Dear Colleagues:
Thank you for your membership in ACP. Here is a brief list of alerts, resources and upcoming events.

Novel Coronavirus Updates from Minnesota and ACP

- ACP members and non-members are invited to access COVID-19 information. This information is updated daily. CME/MOC credit is available.
- MN Department of Human Services has received a federal waiver effective April 1, 2020 to cover telemedicine services. See the update to the MN Medicaid/MHCP Provider Manual with information and billing details. Thank you to ACP member and MN DHS Medical Director, Dr. Nathan Chomilo for providing information.
- MN Department of Health COVID 19 data is updated daily
- April 8th MDH Interim Guidelines on PPE and facemasks
- April 8th Governor Walz Executive Order 20-32, “Ensuring that Healthcare Providers Can Respond Quickly and Safely During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency” includes details of variances that apply to health
- ACP COVID-19 ACP Practice Management Resources (Updated April 8, 2020) Resources to help members make adjustments due to COVID-19, including telehealth coding and billing information, payer policies, and practice financial and management issues. Recent updates include guidance about the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), criteria for telemedicine options for Medicare visits, and information on technology options for providing telehealth services.
- Three border states (ND, SD, IA) do not have a stay at home order while WI does have a stay home order. COVID data from border states is also available daily: Wisconsin North Dakota Iowa South Dakota

Telemedicine Webinars/Resources

- April 14, 2020 at 2pmCST/12pm PST -- Telehealth Webinar “Revving up your telemedicine practice in the time of COVID” Dr. Deepti Pandita, a MN member, will be presenting. For more information and registration instructions
- Tuesday and Thursdays in April- Primary Care and Mental Health weekly Telehealth Office Hour sessions sponsored by the Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center (gpTRAC) Telehealth Office Hours - Primary Care- Tuesdays @ Noon (CT) and Telehealth Office Hours - Mental Health - Thursdays @ Noon (CT)

Photos/Images of Internists during COVID
ACP is looking for images of internists in a variety of settings, doing a variety of things – caring for COVID patients, doing drive up testing or other types of testing, working in hospitals, working in offices, practices and other settings, interacting with various other members of health care teams, doing telemedicine and telehealth (video and phone) visits – really, anything that captures your daily life during this public health crisis. The images will be used as part of a video montage that showcases and acknowledges the internal medicine community during the pandemic, which will be shared on the College’s
website and social media platforms and through email to ACP members. Send images to Lynn Masino at ACP and Minnesota.ACP@gmail.com through April 13th and use the subject line “COVID image”.

**Health Policy Updates**

- The recently passed [MN COVID legislation](#) had been negotiated by legislative leaders prior to the start of the sessions, and it passed both bodies by near-unanimous margins. The appropriation totaled $320 million and provided funding and relief to many economic sectors, including transportation, small business, child care, and veterans affairs. The Legislature had previously passed $200 million in support for health care clinics, hospitals, and long-term care facilities.

- Emergency Insulin - The negotiated Alec Smith Insulin Affordability Act — named for Alec Smith, a 26-year-old Minnesotan who died in 2017 after being unable to afford his insulin — would allow Minnesotans with diabetes to access an emergency 30-day supply of insulin for a $35 copay. It also establishes a long-term insulin affordability plan for diabetics who are uninsured or underinsured, on Medicare or have high copays. Action is expected on this bill in April.

**Metro Area Rising Star Internists**

Even during times of heightened stress and crisis, or perhaps especially during such times, it is good to highlight the work of terrific friends and colleagues in Minnesota. This month, in the April issue of Mpls-St Paul magazine, some 45 internists were named as "Rising Stars" in the Top Doctors program. Of these, more than half, 25 of them, are Minnesota ACP chapter members. Please join us in celebrating these exemplary Minnesota colleagues and congratulations to these Minnesota friends!

- Dr. Jill Bowman Peterson, Minneapolis VA
- Dr. Nicholas Briese, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Nathan Chomilo, Park Nicollet
- Dr. Briar Duffy, U of M/ M Physicians
- Dr. Heidi Erickson, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Suzanne Espenson, Abbott Northwestern
- Dr. Mary Fredrickson, Regions Hospital
- Dr. Elizabeth Goelz, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Brian Grahan, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Brian Hansen, M Health Fairview
- Dr. Rachel Harter, Ridgeview
- Dr. William Huepfel, Park Nicollet
- Dr. Ann Isaksen, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Ange Krause, Park Nicollet
- Dr. Hannah Lichtsinn, Health Partners
- Dr. Mary Logeais, U of M/ M Physicians
- Dr. Stephen Murphy, Park Nicollet
- Dr. Steven Richmond, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Aaron Rutzick, Hennepin Healthcare
- Dr. Rachel Silva, Hennepin Healthcare
Dr. Ben Trappey, U of M/ M Physicians
Dr. Lara Wandling, Health Partners
Dr. Molly Wyman, U of M/ M Physicians
Dr. Brian Yablon, Hennepin Healthcare
Dr. Mathew Young, Hennepin Healthcare

Upcoming events:

- **April 14, 2020 at 2pm CST/12pm PST** -- Telehealth Webinar “Revving up your telemedicine practice in the time of COVID” Dr. Deepti Pandita from MN is one of the speakers. For more information and registration instructions
- **April 14th or April 21st at 7pm** "Facing Ethical Dilemmas and High Stress due to COVID-19" - Join Physicians Serving Physicians for a free, physicians-only discussion. Description and details
- **Sept. 6, 2020** - Brave Like Gabe volunteers - Info
- **Oct. 5, 2020** - MN-ACP abstract submission deadline Information Abstract submission
- **October 14, 2020** - I.M. on Tap at Kieran's with Jacob Meyer, PhD from Iowa State on "Endocannabinoids, exercise and depression: Using the runners high to treat depression"
- **Nov. 5-6, 2020** - Minnesota Internal Medicine:2020 Scientific Session at the Minneapolis Convention Center

How can we better serve you? Please contact me with questions or thoughts on how the MN-ACP can serve you.

David Hilden, MD, MPH, FACP  MN-ACP Governor

**Chapter Social media**
Find us on Twitter: @mn_acp  MN-ACP LinkedIn  MN-ACP website