## Greetings!

Welcome Early Career Physicians! An early career physician is defined at ACP as a physician within 16 years of graduation from medical school and who is not a medical student or resident/fellow member of ACP. We represent over 26,000 internal medicine early career physicians nationally, and counting.

The mission of our Council of Early Career Physicians (CECP) is to be your professional home for both your career and personal development. We exist to serve as a resource for all ACP members early in their careers.

The participation of early career physicians in the activities of the College is fundamental and our input is valued. Our engagement, innovation, and leadership are catalysts for the growth and development of our local ACP chapters, the national organization, and the many communities we serve. With the current challenges facing the practice of medicine, our active participation will allow us to gain more insight and knowledge into the issues and enhance our opportunity to enjoy the practice of medicine.

I would like to highlight some of our Council's focus areas:

- Developing activities and pathways to leadership for early career physicians in state chapters and nationally, including advancing to Fellowship.
- Addressing the needs of ECPs in multiple settings and practice types: ambulatory, hospitalist, subspecialist physicians, independent practice, rural or urban, etc.
- Increasing participation of early career physicians in advocacy at the state and national levels including providing the tools to be a successful advocate.
- Addressing the difficulties associated with establishing a career in internal medicine and its subspecialties during both our professional and personal life transitions.
- Providing opportunities to showcase scholarly work in state chapters and nationally through an early career physician poster competition.
- Fostering and maintaining effective professional mentoring relationships.
- Maintaining wellness and work life integration.
- Providing tools for diversity, equity and inclusion at a local and national level.
- Working with ACP leadership to ensure International Medical Graduates are integrated into activities and programs for ECP members.

The CECP serves as a resource for the ACP and provides an effective mechanism for

addressing concerns of early career physicians. CECP can leverage opportunities to disseminate ideas and amplify concerns given their presence on the Board of Regents, the Board of Governors, major ACP committees, and as leaders within ACP and beyond. The benefits of membership in ACP are diverse and many. To ensure our membership is well served, ACP makes concerted efforts to stay abreast of the latest updates that affect our members and patients.

Additional benefits include access to <u>Annals of Internal Medicine</u>, <u>MKSAP (Medical Knowledge</u> <u>Self-Assessment Program</u>) discounts, free access to <u>DynaMed</u>, a variety of <u>practice resources</u>, a <u>physician peer coaching program</u>, as well as having the opportunity to understand the <u>current</u> <u>physician payment system</u>. ACP provides guidance and resources to foster communities of wellbeing for internal medicine specialists to best serve patients and optimize professional fulfillment and joy in medicine through programs such as Well-Being Champion, IM Emotional Support Hub, and more.

<u>Women in Medicine</u> is an initiative that demonstrates ACP's dedication to gender <u>equity</u>. ACP membership also allows for a complimentary <u>affiliate AMWA membership</u>.

In the <u>advocacy</u> arena, the College is actively working to <u>mitigate healthcare inequities and</u> <u>increase access</u> to quality equitable healthcare. Additionally, relevant to practicing physicians, ACP advocates for <u>increased physician reimbursement</u> and reducing administrative burdens on practicing clinicians.

ACP strives to be the professional home for physicians of diverse experience, specialty, practice types, and life experiences. From primary care to hospital medicine to subspecialty medicine, private practice to academics to value based care, ACP has programming and career development opportunities for you.

It is common to ask: how can I be more involved with ACP? The best ideas and programs have been the result of local chapter initiatives. I invite you to engage in activities in your local chapter: participate as a committee member, poster judge and abstract reviewer, serve as a mentor and sponsor to students, residents, fellows, and peers, or network with your colleagues. Your creativity and innovation can be the spark for new ideas and helpful initiatives. Furthermore, if you haven't already done so, please fill out your <u>ACP member</u> engagement profile to indicate your areas of interest for engagement with the College.

The Council welcomes your input, and we are committed to supporting early career physicians. Please feel free to contact me or other members of the national <u>Council of Early Career</u> <u>Physicians</u> so that we can best serve you.

Thank you!

Warm regards,

Ankita Sagar, MD, MPH, FACP Chair, Council of Early Career Physicians LinkedIn