President's Message: Dr. Daniel Pomerantz

Two weeks ago, a delegation from our Chapter travelled to Washington DC to meet with members of almost every US ACP chapter. First, we gathered for policy briefings and advocacy coaching by ACP staff and other ACP Governors. We learned about health policy advocacy from experts and from our lawmakers. Our next stop was visiting with members of the New York delegation to discuss ACP’s priority issues and advocate for our patients. Our visits took place under the looming shadow of debt ceiling negotiations, but we were able to meet with a number of legislative staffers and a few legislators, including my congressperson, Rep. Jamaal Bowman. In each office, we spoke about three issues—medical student debt, step therapy, and improving access to care by increasing and stabilizing physician payment under Medicare and bringing Medicaid into parity with Medicare. I was really moved to practice my First Amendment right, “to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” It reminded me that our democracy is only as good as we demand it to be. While the ACP delegations focused on a relatively narrow legislative agenda that day, the College continues to advocate for patients and physicians on a broad range of issues. You can learn more about the College’s advocacy agenda and priorities here. You can learn more about NYACP state-level advocacy here. I hope that next year many of you will join us for the trip to Washington DC—look out for announcements from NYACP and ACP early next year.

This year, Pride Month comes with an extra call for advocacy for friends and allies of the LGBTQIA+ community. Many states have passed laws making it difficult or illegal to receive evidence-based gender-affirming care. Other laws have been passed limiting people’s right to express themselves through their appearance (so-called “drag bans”), and restricting teaching about the existence of gender identities and sexual orientations other than “traditional” cis-gender and heterosexual. These laws and regulations marginalize and threaten an already vulnerable group of people and puts them at increased risk of suffering and harm, including increasing the risk of suicide. Recently, Taylor Swift (yes, I am a Swiftie—a story for another day) pointed out the importance of everyone, especially allies, getting involved in advocacy. You can hear her speech here. You may think that this issue is not yours, but I encourage every physician to think about what it means as more and more states pass laws that prevent physicians from offering safe, appropriate, evidence-based care to their patients. Bans on abortion have already led to patients nearly dying while hospitals and physicians waited to be sure they could make the case that their patient’s life was endangered before beginning treatment for miscarriages and premature ruptured membranes with a non-viable fetus. Bans on gender-affirming care can indelibly alter the trajectory of someone’s life.
Legislators in some states are trying to roll back vaccine requirements that have spared millions from illness and death from measles, rubella, polio, and many other infectious diseases.

I often hear the concern that physician advocacy is too political, and that ACP is taking sides in politics. ACP is taking the side of patients and physicians, informed by policies that are set by its members through the Board of Governors and affirmed by the Board of Regents. You can help set those policies. Get engaged in your district. Learn about our policies. Become informed and inform us. Rudolf Ludwig Carl Virchow, sometimes known as ‘The Pope of Medicine’, once said that, “Medicine is a social science, and politics nothing but medicine at a larger scale.” Engaging in efforts to help set sound health policy requires that we work with politicians, guided by our policies and not by partisanship. I hope we can all find ways to work together to make the practice of medicine better, more affordable, more accessible, and more equitable for patients, and more rewarding and more meaningful for physicians.

With gratitude,

Daniel Pomerantz, MD, FACP
NYACP President

NYACP Leadership Update

Spring is a time of change! Each April, the end of the ACP Internal Medicine Meeting marks the transition of leadership at the Chapter. This is an opportunity to thank volunteer leaders for their commitment and contribution to the Chapter and their profession and welcome new leaders who will continue to support the progress. In addition to informing priorities and goals, these leaders also represent and engage members in their regions and districts across New York State.

Browse the photo album from the May 2023 NYACP Council Board Meeting to see leaders in action!

If you are interested in leadership opportunities, please submit a member interest form to become more involved in the Chapter and begin your pathway to leadership!

View the complete list of Chapter leaders.
Final Week to Submit for Chapter Excellence Awards
Submission Deadline is Thursday, June 15th!

Only one week left to submit a nomination for a NYACP Chapter Excellence Award! These awards recognize members for excellence and distinguished contributions to Internal Medicine. This year,
the committee will issue 3-5 Chapter awards. The categories for candidate nominations include: Education, Advocacy, Clinical Excellence, Research, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI), and Public Health.

The submission deadline is June 15, 2023. Medical students and residents are also eligible to be nominated!

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

ACP's New Firearms Resources

As part of ACP’s ongoing commitment to addressing the public health issue of firearms-related deaths and injuries, ACP has released new resources for members. ACP’s new online hub, Preventing Firearm-Related Deaths and Injuries, features Annals of Internal Medicine articles and content; ACP policies and recommendations, information on collaborations; and multimedia resources including:

- A new Physician to Physician Conversations video from Dr. Sue Bornstein, immediate past Chair of ACP’s Board of Regents, providing practical tips and strategies on talking to patients about firearm safety.
- Videos from the ACP and Annals of Internal Medicine Story Slam, Gun Injury: Stories of Hurt, Hope, and Resilience featuring storytellers sharing moving stories of their firsthand experiences related to firearm injury.
- A summary and recording of ACP and Annals of Internal Medicine virtual forum discussing the firearm health crisis.

The hub also includes ACP’s recent advocacy efforts, which include joining the Healthcare Coalition for Firearm Injury Prevention to advance firearm injury prevention and supporting the passage of the Bipartisan Communities Act, the first new law in decades designed to reduce firearm violence. To help members advocate for policy changes within their state, ACP has developed a Toolkit: Reducing Firearm-Related Injuries and Deaths. Please browse ACP’s new resources at your convenience.

NYS 3-Hour CME Pain Course Training and Attestation Due July 1, 2023

Beginning on June 27, 2023, the DEA will require that all prescribers provide a one-time attestation that includes 8 hours of training on the management of
patients with opioid or other substance use disorders (SUDs) prior to renewing their DEA registration.

Prescribers in NY State are also required to complete 3-hours of CME training in addiction, palliative medicine, and pain management (NY Public Health Law Sec. 3309-A[3]). Those who took the training course in 2017 and 2020 must renew again by July 1, 2023.

Use NYACP’s updated pain management training course and ACP’s Substance Use Disorder Education Hub to fulfill both requirements!

A Clinical Research Study for People with Bullous Pemphigoid

Treatment options for bullous pemphigoid (BP) are limited. Patients aged 18 years or older, diagnosed with BP, and with symptoms such as itching and blisters, may be eligible to participate in the FJORD clinical trial. The FJORD study is being carried out to learn more about whether a study drug works to help improve symptoms of bullous pemphigoid. It has been approved in more than 50 countries for treating severe asthma and is now being studied to investigate if it improves the symptoms of bullous pemphigoid.

If you are interested in learning more about the FJORD Study and enrollment opportunities, please contact: 1-855-233-1701, or check out the links for the FJORD Clinical Trial information and the FJORD Patient Brochure.

The SUPERNOVA Trial

For some people, COVID-19 might seem like the distant past. But for people with a weakened immune system, the threat of the virus is still present. AstraZeneca is researching a trial drug that could help protect against new strains of SARS-CoV-2. Through the SUPERNOVA TRIAL, AstraZeneca’s aim is to develop a medication that protects people with weaker immune systems from getting seriously ill from COVID-19.

SUPERNOVA trial eligibility criteria:

- This study is looking at an investigational medication (study drug) to see if it is safe and can help to protect people with an impaired immune system from contracting COVID-19.
- You, or someone you care for, may be able to take part if you/they:
  - are 12 years of age or older and have an impaired immune system
  - have not tested positive for COVID-19 or received a COVID-19 vaccine in the past 3 months
  - weigh at least 40 kg
- To learn more about the SUPERNOVA clinical trial, the link to the website can be found here.
FAQs about the trial can be found here.
The AZ information center (1-800-236-9933) is prepared to take calls with questions about the SUPERNOVA site.

More Information:

- Participant Flyer
- Participant Brochure
- Participant Study Guide
- Social Media Guide

Attn: NYACP Residents/Fellows and Medical Students

The Chapter's Call for Papers is Now Open!
Abstracts are now being accepted online for NYACP's Fall Poster Competition and the deadline to submit is August 25, 2023.

Submit an abstract online to have an opportunity to be selected to present your poster on Saturday, October 28th at the:

NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting
Hyatt Regency Hotel
125 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14604

If you have worked on a research or quality project, or have an interesting clinical case, submit your abstract for a chance to present it live to a team of judges at the NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting!

Abstract submissions are being accepted in the following categories:

- Research
- Clinical Vignette
- Quality (Medical Students/Residents/Fellows combined)

More Information
Submit an Abstract

ACP Dues Renewal Reminder
Don’t lose access to your amazing ACP benefits valued at over $3,300!

The deadline to renew your membership is June 30, 2023. Continue your complimentary access to JournalWise, DynaMedex, and enjoy exclusively deep member discounts for MKSAP, Resolve (Physician Compensation services), Group insurance plans through AGIA, and so much more. Dues are also tax deductible! Renew today!

Renew my Dues

Upcoming Events

**Small Feedings of the Soul: Readings and Reflections**
*Thursday, June 8, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom*

Explore the practice of medicine through shared experiences. This month, the theme of humor is back by popular demand. Join fellow physicians to hear stories that are sure to evoke a hearty laugh that is good for the soul. Attendees are invited to share their own humorous stories during the discussion as well!

**June's Theme:**
Let's Smile a Little

**Readings:**
Laughter is the Best Medicine by Dr. Marion McCrary
Pronouncing by Dr. Brendan Reilly

**Facilitated by:** Nandini Anandu, MD, FACP and Lito Gutierrez, MD, FACP

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

Register Here

**Festival at the Falls**

*Saturday, June 10, 2023 / 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm*
2653 East Main Street
Wappingers Falls, NY

Join us at the NYACP Table!
Come for family fun at this community outreach event! In addition to
food, games and vendors, there will be health education including smoking cessation and screening for diabetes and hypertension.

More Information

Registration is Open!

NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting
Saturday, October 28, 2023

Hyatt Regency Hotel
125 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14604

Topics and Speakers
Register Here

CME and MOC Statement
American College of Physicians (ACP) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The ACP designates this other activity for a maximum 6 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 6 medical knowledge MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine’s (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity provider’s responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.