



EDITOR'S LETTER

by David Kramer, MD FAAEM

Numbers Count. I know this seems self-evident, but I'm not talking literally here. I'm referring to the number of members in our organization. Take a look at the common themes in many of the recent articles in *Common Sense*. In one form or another, many are basically membership drives. You might be asking, "Why do we do this?" After all, isn't this a bit like preaching to the choir? Sure it is. *Common Sense* is sent to those who are already members. But when you sit back and think about it, you realize that you, our members, are our

mouthpiece. We need you to talk with those who are not yet members, those who have not yet seen the light. You are our best advertising venue. Many of the articles in *Common Sense* tout our diverse accomplishments both for our members and for emergency medicine in general. Look upon this as prime fodder for your own persuasive oratory. Use this information to spread the word to those who have yet to be enlightened. Size does matter when it comes to an organization, and there is strength in numbers. So get out there and get the word out. Numbers count.



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average means board certified

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AAEM Mission Statement

The American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) is the specialty society of emergency medicine. AAEM is a democratic organization committed to the following principles:

1. Every individual should have unencumbered access to quality emergency care provided by a specialist in emergency medicine.
2. The practice of emergency medicine is best conducted by a specialist in emergency medicine.
3. A specialist in emergency medicine is a physician who has achieved, through personal dedication and sacrifice, certification by either the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) or the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine (AOBEM).
4. The personal and professional welfare of the individual specialist in emergency medicine is a primary concern to the AAEM.
5. The Academy supports fair and equitable practice environments necessary to allow the specialist in emergency medicine to deliver the highest quality of patient care. Such an environment includes provisions for due process and the absence of restrictive covenants.
6. The Academy supports residency programs and graduate medical education, which are essential to the continued enrichment of emergency medicine, and to ensure a high quality of care for the patients.
7. The Academy is committed to providing affordable high quality continuing medical education in emergency medicine for its members.

Membership Information

Fellow and Full Voting Member: \$365 (Must be ABEM or AOBEM certified in EM or Pediatric EM)

*Associate Member: \$250 (Associate-voting status)

Emeritus Member: \$250 (Must be 65 years old and a full voting member in good standing for 3 years)

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AAEM/RSA Member: \$50 (voting in AAEM/RSA elections only)

Student Member: \$50 (voting in AAEM/RSA elections only)

*Associate membership is limited to graduates of an ACGME or AOA approved Emergency Medicine Program.

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