



Congress was in recess this week and will return to business next week.

March 22, 2019

In this issue:

- [Capital Minute](#)
- [Dr. Tony Cirillo Speaks on Surprise Billing Panel at Brookings Institution](#)
- [ACEP 911 Network Members – We Need Your Help to Influence the new 116th Congress](#)
- [Register Today for the 2019 ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC](#)

Capital Minute

Here's a new edition of ACEP's Capital Minute for the second week of March, 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ohpSJv-1MA> or click on the blue box below to view.



Dr. Tony Cirillo Speaks on Surprise Billing Panel at Brookings Institution

Today, Dr. Tony Cirillo, a member of the ACEP Board of Directors, provided the emergency physician perspective during an event sponsored by the Brookings Institution that focused on surprise medical bills.

Dr. Cirillo talked about the individual responsibility of all stakeholders—hospitals, physicians, and insurers—to make sure that patients are kept out of the middle when emergency care is out-of-network. He also emphasized the success of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) processes, using the model passed in New York State as the primary example, as a way to determine fair reimbursement amounts for out-of-network services. Dr. Cirillo put a human face on the role of emergency physicians in the delivery of health care as federal and state policymakers continue to weigh different options for addressing surprise bills.

ACEP developed and submitted its [framework](#) on how best to address this issue at the end of January.



Dr. Tony Cirillo at the Brookings Institution panel on surprise billing

ACEP 911 Network Members – We Need Your Help to Influence the new 116th Congress

With the 116th Congress underway and over 100 new lawmakers in office, we are taking a comprehensive look at our 911 Network to identify ACEP members around the country whom we consider “grass tops” members of the Network. These ACEP members have established, strong working relationships with their federal legislators and a line of consistent communication through telephone, text, email, social media and or personal meetings. The relationships may originate from:

- repeated meetings in DC during LAC;
- hosting an ED visit or coffee for that legislator;
- getting to know the legislator’s staff;
- delivering a NEMPAC check or representing NEMPAC at a local event for that legislator;
- knowing them first on the state level;
- a relative or friend in your community; or
- other contacts.

We will deploy the “grass tops” when we need immediate, targeted action on an issue.

Please let us know if you would like to be included on the list and the legislator to whom you are connected. We will be sending you a confirmation email later next month as we will be reaching out to our grass tops in the future through a special communication network under development now.

Contact [Jeanne Slade](#) or [Caitlin Demchuk](#) with your information or if you have questions.

Register Today for the 2019 ACEP Leadership and Advocacy Conference in Washington, DC

If you want to make a difference or aspire to be a leader in emergency medicine, this is a must-attend conference with something for everyone. The conference is May 5-8 in Washington, DC. Attendees will have many opportunities to interact with elected officials and policymakers, and network with emergency medicine’s top leaders.

This conference will highlight reimbursement issues in EM and how we can work with Congress to improve the EM work environment along with combatting insurance company bad behavior and addressing patient access issues.

LAC 2019 will also bring back Wednesday’s Solutions Forum, where this year we will present and discuss emergency medicine-led solutions in telemedicine and the mental health crisis.

For more information, please go to <https://www.acep.org/lac/>



Connect with us on  [Facebook](#) and  [Twitter](#)!

To ensure delivery to your inbox, add ACEP@acep.org & JSlade@acep.org to your address book.
Copyright © 2019 American College of Emergency Physicians. All rights reserved.
View the ACEP [privacy policy](#).

ACEP Public Affairs | 2121 K Street, NW Suite 325 | Washington, DC 20037

[Click here to unsubscribe.](#)