

IEPC Meeting
November 23, 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, Sameer Mistry, Kavitha Weaver, Reb Close, Steve Sornsin, Knef Lizaso, Yang Wang, Peter Anderson, Steve Sornsin, Russ Kino, Andrew Fenton

Admin: Danielle Inscoe

AGENDA:

1. Introduction – Roneet Lev
 - January meeting will include voting on Board of Directors and Officer positions. Please contact Roneet if you would like to switch positions or serve on the board.
2. Financial Report – Roneet Lev
 - Accounting has been updated and is now current.
 - Working on 501 c status, bylaws are pending
3. Membership – Roneet Lev
 - Membership is stable.
4. ACEP board of directors
 - Valerie Norton and Mike Gertz are now on the ACEP Board of Directors. Reminder to ensure that IEPC has members on the board of directors for proper representation.
 - Anyone who may be interested should reach out to Roneet and/or Michael for more information.
5. 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 Content
 - Interesting case of the month
 - Feature from other groups
6. Round Table Discussion – All
 - Sameer – LA County EMS Agency is using infusions to high-risk groups early on in their illness as preventative medicine in COVID patients. Sameer's hospital has unlimited access to COVID tests; request for information if others have limitations on COVID testing. Roneet's hospital has requested that rapid testing only be used in certain circumstances. Reb reported that her hospital reviews all tests in house but prefers that they triage how quickly they need to be processed. Yang's hospital is only using rapid tests in certain situations.

- Kavitha – Discussion of COVID vaccine ongoing for how it will be distributed. Front line workers are planned to be the first to receive vaccine. Russ listed to EDBA call who confirmed that ED docs will be IA category in receiving vaccine. There was discussion and safety of vaccine and if vaccine necessary if person has antibodies.
- Reb – Discussion of whether ED Doctors will be in a position to offer COVID vaccine to vulnerable populations. Roneet shared experience with Hepatitis A outbreak vaccination experience in the ED using the county's vaccine registry. Reb has been working with OD Maps to respond to overdose clusters.
- Knef – COVID tents are being removed as necessary due to being a deterrent for patients coming to the hospital. Hospital is moving triage process indoors. They take patient cell phone numbers and allow waiting in the car until bed is ready.
- Russ – Hospital also has triage tents. COVID numbers have doubled recently. They are receiving center for critical COVID patients on ECMO. The ED docs do not do ECMO.
- Yang – Triage tents are being used; hospital lobby is being used as a triage space. PPE is in high demand but COVID numbers are slowly going back down. They use buzzer to call patients when bed available after triage.
- Roneet – Discussion of malpractice insurance estimates for 2021. Recommendations to provide a reduced volume estimate. Others on the call report stable or reduced numbers from insurance.
- Peter – ICU patients are increasing.
- Steve – Volume was up to approximately 85% recently but is now leveling off/declining. PAs were furloughed in July. Hospital's ED is now operating only with physicians.
- Andrew – One hospital nearby has closed due to fire damage so volumes of patients are up. They are evaluating potential new contract.
- Physician extenders – furlough, incentive pay, and scope of practice discussed
- Health benefit for part time workers discussed. ED shifts and hours have declined, but employee benefits have continued despite not meeting full time hours. This model may not be sustainable in the future.

Next Meeting

Conference Call Monday, December 28th – 9 AM PST

Mid-Year Meeting - no in person meeting considered for 2020 due to pandemic