



Wisconsin  
Chapter

BADGER BEAT



Dear Fellow ACP Members,

I hope that many of you are enjoying a great beginning to your summer. Hopefully, this will include some time to take a break from work and relax here in Wisconsin or perhaps you will have a chance to do some exploring. Either way, summer is a great time to remember the importance of maintaining your own personal wellness and the need to recharge by doing something fun either on your own, with family, or in the company of others you love to spend time with.

Our Governor's Council and Chapter Staff were busy this spring putting the final touches on the Scientific Program for our Chapter Meeting September 6-7, 2024 at the Wilderness Resort and Glacier Canyon Conference Center in the Wisconsin Dells. Our Co-Chairs Dr. Andy Calvin, Dr. Pinky Jha, and Dr. Hari Paudel have put together an outstanding CME program this year with speakers from across the state. Please take a look at the attached program to see the many new opportunities for networking this year. Friday Morning includes free workshops on Ambulatory topics, Hospital Medicine, and a 4 hour hands-on POCUS course lead by Dr. Andy Calvin and Dr. Paul Bergl. Friday night will include a Networking Reception followed by a Peer Coaching Workshop lead by Dr. Brett Linzer and Dr. Amalia Lyons. The evening will continue with a Narrative Medicine Story Slam, and plenty of time to socialize. More interactive CME programming continues on Saturday with nationally recognized speakers and a visit from ACP Board of Regents Chair-elect, Dr. Rebecca Andrews, who will be joining a panel discussion about professionalism, wellness and work life balance. We already have almost 150 Research and Clinical abstract submissions from our resident and medical student members, who are looking forward to this opportunity to learn and explore career opportunities in Internal Medicine.

Our Chapter joined hundreds of other ACP Members for ACP Leadership Day on Capitol Hill, May 14-15, 2024. Please check out the photos, as well as the attached Advocacy Update from HPPC Chair, Dr. Sophie Kramer.

In this issue, I would also like to highlight the recent accomplishments of one of our Chapter's committees. Please read on to learn more about the ACP Wisconsin International Medical Graduate Committee.

Please watch your email and follow our Chapter on Instagram, Facebook and X to stay up to date on Chapter activities and opportunities to get involved. Our Instagram is designed to highlight the accomplishments of ALL Chapter members. If you have news that you would like to share about something that is happening for you professionally, a

volunteer activity you want others to know about, or just something you think Chapter members might enjoy hearing about, please email us at [info@acpwi.org](mailto:info@acpwi.org).

Have a wonderful summer. I hope to see you in the Dells September 6-7th!

Ann

Ann Maguire, MD, MPH, FACP

Governor, American College of Physicians, Wisconsin Chapter

### 2024 ACP-WI Annual Scientific Meeting

We invite you to join us at the 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American College of Physicians, being held **September 6-7, 2024** at the **Wilderness Hotel and Glacier Canyon Conference Center in Wisconsin Dells, WI**. This meeting is not just for ACP members. We would like to invite nonmembers to join us for these important clinical updates and to learn about the benefits of membership at the same time.

The Annual Scientific Meeting is eligible for **16.00 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>TM</sup> and 16 MOC Points**.

To book your hotel room at the Wilderness Resort for Thursday, 9/5/24 (\$119 per night); Friday-Saturday, 9/6/24- 9/7/24 (\$139 per night). The resort phone number is: 800-867-9453. Our Group Reservation number is #953750. Please review the attached document below to book your hotel room online, or [click here](#).

### **[Register Today](#) 2024 Period Poverty Charity Donation Drive!**

Period Poverty refers to the challenges many face in paying for menstrual hygiene products. For the 2024 ACP-Wisconsin charitable donation drive we want to highlight both donations of period and incontinence products as well as awareness of the challenges of period poverty.

Menstrual hygiene products, including tampons, pads, reusable menstrual cups, and other products, are important health tools for managing periods for the more than 800,000,000 people globally who menstruate on any given day. [The average person who menstruates](#) uses between 10 to 35 pads or tampons per cycle, and uses up to 16,800 products over the course of their lifetime. However, many are unable to afford or otherwise lack access to these basic necessities. In [one study](#), 64 percent of low-income women were unable to afford needed menstrual hygiene products in the past year. Additionally, [menstrual hygiene products](#) are generally not covered by public health and nutritional programs and are not exempt from sales tax in Wisconsin.

[ACP has long believed](#) that women should have access to affordable, comprehensive, and nondiscriminatory health care coverage over the course of their life. Our ACP-Wisconsin chapter sent a Voter Voice in early 2024 in support of a bill that would have created a sales and use tax exemption for incontinence and menstrual hygiene products. Please continue to let your legislators know that we support improved access to these essentials.

At the 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting at the Wilderness Resort and Glacier Canyon Conference Center, September 6-7, 2024, please bring donations of products to address period poverty such as:

- tampons
- menstrual pads
- [menstrual cups](#)
- [period underwear](#)

Alternately, consider in-kind or monetary donations to the following organizations that provide incontinence and hygiene products to those in need:

- [Milwaukee](#)
- [Madison](#)
- [Green Bay](#)
- [Appleton](#)

Please reach out to [info@acpwi.org](mailto:info@acpwi.org) with any questions.

#### 2024 Leadership Day

From May 13 to 15, 2024, a group of medical students, residents, and practicing physicians from the Madison, Milwaukee, Marshfield and Wisconsin Rapids areas represented the Wisconsin chapter at ACP Leadership Day in Washington, D.C. After an exciting day of advocacy training, our delegation had the opportunity to engage with many of our Wisconsin representatives to Congress to advocate for three vital pieces of healthcare legislation. These included **H.R. 2630, the Safe Step Act**, which aims to protect patients from delays in optimal treatment due to step therapy protocols; **H.R. 2389, the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2023**, which seeks to address the critical shortage of positions for resident physicians; and **H.R. 6545, the Physician Fee Schedule Update and Improvements Act**, designed to ensure fair compensation of physicians under Medicare.

All ACP members can use the attached link to reach out to your members of Congress on this legislation:

<https://www.voterveice.net/ACPONLINE/Campaigns/116027/Respond>

**Perspective from Leah Mushall, UW SMPH M2 student:** “For me, this experience provided invaluable insights into the legislative process that I had never fully understood

before. I also provided personal testimony to illustrate the significance of these bills. Overall, ACP Leadership Day was an amazing experience and truly highlighted the importance of healthcare advocacy in shaping policies that directly impact patient care and the medical profession.”

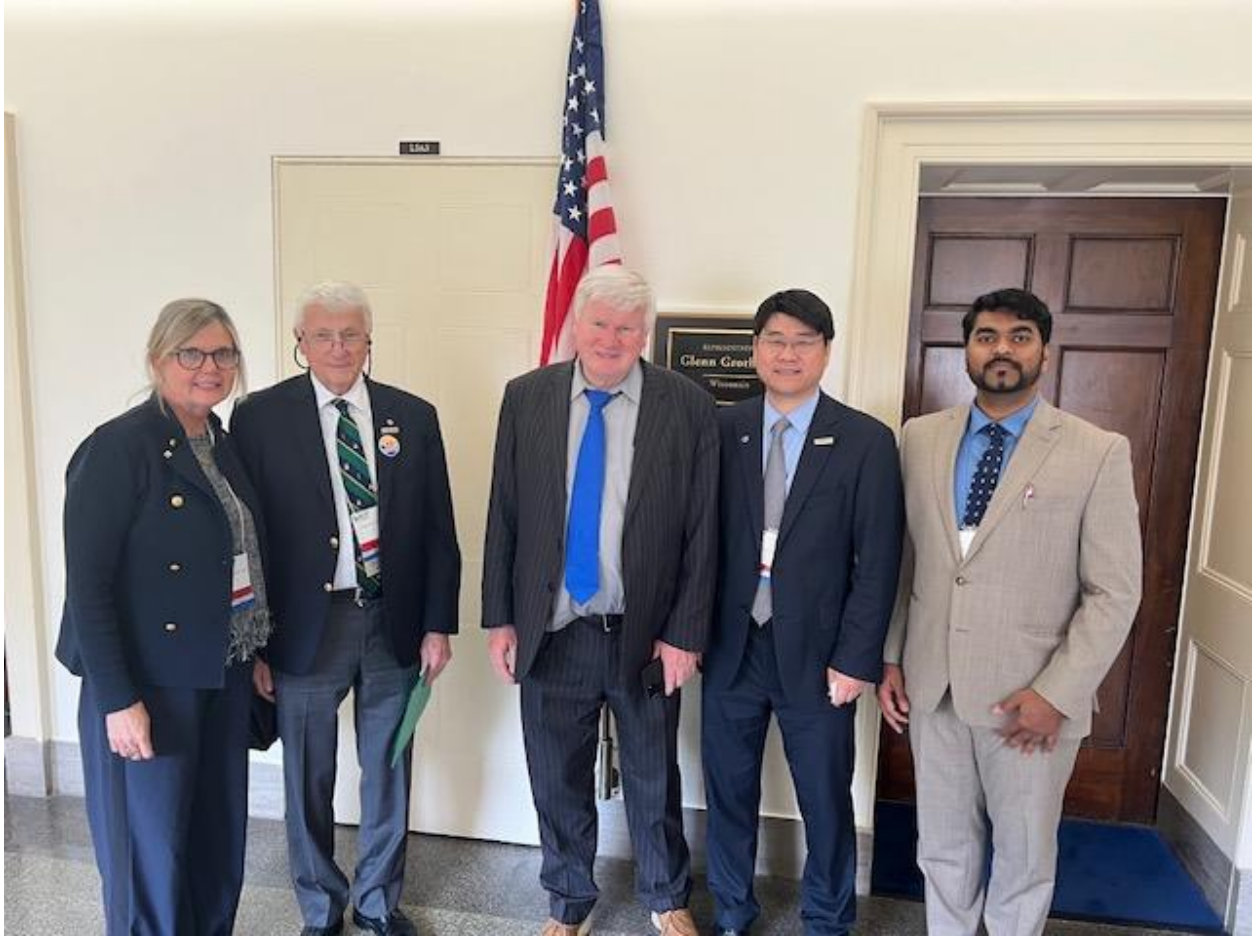
**Perspective from Sophie Vrba, UWSMPH M3 student:** “ACP Leadership Day provided the invaluable opportunity to gain experience in advocacy. After completing clinical year, I have been able to learn from fantastic faculty that advocate for their patients daily in clinics and on the wards, but there are limits to the systems that we work in. ACP Leadership Day showed me how you can use advocacy to try to change the system at large, which was inspiring.”

**Perspective from Karolina Lungova, MCW M1 student:** “For me, participating in Leadership Day this year was an opportunity to understand how to advocate effectively as a future physician so that I can influence and shape healthcare policies that impact me. Often these policies are made without an expert opinion, therefore, Leadership Day serves as an opportunity for experienced physicians and young upcoming physicians to tell stories of how our and our patient's lives are affected. I hope to continue to apply the advocacy skills I learned in my home state, district, and community.” “We're so proud of all of our members who participated in ACP Leadership Day at the Capitol! We had a great mix of trainees and faculty who participated in advocacy on behalf of their patients.

If you're interested in getting involved, send [info@acpwi.org](mailto:info@acpwi.org) a message.



Pictured above, from left to right: Dr. Sophie Kramer, Dr. Mohammed Gandam, Dr. David Deemer, U.S. Representative Mark Pocan, Leah Mushall, Sophia Marie Vrba



Pictured above, from left to right: Dr. Jennifer Mackinnon, Dr. Richard Dart, U.S. Representative Glenn Grothman, Dr. Don Lee, Dr. Mohammed Gandam



Pictured above, from left to right: Dr. Don Lee, Dr. Mohammed Gandam, Leah Mushall, Dr. Sophie Kramer, U.S. Representative Derrick Van Orden, Dr. Richard Dart, Sophia

Marie Vrba, Karolina Lungova



Pictured above, from left to right: Back Row - Dr. Jennifer Mackinnon, Dr. Richard Dart, Dr. David Deemer, Karolina Lungova, Dr. Apurva Popat, Dr. Ann Maguire, Dr. Ridhwi Mukerji, Dr. Sophie Kramer, Dr. Don Lee. Front Row - Dr. Mohammed Gandam, Dr. Sweta Yadav, Leah Mushall, Sophia Marie Vrba

**Advocacy Action Alert: Urge Congress to Act on Health Care Legislation**



The ACP Wisconsin Chapter is calling on you to contact your members of Congress asking them to act on pending health care legislation that ACP members who attended Leadership Day presented as priorities for internal medicine physicians and your patients. The **Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act** would increase the number of residency positions by 14,000 slots over seven years. The **Physician Fee Schedule Update and Improvements Act** would ease pressures on Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by offering more flexibility in setting payment rates, making them more predictable, and updating average costs doctors incur in calculating reimbursement. The **Safe Step Act** is a bipartisan bill that would improve insurer transparency, lay out exceptions to fail first protocols, and require that a group health plan provide an exception to any medication step therapy protocol.

Visit ACP's [Legislative Action Center](#) to learn more and take action. A sample email message is provided for you that includes space for you to personalize the letter. Join the [Advocates for Internal Medicine Network](#) to receive ACP's action alerts directly and advocate for the interests of internal medicine in Washington.

#### International Medical Graduate (IMG) Committee

The ACP Wisconsin Chapter IMG Committee has been hard at work determining the course of future activities. The Committee's primary objective is to enhance opportunities for International Medical Graduates (IMGs) in Wisconsin by establishing multiple observership programs. They aim to identify ACP members in faculty positions at academic hospitals across Wisconsin who are willing to initiate IMG observership programs, using the successful model from UW-Madison as a guide. The target is to establish 3-5 such programs over the next 1-2 years. Additionally, the Committee plans to create a dedicated section on the ACP-WI website to provide comprehensive information on these observerships, including details on program offerings, application processes, eligibility criteria, and a link to apply. Furthermore, they intend to develop a workshop on creating and implementing IMG observerships, with the goal of presenting it at the national ACP meeting to encourage adoption of similar programs in other states.

The committee is also striving to provide a platform to the expanding number of IMG Physicians in Internal Medicine to allow for networking within Wisconsin, as well as nationwide. They hope to increase collaborative efforts between ACP state chapters to make a bigger impact nationwide in expanding the physician workforce and advocacy for IMGs.

Through these initiatives, the IMG Committee hope to provide robust support and guidance to IMGs, facilitating their integration and success within the medical community.

**Meet the Leaders!**



**Abdul Wahab Arif, MD**

*Preferred Name: Wahab*Dr. Arif has served as a Clinical Assistant Professor since July 2022 in the Division of Hospital Medicine at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics. Alongside his clinical duties, he is the Director of Orientation for new faculty and

a member of both the Physician Recruitment Committee and the Executive Leadership Committee of the Division of Hospital Medicine. Additionally, he serves on the MD Admissions Committee of the UW School of Medicine & Public Health.

Dr. Arif established a first-of-its-kind observership program at the University of Wisconsin, providing international medical students with a unique clinical experience. This program introduces students to the US healthcare system, with a focus on inpatient workflow and evidence-based practice, thereby facilitating their applications to residency programs in the US. This initiative promotes global medical education and demonstrates our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion by welcoming students from diverse backgrounds. To date, over 60 students from more than 10 countries have successfully completed their clinical rotations with us, and many have matched into residencies in the US.



**Rohan Bodapati, MD**

Dr. Bodapati serves primarily as an academic hospitalist at UW Madison, moving into my third year of practice here. He is also an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health involved in didactic and bedside teaching of medical students and residents in Internal Medicine. Dr. Bodapati will be serving as the

Medical Director for the Cardiology-Hospitalist program. He is also a member of our Hospital Medicine Peer Review Committee.

Early Career Physicians (ECP) Committee



ACP Wisconsin has a new Chair of our Early Career Physicians Committee. Dr. Jennifer Woodard, UW Geriatrician and Hospitalist, who is also helping to coordinate our chapter Instagram account. Our ECP Committee charge is to reach out to younger chapter members and help to make ACP your professional home. Plans include more professional networking and social activities for the coming year. If you are interested in getting involved in the ECP Committee, email [info@acpwi.org](mailto:info@acpwi.org).

#### ACP-WI Member Highlight!

Congratulations to ACP Wisconsin Treasurer, Dr. Rupesh Prasad, for the recent article published in [The Hospitalist](#).

The article discusses the unique position of hospitalists to drive quality-improvement (QI) initiatives across the health care continuum. They highlight common challenges preventing hospitalists from pursuing quality improvement projects and provide practical strategies to overcome these barriers.



Follow ACP-WI on Social Media!

Please be sure to connect with us on social media! Details for our social media channels can be found below:

[Facebook Page](#)

X (Formerly Twitter): [@WisconsinACP](#)

Instagram: [@acpwisconsin](#)

Our social media channels provide up to date information about chapter activities and ACP National initiatives.

Stay tuned for Annual Meeting updates, speaker highlights, narrative medicine prompts and much more!

#### Advocates for Internal Medicine Network

[Learn more about Voter Voice!](#)

All ACP-Wisconsin members are encouraged to register for this easy tool to reach out to federal legislators about important health policy. Current alerts include:

- Support for legislation that reduces the administrative burden of physicians
- Opposing a ban on diversity efforts in medical schools
- Support for the Conrad State 30 Act which provides a visa waiver for international medical graduates working in underserved areas
- Reversing the Medicare physician payment cut

#### 2024 I Raise the Rates (IRtR) Newsletters - April Through June

I Raise the Rates (IRtR) Newsletters provide a variety of new resources from several public health partners, educational opportunities, and a selection of media articles related to immunization. Click below to view recent issues:

[April 2024](#)

[May 2024](#)

[June 2024](#)