President’s Message: Dr. Jitendra Barmecha

Progress Note:

Happy and Healthy New Year 2023!

We are kicking off the New Year with very interesting educational programs. Starting with a (virtual) Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind (January 10th – 5:30pm) that will include an update on major public health ID concerns by Aaron Glatt, MD, MACP, FIDSA, FSHEA & an introduction to PACE programs by David Heisig, MD, FACP ... two 15-minute topics followed by discussion. The following day, on Jan 11, our DEI Task Force and Well-Being Committee will be hosting a webinar titled “Addressing Health Equity: How is NY State Taking Action?” The guest speaker will be Johanne Morne, Deputy Commissioner, NYS Department of Health, Office of Health Equity and Human Rights. You can access all NYACP Upcoming Events here.

Next month, Parag Mehta, MD, MACP and I will be conducting two virtual ABIM-MOC sessions: (1) Hospital Medicine and (2) Internal Medicine on Saturday, February 25 from 8:00 – 12:30pm. More information below.

Our spring Resident/Fellow and Medical Student Forum will take place in Albany on Friday, May 12th at the Desmond/Crowne Plaza Hotel. The forum will include a poster competition and Doctor’s Dilemma (DD). For the first time, we are adding a Medical Student DD, along with additional programming for residents and medical students. We are seeking Chapter members to assist with reviewing abstracts (virtual) and on-site (in-person) poster judging. Additional information can be accessed here.

Last week, NYS Governor Hochul took action on several healthcare related bills that had passed the Legislature. We will follow up with more information on these issues, including effective dates in the coming days. Those of importance include:

- **A1741/SS299** – Prohibits the use of “Co-Pay” accumulator policies by health insurers, which had prevented patients from applying the value of prescription drug discount cards towards meeting their deductibles.
- **A2085/S906** – Lowers the age to 45 for health insurers to cover colorectal cancer screening tests.
- **A372/SS690** - Prohibits health insurers from imposing co-pays for treatment at an opioid treatment program.
• **A273/S4640** – Requires prescribers, prior to prescribing an initial opioid prescription for a patient suffering from neuro-musculoskeletal pain, to discuss and consider various non-opioid treatment alternatives. Does not apply to prescriptions for patients suffering from post-surgical or cancer pain, or for patients in hospice or receiving emergency care.

• **A3470/S2521** – Requires health care providers to disclose facility fees not covered by their patients’ health insurance plan, including a health care provider who becomes newly employed by a health system.

Still awaiting the Governor’s action on **S74 (Hoylman)/A6770 (Weinstein) - Wrongful Death Recovery for Emotional Anguish**, which greatly expands the types of damages awardable in wrongful death cases and, if passed, will dramatically increase our already outrageously high liability insurance premiums. Please urge NYS Governor Hochul to veto this bill before Jan 30, 2023.

NYS Department of Health has announced that Dr. James V. McDonald will lead the Department as Acting Commissioner starting January 1, 2023, until a permanent Commissioner is appointed. Prior to joining the New York State Department of Health in July of 2022, Dr. McDonald has served in the Rhode Island Department of Health since 2012. He is board certified in Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine.

Let’s promote National Blood Donor, Mental Health, Cervical Health and Glaucoma Awareness this month.

Stay safe and warm,

Jitendra Barmecha, MD, MPH, FACP, SFHM
President

**What ACP Advocacy Achieved for You and Your Patients in 2022**

ACP has strongly advocated throughout 2022 on critical issues impacting internal medicine physicians, patients, and health care.

**2022 Advocacy in Action**

• Urged Congress to take action on key public health issues.
• Led initiatives to improve physician practices.
• Prioritized physician well-being.
• Championed the value of internal medicine physicians.
• Supported ACP member engagement in advocacy.

2022 ACP Advocacy Highlights Infograph

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND - Virtual ABIM MOC Courses!
Saturday, February 25, 2023 / Zoom
2 Sessions!

Earn up to 20 CME credits and 20 MOC points!

Each Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Learning Session provides a collaborative environment to complete an ABIM Medical Knowledge module and earn MOC points. Led by ABIM Board Certified physicians, this interactive session allows you to work with colleagues to develop answers to module questions. **ABIM Board Certified physicians** can submit their answers to ABIM for 10 MOC points for each session and claim CME credit after completing the learning session.

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

Assembly Member Richard Gottfried Retired 12/31/22
The NY Chapter ACP wishes Assemblymember Richard Gottfried a happy and healthy retirement! Assembly Member Gottfried was Chair of the Assembly Health Committee and served in the assembly for over 52 years.

His successor in the Assembly is Tony Simone. Assemblymember Simone can be reached at SimoneT@nysassembly.gov.

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**Evergreen All-Stars Awards: Vote for Your Favorite Program**

**Due: Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

Voting has opened for the [Mary Bieter Evergreen All-Stars Award](#)! The Mary Bieter Evergreen All-Stars Award program recognizes exceptional and sustained chapter-initiated programs that have supported and adapted to the Internal Medicine landscape in the United States and around the world. For the first time, ACP is asking members to vote for their favorite nomination. Review the [list of submissions](#) and select 3 nominations you believe are deserving of an all-star award.

The goals of this program are to:

- Celebrate chapter-initiated programs that align with [ACP's priority themes](#);
- Increase the prominence of chapter programs by granting ACP’s 161,000 membership base autonomy to select All-Star winners

**NYACP Members...be sure you vote for the Chapter's Advocacy Internship Program entry!**

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**Members in the News!**

**UB and CHS Residents Face Challenging Snowstorm**

While the unprecedented snowstorm that hit Buffalo over the holidays is in the rearview mirror, many NY Chapter Internal Medicine Residents in western New York will not forget the unforgiving devastation the storm brought upon them.

The Chapter recognizes the extraordinary efforts that were made during such a difficult time. As many watched the relentless snowstorm on the news, teams of dedicated residents experienced the effects firsthand. Some had a 12-hour shift that turned into a...
50-hour marathon, while others navigated the treacherous commute to work. All channeled their energy to assist patients and community members in need.

NYACP recognizes and thanks the residents of University at Buffalo's Internal Medicine Residency Program and Catholic Health Systems Internal Medicine Residency Program for their dedication and outstanding commitment to the healthcare profession!

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**Upcoming Events**

**Multiple Small Feedings of the Mind: Updates and Resources**  
Tuesday, January 10, 2023 / 5:30 - 6:30 pm/ Zoom

**Topic 1: Update on Major Public Health ID Concerns**  
Aaron Glatt, MD, MACP, FIDSH, FSHEA, Chair, Dept. of Medicine, Chief Infectious Diseases and Hospital Epidemiologist, Mount Sinai South Nassau

**Topic 2: Introduction to PACE Programs**  
David Heisig, MD, FACP, Medical Director, PACE CNY

[More Information](#)  
[Register Here](#)

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**NYACP DEI Task Force Hosts NYSDOH Webinar**  
**Addressing Health Equity: How is NY State Taking Action?**  
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 / 7:00-8:00 pm / Zoom

Johanne Morne, Deputy Commissioner, NYS Office of Health Equity and Human Rights

[More Information](#)  
[Register Here](#)

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**Home and Skilled Nursing Facility: Post-Operative Care of Older Adults**
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 / 7:00 - 8:00 pm / Zoom Meeting
Jointly provided by NYMDA and the NYACP Geriatrics Task Force
1 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)TM

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)TM. 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

Abstract Submission Forms Open!

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, Feb. 3rd at 5 pm.

- Review the Call for Abstracts information.
- The submission fee is $30 per abstract- please 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