

House of Delegates, ACOEM
SOTAC meeting
San Antonio, Texas
November 4, 2004

A quorum was obtained. Brian Beatty, MD and William Woo, MD attended and represented the RMAOEM.

Peter Blumenthal, MD, Speaker of the House of Delegates, introduced a new format for the House of Delegates. In this new format, the six different work groups were asked to review their individual Function-Responsibility-Objective (FRO) statements for approval. Resolutions were distributed prior to the meeting, and recommendations were made regarding the individual resolutions. Each work group was also asked to develop a list of two or three topics to address in ongoing sessions prior to the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

Each work group did approve its FRO statement and did identify a list of items for further discussions. Specific resolutions included:

04F-01-CP	ACOEM encourages the use of influenza vaccine, removal of financial and administrative barriers, discourages enforcing mandatory vaccination.
04F-02-EC	ACOEM to resolve conflicts with scheduling of national and regional meetings and offerings
04F-03-EA	ACOEM to meet with ABPM to resolve conflicting education credits for maintenance of certification
Emergency	ACOEM bylaws committee asked to define professional disciplines eligible for affiliate membership

All resolutions were passed.

President's Address - Tim Key, MD indicated that the ACOEM Practice Guidelines are selling well. California is deciding on the use of the guidelines in their own state's workers' compensation laws. SOTAC is reformatted to a shorter time to allow for members' work schedules, with sessions running mostly on Saturday and into Sunday. Discussions with the occupational health nurses are continuing in arbitration, with an overall cooperation.

Council on Occupational and Environmental Medicine - a Council of ACOEM, met over the last several years. Previously, this council had been inactive, and the first edition of the ACOEM Treatment Guidelines was not on any type of a review cycle. With the resurrection of the council, there is now a defined mechanism for updating the ACOEM Guidelines. Several sub-committees of the council include Guidelines, Occupational Health Management Services, Coding, Health and Productivity, OEM Practice, Emergency Preparedness, Scope of Practice, and Return to Work. Questions or issues can be directed to these committees.

Occupational Medicine Leadership Forum – Pam Hymel, MD reported that the leadership forum held during the summer raised several issues to be evaluated further. Topics included looking at the efficiency of the operating structure, and consideration for separating ACOEM into 9 regional components to reflect a constituency. The representatives from the 9 components would have some representation elected for 3-year terms with 1/3 of the representatives being elected at a time.

Respectfully submitted,
William Woo, MD