



FROM THE EDITOR

SO MANY LANES
TO CHOOSE!

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This past October, there was a lot of commotion around the American College of Physicians' (ACP) position paper on gun violence¹, notably the National Rifle Association's (NRA) response to it.² The infamous “stay in their lane” tweet by the NRA has become a rallying cry not only for the overall medical community and our stance and role regarding the public health issue of gun violence but also other public health areas that don't necessarily involve a direct doctor-patient relationship. The entire medical community denounced the NRA's admonition and SGIM members were among its most energetic voices. In a prior editorial, I mentioned how generalists are among the leaders in advocating and addressing problems not directly linked to the delivery of medical care to adults, and gun violence is one of them.³ In that same editorial, I also commented about an article written by Beth Gillespie regarding SGIM's participation, along with other medical societies, in the Medical Society Consortium on Climate and Health.⁴ Several months prior to that issue, the U.S. Global Change Research Program Climate Science Special Report concluded that there is likely a link between climate change to existing weather patterns, droughts, and the environment.⁵

Most recently, in November, a further climate change report was released again confirming the dire consequences that are associated with the current rate of climate change and the impact it will have on the environment, finance, and health over the next century.⁶ I bring up gun violence and climate change to illustrate the influence that we as individuals and as a Society have on these debates being considered today. These are yet “other lanes” that we must occupy to fill SGIM's vision of “A just system of care in which all people can achieve optimal health.”

How we occupy these lanes leads me to one of the articles in this month's *Forum*. For this year's meeting—Courage to Lead: Equity, Engagement, and Advocacy in Turbulent times—Drs. Brita Roy and Lenny Lopez have an amazing meeting lined up with a theme that could not be more appropriate for the time. Not only is the timing right but also the venue is perfect: Washington, DC!

The program committee has taken advantage of this to promote content around patient-community engagement as well as meetings on the Hill. This year we will be able to show how we can move forward and stay in any lane we chose on the capital beltway in DC. To get us into the right mindset for the meeting in May, we have set aside a themed April issue of *Forum* dedicated to Advocacy. If you haven't yet submitted your work, there is still time—the deadline is February 10, 2019.

A rundown of this issue includes understanding residents' impressions on high value care, coping with peer-to-peer harassment, a primer on diagnostic errors, some poetry, and a recap from the Mid-Atlantic region. And this month's fashion advice comes from that hot bed of trendy couture, the Bronx. Happy driving!!

References

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