

American College of Emergency Physicians  
**Observation Medicine Section Meeting**  
*ACEP22*  
October 2, 2022  
**MINUTES**

## **Participants**

Section members participating for all or part of the meeting included: Christopher Caspers, MD, Chair; Matthew Wheatley MD, FACEP, Immediate Past Chair; Margarita Pena, MD, FACEP, Chair Elect; David Meguerdichian, MD, FACEP, Co-Secretary; Anthony Rosania, MD, FACEP, Co-Secretary; Christopher Baugh, MD, MBA, FACEP; Fernanda Bellolio, MD, FACEP; Meredith Busman, MD; Danielle Campagne, MD, FACEP; Brendan Carr, MD, FACEP; Abhinav Chandra, MD, FACEP; Hana Choy, MD; Ted Christopher, MD, FACEP; James Humble, MD; Derick Jones, MD; Eustace Lashley, MD, FACEP; Joseph Lykins, MD; Sharon Mace, MD, FACEP; Andrew Matuskowitz, MD; Praveen Mital, MD, FACEP; Sean Mohon, DO; Simone Neuwelt, MD; Anwar Osborne, MD, FACEP; Matthew Siket, MD, FACEP; Soberjol Singh, MD; Lauren Southerland, MD, FACEP; Vaishal Tolia, MD, FACEP; Sam Torbati, MD, FACEP; Mike Turturro, MD, FACEP; Carissa Tyo, MD, FACEP.

Others participating for all or part of the meeting included: Sandra M. Schneider, MD, FACEP, ACEP staff liaison; and Julie Wassom, ACEP staff.

## **Agenda**

Welcome  
AI-Based Clinical Pathways  
Billing Update  
Councillor Update  
Award Ceremony  
Election Results  
Introduction to Chair-Elect

## **Major Points Discussed**

Dr. Caspers opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and then talking about the challenges emergency physicians have faced during the COVID pandemic. He remarked that the pandemic has forced changes to observation units and changed the way care is delivered to patients. Some places have taken their observation units apart completely, some have revamped them to be able to care for COVID patients, and some have turned them into almost critical care units. This innovation has also been impacted by the rise of telehealth care.

Dr. Caspers then shared the agenda for the meeting. Following that summary, he introduced Shomie Das from the section meeting sponsor, Quai.MD, who gave a presentation on AI-based clinical pathways and integrating the observation clinical protocols and some decision support in electronic medical records.

Following that presentation, a video by Dr. Mike Granovsky was played, in which he highlighted the 2022 changes to reimbursement billing codes, especially those related to observation patients. Those with questions were encouraged to reach out to Dr. Granovsky at [mgranovsky@logixhealth.com](mailto:mgranovsky@logixhealth.com).

Following the presentation, Drs. Pena and Rosania gave an update on the recent Council meeting that was held before ACEP22. Dr. Pena shared specifics on how the meeting was structured, along with some of the resolutions that were discussed. There were several resolutions introduced this year on reproductive health and telehealth, which produced a lively discussion among the councillors. All of the resolutions are posted on the ACEP website for those who are interested. Any section member who is interested in drafting a resolution about observation for next year is invited to contact Dr. Caspers or Dr. Pena.

Dr. Caspers then shared the exciting news that a new award for the section was recently approved by ACEP's Board of Directors. The award is named "The Lou Graff for Contributions to Observation Medicine Award" and will honor someone each year, nominated by the section or others in ACEP, who has been a trailblazer in observation medicine. Dr. Caspers then introduced the award's namesake, Dr. Lou Graff, who was participating in the meeting by Zoom, and thanked him for his years of service and invaluable contributions to emergency medicine and, in particular, observation medicine. Dr. Graff shared some history about his early years and how observation medicine got its start.

Dr. Caspers then announced the results from the recent section officer elections:

1. Dr. Anthony Rosania – chair-elect
2. Dr. David Meguerdichian – secretary/newsletter editor
3. Dr. George Hughes - councillor

Dr. Caspers introduced Dr. Pena as the new chair. Dr. Pena thanked Dr. Caspers for his service as chair and presented him with an award honoring his contributions to the section and ACEP.

With no more information to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.