

1 **INDIANA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS**
2 **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT**
3

4 **French Lick, IN**

July 25, 2021

5 **SAMIR GINDE, MD**
6

7 After a long anticipated return to normal, we return to our historic home in French Lick, Indiana. Last
8 year at this time, we were dealing with the national challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. So many
9 fears came to reality for too many people. Saying the eternal goodbye to loved ones was undoubtedly
10 heartbreaking. But fast forward a year from that time, where we have come to a point of hope and
11 national pride, to offer vaccines to our communities. These vaccines will enable us to function safely
12 again. It allows us to open our doors to ALL of our patients. We can provide that personal level of
13 medical care we are so used to providing. Finally, we can return to some level of normalcy.
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15 As the United States has reached one of the greatest achievements in history, that is, a safe and
16 effective vaccine within 12 months from the start of this viral pandemic, family doctors were crucial in
17 helping their patients do the right thing. As the population has done a tremendous job of getting
18 vaccinated, there are many who remain unprotected. There is more we must do to inspire, teach, and
19 motivate people to get this vaccine, both for their own protection as well as the community that
20 surrounds them.
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22 Despite the COVID-19 shutdown, technology kept us in communication. The board has continued to
23 meet quarterly to discuss topics and concerns involving the Academy. Additionally, board leadership
24 met with the Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses of Indiana (CAPNI) to discuss their desire to
25 achieve independent practice. We continue to convey openly that our position is to ensure they have a
26 solid education and training regimen, which should include 3 years of supervised work under a
27 physician before we can ever feel comfortable with independent practice. This is what it will take to
28 keep patients safe. This conversation will continue to go on, and will continue to be discussed at the
29 state level.
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31 As we emerge from the depths of this pandemic, many of us are reaffirming what is important to us.
32 This past year, our livelihood, happiness, and commitment to practicing family medicine has been
33 tested. COVID -19 has likely kept us away from those things we love so much. And 2021 should be the
34 start of reaffirming our commitment to our health and well-being. With that, I ask you all, to ask yourself
35 what is important for you. Now is the time, more than ever, to pursue those things that bring enjoyment
36 and satisfaction; because, as this pandemic has taught us, life is fragile, and we need to act on every
37 moment to make it count.
38

39 Sincerely,

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41 Samir Ginde, MD
42 President-Elect