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FMDA Will Celebrate its 25th Anniversary at Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum 2016

— Regional Conference will feature robust educational opportunities and include collaboration from multiple national societies

West Palm Beach, Fla. — FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine is excited to announce that planning for its 25th Anniversary Annual Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum Conference, Oct. 13-16, 2016, is under way. The educational program is designed to provide a review and update of major geriatric diseases, illnesses, and risks found in nursing home and hospice patients, residents of assisted living facilities, and seniors living at home. Topics will vary and include a wide range of clinical and administrative talks and will feature an annual forum with national leaders. This annual forum has been a highlight of the conference each year, and provides an opportunity for industry thought-leaders to discuss challenges and difficulties facing their organizations in the long-term care and post-acute continuum. The theme for this year's conference is Navigating Successfully into a New Frontier: PA/LTC.

Best Care Practices 2016 is planning a day-long preconference workshop titled “Developing Skills for Quality Assurance Improvement (QAPI) in Long-Term Care for the Interdisciplinary Team,” on its pre-conference day, Thursday, October 13, with Dallas Nelson, MD, CMD, and Suzanne Gillespie, MD, RD, CMD. The workshop will focus on QAPI for the interdisciplinary team, and will cover the recent changes to QAPI which significantly expands the level and scope of facility improvement activities, including systematic data-driven quality improvement methodologies to sustain and improve the quality of care and quality of life of nursing home residents. The session will be structured around those elements and equip nursing home leaders with core skills for designing their own QAPI programs and developing QAPI skills in their interdisciplinary teams with an emphasis on the knowledge and skills needed to use a systematic approach to analyze, initiate, implement, and monitor evidence based performance improvement projects.

In addition to this exciting workshop, the conference will feature proposed topics such as a billing and coding update, management of heart failure, conflicted surrogate syndrome, a Beers List update, pain management, update on diabetes treatment and new medications, antibiotic stewardship, dementia and its diagnosis, movement disorders, acute renal failure, CMS 5-Star SNF Reporting, and many more dynamic sessions designed for those with an interest in PA/LTC medicine.

FMDA President Leonard Hock, DO, CMD, MACOI, HMDC is encouraged by the number of high-level presentations and quality speakers that have been invited this year.

“Playing on the theme of this year's conference, Navigating Successfully into a New Frontier: PA/LTC, there is much change in the world of post-acute and long-term care medicine, with a lot of focus on CMS' reimbursement models and how practitioners will be compensated in the future, Dr. Hock said.” “A lot of uncertainty lies with the bundled payments for care improvement initiative (BPCI) in which organizations will enter into payment arrangements that include financial and performance accountability for episodes of care. We are entering a new frontier in PA/LTC medicine and we must be prepared with the requisite knowledge to handle these changes and provide the best care for our residents.”

The 25th Anniversary BCP Conference will be held at Disney's *Grand Floridian* Resort from October 13-16. The group rate is available 3-days pre- and 3-days post-conference, and reservations may be made by visiting www.bestcarepractices.org or by calling (407) 824-3000.

Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum is joint-provided by FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine and AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, and held in collaboration with the Florida Chapters of Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, the National Association of Directors of Nursing Administration, and Florida Geriatrics Society.

The conference is designed to educate physicians, physician assistants, consultant pharmacists, nurse practitioners, directors of nursing in LTC, registered nurses, senior care pharmacists, and long-term care administrators, as well as geriatricians, hospice physicians, primary care and home care physicians, physicians considering becoming long-term care or home care medical directors, and others with an interest in PA/LTC medicine. The faculty includes national and regional authorities in the fields of PA/LTC and geriatric medicine, medical direction, as well as senior care pharmacology.

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FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine represents more than 400 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurses in Florida's post-acute 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 post-acute and 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 AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.