



2026, Quarter 2

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## President's Message



Paul C Allegra, MD,  
FACEP  
MNACEP President

### **Dear MNACEP Members,**

We have had a productive year to date, marked by the MNACEP Emergency Medicine Summit, the conclusion of the 2026 Legislative Session and ongoing planning for our 2027 advocacy efforts.

### **MNACEP Emergency Medicine Summit**

The EM Summit took place on May 7 at the Union Depot in St. Paul. The event saw a great turnout and featured outstanding educational programming.

A highlight of the summit was the "Posters and Pastries" session, where our residents showcased their research and case report posters, demonstrating the bright future of emergency medicine in Minnesota. You can read more about the event in this newsletter as we look forward to another successful Summit in 2027.

### **Legislative & Advocacy Update**

MNACEP members have been active at both the state and federal levels. In April, 17 members attended the ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference (LAC) to engage

with MN legislators in Washington, DC. We advocated for solutions for boarding and enhanced reimbursement given the unfunded mandate that is EMTALA while learning much from other state chapters on ways to enhance our legislative efforts in MN. Further details on the event and the topics discussed are included later in this newsletter.

On the state level, we worked to advance several pieces of legislation during the 2026 session. While the timing and the political milieu did not favor us this year, we continue to build a strong foundation, planting seeds for the future. You can [read the full legislative wrap-up on our website](#).

Looking ahead, the Policy and Advocacy Committee recently began discussions for the 2027 legislative session, including strategies to engage with the large number of newly elected officials joining the legislature next year. If you haven't yet, please take the time to sign up for our advocacy alerts (QR code below, it is quick) and mark your calendar for our EM Physicians' Day at the Capitol on March 11, 2027. Your voice matters, and we hope to see you there.

Please feel free to reach out to the Board or to me directly if you are interested in becoming more involved. I encourage you to do so as active involvement helps us more effectively meet our objectives. We look forward to our progress in the coming year as we continue to promote care for our patients and the practice of EM. Thank you for your continued support, engagement, and remarkable work.

Warm Regards,

Paul C. Allegra, MD FACEP

President, Minnesota College of Emergency Physicians (MNACEP)

### Sign up here for Advocacy Alerts



Scan the QR code to sign up for Advocacy Alerts. Or, [click here to sign up](#).

SCAN ME



During the legislative session, we may need your quick help to contact legislators. MNACEP now uses email and SMS alerts for rapid advocacy updates.

To receive urgent text alerts, please share your cell phone number. Your information will stay private, and we'll only message you when necessary.

Together, we can advocate effectively for emergency medicine and our patients! Scan the QR code or click on the link above to sign up.



## New Members

Please welcome the newest members to our ACEP chapter!

- Walker Tordsen
- Evan Imrie
- Wren Logan Krah
- Harper O'Neill
- Isabel Cook
- Elsa Sandeno
- Abdulmueti Alshareef
- Spencer Breen
- Hudson M. Dean
- Allison Anne Voce

Invite your colleagues to [join MN ACEP](#) so they can also take advantage of ACEP's local and national network and benefits.

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## New FACEP

We are thrilled to celebrate the newest of our Minnesota members for earning the prestigious Fellow designation with the American College of Emergency Physicians. This honor reflects their dedication, expertise, and commitment to emergency medicine.

Congratulations!

- **Amy O'Neil, MD, FACEP**

For more information on how to become an ACEP Fellow, please visit the [ACEP Fellowship page](#).

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## Chapter Award Winners

### **Lifetime Achievement Award - Mark Mannenbach, MD**



The inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award was proudly presented to Dr. Mark Mannenbach, who was nominated by Dr. Neha Raukar in recognition of an extraordinary career dedicated to pediatric emergency medicine, education, and advancing emergency care for children. Over decades at Mayo Clinic, he built and led pediatric emergency medicine programs that became nationally respected models for integrating pediatric expertise within a large academic emergency department while strengthening pediatric readiness across general emergency medicine settings. His career exemplifies sustained excellence, humility, and dedication to children and families.

The nomination highlighted his unparalleled educational impact through the generations of emergency medicine residents, pediatric residents, advanced practice providers, nurses, and EMS professionals he has trained. Many clinicians practicing today credit Dr. Mannenbach with shaping their confidence and competence in caring for acutely ill and injured children. He was also an early leader in simulation-based education, recognizing its value in improving team performance, decision-making, and patient safety long before it became standard practice. His leadership helped establish simulation as an essential component of pediatric and emergency medicine training, particularly in preparing teams for rare but high-stakes clinical scenarios.

In addition to his clinical and educational leadership, Dr. Mannenbach has contributed extensively through scholarship, invited lectures, and guideline development in pediatric emergency medicine. His expertise has influenced standards of care well beyond his institution, and even after transitioning to emeritus status, he remains deeply engaged as a teacher and mentor.

**Physician of the Year Award - Neha P. Raukar, MD, MS, FACEP**



The first Minnesota ACEP Physician of the Year Award recipient was nominated by Chris Carpenter, MD, who stated that Dr. Neha Raukar exemplifies the spirit, skill, and dedication of Minnesota's emergency physicians through exceptional clinical practice, sustained leadership, and a career defined by service to patients, colleagues, and the broader community.

Dr. Raukar is a practicing emergency physician whose experience spans large academic centers, community hospitals, and rural environments, reflecting the breadth of emergency care across Minnesota. She brings a steady, patient-centered presence to high-acuity clinical care and is widely respected for her clinical judgment, professionalism, and ability to lead teams under pressure. Her excellence as a clinician is matched by a deep commitment to education.

Her passion for emergency medicine strongly reflects the criteria established for this award. In 2024, she was recognized by the Mayo Clinic Department of Emergency Medicine with the Excellence in Teaching/Clinician Educator of the Year Award, an honor driven by peer and learner recognition of her impact on clinical training and bedside teaching.

Beyond the emergency department, Dr. Raukar has been a tireless advocate for emergency medicine and public safety. She has participated in the American College of Emergency Physicians Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, engaging national policymakers on issues central to emergency care. In Minnesota, she has advocated for cardiopulmonary resuscitation training in schools and emergency preparedness education for coaches.

In addition to her emergency medicine work, Dr. Raukar is fellowship trained and board certified in Sports Medicine and serves as a team physician for US Ski & Snowboard, USA Hockey, and USA Figure Skating.

### **Resident of the Year Award - Greta Kreider Carlson, MD**



The inaugural Resident of the Year Award recipient, Dr. Greta Kreider Carlson, was nominated by the leadership of her residency program in recognition of her outstanding clinical excellence, compassion, leadership, and professionalism. She is a sixth-year resident in the combined Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Critical Care Medicine residency program at Hennepin Healthcare, where she has distinguished herself in demanding, high-acuity emergency medicine and critical care environments.

Dr. Kreider Carlson consistently delivers compassionate, patient-centered emergency and critical care at the highest level. She possesses a remarkable ability to connect meaningfully with patients and families during moments of fear, pain, and uncertainty. Her communication is clear, empathetic, and reassuring, even in the most chaotic clinical circumstances. Patients trust her, families feel heard, and her care routinely achieves exceptional clinical standards alongside high levels of patient satisfaction.

She is also recognized as a champion of teamwork and a positive clinical culture. Dr. Kreider Carlson works seamlessly with nurses, EMTs, technicians, physician assistants, fellow residents, and ancillary staff, fostering an environment grounded in mutual respect and open communication. Colleagues consistently regard her as a trusted collaborator whose presence strengthens both patient care and team morale.

Among her most defining qualities is her leadership. As Chief Resident, Dr. Kreider Carlson has demonstrated exceptional organizational skill, sound judgment, and unwavering professionalism, embodying the ideals of emergency medicine and the mission of Minnesota Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

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**Your First Three Years as an Attending, Supported by ACEP**

Starting your career as an attending comes with new opportunities—and new challenges. ACEP's New Attending Membership Bundle is designed specifically for graduating residents and fellows, providing three years of membership for just \$25 per month while helping you stay connected to the resources, advocacy, and professional community that support emergency physicians.

The bundle includes more than \$2,500 in value, including ACEP national dues, chapter dues, PEERprep board preparation, FACEP application fees, Practice Essentials of Emergency Medicine, unlimited section memberships, and all standard ACEP member benefits such as CME, leadership opportunities, and discounted registration for ACEP's Annual Scientific Assembly.

Graduating in 2026? Eligible residents can renew into the New Attending Membership Bundle through December 31, with this discounted rate guaranteed for three years. Fellows remain eligible for the candidate member rate throughout their training.

[Learn More & Renew Today!](#)

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## **Kratom Alkaloids: An Emerging Public Health Concern**

Kratom products—sold as powders, capsules, gummies, teas, and liquid shots in smoke shops, vape stores, and gas stations—are increasingly marketed for pain relief, energy, mood enhancement, and opioid withdrawal support. Newer, more potent kratom alkaloids are associated with increasing reports of serious health effects, including addiction, respiratory depression, and overdose. Because laboratory detection alone only confirms exposure, quantitative testing and product analysis are critical for identifying which alkaloids were consumed and informing clinical and public health responses. Public health laboratories play a vital role by expanding testing capabilities, monitoring emerging kratom compounds, and rapidly sharing data to strengthen biosurveillance and protect communities.

The Minnesota Department of Health wants physicians to know that the Public Health Laboratory has full capability to analyze clinical samples and product samples for these substances, along with many more, through their Minnesota Drug Overdose and Substance use Surveillance Activity (MNDOSA) program. Find out more about the [MNDOSA Program here](#).

Click the button below to read the *APHL Substance Awareness Bulletin | June 2026* for additional information on emerging kratom alkaloids, testing recommendations, and public health response strategies.

[Read More](#)

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## Clinical Corner

**Reminder: Clinical Case Submissions Are Encouraged!**

Minnesota ACEP continues to accept clinical case submissions for our quarterly newsletter. We're excited to feature our first case in this edition and invite you to share your own. If you have an interesting case—whether it's a unique diagnosis, a challenging treatment, or a noteworthy patient outcome—please submit it using the form here: [Submit Your Case](#). Your contribution helps highlight key clinical insights and fosters learning within our community. We look forward to showcasing more of the incredible work being done in our field!

[Submit a Case](#)

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## Upcoming MNACEP Events



The banner features a blue background with the MNACEP logo at the top, which includes the text "2026", "MNACEP", and "Minnesota Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians". Below the logo, the word "RECEPTION" is written in large yellow letters, followed by "AT THE ACEP SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY" in smaller yellow letters. A green horizontal band contains the event details: "Pizano's Pizza 2106 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL" on the left and "5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Tuesday, October 6" on the right, each preceded by a location and calendar icon respectively. Below the green band, a white text box says "Come unwind with colleagues, expand your network, and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with fellow MNACEP members and guests. We look forward to seeing you there!". At the bottom, a photograph of the Chicago skyline is shown with a yellow oval and an arrow pointing to the text "PLEASE R.S.V.P. HERE: bit.ly/4mih1Er".

**2026**  
**MNACEP**  
Minnesota Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians

**RECEPTION**  
**AT THE ACEP SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLY**

 **Pizano's Pizza**  
**2106 S. Indiana, Chicago, IL**

 **5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**  
**Tuesday, October 6**

Come unwind with colleagues, expand your network, and enjoy a relaxed atmosphere with fellow MNACEP members and guests.  
We look forward to seeing you there!

**PLEASE R.S.V.P. HERE:**  
[bit.ly/4mih1Er](https://bit.ly/4mih1Er)

[RSVP TODAY!](#)

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# ACEP26 IS CALLING

Your specialty. Your people. One place.

October 5 - 8, 2026



Register and reconnect in Chicago

**Register today for ACEP26!** Chicago is full of adventure, and this year, you'll have more flexibility than ever - no need to select courses in advance! [Register by Sept. 4](#) and get **one year of FREE access to ACEP Anytime!** It's the best move you can make!

Register Today!

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## It's Renewal Season!

More than 80% of all MMACEP members have a renewal date in June, July or August. Now that we have hit the summer months, make sure you take a moment to renew your ACEP and MNACEP dues. If you think your renewal month is in the summer, but haven't yet seen an invoice, please reach out to us at [exec@mnacep.org](mailto:exec@mnacep.org), and we can provide you with your renewal date, and assist with any questions you may have.

As a reminder, ACEP now offers the option to pay membership dues through ACH (electronic check) payments. Choosing ACH makes renewals seamless while reducing credit card processing fees, allowing more resources to go directly toward advocacy efforts and member benefits. This option is available for new and renewing members, and those using installments or auto-renew can easily update their payment information anytime in the Payment Methods section of My Account on ACEP's website. Please consider switching to ACH for your next dues payment.

Renew Today

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## ACEP President Defends Emergency Medicine in Op-Ed

In an [opinion piece](#) published June 25 in *MedPage Today*, ACEP President L. Anthony Cirillo, MD, FACEP, strongly reinforced the value of emergency medicine.

He clarifies that patients seek emergency care because they reasonably fear they may have a serious medical condition, and that diagnostic testing is crucial to accurately identifying life-threatening conditions.

“We will stay open 24/7/365 and we will always be there to make sure everyone has somewhere to go when they're hit with an emergency. That's why the emergency department exists. And we're not going anywhere,” said Dr. Cirillo.

[Read More](#)

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## **ACEP, ACR and ASA Applaud Final IDR Operations Rule as Major Step Forward for No Surprises Act Implementation**

The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), and American College of Radiology (ACR) are applauding a new federal rule that strengthens the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) process under the No Surprises Act. The final rule includes key physician-supported reforms aimed at improving transparency, reducing administrative burdens, and ensuring a fairer payment dispute process while limiting opportunities for insurer abuse. Read more about what these changes mean for physicians and the ongoing efforts to ensure effective implementation.

[Read More](#)

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## **IDR Operations Rule Improves Process but Still Needs Enforcement Mechanism**

ACEP applauds the Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) Operations final rule released today that will greatly strengthen the federal process financially protecting patients who receive care out of network and ensure a more effective pathway to physicians being fairly reimbursed when insurers won't include them as part of their in-network panel. However, strong enforcement will be necessary to hold insurance companies accountable for noncompliance.

“Finalizing these long-awaited reforms largely as proposed is an important step toward a more transparent, efficient, and effective IDR process, but it is only the first step,” said ACEP President L. Anthony Cirillo, MD, FACEP. “The rule's overall success will now depend on strong, consistent enforcement, and meaningful consequences for noncompliance.”

This final rule will reduce unnecessary disputes and speed up determinations by requiring insurers to provide all information needed for claims to be processed correctly. It also encourages meaningful negotiation so that IDR is used only as a last resort, while a modernized open negotiation workflow will significantly reduce administrative burden

— creating efficiencies for physicians, insurers, and the government alike, and ultimately lowering health care costs for all.

ACEP looks forward to continuing to work with the Administration and Congress to ensure the No Surprises Act fulfills its promise to protect patients while facilitating fair and timely resolution of payment disputes.

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## Join the Movement

Become a member of Minnesota ACEP and contribute to the growth of emergency medicine in the region.

[Learn more](#)



Together, we can lead as a proactive and influential presence in the field of emergency medicine in Minnesota.

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