

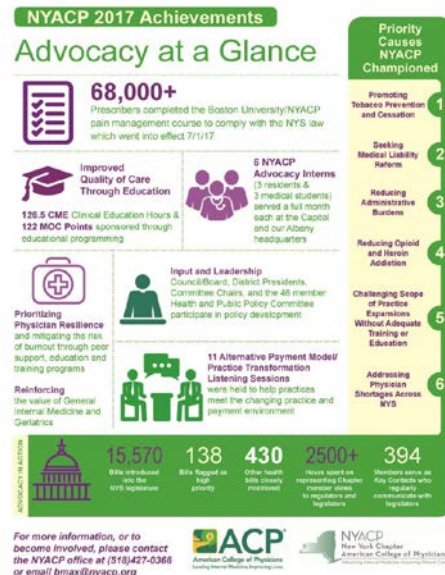
March 9, 2018

## Advocacy in Action: What NYACP Did for Members in 2017

[The New York Chapter ACP recently developed a document highlighting advocacy successes in 2017.](#) Below are a few points from the document:

### Priority Causes Championed:

- Tobacco prevention and cessation
- Seeking medical liability reform
- Reducing administrative burdens
- Reducing opioid and heroin addiction
- Challenging scope of practice expansions without adequate training or education
- Addressing physician shortages across NYS



### Other Advocacy Achievements:

- 68,000+ Prescribers completed the Boston University/NYACP pain management course to comply with the NYS law which went into effect 7/1/17
- Prioritizing physician resilience and mitigating the risk of burnout through peer support, education and training programs
- 11 Alternative Payment Model/ Practice Transformation listening Sessions were held to help practices meet the changing practice and payment environment

[To read more of NYACP's advocacy achievements in 2017, please viewing this infographic.](#)

In addition, if you would like to become more involved, please visit our [Advocacy page](#), contact the NYACP office at (518) 427-0366 or email Ben Max at [bmax@nyacp.org](mailto:bmax@nyacp.org)

## A Pledge to Address Gun Safety from ACP and Your New York Chapter

Dear Colleagues,

What can we do to help protect our patients, their families and our communities from firearm-related harms? We can recognize risk factors, and when present ask our patients about firearm safety. It's what we do all the time: recognize risks to our patients, ask questions, and provide assistance.



Please consider joining your ACP colleagues by pledging, "When risk factors for harm to my patients or others are present, I will ask my patients about firearm ownership and safety." You may do so [at this link](#).

Here are other helpful links to address gun safety:

- Learn to recognize risks and how to talk to patients from the Annals of Internal Medicine: [Click here](#)
- Names of colleagues who have made the pledge can be found on the "comments" tab (or at "Jump to" on a smart phone) of this paper explaining why the pledge is so important: [Click here](#)

## What Are Your Legal Responsibilities Under the NY SAFE Act?



The New York Secure Ammunitions and Firearms Enforcement (SAFE) Act passed in 2013, and requires health professionals to report a person who "is likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to self or others" to the County Director of Community Services (DCS) as soon as practicable. If the DCS agrees with the assessment, a report is filed by DCS to the NYS Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). This department will review whether the patient has applied for a firearms license or has a registered assault weapon. Law enforcement is then notified to revoke the license and/or remove applicable firearms.

Under this law, health professionals are any physician, psychologist, registered nurse or licensed clinical social worker who is caring for the patient. This care can be given in any setting – i.e. inpatient, ambulatory, psychiatric ward, emergency room, etc.

These health professionals are still required, under previous law, to report to law enforcement if a patient appears to be of imminent danger to themselves or others. For example, having threats or attempts of suicide/bodily harm or homicidal/violent behavior towards others. This scenario would require more immediate action, such as involuntary transport by police or an ambulance to a psychiatric hospital.

A report is not required, under the NY SAFE ACT, if doing so would endanger the health professional, or would increase the danger of the patient and/or potential victims.

If a health professional makes "reasonable professional judgement" when making a determination to report to DCS, this decision cannot be the basis for any civil or criminal liability. Disclosure of this information to DCS and law enforcement is permitted under HIPAA.

More information about the law can be found at:

- <https://safeact.ny.gov/mental-health-faq>
- <http://nics.ny.gov/docs/nysafe.pdf>

If you have a patient you wish to report, the Integrated SAFE Act Reporting System [can be opened here](#).

Contact information for your local DCS [can be found here](#).

We can do something. As physicians we must. Talking about firearms to our patients who are at risk for harming themselves or others is the right thing to do, *is required by New York State*, and supported by ACP's positions. Taking action when we encounter a patient at risk for harming her/himself or others, might save a life or lives. What could be more important?

Thank you!

Darilyn Moyer, MD, FACP  
Executive Vice President & Chief Executive Officer,  
ACP

Christine Laine, MD, FACP  
Editor-in-Chief, *Annals of Internal Medicine*

Darren Taichman, MD, PhD, FACP  
Executive Editor, *Annals of Internal  
Medicine*

NYACP Governors:

Donna Seminara, MD, FACP  
Louis Snitkoff, MD, FACP  
Lawrence Phillips, MD,  
FACP  
Maria Carney, MD, FACP  
Lynn Cleary, MD, FACP

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## NYACP Seeks Your Input for 2018 Spring BOG Resolutions

Every member has the opportunity to provide input regarding the development of policies and positions of ACP and the Chapter through the resolutions process. The New York Chapter leadership requests your input on the proposed resolutions to be acted on at the ACP Board of Governors (BOG) Spring meeting in March 2018.

Members interested in submitting comments on any or all of the resolutions must do so using our online comments page no later than Friday, March 23, 2018. [Please review this copy of the ACP BOG Spring 2018 Resolutions](#) first.

Then, to submit a comment please visit our easy-to-use response form at:  
<http://www.nyacp.org/i4a/survey/survey.cfm?id=154>

You may select: ***Support; Do Not Support; or Support with Amendment.*** If you select support with an amendment, you will be asked to enter specific language to be added or deleted.

***Please note that the New York Chapter Resolutions have been extracted since they have previously been acted upon by NY Chapter members.***

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## The Resolutions Process

The Chapter has developed a number of resources to assist members in the development of a resolution. A resolution is a proposal that asks the ACP or the NYACP to take a position, an action, or addresses changes needed to assist you in your practice in New York. A resolution consists of at least one directive ("Resolved clause") accompanied by supporting statements ("Whereas clauses").

When you visit the [Resolutions section](#) of our website you will learn how to:

- Share ideas with elected NYACP Governors or council members;
- Submit information for discussion at the NYACP Health and Public Policy Committee; and/or

- Submit resolutions for review and action by the Chapter.

You may [submit a new resolution](#) at any time. We will notify you of relevant deadlines for submissions.

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## Education

### Register While There's Still Time: Weekend Board Review Course - April 20-22

*Are you a Resident planning on taking the ABIM Internal Medicine Board exam this summer?*

*Are you short on time and want to stay local for Board Review?*

*Are you a member who wants to recertify with ABIM and wants the most comprehensive review **available (and earn 27 CME Credits)?***

NYACP will hold its Weekend Board Review course on:  
Friday, April 20 – Sunday, April 22, 2018  
Northwell Health Hospital, Long Island  
145 Community Drive • Great Neck, NY 11021

The Chapter's Weekend Board Review Course is conveniently scheduled over a three day weekend and covers the following topics to prepare you for Internal Medicine Boards or recertification:

- Endocrinology
- Nephrology
- Cardiology
- Oncology
- Rheumatology
- General Internal Medicine
- Hematology
- Infectious Disease
- Neurology
- GI Hepatology
- Pulmonary

Facilitated by Conrad Fischer, MD, FACP, Chris Paras, DO, FACP and Niket Sonpal, MD, FACP, this course is presented in a challenging and comprehensive learning environment with discussion and case based questions.

Attendee Testimonials:

- "Excellent course with an entertaining way to remember important facts."
- "Good review, the points were invaluable and should help with studying."
- "Easy to understand and follow, as well as very entertaining."
- "This course was like Saturday Night Live for Board Review."

[For additional information and program details, please click here.](#)

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**REGISTER TODAY**  
**for Scientific Meeting MOC Pre-Sessions!**



Friday June 1, 2018

**Earn up to 40 ABIM MOC points and 40 CME Credits™!**

Join NYACP for a Scientific Meeting MOC Pre-Session. Complete all four courses to earn 40 ABIM MOC points and 40 CME Credits™!

8:30 am-10:30 am:	2017-18 Update in Hospital Medicine <b>Jitendra Barmecha, MD, FACP &amp; Parag Mehta, MD, FACP</b>
11:00 am-1:00 pm:	2017-18 Update in Geriatric Medicine <b>T.S. Dharmarajan, MD, MACP, AGSF</b>
1:30 pm-3:30 pm:	2017-18 Update in Hospice and Palliative Medicine <b>Daniel Pomerantz, MD, FACP</b>
3:45 pm-5:45 pm:	2017-18 Update in Internal Medicine <b>Ed Stehlik, MD, MACP</b>

Price per session:

ACP Members: \$60

Non-ACP Members: \$100

[Event Flyer & Fax Registration](#) • [Online Registration](#)

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## NYACP Annual Meeting Registration is Now Open

NYACP Annual Scientific Meeting  
Saturday, June 2, 2018

Make plans now to join us for the Chapter's Annual Scientific Meeting on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at the Westchester Hilton Hotel in Rye Brook, New York for a full day of CME and collegial networking.



Take advantage of the Chapter's rich resources and increase your knowledge by attending our premier educational event for all Internists (general and subspecialty), as well as residents and medical students. This one-day conference offers something for everyone – you can earn up to 7.5 CME Credits™, along with viewing the outstanding posters by our resident and medical student members. You can also earn up to 30 MOC points if you register for the SEP breakout sessions to be held on Saturday.

[NYACP Scientific Meeting Details](#) • [Downloadable Brochure & Fax Registration](#) • [Online Registration](#)

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## Practice Management

Ten Things to Know for the MIPs Reporting Deadline



Deadlines are fast approaching if you plan to submit data for the 2017 [Merit-based Incentive Payment System \(MIPS\)](#) performance period. Don't wait until the last minute to submit your data. Submit early and often.

The two key dates are:

- March 16 at 8 pm ET - deadline for 2017 data submission for groups reporting via the [CMS web interface](#)
- March 31 deadline for 2017 data submission for all other [MIPS](#) reporting, including via [qpp.cms.gov](#).

Now is the time to act. Here are the top 10 things you need to do and know if you are an eligible clinician. This list focuses on reporting via the [qpp.cms.gov data submission feature](#), not on group reporting on via the CMS Web Interface or individual reporting on [Quality measures](#) via [claims submission data](#).

**Note:** If you're not sure if you are required to report for MIPS, enter your [National Provider Identifier \(NPI\)](#) in the [MIPS Lookup Tool](#) to find out whether you need to report. Additionally, if you know you are in a MIPS APM or Advanced APM, you can use the [APM Lookup Tool](#).

1. Visit [qpp.cms.gov](#) and click on the "Sign-In" tab to use the [data submission feature](#).
2. Check that your data are ready to submit. You can [submit data](#) for the [Quality, Improvement Activities](#), and [Advancing Care Information](#) performance categories. Claims Data Submission If you plan to submit 2017 data for the Quality performance category via claims, you must do so by March 1, 2018.
3. Have your CMS Enterprise Identity Management (EIDM) credentials ready, or get an EIDM account if you don't have one. An EIDM account gives you a single ID to use across multiple CMS systems.
4. [Sign in](#) to the Quality Payment Program data submission feature using your EIDM account.
5. Begin submitting your data early. This will give you time to familiarize yourself with the data submission feature and prepare your data.
6. The data submission feature will recognize you and connect your [NPI](#) to associated Taxpayer Identification Numbers (TINs).
7. Group practices:
  - A practice can report as a group or individually for each eligible clinician in the practice. You can switch from group to individual reporting, or vice versa, at any time.
  - The data submission feature will save all the data you enter for both individual eligible clinicians and a group, and CMS will use the data that results in a higher final score to calculate an individual MIPS-eligible clinician's payment adjustment.
8. You can update your data up to the March 31 deadline. The data submission feature doesn't have a "save" or "submit" button. Instead, it automatically updates as you enter data. You'll see your initial scores by performance category, indicating that CMS has received your data. If your file doesn't upload, you'll get a message noting that issue.
9. You can submit data as often as you like. The data submission feature will help you identify any underperforming measures and any issues with your data. Starting your data entry early gives you time to resolve performance and data issues before the March 31 deadline.
10. For step-by-step instructions on how to submit MIPS data, check out this [video](#) and [fact sheet](#).

If you are in an [ACO or other APM](#), make sure you are working with your ACO or APM to make sure they have any patient information they need to report. Remember you need to report on [Advancing Care Information](#) measures on your own.



Questions about your participation status or MIPS data submission?  
Contact the Quality Payment Program Service Center by: • Email: [gpp@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:gpp@cms.hhs.gov) •  
Phone: 1-866-288-8292 (TTY: 1-877-715-6222)

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## Apply to Participate in the 2018 CMS Study on "Burdens Associated with Reporting Quality Measures" to Receive Improvement Activity Credit for 2018



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is conducting the 2018 Burdens Associated with Reporting Quality Measures Study, as outlined in the Quality Payment Program Year 2 final rule (CMS 5522- FC).

CMS is conducting this study to:

- Examine clinical workflows and data collection methods using different submission systems;
- Understand the challenges clinicians face when collecting and reporting quality data; and
- Make future recommendations for changes that will attempt to eliminate clinician burden, improve quality data collection and reporting, and enhance clinical care.

Clinicians and groups who are eligible for the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) that participate successfully in the study will receive full credit for the 2018 MIPS Improvement Activities performance category. Applications for this study will be accepted through March 23, 2018 and will be notified in spring of 2018 if selected.

### Who Should Apply

MIPS-eligible clinicians participating in MIPS as an individual or as part of a group. Clinicians do not need any outside knowledge of MIPS to participate in the study; rather the study team is interested in learning more about clinicians' experience participating in MIPS.

A limited number of clinicians who are not eligible for MIPS in 2018 will also be included in the study. To check you participation status please see the [OPP Website](#).

Study Requirements - [To learn more about the study requirements, please click here](#)

To Apply - [Click here to begin your application.](#)

Applicants will be notified by email of their status in spring of 2018.

For more information about the study, please visit the [CMS website](#) or email [MIPS\\_Study@abtassoc.com](mailto:MIPS_Study@abtassoc.com)

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## Education

### District Events

Hudson Valley Capital: March 24, 2018  
A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION ON MEDICAL AID IN DYING  
9:30 am - 12:00 pm



Red Roof Inn • 205 Wolf Rd • Albany, NY 12205

9:30 am: Registration and Brunch

10:00 am: NYS PCMH: Sustaining Advancement in Primary Care

10:20 am: A Roundtable Discussion: Medical Aid in Dying

***Submit Your Panelist Questions Online!***

[Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

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## Commissioner's Medical Grand Rounds

NYACP is co-sponsoring Medical Grand Rounds with the NYS Department of Health in the months of February and March.

Tickborne Diseases: An Update on Trends, Diagnostics, and Emerging Infections

Thursday March 22nd, 2018, 3:00 - 4:30 pm

***Adam's Mark Hotel***

***120 Church Street, Buffalo, NY 14202***

The purpose of this presentation is to describe the epidemiology of tickborne diseases in NYS, review diagnostic approaches to tickborne diseases, and provide an update on emerging tickborne infections.

The Grand Rounds Program is free of charge for all providers in NYS. Advance registration is requested.

[Register Here](#) (*registration ID not required*) • [Flyer](#)

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## Two New Educational Opportunities: Strategies for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction

***Jointly Provided by the NYU Langone Medical Center and NYACP***

***Thursday, May 3, 2018***

ADVANCES IN CARDIOVASCULAR RISK REDUCTION:

IMPROVING TREATMENT FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES

***Offering 7.5 Hours of AMA PRA Category I Credits™***

7:45am - 4:30pm

[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

***Friday, May 4, 2018***

DIETARY AND LIFESTYLE STRATEGIES

FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RISK REDUCTION

***Offering 5.5 Hours of AMA PRA Category I Credits™***

7:30am - 2:00pm

[Event Flyer](#) • [Online Registration](#)

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## Career Link

### Job Posting: Physician - SNF Syracuse

*Posted February 2, 2018*

Physician - SNF Syracuse, NY: \$35k sign on bonus! Landmark Connect is a division of Landmark Health. Landmark Health was created to transform how healthcare is delivered to the most medically vulnerable members in our community. The physician functions as a health care provider within skilled nursing facilities, sub-acute rehab



and long term care facilities for the purpose of providing medical management and culturally sensitive care to patients or residents. Provides assessment and consultation with patients. Works with Landmark Connect, Medical Director, Facility, Director of Nursing and Administrator in the development and/or implementation of medical management policy, clinical protocols, and quality management programs. The practice will involve care and management of patients in these settings. Care will include performing admission H&Ps, plan of care day-to-day management of patients and discharge planning. Qualifications • BC/BE Physician, preferably Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, or Emergency Medicine • M.D. or D.O. from an accredited educational institution • Knowledge of long-term care, community resources and cost-effective alternatives regarding patient care delivery systems • Knowledge of CPT, ICD-10 and HCPC codes • Knowledge of clinical standards of care • Awareness about UM standards, NCOA requirements, CMS guidelines, Milliman guidelines, and Medicaid/Medicare contracts and benefit systems is helpful. Please send your CV to [rgrammal@landmarkhealth.org](mailto:rgrammal@landmarkhealth.org).

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