



when minutes count

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 2009

One of the tenets of the AAEM mission statement is to "provide affordable, high-quality continuing medical education in emergency medicine for its members." And, CAL-AAEM has delivered.

Dr. Joanne Williams, our CAL/AAEM Education Chair, has single-handedly developed and chaired several national preconference workshops at the AAEM Scientific Assembly over the past few years. Our first CME program, "Pain Management & End-Of-Life Care in the ED," was a response to AB487 bill that became the Business & Professions Code Section 2190.5. In accordance with this Code, all physicians (except radiologists and pathologists) needed to document 12 CME hours in pain management and end-of-life care by December 31, 2006. "Trauma Resuscitation for the Community Doc" was our 2nd CME course in San Antonio, TX. This 1 day-course covered management of trauma and multi-system injury as well as risk management in trauma for the community emergency physician, with special focus on the pediatric, pregnant, and geriatric trauma patient. And, last year in Phoenix, AZ, "Children Are Not Little Adults! - Pediatric Emergencies" was extremely well attended and received such rave reviews that we're doing it again at the AAEM Scientific Assembly in Las Vegas this year on Feb 14, 2009!

The Lifelong Learning Self-Assessment is still a requirement. As a CAL/AAEM

member, your membership gives you free LLSA summaries. Just go to the "members only" section on CAL/AAEM website (<http://www.calaaem.org/members/>), and login to access Dr. Gus Garmel's detailed summaries of the LLSA Articles 2004-2009. If you cannot remember your login information, contact Kate Filipiak – kfilipiak@aaem.org.

As an example of our collaborative efforts, CAL/AAEM members enjoy a significant registration discount to CAL/ACEP's Scientific Assembly.

CAL/AAEM has been committed to supporting residency training programs and medical students who are interested in pursuing a career in emergency medicine. We have made CAL/AAEM membership free to all residents and students. We have served as sponsors for the Southern California Medical Student Workshop Symposium and the Legislative and Leadership Conference in Sacramento, led by CAL/ACEP.

Probably CAL/AAEM's most shining accomplishment and testament to our commitment to education and academics is the co-founding of the *Western Journal of Emergency Medicine* (*West JEM*), formerly



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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the California Journal of Emergency Medicine. As part of the membership benefits, CAL/AAEM members receive the quarterly print copy of the journal. Its beginnings were rooted in the goal of disseminating information to practicing emergency physicians regarding efficient and optimal delivery of emergency care, emphasizing emerging technologies. And although it began as a means to publish articles from the Western United States and the Western hemisphere, and to provide an English forum for developing emergency care systems throughout the world, *WestJEM* has become a premier open-access journal that reaches beyond the state of California. It now receives submissions from all over the world and distributes to practicing emergency physicians throughout the country. Its recent listing in PubMed Central, within the National Library of Medicine, and future database indexing will mean even wider readership. Since the journal's inception, CAL/AAEM's leaders have played a critical role in the genesis and realization of what has now become a hugely successful journal in our specialty. In addition to financial sponsorship,

CAL/AAEM representatives continue to participate actively on the journal's advisory and editorial boards.

In summary, CAL/AAEM has been dedicated to our educational mission. We continue to search for new ideas to provide high quality educational programs and benefits for our members. We welcome any suggestions or ideas for new educational programs or benefits to offer our members; please do not hesitate to contact us. We want to hear from you!



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