [Power of the Stethoscope](#).



Eric Last, DO, FACP was published in the American Journal of Medicine for his commentary piece "[Betrayal](#)".

Removal of DATA Waiver (X-Waiver) Requirement

[Section 1262 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023](#) (also known as Omnibus bill), removes the federal requirement for practitioners to submit a Notice of Intent (have a waiver) to prescribe medications, like buprenorphine, for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD). With this provision, and effective immediately, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will no longer be accepting NOIs (waiver applications).

UB Internal Medicine - Preventive Medicine Residency Program Information



With support of a HRSA grant, the University at Buffalo has expanded its Standalone Preventive Medicine Residency Program, available to graduates of any primary care residency including family medicine. In essence, this is a "fellowship". In year one, participants work on an MPH (fully funded) at UB and in year two, participants take part in preventive medicine rotations. Upon successful completion of this two-year program, participants receive an MPH and are board eligible for preventive medicine, through the American Board of Preventive Medicine. [Additional Information.](#)

Additionally, UB has combined Internal Medicine and Preventive Medicine into a four-year program. Applicants must be US citizens or permanent US residents (i.e. Green card holders.) Additional information can be found [here or](#) contact Nathali Head, Training Program Administrator at nathalih@buffalo.edu.

NY Yankees Healthcare Workers Appreciation Week! May 8 - 14, 2023



Join your fellow healthcare professionals and the New York Yankees for select games in May at Yankee Stadium.

The first **1,000** fans who purchase tickets through this offer will receive a special New York Yankees scrub top! Each Special Event Ticket also includes a regular sized hot dog and your first drink (a 12oz domestic beer for those 21 years of age or older with a Valid ID, Pepsi product or Poland Spring bottled water).

[Reserve your seats here](#)

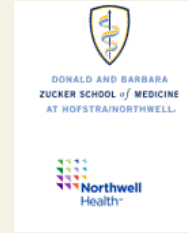
Upcoming Events

Story Slam: My Approach to Wellness

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 / 6:00- 7:00 pm / Zoom
Presented by Northwell Health, Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell & NYACP



What does wellness mean to you? Share pearls of wisdom or come to listen and learn from colleagues in healthcare. Storytellers will share a 5-minute story on the theme of "My Approach to Wellness". [View clips from previous story slams here.](#)



The 3rd annual story slam is open to physicians, residents/fellows, medical students and all healthcare professionals. Members and non-members are welcome!

[Event Flyer](#)

Storytellers

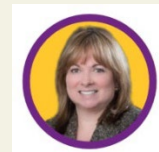
1. [REGISTER HERE](#)
2. Send a summary of your 5-minute story to aallen@nyacp.org by February 6th.

Audience Only

1. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Home and Skilled Nursing Facility: Post-Operative Care of Older Adults

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom
Jointly provided by NYMDA and the NYACP Geriatrics Task Force
1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™



Donna Seminara,
MD, MACP

This one-hour session will cover Home and Skilled Nursing Facility post-op care for older adults. Themes will include how to address common complications within this patient population, telehealth, financing care, and caregiving.

This event is free for ACP and NYMDA members. There is a \$10 fee for non-members.

The ACP designates this other (live component and enduring component) activity for a maximum *1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

[ACP/NYMDA Members Register Here](#)

[Non-Member Register Here](#)

Rochester District Networking Event
In person - pre-registration is required
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 / 5:30 - 7:30 pm



Please join us on February 8th to meet fellow physicians in the Rochester area. Light appetizers and beverages will be provided for those in attendance. Free parking is available on site. We are sharing pearls of wisdom, and we can't wait to hear yours!

[Avvino Rochester](#)

2541 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, NY 14618

[RSVP Here](#)

Small Feedings of the Soul: Reading and Reflections
Thursday, February 16, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom

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.

February's theme:

Caring for Our Elders: Stories of Compassion, Altruism, and the Unsung Heroes of Medicine

Readings and Guest Authors:

[Silver Alert: Lost-and-Found Dad](#) by Dr. Marianne Parshley

[Famous Last Words](#) by Dr. Colleen Christmas

Facilitated by: Nandini Anandu, MD, FACP

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

[REGISTER HERE](#)



DON'T MISS THIS FINAL OPPORTUNITY:

Two Virtual ABIM MOC Courses

Saturday, February 25, 2023 / Zoom

Earn up to 20 CME credits and 20 MOC points!

Facilitated by: Parag Mehta, MD, MACP and Jitendra Barmecha, MD, FACP

Registration fee is \$100 per course, or two for \$150:

8:30 am - 10:30 am - ABIM MOC Module:

2022-23 Update in Internal Medicine

[Register Here - \\$100](#)

11:00 am - 1:00 pm - ABIM MOC Module:

2022-23 Update in Hospital Medicine

[Register Here - \\$100](#)

[Register Here for Special Rate of \\$150 for both](#)

[Complete Details](#)



Parag Mehta
MD, MACP



Jitendra Barmecha
MD, FACP

New Webinar - Don't Miss Out!

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Bill

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom

Join us for an informational webinar presented by Humayun Chaudhry, DO, MACP, former Health Commissioner for Suffolk County and President/CEO of the Federation of State Medical Boards.

Sign up now and more details to follow!

[Register Here](#)



Humayun
Chaudhry, DO,
MACP

Managing Substance Use Disorders in Older Adults

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom

Jointly provided by MAGS and the NYACP Geriatric Task Force.

Aleksander Shalshin, MD, FACP

[ACP/MAGS Members Register Here](#)

[Non-Members Register Here - \\$25 fee](#)



This one-hour session will focus on diagnosis and treatment in the PA/LTC setting for Substance Use Disorder. Information will include appropriate referral and treatment methodology for treatment of older adults in PA/LTC setting.

Free for ACP and MAGS members

\$25 for non-members

2023 NYACP Leadership Academy

First Course: Thursday, May 4, 2023 / 6:30 - 8:00 pm / Zoom

Applications are now being accepted for the 2nd Annual NYACP Leadership Academy. This six-part CME accredited certificate program begins in May 2023, and ends with an in-person session at the NYACP Annual Meeting on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023 in Rochester, NY.

Course schedule: 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Thursday, May 4 - Leadership in Medicine

Thursday, June 1 - Opportunities in Medicine

Thursday, July 6 - Strategies & Skills

Thursday, August 3 - Identifying & Mentoring

Thursday, September 7 - Leadership and Underrepresented Minorities



Harvir Gambhir
MD, FACP



Viren Kaul
MD, FACP

Final session in-person at NYACP Annual Meeting

Saturday, October 28, 2023 - NYACP Annual Meeting

[Apply Here](#)

Abstract Submission Deadline: Friday, February 3, 2023!

NYACP Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Forum

Friday, May 12, 2023

Desmond/Crowne Plaza Hotel

660 Albany Shaker Road

Albany, NY 12211

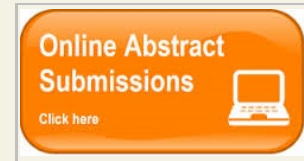


The Spring NYACP Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Forum competition is well under way. Use the following information to submit your abstract by **Friday, February 3rd at 5 pm**.

- Review the [Call for Abstracts](#) information.
- The submission fee is \$30 per abstract- use [this link](#) to pay, and you will receive the abstract submission link.
- The deadline to submit is Friday, February 3, 2023.
- Accepted abstracts will be notified by April 7, 2023.

- Accepted abstracts presenters are invited to the Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Forum to give their oral presentation in person.
- First place winners in each category will win an expense-paid trip to ACP's National Poster Competition in 2024!

[Video of 2022 Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Forum](#)



Helpful Links:

[To find out more please click here.](#)

[Submit an Abstract](#)

Need help with writing an abstract? Check out this video:
[How to Prepare Great Abstract and Poster Presentations](#)

[Tips and Advice from ACP on Preparing for Abstract Competitions](#)

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