

## Critical Care Medicine Section

## CCMS Update

Joseph Shiber, MD FAAEM FACP FCCM  
President, Critical Care Medicine Section



At the AAEM Scientific Assembly (AAEM18) in San Diego, the Critical Care Medicine Section (CCMS) held our business meeting and had numerous members give presentations. To focus on the tremendous job the section members are doing for AAEM and at Scientific Assembly, I would like to summarize it here. First, David Farcy, the founder of the CCMS was inducted as president of AAEM. Congratulations to Dr.

Farcy on this great honor! Another long-time supporter of EM-CCM, Evie Marcolini, was co-chair of the AAEM18 planning committee this year and will again lead the planning for AAEM19 in Las Vegas, March 9-13, 2019.

There were eight EM-intensivists from the section who gave outstanding presentations on EM-CCM topics, including:

- David Farcy "Certainty Will Kill"
- Haney Mallemat "Critical Care Year in Review"
- Wendy (Wan-Tsu) Chang "Neuroimaging: CT Angiography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Oh My!"
- Peter DeBlieux "Don't Make Me Blue: Mechanical Ventilation Choices in the ED that Change Outcomes"
- Harmon Gill "When Pressors are not Enough"
- Andrew Phillips "LVAD Management"
- Evie Marcolini "End of Life Discussions in the Emergency Department"
- Ani Aydin "Pearls and Pitfalls of ED Mechanical Ventilation"

These lectures were well received by the audience who clearly enjoyed and appreciated the expertise and experience of the speakers.

The CCMS meeting was led by president-elect, Ashika Jain, who has done a great job for the last two years truly doing all of the work to get this section moving forward so successfully! Confirmed as secretary/treasurer is Andrew Phillips, who has already been contributing to the efforts of the section. We will be looking for members interested in nominations for president-elect next spring, so please contact section leadership if you will have finished your CCM fellowship by 2019 since you are required to have fully completed your EM and CCM training.

During the section meeting, the two major topics discussion were:

1. Reiterating of the major goal of the section to mentor residents and fellows as well as junior faculty for career development in EM-CCM.
2. The recent application by the Neurocritical Care Society (NCS) to have Neurocritical Care (NCC) recognized by American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). For over a decade, NCC has been a specialty with formalized fellowship training and a certification examination by the United Council for Neurologic Subspecialties (UCNS). For the NCS application, which is also supported by ABEM, AAEM was asked to write a letter of support which the CCM Section and AAEM gladly did. One aspect of the application that has been debated is that Neurosurgery (NS) is asking for an exemption to allow for their residency graduates to be eligible for the NCC certification without any additional fellowship or in some cases having a total of 12 months (but not consecutively) of NCC training during their residency. This waiver is not supported by the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM). During the section meeting, representatives from ABEM as well as SCCM, our own section member Dr. Heatherlee Bailey, who is the also the president-elect of SCCM, led our discussion on this issue. AAEM and our section have since written a letter to ABMS supporting the application of NCC as a newly recognized specialty with the suggestion that NS have a finite "grandfathering" period of possibly five years.

I encourage all AAEM members (students, residents/fellows, or attendings) who are interested in CCM to join our section and get involved in its activities. ●

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Stay tuned for bi-monthly pearls about how to integrate palliative care into your daily emergency medicine practice. We will showcase best practices, common pitfalls, and challenging cases relevant to your everyday work. Even better, join the AAEM Palliative Care Interest Group for scholarship, mentorship, and networking:

[www.aaem.org/get-involved/committees/interest-groups/palliative-care](http://www.aaem.org/get-involved/committees/interest-groups/palliative-care)