



**ACP**  
American College of Physicians  
Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives

Florida Services  
Chapter



## FL Advocate Newsletter

MAY 2019

Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, President/Governor ❖ Manning Hanline MD FACP, Governor

### President's Message



**Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP**

Another leadership day has come and gone, and I am so impressed with the enthusiasm of our young physicians who are engaged in advocacy for the practice of internal medicine. It is often said that if you are not at the table, you are on the menu. This simple statement encompasses the concept that if you are not a part of the solution, you will be taking advantage of and lose out on what is important to you. Medicine and healthcare are at a critical juncture in our country and it is only with the engagement and involvement of those most knowledgeable of how our profession performs can we hope to right the ship and guide the debate to reach the most appropriate level of care and access for our patients.

Every year, the American College of Physicians has Leadership Day where Internists from around the country come to Washington to speak with their respective elected officials to advocate for responsible positions regarding patient care and physician practice. This year, we spoke about topics such as curtailing the rise of health costs, especially in the arena of prescription drugs, and spoke about the necessity of reducing the unreasonable administrative and unnecessary burdens placed on physician that hinder patient care. We also advocated for responsible positions on patient's access to care as well as protection of coverage for pre-existing conditions. Of course, the necessity of preventing the Medicare freeze on payments in order to help sustain medical practices was clearly stated to the members of Congress.

This process of communicating our issues is integral to our democracy. While we do not always all agree, the evaluation of both sides of an issue allows for the synthesis of the best possible outcome and fusion of ideas. It is only through this process can we hope to achieve the best possible scenario to help as many people as possible. While the majority rules, the minority rights must be heard.

I encourage every physician to be an advocate as it is our civic duty and responsibility to be involved in the process. The members of Congress do not fully understand the intricacies of healthcare and it is incumbent upon us to educate them. If we hope to improve the system, we must be engaged in that system. In addition to the act of communicating with the members of Congress in both Washington and their respective congressional offices in their district, it is critical to develop relationships with those offices. The only way to improve the political outcome is for physician friendly candidates to be elected to office.

Our political system is based on political action, and campaigns are notoriously expensive. To that end, evidence in political science literature clearly shows that contributions to political action committees lead to better outcomes for those engaged in the process. Every other major profession understands this and has been more successful in political action because of this. As Internists, and leaders of healthcare, it is incumbent upon us to engage in the activities necessary to guide government for the best outcome for healthcare. Every single physician should contribute to the political collection committee to most effectively improve patient care in the practice of medicine.

As leaders of healthcare, we must also work diligently with our colleagues in a collaborative effort to improve the house of medicine. One of the ways this can be accomplished is through involvement in the Florida Medical Association. I have previously said how we have a tremendous opportunity, with the number of delegates allotted to us at the annual meeting, to have a strong voice in the association. We will be meeting in August this year for the FMA meeting and I have two simple asks. The first is to be dual members in both the FMA and the ACP. The second, is to be a delegate at the annual meeting. This is both an opportunity to help shape FMA policy as well as learn how to become a better leader in the medical field. Of course, contributions to the political action committee are also of importance.

Outcomes of the legislative session could have been potentially disastrous for the practice of medicine if it were not for the relationships, effort, and time spent by your colleagues advocating and engaging in the system as well as contributing to the political action committee so that we have supporters and friends in the legislature. The need for advocacy is relevant on both state and federal levels and this cannot be done by any one individual. As with many things in healthcare, it is a team approach but, the Internist, should be the leaders of that team. Show your support and commitment for the future of medicine and become involved and engaged. Let us work together to create a healthcare system we can all be proud of.

*Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, President/Governor*

# ACP LEADERSHIP DAY ON CAPITOL HILL

May 14—15, 2019

## The Florida Delegation

Florida Chapter Delegation members who participated in ACP Leadership Day 2019 included:

Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, FL Chapter President/Governor,  
Manning H. Hanline, Jr, MD FACP, FL Chapter Governor

Ankush Bansal MD FACP, Madeline Fasen DO, Tahir Haque MD, Shobana Iyer MD,  
Caroline Lee MD, Zachary C. Liao MD, Jose Rivas MD, Rahil Shah, Bryant Shuey MD,  
Brian Toston DO, Dawn Moerings, Christopher L. Nuland Esq.



## RESIDENTS REFLECTIONS ON THEIR LEADERSHIP DAY EXPERIENCE

I had the opportunity to attend Leadership Day on May 14-15 with a group of fellow residents and students. It was truly an enlightening experience speaking with over 10 different congressional members and senators about pressing issues we face as physicians. It was my second visit to the Hill during my residency and a learning opportunity to see how the dynamic changes year-to-year regarding healthcare issues. My advocacy days, both at the state legislature and in DC, have been a humbling experience and have allowed me to work with the Florida Chapter to pursue my passion in health policy.

*~Tahir Haque MD, Co-Chair, FL Chapter ACP Council of Residents & Fellow Members*

ACP Leadership Day at Capitol Hill is an extraordinary, enrich and unique experience with the opportunity to exchange and learn different perspectives from physicians around the country and shared our concerns to our Florida Representatives in Congress. As physicians, we are highly motivated to continue to advocate and promote change within our local and national policies to benefit our patients.

*~Jose R. Rivas MD, FL Chapter ACP Council of Residents & Fellow Members*

# END OF SESSION LEGISLATIVE REPORT—MAY 6, 2019

Christopher L. Nuland, Esquire—General Counsel



Amidst the usual last-minute shenanigans and deal-making, I am happy to report that, overall, we had an extraordinary 2019 Legislative Session.

On the defensive front, we thwarted all attempts at Scope of Practice expansion, including pharmacists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. While Scope Expansion remains a fundamental part of the House Health Care package, the steadfast support of the Senate Leadership and Governor Desantis was successful in stopping the expansion efforts in the Senate.

We also worked hard to ensure that any Telehealth Bill would require out-of-state physicians to procure a full Florida license. While the Legislature ultimately did not require full licensing, it did include in its bill a requirement that such physicians remain accountable to both the Florida courts and Board of Medicine, and the bill also included requirements to maintain the in-person standard of care and a prohibition on insurers requiring the use of telemedicine.

On the offensive front, we had the most successful session in recent memory. While we certainly did not get everything we wanted, HB 843 (which passed during the last week of Session) addressed many of our most important issues, such as:

1. A requirement that a patient's physician would be notified of any hospital admission;
2. The ability of ambulatory surgery centers to keep patients for up to 24 hours;
3. The expansion of last year's Direct Primary Care agreements to all specialties;
4. A prohibition on redundant step therapy.

Thank you to everybody who visited Tallahassee, contacted a legislator, or even emailed me with an insightful comment. Your work was instrumental in our success, and your profession and patients thank you for your advocacy.

For additional information email [Nulandlaw@aol.com](mailto:Nulandlaw@aol.com)





## The Florida Delegation Meets with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill



Caroline Lee MD, Bryant Shuey MD, Congresswoman Lois Frankel, Jason Goldman MD FACP



Zach Liao MD, Rahil Shah, Brian Toston DO, Senator Marco Rubio, Chris Nuland, Ankush Bansal MD FACP, Tahir Haque MD

## The Florida Delegation Meets with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill



**Jason Goldman MD FACP, Congressman Neal Dunn, Caroline Lee MD, Bryant Shuey MD**



**Rahil Shah, Ankush Bansal MD FACP, Congresswoman Kathy Castor, Jason Goldman MD FACP, Bryant Shuey MD, Caroline Lee MD, Tahir Haque MD, Brian Toston DO, Zach Liao MD, Chris Nuland**



## The Florida Delegation Meets with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill



**Madeline Fasen DO, Shobana Iyer MD, Congressman John Rutherford,  
Jose Rivas MD, Manning Hanline Jr MD FACP**



**Caroline Lee MD, Bryant Shuey MD, Ankush Bansal MD FACP, Rahil Shah, Congresswoman Donna Shalala,  
Jason Goldman MD FACP, Zach Liao MD, Brian Toston DO, Tahir Haque MD, Chris Nuland**

## The Florida Delegation Meets with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill



**Tahir Haque MD, Ankush Bansal MD FACP, Congresswoman Debbie Mucarsel-Powell,  
Brian Toston DO, Rahil Shah, Zach Liao MD**



**Shobana Iyer MD, Jose Rivas MD, Jason Goldman MD FACP, Congressman Darren Soto,  
Chris Nuland, Dawn Moerings, Madeline Fasen DO**



## The Florida Delegation Meets with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill



**Manning Hanline MD FACP, Dawn Moerings, Shobana Iyer MD, Congressman Ted Yoho, Jose Rivas MD, Madeline Fasen DO**



**The Gadsden Flag "Don't Tread On Me" outside of Congressman Francis Rooney's office**



# Call to Arms

Organized medicine is made up of many different groups working together for common and shared goals to achieve the best results for the collective good of our profession. In the state of Florida we have a strong medical organization in the Florida Medical Association. The FMA is made up of several diverse physician groups from county medical societies to various specialty societies. The Florida Chapter of the American College of Physicians is one of the specialty societies that participates in the FMA. It is important to understand the structure of the organization and why your participation in both the FL Chapter ACP and the FMA is critical to the shared success of all physicians.

The pinnacle event of the FMA is the annual meeting held in the summer each year. At this, meeting delegates are sent from both county medical societies and the specialty societies. The number of delegates allowed are based on the percentage of membership. This year we have a record number of slots allowed for the meeting and it is my hope that we can fill the entire delegation. This will give the FL Chapter ACP an unprecedented voice in the Florida Medical Association.

The purpose of the annual meeting is wide reaching as it provides a forum for resolutions to be discussed and voted on that will shape the policies of the organization. The elections of officers also occur at this time. In addition, CME activities are provided as well as poster competitions and vendor displays. It is a time to connect with colleagues, shape policy, and make a difference in the state of Florida. The House of Delegates resolution process is also important because it allows for ideas to become policy. Members can become part of the policy process by writing a resolution and presenting it to the FL Chapter for consideration. This democratic process only works if members get involved and participate.

To that end, I am calling for our membership to rise to the challenge and fill our delegation at the FMA annual meeting. Of equal and critical importance is dual membership in both the FMA and the FL Chapter ACP. It is my sincere hope that not only will we fill the entire delegation but every FL Chapter ACP member will also consider becoming an FMA member. The chapter delegates have always enjoyed the FMA annual meeting and stay involved throughout the year. Please contact Dawn Moerings by Friday, **June 14, 2019** in the chapter office at [dmoerings@floridachapteracp.org](mailto:dmoerings@floridachapteracp.org) or 904-355-0800 for more information.

I truly hope you will consider participate in this important event.

**Jason M. Goldman, MD, FACP**

*President/Governor*

*Florida Chapter American College of Physicians*





Florida  
Chapter

## 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting

# SAVE THE DATE!



Westin Ft Lauderdale Beach Resort ~ Ft Lauderdale, FL

Mark Your  
Calendar Now!

22.5 CME credits  
&  
22.5 MOC points

Sept 6—8, 2019

**THE WESTIN**  
FORT LAUDERDALE BEACH  
RESORT

**Online Registration Opening Soon!**

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

*Updates in Internal Medicine • Advanced Heart Failure Therapy  
Bariatric Surgery Follow-up • HIV Epidemic Update  
Human Rights Clinic & T.H.R.I.V.E. • Prevention Guidelines: Adult Wellness  
Telemedicine • Transplant Nephrology Update  
8th Annual Humanism in Medicine Lecture  
\*2 Hr. State Mandated Courses: FL Domestic Violence • Prevention of Medical Errors  
Advancement to Fellowship Breakfast • Women's Mentoring Breakfast  
Residents & Medical Students Program  
Residents & Medical Students Poster Competition  
Doctors Dilemma™ Finals Competition*



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