

IEPC Meeting
June 22, 2020
9:00 am - 10:30 am PT
Meeting held by Zoom Video Conference



MINUTES

All people present at this meeting must have a signed IEPC Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA). All content and discussion in this meeting is held to confidentiality in NDA.

Present:

Attendees: Roneet Lev, Ian Kramer, Sameer Mistry, Peter Anderson, Kavitha Weaver, Andrew Fenton, Don Shook, Mike, Gertz, Steve Sorenson, Bryan Hoynak

Admin: Julie Hewett, Danielle Inscoc

AGENDA:

I. Introduction

Acknowledgement of Father's Day

II. Financial Report

No report provided

III. Membership

Updates to the website are being made including updated contact information for phone/email.

IV. ACEP Board of Directors

Congratulations to Dr. Valerie Norton and Dr. Mike Gertz

V. IEPC Services

EDBA membership

Resume Sharing

HR Repository

Sexual Harassment Training - California mandate for those with 25 or more "employees" (independent contractors not excluded)

Annual Report - available to any IEPC group who want to invest the time in putting this together

Employment Advertising

Newsletter

VI. Round Table Discussion

- Roneet recommended listening to the ACEP Frontline Podcast on the episode of a physician who described his journey having survived intubation from COVID.
- ED volumes were described as low as 40-50%. Some EDs described mostly high acuity, while others with more mental health and substance use disorder issues.
- One hospital described major cuts to the C-Suite due to financial losses rather than cutting nursing staff. It is feared that this may create administrative delays.

- On hospital described removal of OB services. This required delivery and prenatal care training by staff in the ED as well as community outreach to alert the lack of services. The result has been increase demand on the ED with these services. This led to discussion on Good Samaritan laws that do not apply to the ED. The hospital uses 911 to transfer out unstable patients. The high-risk of EMTALA was cautioned. It was suggested to get permission to use 911 and to ask hospital to indemnify against malpractice.
- One ED stated that PA and NP staff have been furloughed again due to COVID. The creates human resources struggles.
- An ED reported over 200 cases of COVID-19 confirmed at the hospital; no hospital staff has contracted it.
- Dr. Gertz reported on California budget and California ACEP involvement.
 - California is at a %50 billion shortfall, looking for anyway to cut the budget
 - A California budget cut proposal was to eliminate case managers in the emergency department. This was successfully defeated for the time being.
 - There is a new attack on MICRA to increase malpractice pain and suffering with cost of inflation - that is to increase the cap of \$250,000 to \$1.2 million. It was suggested that emergency physicians align themselves with first responders rather the greedy lawyers in this campaign.
 - There is a proposal to cut Med-Cal HMO by 1- 1.5%
- California budget includes
- Another ED reported two physician shifts have been cut; PAs are being reduced. Their capacity is down 70% capacity.
- Ian –Kramer reported on his homeless outreach work. It was interesting to note that homeless and farm workers have a lower percent positive rate. It appears that being outdoors is protective.
- One group reported loss of contract to Virtuity. The medical staff did not approve this take over and is suing the hospital.

Next Meeting

Conference Call Monday, July 27 –9 AM PT

Mid-Year Meeting - TBA