New Member Spotlight: Independent Emergency Physicians (IEP)

Independent Emergency Physicians' (IEP) roots are in Emergency Medicine. In fact, you might say it's in their DNA. Twenty years ago, a love of emergency medicine and a shared belief in collaboration brought eleven physicians together to form IEP. Today, the company has grown to 60 partners and more than 400 employees, and has expanded it's reach into six practice areas that span the continuum of acute care, including hospital medicine, observation medicine, long-term acute care, telehealth, urgent care and scribe services. IEP is headquartered in Farmington Hills, MI, To learn more about IEP please click here.

Excerpts from a conversation with David Hall, MD, President-Elect

Dr. Hall started his practice with Independent Emergency Physicians in 2010. Since then, David has been the Medical Director for one of the four hospital partners of IEP and, in January 2019, Dr. Hall will become IEP’s President. David plans to continue to support IEP in providing the highest-quality patient care while also placing a strong emphasis on a set of core values enabling IEP to retain its culture of local ownership and caring for each other and the community it serves. The group sees themselves as clinicians first and as business people second. This is reflected in the excellent relationships IEP has with its colleagues, hospital partners, patients, and providers.

Dr. Hall and his team decided to join EDPMA based on their connections with a few current members and their attendance at EDPMA’s premier annual conference, the Solutions Summit. David explained that he sees some of the key benefits of being an EDPMA member as access to the high-quality members, the information that is shared and the knowledge gained. David highlights that, given EDPMA’s size (not too big and not too small), one can truly connect with leaders of the industry, discuss innovations and new ideas and get valuable feedback. This information can then be brought back to the group, shared and utilized in their everyday practice as well as used to gain a larger strategic view of the critical issues impacting emergency medicine.

Some of the challenges Dr. Hall sees in emergency medicine include the changing world of healthcare (e.g., keeping up with changes to the ACA), reimbursement issues, mergers, ED leakage, and making provider wellness a priority. David strives to pursue stability in the group while at the same time, understanding that he and his team must keep up with the changes in the field in order to be as knowledgeable as possible and to support his providers, employees and hospital partners. As one of the only locally owned and operated service line medicine groups, IEP’s providers are integral to the local community and to its hospitals.

David is an advocate of telehealth and believes that there is no specialty better than emergency medicine to manage these unscheduled visits. While David prefers to see patients in person, he believes telehealth serves a vital role in community health, reaching some of the most vulnerable populations. David said that "reimbursement is still the biggest obstacle to expanding telehealth. If we can make improvements to reimbursement, we can expand these services."
David looks forward to attending the 2019 Solutions Summit in Scottsdale, AZ (April 28-May 1) and connecting with many of his colleagues. He emphasized that this year, he plans to attend Committee Day in order to decide which Committee to join and which one best fits his interests and his group's needs.