



For Immediate Release

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Florida Medical Directors Association Hosts Successful 2013 Best Care Practices Conference

- 10th Annual Poster Award winners announced

West Palm Beach, Fla. -- Florida Medical Directors Association (FMDA) and newly-elected President Dr. Robert Kaplan are thrilled with the success and outpour of positive comments about the recent Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum Conference this past October. The renowned geriatrics conference gathered together more than 200 physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, nurses, and administrators at *Disney's Contemporary Resort*. Excellent speakers and a focused educational theme, "multiple morbidities", were highlights of the conference that aims to provide a great educational and networking experience for all those with an interest in long-term care and geriatrics.

This year's conference featured an outstanding presence from AMDA, FMDA's National Affiliate. The conference was honored to have AMDA President Dr. Jonathan Evans, AMDA Vice-President and FMDA Director, Dr. Naushira Pandya, and AMDA Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Milta Little speak on a wide range of topics. In attendance, were AMDA past-presidents Dr. Jim Lett, Dr. Cheryl Phillips, and Dr. Dennis Stone. Also present was Editor of Journal of the American Medical Directors Association, Dr. John Morley, and AMDA's Senior Public Policy Manager, Mr. Alex Bardakh.

FMDA President Dr. Robert Kaplan was very pleased with the success of the annual conference and thankful for all the generous support received every year.

"As the president of FMDA, we are grateful for the support we receive from AMDA and other collaborating organizations. The Best Care Practices conference would not be where it is without the help and guidance of our wonderful colleagues in geriatrics and long-term care."

At the President's Wine & Cheese Reception new board members and officers were elected and sworn into office by AMDA President Dr. Jonathans Evans. Assuming office for the term of 2013-2015 is President Dr. Robert Kaplan, Vice President Dr. Leonard Hock, Secretary/Treasurer Dr. Rhonda Randall, Chairman of the Board Dr. Hugh Thomas, and Immediate Past President Dr. John Symeonides.

FMDA Directors for 2013-2015 are Dr. John Potomski, Dr. Carl Suchar, Dr. Daniel Fortier, Dr. Claudia Marcelo, Dr. Michael Foley, Dr. Karl Dhana, and Dr. Naushira Pandya. Michelle Lewis is the NP/PA voting member on the board.

Lastly, during the Annual Awards Luncheon at this year's conference, winners of the 10th Annual Posters Session were announced. Susan Waterbury, ARNP took home first prize, with Sweta Tewary, PhD finishing in second place, and Sofy Sendoya, MD in third place. The quality of posters was excellent this year, and Dr. Pandya is excited about the continued success of the program.

For more information about next year's Best Care Practices Conference taking place at Disney's Grand Floridian Resort, October 16-19, 2014, please contact FMDA's Communications Manager, Matt Reese at (561) 689-6321.

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The Florida Medical Directors Association represents nearly 250 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in Florida's postacute care continuum including subacute care, hospice, skilled nursing, and assisted living facilities, as well as in continuing care retirement communities. The mission of FMDA is to promote the highest quality care as patients' transition through the long term care continuum. FMDA is dedicated to providing leadership, professional education and advocacy for the inter-professional team.

FMDA is the official state chapter of the American Medical Directors Association and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.