

**Observation Medicine Section Meeting**

**MINUTES**

October 17, 2016

Las Vegas, NV

**Participants**

Section members participating for all or part of the meeting included: Anwar Osborne, MD, FACEP, Chair; Steven Arze, MD, FACEP; Christopher Baugh, MD, MBA, FACEP; Robert S. Bennett, MD; Robert Bramante, MD, FACEP; Christopher Caspers, MD; Carol L. Clark, MD, MBA, FACEP, Councillor; James d'Etienne, MD; Michael A. Granovsky, MD, FACEP; Janos Jeges, MD, FACEP; Karen Jubanyik-Barber, MD; Tadeusz Korszun, MD, FACEP; David M. Larson, MD, FACEP; Eustace Lashley, MD, FACEP; Andrew W. Lee, MD, FACEP; Sharon E. Mace, MD, FACEP; Edgar Ordonez, MD, FACEP; Margarita Pena, MD, FACEP; Christopher Raio, MD, FACEP; Michael A. Ross, MD, FACEP; David Schreck, MD, FACEP; Lauren Southerland, MD, FACEP; Vaishal Tolia, MD, FACEP; Mike Turturro, MD, FACEP; Andrew Ulrich, MD, FACEP; Arjun Venkatesh, MD, MBA; Hao Wang, MD, FACEP; Joseph Watkins, MD; and Kristy Ziontz, DO, FACEP.

Others participating for all or part of the meeting included: Peter Brokish, MD, FACEP; Juli Forde; Marney Gruber, MD; Susan Nedza, MD, MBA, FACEP; Sharon Nicka, RN; Uche Ojiaku, MD; J. Patrick Pearsall, MD; Allison Regan, MD; Artur Treyster, MD; Paul D. Kivela, MD, MBA, FACEP, Board Liaison; Sandra M. Schneider, MD, FACEP, ACEP Staff Liaison; and Julie Rispoli, Project Manager.

**Agenda**

Welcome  
Freestanding Observation Units  
Councillor Report  
CMS Policy Update  
Billing and Alternate Payment Models  
Call for Nominations/Elections  
New business

**Major Points Discussed**

Dr. Anwar Osborne opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Dr. Kivela was introduced as the President Elect and offered his welcome. He mentioned that it was unclear if he would remain the Board Liaison to the Section.

Dr. Peter Brokish gave a presentation on Freestanding EDs and Observation Units. There are a number of different types of free standing facilities, some with hospital association (actually licensed by the hospital) and some independent. Some will take ambulances, and some not. But it is generally unusual for ambulances to go there. While free standings increase access for patients, often they are built in affluent areas.

Dr. Susan Nedza gave a presentation on Billing and Alternate Payment Models. This is an area of much concern for the College. There is an Alternate Payment Model Task Force that is currently working on some solutions and recommendations.

Dr. Arjun Venkatesh encouraged attendees to look into ACEPs Emergency Quality Network ([E-QUAL](#)). ACEP is one of 39 health care organizations selected to participate in the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation's (CMMI) Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPI). The ACEP Emergency Quality (E-QUAL) Network is now recruiting EDs and emergency clinicians for three planned learning collaboratives:

- Improving outcomes for patients with sepsis
- Reducing avoidable imaging in low risk patients through implementation of ACEP's Choosing Wisely recommendations
- Improving the value of ED chest pain evaluation by reducing avoidable admissions in low risk patients with chest pain

To enroll in the 2017 learning collaborative, you must sign up by November 30. If you have any questions, you can send an email to [equal@acep.org](mailto:equal@acep.org).

Dr. Michael Ross did a presentation on CMS Updates – C-APC and the Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) and included a discussion on the Two-midnight rule. Ms. Rispoli with send out his slides to the section elist.

Dr. Carol Clark provided a report from the Council meeting. Dr. Kivela is President –Elect, Drs. Kevin Klauer and Gillian Schmitz were newly elected to the ACEP Board of Directors and Drs. Jim Augustine and Deb Perina were reelected. It was reported that ACEP is considering accrediting Freestanding Emergency Departments.

There was a call for nominations for 3 positions, Chair-elect, Secretary/Newsletter Editor, and Alternate Councillor.

The following were elected by acclamation:

Chair-elect: Matthew Wheatley, MD, FACEP

Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Robert M. Bramante, MD, FACEP and Christopher Caspers, MD

Two people were nominated for Alternate Councillor so a ballot was used. Ms. Rispoli counted the ballots and Kristy Ziontz, DO was elected by majority vote.

The meeting was adjourned.