



For Immediate Release

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FMDA Changes Name and Expands Membership

West Palm Beach, Fla. – On March 20, 2015, FMDA President Dr. Robert Kaplan announced an organizational name change to FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine. FMDA also expanded full membership to include nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs), which gives them full voting rights as members of the association. Both of these changes mimic what AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, our national affiliate, has done to expand their reach across the continuum of post-acute and long-term care.

FMDA’s name change reflects the increasing prominence of post-acute care in the long-term care continuum, and the longstanding presence of attending physicians and other practitioners in FMDA’s membership in addition to medical directors. NPs and PAs will now be able to participate fully in the life of the organization, to serve on and chair committees, and to participate as members of the Board. All five of FMDA’s officers will remain physicians; however NP & PA members are now able to serve as a Director on the Board. This is a significant step towards a more inclusive membership and governance structure, echoing how the inter-professional team works together in the field. FMDA looks forward to initiating and bringing about these changes in the coming months.

FMDA President Robert Kaplan, MD, CMD, commented, “These changes to FMDA’s bylaws fall in line with what’s happening on the ground floor in post-acute and long-term care facilities. All health care providers work together and need to be properly trained and supported, including the medical directors, the attending physicians, the nurse practitioners, and the physician’s assistants, to ensure that the highest quality of care is provided. FMDA will serve as the professional home for this team as we work together to improve the quality of care for both our post-acute patients and long-term care residents.”

FMDA will be holding its next town meeting on Friday, April 24, 2015 at the Doubletree Orlando Downtown in Orlando, FL. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Cindi Taylor, Membership Services Manager at (561) 689-6321.

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FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine: FMDA represents nearly 300 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in Florida’s postacute care continuum including sub-acute 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 AMDA – Dedicated to Long-Term Care Medicine and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.