We started the AAEM Critical Care section in 2017, and have grown exponentially since, not just in membership, but also in involvement in AAEM as a whole. We are ecstatic with how far the section has come in the last two years.

Where We’ve Been
2018 was an exciting year. We kicked off the year at the 2018 Scientific Assembly (AAEM18) in San Diego, CA. We had a productive section meeting, and after a hearty discussion, the section decided to support the subspecialty certification in Neurocritical Care. There was a thoughtful and robust discussion about this topic and in the end, we recognized the need to establish a formal ABMS pathway for subspecialty certification in neurocritical care medicine.

Our section has been busy with educational content. Dr. David Farcy recorded two episodes for AAEM’s critical care podcast series, which is AAEM’s most downloaded podcast. He talked about balanced fluid resuscitation with Dr. Michael Winters and treatment algorithms for emergency invasive cardiac procedures with Dr. Amal Mattu.

Multiple members published in AAEM’s member magazine, Common Sense.

- March/April: Why Play the Waiting Game? A Discussion on Chest Radiography and Ultrasound for Central Line Placement, Ashika Jain, MD FAAEM
- May/June: Mechanical Ventilation in the Difficult Patient and Ventilator Cycling, Joseph Levine, MD and Ashika Jain, MD FAAEM
- July/August: CCMS Update, Joseph Shiber, MD FAAEM
- September/October: The Most Stable Pulseless Patient You’ll Ever Meet! A Clinical Update on LVADs in the ED, Gage Alexander Stuntz and Andrew Phillips, MD MEd FAAEM
- November/December: Immunotherapy Complications in the Emergency Department: Be on the Lookout for the Checkpoints!, Adarsh Srivastava, MD FAAEM

Read all of the articles from the CCMS at www.aaem.org/get-involved/sections/ccms/resources/common-sense.

If you would like to contribute to Common Sense in our critical care section, please contact Michael L. Martino, MD FAAEM, our new Secretary-Treasurer.

Along the lines of education, multiple Critical Care Section members presented at AAEM19, in fact 12 of our members presented in various forms.

Where We are Going
As a section, we are grateful for our current members and are excited that membership is on the rise, and we want to continue to grow. We elected a new board, and Joseph Shiber has moved to the role of Immediate Past President. He has been an amazing leader and mentor as the section grew its legs. Ashika Jain moved into the role of President with a few plans up her sleeve for the section, with Andrew Phillips as President-Elect. Michael Martino was elected Secretary-Treasurer. The at-large board now includes Alexandra June Gordon, who was the previous RSA representative, we are excited that she decided to join the at-large board now that she has graduated residency and is in fellowship. Hector Peniston-Feliciano also stayed on as an At-Large Director. We welcome Alex Flaxman, Skylar Lentz, and Douglas Schiller to our at-large board as well. Dr. Leena Ramadan is the new RSA Representative.

We have a few great projects that we kicked off at AAEM19. We initiated Critical Care Hacks, a social media based compendium of the little things that we do in the ED to help our critically ill patients.

We will be posting short videos and topic summary on various modes of social media. We invite all of our members to join us in this fun and innovative project. If you have a hack, let us know. At the section meeting, we decided that it was important for this project to be open source. We believe that this compendium will be a resource for all of our members, of the section and of AAEM as a whole, alike.

We want to do more for our members and want to provide resources and support, more specifically, mentorship. We recognize the importance of mentorship, both for the mentor and mentee. We will be sending out a call for both, with a hope to pair section members up.

As we continue to grow within, we want to ensure that we support our fellow AAEM chapters. We have reached out to local chapters to offer our support for chapter division conferences, providing critical care speakers, or helping to identify speakers in their areas.

The next year of AAEM-CCMS is going to be the greatest yet. We remind AAEM members that the Critical Care Section is not just for critical care trained members. We all provide critical care to our patients, we support you, the emergency physician, which wants to be a part of the critical care dialogue. We look forward to providing our members with knowledge, mentorship, and resources. We hope you will join us on this journey. ●