

# WELCOME TO OUR Governor's Newsletter



## President's Message

*GEORGE EVERETT, MD, MS, MACP*

It's hard to believe that my four years as Governor of the Florida Chapter of the ACP will end when the sun sets on the ACP National Meeting in Boston on April 20, 2024. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the chapter in this capacity.

No Governor can forget the pride of leading the Florida delegation as new Fellows are enshrined and watching new Masters go on the stage at National ACP convocation.

Together with the Florida ACP chapter members we have weathered the storm of the COVID-19 epidemic which launched an upheaval in the science and politics of medicine. Our medical and social worlds have forever changed during these last 4 years. Telehealth, virtual meetings, new vaccine production methods and better PPE are just a few of the lasting innovations developed in response to the pandemic. The pall left by COVID-19 will be worn by the families of those who lost loved ones and by the psychological toll taken on physicians, other health personnel, and patients. Let us give each other comfort and encouragement.

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Despite the many obstacles produced by COVID-19, the Florida Chapter of the ACP has continued an extended phase of growth and development. We are already the largest ACP chapter in the world and now have more than 9000 members. This represents more than 5% of the entire worldwide ACP membership. The Florida ACP Chapter holds (2) in-person meetings per year with one dedicated to new scientific developments and the other focused on residents and students. Our chapter was awarded the Gold level of achievement, the highest level offered by the ACP.

Graduate and Undergraduate medical education programs have skyrocketed in Florida. There are already 10 established medical schools with year-one enrollment of more than 1600 students and more medical schools are being created. Five of the medical schools were begun after the year 2000. Graduate Medical Education has seen even more explosive growth with Internal Medicine leading the way. There are now at least 49 IM residencies with collectively more than 800 PGY-1 positions. Compare that to only 10 IM programs in 2009. More residencies of all kinds can be expected over the ensuing years as the medical educational infrastructure expands to provide the physicians needed to care for the 22 million current Floridians and to prepare for the 1000 new people who move here every day.

National ACP and the Florida chapter have advocated collaboratively with other local chapters on problems of healthcare that affect the nation and the world. Working with the Florida legislature, we have succeeded in our efforts to protect physicians from liability, to halt the intrusion into the scope of practice by non-physicians, to expand Telehealth services, and to improve medication access and cost. Nationally, ACP has proposed improved methods of financing of healthcare services that would result in more cost-effective care delivered more equitably. ACP has strongly supported efforts to reduce discrimination, and expand equity and opportunity throughout the practice of medicine.

ACP is a thriving and vibrant community of Internists that now includes the United States and multiple other countries. ACP continues to provide the best continuing medical education activities of any organization in the world, including the 19th edition of Medical Knowledge Self-Assessment Program (MKSAP) and the national meeting with all the options for education. ACP's advocacy voice is individually powerful because it is the largest specialty physician organization in the world but becomes even more effective when linked with other large medical organizations on issues of mutual interest.

My advice to you is to join the ACP and remain in the ACP for the duration of your life. The ACP has a lot to offer every Internist whether a Generalist, Academician, Subspecialist, Hospitalist, Primary Care or any other of the extraordinarily diverse options the field offers. The ACP is a bargain and a joy.

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## Let's dive right into this issue



# Governor's message

## The last four years



*ANKUSH K. BANSAL,  
MD, FACP, FACPM,  
SFHM*

The last four years have been, arguably, the most difficult period for medicine worldwide in over 100 years. Every physician in practice since 2019 faced unimaginable challenges, personal sacrifices, uncertainty, emotional exhaustion, and compassion fatigue from the unprecedented numbers of patients suffering and dying from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Much more so than the 1918 influenza pandemic, significantly influenced by social media, were the attacks, diminution, and placations placed at our feet by politicians, inadequately resourced public health officials, clickbait or sensationalized media reports, and the rampant disinformation campaign by many, particularly from Florida that confused patients, sowed distrust in physicians and scientists by the public, and likely direct led to far more deaths from COVID-19 than otherwise occurred. Sadly, some of these disinformation peddlers were fellow physicians. It wasn't just issues such as masks or COVID vaccines but also decades-old, tried and true vaccines for other preventable infections, misuse of medications, interference in the physician-patient relationship by non-science-educated politicians and judges, and limitation of evidence-based practice.

No wonder, "burn-out" (a term I dislike) hit a record high since 2020 resulting in increased suicide attempts by physicians, earlier retirement of late-career physicians, and higher rates of stress atop higher patient census and decreasing ancillary clinical resources and reimbursement for all physicians, particularly early-career.

At the time of this writing, I'm listening to the audio version of a new book called "The Wisdom of Plagues" by Donald G. McNeil, Jr., a former New York Times writer with 25+ years of experience in investigating and reporting on epidemics and pandemics.

It's fascinating how we can now look back at COVID-19 and the epidemics that preceded it to learn how humanity, particularly societies like the U.S., reacted, what cycles seem to repeat themselves, and what unique issues we faced in this most recent pandemic compared to previous ones.

And now, in February and March 2024, we face disinformation, confusion, and, sadly, morbidity from a disease that should never have spread in this country: Measles. I am proud that, at the urging of your Florida ACP senior leadership, George Everett, Elisa Sottile, and myself, ACP national issued a public statement on February 28, 2024, regarding the measles outbreak in Weston. I encourage all of you to read that statement, send your chapter and national leadership your comments about this and other public health issues in Florida, and watch for future statements on evidence-based care, public health, and the preservation of the physician-patient relationship from your chapter and national office.

# Governor's message

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We, the Florida Chapter of the American College of Physicians, the largest ACP Chapter in the world, must all work together even more in this era of medical misinformation and disinformation, unprecedented effects of climate change on health in Florida, We must educate our colleagues, reach out to the public, advocate for our profession and patients at all levels of government, and work together through your medical home – the American College of Physicians.

If not us, who will advocate for our profession and for our patients?

If not now, when and after how much more interference and eroding of our profession? What we do at the Florida ACP matters. All of you who are active members matter to your colleagues and patients.

Let's start with the annual spring residents meeting where we support and encourage our future generations of physicians and scientists. I encourage all of you to participate in-person not just in 2024 but every year after that. We have some of the brightest residents and students anywhere and their level of knowledge, character, and energy is, in my opinion, second to none.

Remember also our fantastic annual Scientific Meeting this October in Ft Lauderdale, this year chaired by your newest Governor, Elisa Sottile. Every year, we have the top experts in various areas of medicine from Florida and around the country come to speak over 3 days. CME and ABIM MOC points are included.

I would also like to specially thank our outgoing Governor, George Everett, MD MACP. George has been a mentor to me, a coolheaded leader over the last 4 years that were entirely engulfed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and a second-to-none asset to our chapter. Dr. Everett managed to secure the highest amount of donations to the chapter of any Governor in our history. He will be missed once his term expires at the end of April, and we look forward to his continued engagement with the Chapter.

Lastly, the Chapter could not run without the wonderful staff: Dawn Moerings, Shelly Hakes, and Chris Nuland. Please thank them for their never-ending commitment, brilliant work, and ongoing support for what we do as a Chapter. We are one of the very few chapters to have such a large and experienced chapter staff. I look forward to what we accomplish over the next year.

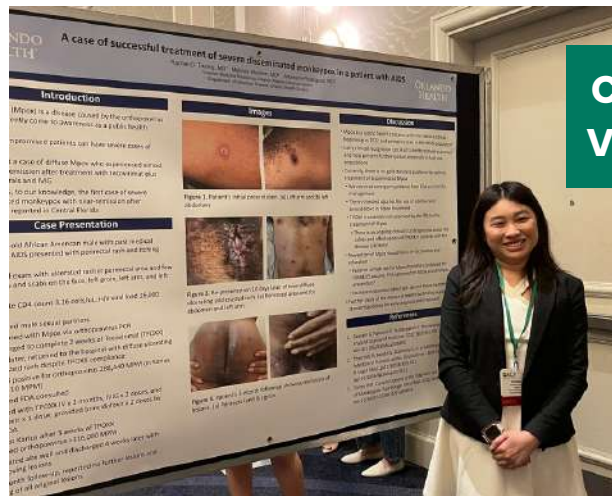
Ankush K. Bansal, MD, FACP, FACPM, SFHM

## Next: Poster Competition Awards

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS



## RESIDENT AWARDS



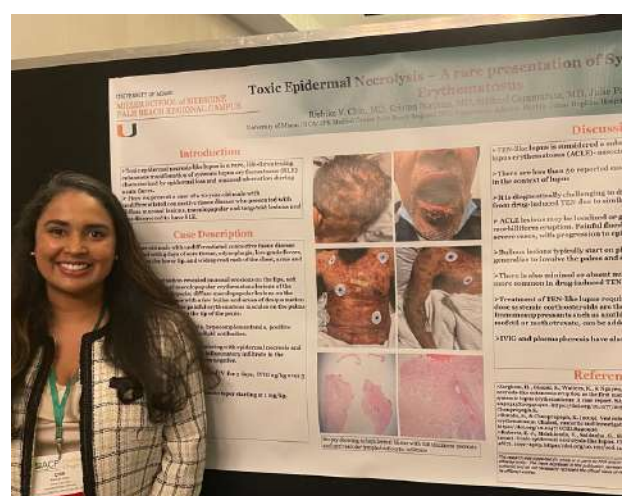
## CLINICAL VIGNETTE

**CONGRATULATIONS, RACHEL TRUONG / ORLANDO HEALTH**

A case of successful treatment of severe disseminated monkeypox in a patient with Aids.



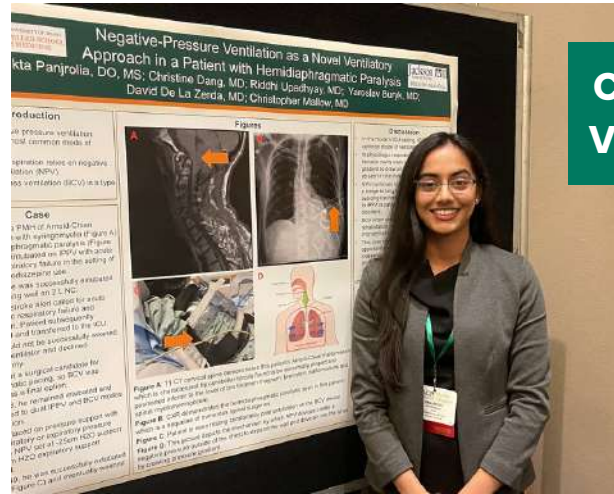
## CLINICAL VIGNETTE



**CONGRATULATIONS, RISHIKA CHIN / UM**

Toxic epidermal Necrolysis - A rare presentation of Systemic lupus Erythematosus.

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS RESIDENT AWARDS



**CLINICAL  
VIGNETTE**

**CONGRATULATIONS, EKTA PANJROLIA / UM**

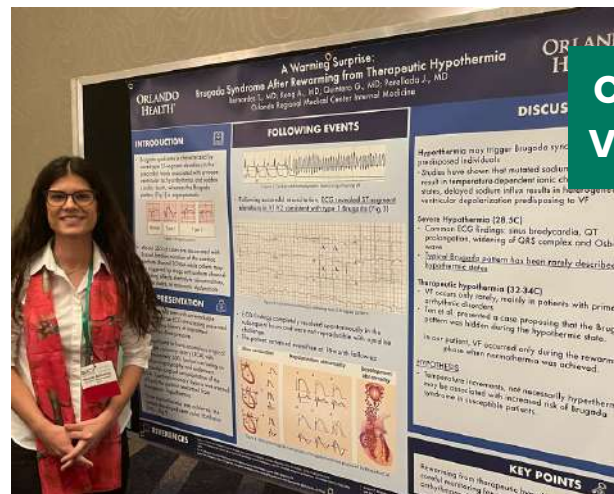
Negative-Pressure Ventilation as a Novel Ventilatory Approach in a Patient with Hemidiaphragmatic Paralysis.



**CLINICAL  
VIGNETTE**

**CONGRATULATIONS, ZEIN BARAKAT / LAKELAND REGIONAL HEALTH**

From Womb to Lung: an astonishing journey unraveling Thoracic Endometriosis in a Fascinating Case Report.



**CLINICAL  
VIGNETTE**

**CONGRATULATIONS, ANA MADEIRA / ORLANDO HEALTH**

A Warning Surprise: Brugada Syndrome After Rewarming from Therapeutic Hypothermia.

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS RESIDENT AWARDS



## CLINICAL VIGNETTE

**CONGRATULATIONS, EAMONN BYRNES / ORLANDO HEALTH**

Not a chronic migraine? Locally acquired Neurocysticercosis in the United States

## WELLBEING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**CONGRATULATIONS, BIBIANA SABATES / FAU**

Implementing an interactive escape room activity to assess intern's Confidence at the end of their week intern boot camp.

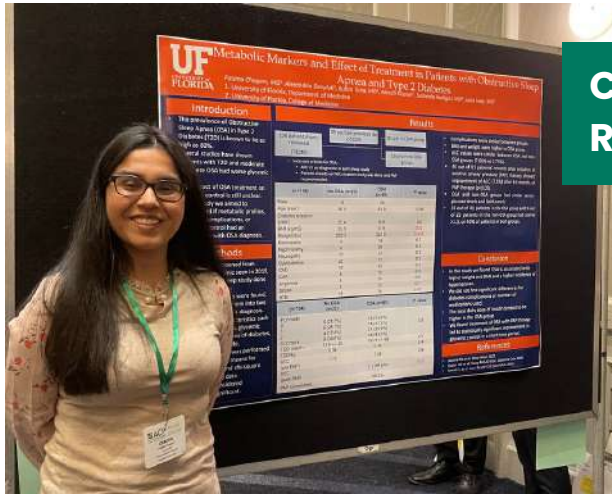


## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PATIENT SAFETY

**CONGRATULATIONS, AKANKCHA ALOK / HCA NORTH FLORIDA**

Updating a rural clinic in Tiburon, Haiti.

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS RESIDENT AWARDS

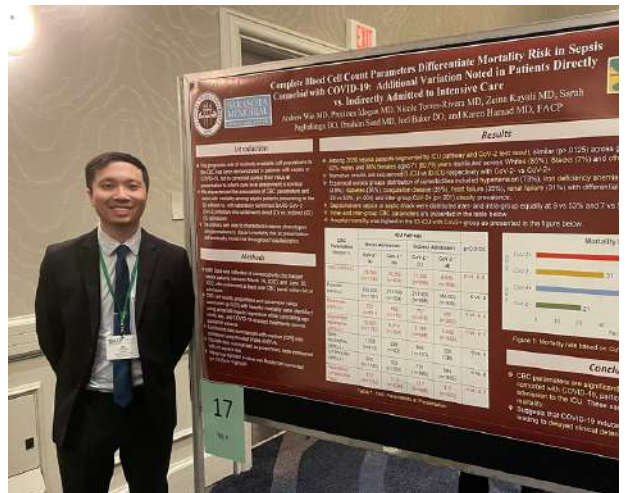


**CLINICAL  
RESEARCH**

**CONGRATULATIONS, FATIMA CHAGANI / UF**

Metabolic Markers and Effect of treatment in patients with obstructive sleep apnea and Type 2 Diabetes

**CLINICAL  
RESEARCH**



**CONGRATULATIONS, ANDREW WIN/ FSU**

Complete Blood Cell Count Parameters Differentiate Mortality Risk in Sepsis Comorbid with Covid-19: additional variation noted in patients directly vs. Indirectly admitted to intensive care.

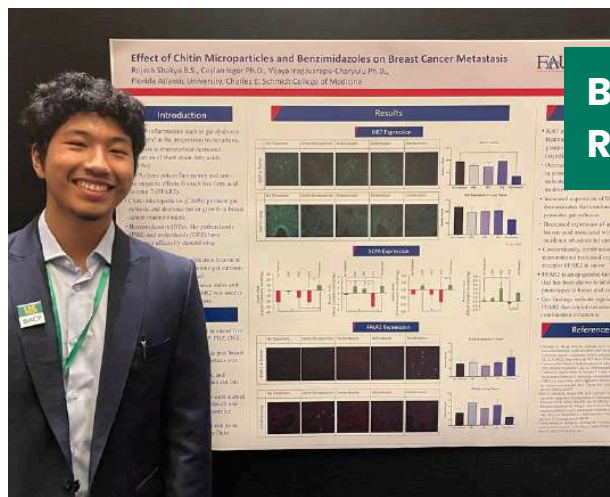
**Now, It's time for the student awards**





# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS

## STUDENT AWARDS

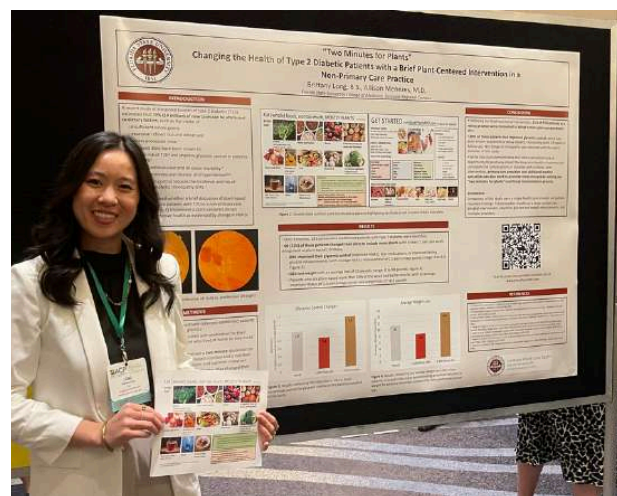


### BASIC RESEARCH

**CONGRATULATIONS, ROJESH SHAKYA / FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Effect of Chitin Microparticles and Benzimidazoles on Breast Cancer Metastasis.

### CLINICAL RESEARCH



**CONGRATULATIONS, BRITTANY LONG / FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**

Changing the Health of Type 2 Diabetic Patients with a Brief Plant-Centered Intervention in a Non-Primary Care Practice.

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING POSTER COMPETITIONS STUDENT AWARDS



## CLINICAL VIGNETTE

**CONGRATULATIONS, JESÚS CERVANTES / FIU**  
Tranq-Dope: A Flesh Wound Horror.



## CLINICAL VIGNETTE



**CONGRATULATIONS, KAYLEE VICKARYOUS / NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**  
A Rare Case Of Baló Concentric Sclerosis in a 37-Year-Old Woman.



## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT



**CONGRATULATIONS, ALLISON DUMITRIU/ USF HEALTH**  
Implementing an Itemized Menu of Available Supplies and Services Improves Utilization of Street Medicine Program Resources.

# FL CHAPTER 2023 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING DOCTOR'S DILEMMA CHAMPION

## FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY - TALLAHASSEE



L-R: VINCENT RIESGO, MD (ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR) JOSEPH TUBITO, MD, GIZEN REYHANOGLU, DO, MOHSAN KHAN, MD, AND JAMES BROWN, MD.

**Up next, we have the Governor's Awards**

# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING



## GOVERNOR'S AWARDS



### EARLY CAREER PHYSICIAN:

OMAR QAZI, MD FACP



### OUTSTANDING TEACHER OF THE YEAR:

IBRAHIM A. SAAD, MD



### JOHN G. LANGDON AWARD FOR VOLUNTEERISM IN MEDICINE:

RILEY G. JONES, MD FACP

# GOVERNOR'S AWARDS



**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
ADVANCING THE CAREERS OF  
WOMEN IN MEDICINE:**

CYNTHIA I. RIVERA, MD FACP



**LAUREATE AWARD:**

NARESH PATHAK, MD MACP  
FAAHPM



**INTERNIST OF THE YEAR:**

CLAUDIO TUDA, MD FACP

**THE TULISA LARocca WELLNESS CHAMPION:**

CHADWICK FLOWERS, MD

# 2023 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

## IMG MENTORING BREAKFAST



## WIM BREAKFAST



## RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS POCUS WORKSHOP



## RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS PROGRAM





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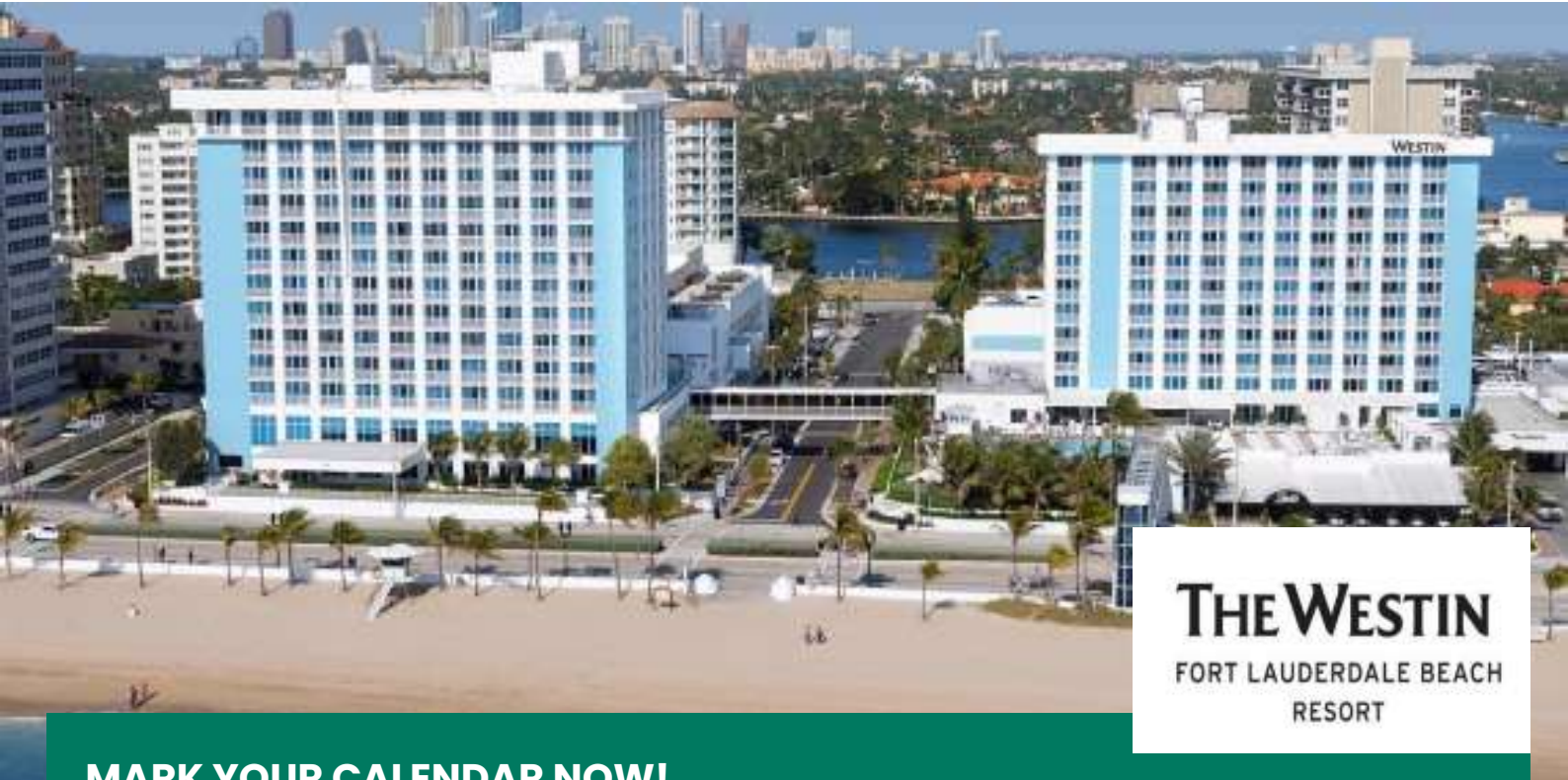
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## **UPCOMING NEWS**

- **ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING INFORMATION**
- **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR OCTOBER POSTER COMPETITION**
- **RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS WORKSHOP**
- **RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS NEWS**
- **CHAPTER MEMBER BENEFITS**
- **HEALTH POLICY/ADVOCACY**

AND REMEMBER...

# SAVE THE DATE



**THE WESTIN**  
FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH  
RESORT

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

MAKE PLANS NOW TO JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR INFORMATIVE SCIENTIFIC CONTENT IN A LUXURIOUS ATMOSPHERE AT ONE OF FLORIDA'S WORLD CLASS DESTINATIONS.

- INTERNAL MEDICINE & SUBSPECIALTY LECTURES
- STATE MANDATED COURSES
- RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS PROGRAM
- RESIDENTS & MEDICAL STUDENTS POSTER COMPETITION
- DOCTOR'S DILEMMA COMPETITION

**OCT 25-27, 2024**



**Florida  
Chapter**

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