Funding for Emergency Medicine & Trauma

Support the mission of the NIH Office of Emergency Care Research (OECR) and fully fund emergency regionalization, trauma systems and trauma center grants.

With the release of the 2006 Institutes of Medicine (IOM) report, members of an ACEP/SAEM Task Force collaborated with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to advance emergency care research. This collaboration, and additional efforts by emergency medicine advocates, resulted in a number of developments, including the NIH Emergency Medicine Research Roundtable reports released in 2010; the awarding of the first national K12 grant program by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute specifically for the career development of emergency medicine researchers in 2011; and the establishment of the Office of Emergency Care Research (OECR).

Emergency medicine has been shown to directly affect the quality and duration of patients’ lives. ACEP urges Congress to promote the mission of OECR to coordinate and foster clinical and translational research that improves patient care in the emergency setting by ensuring adequate funding is available for this critical research that crosses the whole spectrum of medicine.

In addition to emergency care research, ACEP supports programs that will enhance the delivery of emergency medical services through trauma centers and the highly specialized trauma teams that staff them, as well as the development of regionalized systems of emergency care that ensure timely access for injured patients to the most appropriate facilities.

ACEP urges Members of Congress to fully support lawmakers’ requests for $28 million in the FY 2016 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill to fund the following programs:

- Regionalization of Emergency Care Pilot Projects - $3 million
- Trauma Systems Planning Grants - $3 million
- Trauma Care Center Grants - $11 million
- Trauma Service Availability Grants - $11 million

Please contact ACEP's Congressional Affairs Director Brad Gruehn at bgruehn@acep.org or (202) 262-2090 for more information.