



2025 Conference Syllabus

Best Care Practices 34th Annual Conference & Trade Show

Thursday, October 23 - Sunday, October 26, 2025

Table of Contents

Hotel Map	4
Meeting Rooms Map	4-5
Connect With Us	5
Welcome Letter	6-7
Who We Are	9-10
Registration Information	11
Conference Planning Committee	12
Annual Program Description	12
Target Audience	13
Conference Objectives	13
Connecting to the Hotel Wifi	14, 20
Parking at The Rosen Shingle Creek	14
Hotel Dining & Food Options	14
Schedule	15-18
Product Theater Meal Program	21

Table of Contents Continued

Conference Faculty Biographies	23-29
Sponsors	30-31
Trade Show Map	32
Trade Show Exhibitors	33-36
Get Trade Show Prizes!	36
Session Objectives	37-41
Poster Presentations Info	41
Save the Date - Best Care Practices 35 th Annual Conference	42



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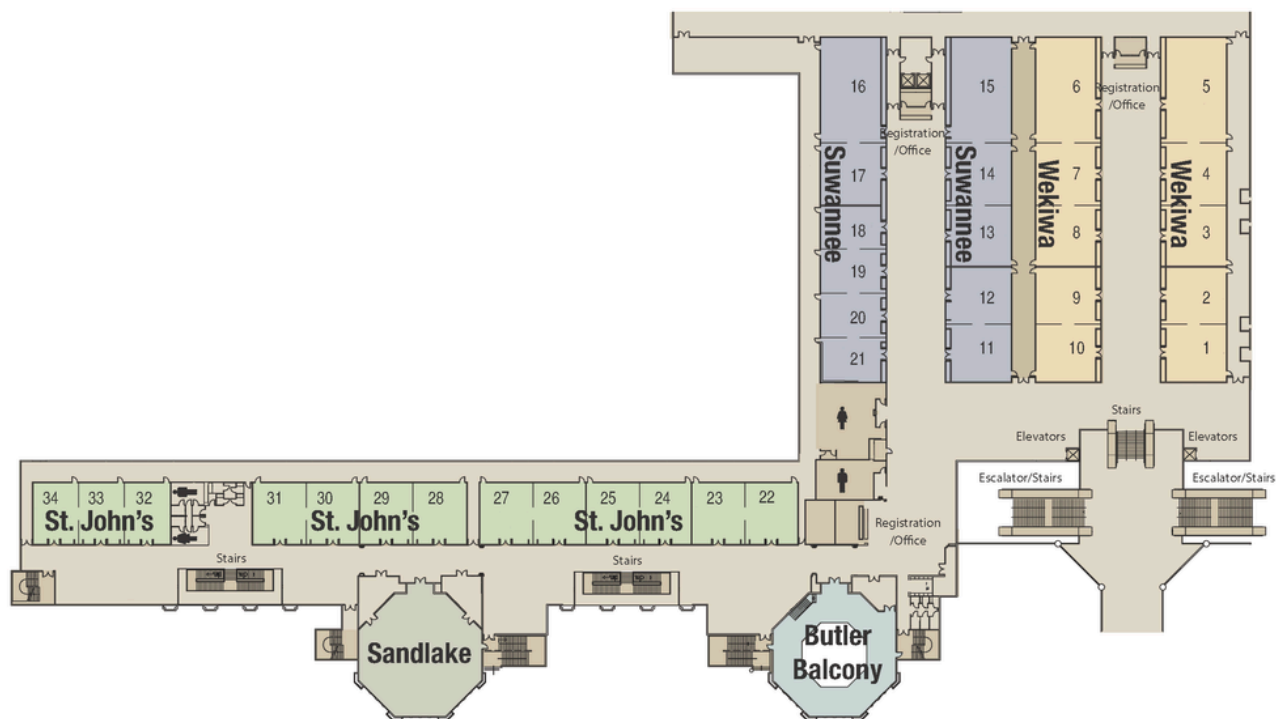
Main Hotel Map

Rosen Shingle Creek



Meeting Rooms

Level 2



Connect With Us

Social Media



www.linkedin.com/company/florida-medical-directors-association



www.facebook.com/joinFMDA

Welcome to the Best Care Practices 34th Annual Conference!

Oct. 22, 2025

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Welcome to our 34th Annual Conference! We are very glad you're here. FMDA had a remarkable year, and this year's conference emphasizes our expansion as we welcome members of FADONA as they join in several joint sessions Friday and Saturday.

2025 marks a historic year with the passage of SB 2514 mandating certification for medical directors in PALTC setting in the state of Florida. FMDA stands prepared to assist medical directors and facilities in their efforts to meet the new state requirements. With this mandate comes an influx of new members eager to learn and contribute to our mutual desire to provide the best care possible to our patients and residents. We welcome them to our organization.

Our annual conference has evolved into a regional gathering with national impact for medical directors, attending physicians, advanced practice nurses, consultant pharmacists, physician assistants, directors of nursing, and administrators working in the PALTC continuum. It provides an opportunity to network and enjoy educational seminars from some of the top names in their areas of expertise. We are always striving to improve and welcome your feedback. This is *your* association and *your* annual conference. Please take a few minutes to review the information in this syllabus and familiarize yourself with the events, how to earn continuing education credits, and the format of the meeting.

The registration and information desk will be open all day on Friday, Saturday, and half of Sunday. FMDA staff members remain available to answer any questions you may have. In order to claim credit, use FMDA's online process for the sessions and conference evaluations. Details on how to complete evaluations and claim CME credit are provided for you in an a credit handout document. Please take a moment to review this process to ensure you receive all the credit you are entitled to.

On Friday, we invite you to attend product theater lunch programs, sponsored by **Neurocrine Biosciences** and **Teva Pharmaceuticals**, and product theater dinner, sponsored by **Otsuka Pharmaceuticals**. Our thanks to these companies for their support! Join us on Friday at 5:05pm at the Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception in Panzacola F3/4, sponsored by **VITAS Healthcare – the 34th Annual Conference Diamond Sponsor**. While at the Trade Show, take the opportunity to see some of the latest products and innovations by visiting each of the companies that help make this conference possible.

Make sure your Trade Show Contest Flyer is initialized by each of the Exhibitors represented to be eligible to win a door prize. Turn in your completed Flyer at the Panzacola Registration Desk by Saturday, 10/25 at 1:00pm to be eligible to win. Prize drawings will be held at the end of the last session on Sunday 10/26, **and you must be present to win!**

Also, our thanks go to our **Bronze Grande Sponsor – Psych Health Associates**. Be sure to join us for the President's Wine & Cheese Reception on Saturday from 5:35pm to 6:50pm. Spend time with your friends and colleagues at this fun and relaxed event. Then celebrate as we announce the winner of this year's **Robert Kaplan Quality Champion Award**. Our thanks to **The Kaplan Family** for sponsoring this year's award program.

Again, welcome to **Best Care Practices in the Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Continuum 2025**. This year's program is outstanding, so we hope you enjoy yourselves! Congratulations to Dr. Niharika Suchak, Chair, Dr. Brianna Wynne, Vice Chair, Education Committee and Program Director; along with all the members of the Education Committee, and with strong support from FMDA staff. They have all put a lot of effort into making this conference interesting, educational, and fun.

We hope you find the conference to be a valuable asset to your professional life.

Executive Committee, FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

President: Shark Bird, MD, CMD, CWSP

Chairman of the Board: Angel Tafur, MD, CMD

Vice President: Alfonso Gonzalez-Rodriguez

Immediate Past-President: Diane Sanders-Cepeda, DO, CMD

Secretary/Treasurer: (P) Kenya Rivas, MD, CMD



We're So Glad You're Here.



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A VITAS care team responds 24/7/365 which can:

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- Lower overall healthcare costs*
- Improve quality measures

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Heart Failure

Who We Are



FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine is the official state chapter of PALTmed – Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine, and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.

FMDA represents nearly 500 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced registered nurse practitioners in Florida's post-acute 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.



Florida Geriatrics Society (FGS) is a not-for-profit state organization with interest in scientific, educational and academic activities to the entire geriatric care team, who can render optimal care for older adults. In addition to this winter meeting, **FGS** holds an annual medical convention to provide both CME and CEU credits for physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychologists and social workers.

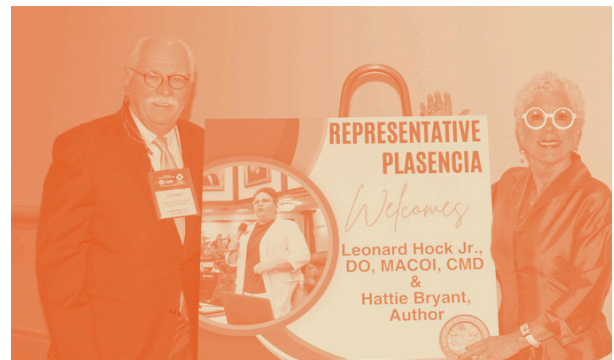
Members of the Board of Directors of **FGS** hold representation from all the medical schools in the state of Florida. It encourages in-training fellows, residents, and medical students' participation. **FGS** is also a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association.



Florida Chapters – Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (FL-GAPNA) GAPNA was founded in 1981, by a small group of GNPs with the intention of offering the first continuing education conferences designed specifically to meet the needs of advanced practice nurses. Currently, **GAPNA** represents nearly 10,000 certified advanced practice nurses who work with older adults in a wide variety of practice settings. **GAPNA** is the organization of choice for advanced practice nurses who want to pursue continuing education in gerontological care and who seek peer support from experienced clinicians. The **FL-GAPNA** Chapter and the Florida Gulf Coast Chapters both operate in the state of Florida.



National Association Directors of Nursing Administration (NADONA) – Since 1986, **NADONA** has been the leading advocate and educational organization for DONs, A DONs and RNs in Long-Term Care (LTC). **NADONA/LTC** was founded by dedicated LTC professionals, and its board of trustees still consists of LTC professionals. **NADONA** understands daily challenges, and are here to provide nurses with the tools they need for professional success.



We Are FMDA

Registration Type	Price
Paid-up members: FMDA, NADONA, FL-GAPNA, or FGS	\$449
New/renewing FMDA members	\$449 + Annual Dues
Non-Member Practitioners	\$599
Unlicensed Registrants (includes Organizational Affiliate Membership)	\$709
Fellows, Interns, & Residents in geriatrics, family practice, or internal medicine	\$90
Full-time Students: MD/DO/PA/NP/RN/PharmD/RPh/NHA or ALF administration	\$90
*Friday or Saturday ONLY	\$249
*Sunday ONLY	\$169
One-day Trade Show Pass	\$85

**Single-day registration is limited to one day only (Friday, Saturday, or Sunday). If you plan to attend more than one day of the conference, you must register for the Full Conference.*

The Registration and Information area can be found at the Panzacola Reg Desk.



Best Care Practices 34th Annual Conference & Trade Show

October 23 - 26, 2025

1 Conference Planning Committee

Chair: Niharika Suchak, MBBS, MHS, FACP, AGSF, LSSGB

Vice Chair: Brianna Wynne, MD

Betty Barron, RN

Shark Bird MD, CMD

Debra Danforth, DNP, APRN, RN, FAANP

Cynthia Fronning, RN, GERO-BC, IP-BC, AS-BC, RAC-CT, CDONA, FACDONA, EFLP, CALN, QAPI-BC

Alfonso Gonzalez-Rodriguez, MD, MBA

Elizabeth Hames, DO, CMD

Betsy Harth

Elizabeth Hidlebaugh, MD

Susie Jensvold RN,

Brian Kiedrowski, MD, MBA, CMD, CPE

Saurav Kiri

Michelle Lewis, DNP, FNP-BC, GNP-BC

Simone Minto-Pennant, PharmD, BCPS, CPh

Jennifer Moses, DNP, GNP-BC

Kenya Rivas, MD, CMD

Guinevere Sampson

Diane Sanders-Cepeda, DO, CMD

Laurie Sheffield-Workman, DNP, APRN

Niharika Suchak, MBBS, MHS, FACP, AGSF, LSSGB

Gregory Sullivan, MD, FAPA

Angel Tafur, MD, CMD

Lauren Tafur, ARNP

Melanie Trigo, PharmD

Padma Vedantam, MD

2 Annual Program Description

This program is designed to provide a review and update of major geriatric diseases, illnesses, and risks found in nursing home patients, residents of assisted-living facilities, those under hospice care, and seniors living at home.

Topics covered this year include:

- Alzheimer's Updates
- Antibiotic Therapy Appropriateness
- Anticoagulants in Older Adults
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Audit Preparedness
- Behavioral Health Collaboration in Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Changes to the Body
- Collaboration Between The DON & The Medical Director
- Disease Specific Indicators
- Effective Leadership
- Enhancing Patient Care and Emotional Well-Being
- Hospice Referrals
- Legal Issues
- Navigating the Final 6 Months of Life
- Nursing Home Care
- Optimizing Psychiatric Quality Measures
- Opioid Conversions
- Osteoporosis: Advanced Conversations
- Regulatory Updates
- Spirituality
- Wound Care

Best Care Practices 34th Annual Conference & Trade Show

October 23 - 26, 2025

3 Our Target Audience

This conference is designed to educate physicians, advanced practice nurses, senior care pharmacists, consultant pharmacists, physician assistants, directors of nursing in LTC, registered nurses, and long-term care administrators; as well as geriatricians, primary care and home care physicians, physicians considering becoming long-term care medical directors, hospice medical directors, or home care medical directors; and others with an interest in PALTC and its continuum of care.

The faculty includes national and regional authorities in the fields of post-acute and long-term care medicine, medical direction, senior care pharmacology, and geriatric medicine.

4 Conference Objectives

Upon completion of the Best Care Practices in the Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Continuum conference, participants should be able to:

- 1 Discuss the professional challenges facing medical directors, attending physicians, advanced practice nurses, consultant pharmacists, physician assistants, directors of nursing, and administrators practicing in the continuum.
- 2 Describe the advances in theoretical and clinical knowledge impacting individuals affected by medical issues in the PALTC continuum.
- 3 Discuss the current and emerging national issues and public policy efforts of PALTmed, Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, and American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.
- 4 Describe examples of evidence-based practice and multidisciplinary approaches to enhance outcomes in various health care settings.
- 5 List examples of evidence-based practice as it pertains to post-acute and long-term care medicine.

Wifi

To access the complimentary Wireless Internet in the Conference Center's Meeting Rooms, select:

NAME: Convention Wireless

ACCESS CODE: SCHXZ

For assistance please contact: (407) 996-3333

Parking

Self-parking is available at the hotel. All guests will begin by using the self-service kiosk. If staying overnight, please proceed by clicking the "overnight guest" button. This will automatically allow you into the gate and print a QR code. Please take the QR code to the front desk at the time of check-in to ensure that parking is routed to your guestroom with the discounted parking rate.

For guests driving in daily, please follow the prompt on the "events" button, which will reflect the conference name. Payment at the discounted rate must be completed before accessing the parking area. There is a parking attendant available if any issues arise.

Please Note: The standard parking rate is \$32.00+tax per day. With your Conference discount, parking will be \$16.00 plus tax.

Dining & Food

The following restaurants and food services can be found onsite:

A Land Remembered

Upscale steakhouse serving beef, seafood, and wine pairings

Cala Bella & Bella's Bar

Fine-dining, Italian Bistro

Café Osceola

Full American Buffet

Tobias Burgers & Brews

A gathering spot featuring burgers, specialty flats, craft beer, and bourbon

Mi Casa Tequila Taqueria

Authentic Mexican flavors and hand-crafted margaritas

Banrai Sushi

Traditional sushi, signature rolls, and specialty cocktails

Headwaters Lounge

Social hot spot for networking and relaxing

18 Monroe Street Market

24-hour New York-style deli; dine in or take out

Shingle Creek Clubhouse Grille

Appetizers, lunch entrees, full-service bar

Par-Take

Golfers grab-and-go sandwiches and snacks

Cat-Tails Pool Bar & Grille

Casual food and beverages pool-side

Smooth Java

Starbucks beverages, smoothies, juices, breakfast/lunch sandwiches, and snacks

Creek Ice Creamery

Your favorite frozen treats

In-Room Dining

24-hour, full-service dining

Schedule

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025

6:30am - 5:30pm	Registration and Information OPEN	Panzacola Reg Desk
6:50am - 7:35am	FMDA Annual Meeting	Suwannee 14
7:00am - 7:45am	Continental Breakfast	Foyer Panzacola
7:45am - 8:00am	President's Welcome and Awards <i>Shark Bird, MD, CMD & Betty Barron, RN</i>	Panzacola F1
8:00am - 9:00am	Keynote Address: Past, Present, and Future of Nursing Home Care (Lessons from Sisyphus) - Session 101 <i>Paul Katz, MD, CMD</i>	Panzacola F1
9:05am - 10:05am	DON & The Medical Director: The Meeting of the Minds - Session 102 <i>Cindy Fronning, RN, GERO-BC, IP-BC, AS-BC, RAC-CT, CDONA, FACDONA, EFLP, CALN, QAPI-BC</i>	Panzacola F1
10:00am - 1:30pm	Exhibitor Setup	Panzacola F3/4
10:05am - 10:35am	Coffee Break - Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare	Panzacola Foyer
10:25am - 11:25am	The Question of Spirituality - Session 103 <i>F. Michael Gloth III, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
11:35am - 12:35pm	Product Theater Lunch <i>Sponsored by Neurocrine Biosciences - Chorea Associated with Huntington's Disease - Olga Klepitskaya, Medical Affairs Director, MD & Nicole Stinson, Clinical Practice Liaison</i>	Suwannee 15
	Product Theater Lunch <i>Sponsored by Teva Pharmaceuticals - Tardive Dyskinesia in Long-Term Care Residents: Screening for Movements, Assessing Impact, and Treatment Considerations - Phyllis Howell, MSN, Ed, FNP-BC, DNP</i>	Suwannee 14
12:40pm - 1:40pm	The Triumphs and Tribulations of AI in a Value-Based Care World - Session 104 <i>Steven Buslovich, MD, CMD, MSHCPM</i>	Panzacola F1

Schedule

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025 - CONTINUED

1:45pm - 2:50pm	Grand Opening of Trade Show and Poster Presenters	Panzacola F3/4
2:55pm - 3:55pm	Regulatory Update - Session 105 <i>Kimberly R. Smoak, MSH, QIDP</i>	Panzacola F1
3:40pm - 4:10pm	Coffee Break <i>Sponsored by Psych Health Associates</i>	Panzacola Foyer
4:00pm - 5:00pm	SCALE – Skin Changes at Life’s End - Session 106 <i>Ronald Rosen, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
5:05pm - 6:05pm	Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception <i>Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare</i>	Panzacola F3/4
6:10pm - 7:10pm	Product Theater Dinner <i>Sponsored by Otsuka Pharmaceuticals - Agitation Associated with Dementia Due to Alzheimer’s Disease: Impact and Symptom Management Considerations In a Long-term Care Setting with Dr. Jeffrey Deitch</i>	Suwannee 14/15

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

6:30am - 6:00pm	Registration and Information OPEN	Panzacola Reg Desk
7:00am - 8:00am	Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations <i>Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare</i>	Panzacola F3/4
8:00am - 9:00am	Navigating the Last Six Months of Life with the Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time - Session 107 <i>Lauren Loftis, MD, FAAHPM, HMDC & Kamal Wahab, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
9:10am - 10:40am	Nurturing Your Mind: A Path to Effective Leadership, Patient Care, and Emotional Well-Being - Session 108 <i>Pari Deshmukh, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
10:40am - 11:40am	Break in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations <i>Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare</i>	Panzacola F3/4

Schedule

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025 CONTINUED

11:40am - 12:50pm	Break for Lunch	
12:50pm - 1:50pm	In-House Acquired Foot Wounds: Are They Really All Pressure? - Session 109 <i>Shark Bird, MD, CMD</i>	Panzacola F1
1:00pm	Trade Show Sheet Drop-Off	
1:55pm - 2:55pm	Optimizing Psychiatric Quality Measures and Behavioral Health Collaboration in Skilled Nursing Facilities: Enhancing Care and Maximizing Reimbursement - Session 110 <i>Farid Chekaoui, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
2:40pm - 3:10pm	Coffee Break	Panzacola Foyer

CONCURRENT SESSION I

3:05pm - 4:05pm	Legal Issues: Strategies Related to Medicare Audit Preparedness - Session 111 <i>Rich Brooderson, Esq.</i>	Suwannee 14
	Disease Specific Indicators for Hospice Referrals - Session 112 <i>Mari Adams, MSN-Ed., BSN- RN, CHPN</i>	Suwannee 15

CONCURRENT SESSION II

4:10pm - 5:10pm	Trainee Leadership Geriatric Review - Session 113 <i>Saurav Kiri & Gaurav Kiri</i>	Suwannee 15
	Anticoagulants in Older Adults: Key Considerations and Common Problems - Session 114 <i>Anita Rajasekhar, MD, MS, FACP</i>	Suwannee 14
5:35pm - 6:50pm	President's Wine and Cheese Reception <i>Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare</i>	Lake Toho

Schedule

DAY 3 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

7:00am - 7:55am	Conference Planning Committee Review and Wrap-up Breakfast Meeting	Suwanee 15 Boardroom
7:45am - 9:15am	Continental Breakfast	Panzacola Foyer
7:45am - 12:00pm	Registration and Information OPEN	Panzacola Reg Desk
8:00am - 9:00am	Determining Appropriateness of Antibiotic Therapy in Nursing Home Residents - Session 115 <i>Joseph Mylotte, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
9:05am - 10:05am	Alzheimer's Update: Biomarkers and Anti-Amyloid Monoclonal Antibody Medications - Session 116 <i>Ariel Cole, MD, FAAFP, CMD</i>	Panzacola F1
10:10am - 11:10am	Opioid Conversions Within Hospice and Palliative Care - Session 117 <i>Kamal Wahab, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
11:15am - 12:15pm	Osteoporosis: Beyond the Basics - Session 118 <i>Michael Kaplan, DPT; Melanie Trigo, PharmD; & Brianna Wynne, MD</i>	Panzacola F1
12:15pm - 12:30pm	Conference Closing: Announcements & Door Prizes	Panzacola F1



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When you partner with VITAS® Healthcare, your patients gain access to our dedicated interdisciplinary care teams who are equipped with the expertise to provide tailored care. Your patients deserve nothing but the best, and VITAS delivers excellence every step of the way.



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We offer 24/7/365 clinical care support, ensuring physicians, hospitals, and senior living communities always have access to our expertise. When your team needs us, we're available, ready to provide the care your patients require.



Complex Hospice Modalities

VITAS offers complex modalities to address the unique needs of your patients. We understand that every patient is different, and our customized approach ensures that care is precisely tailored to them.



Advance Care Planning

We're partners in achieving patient-centered care goals. Our expertise extends to advance care planning, goal-concordant patient care, and the meticulous tracking of industry metrics.

Together, we'll ensure that your patients receive the care they deserve, in line with their wishes and your senior living communities' high standards.

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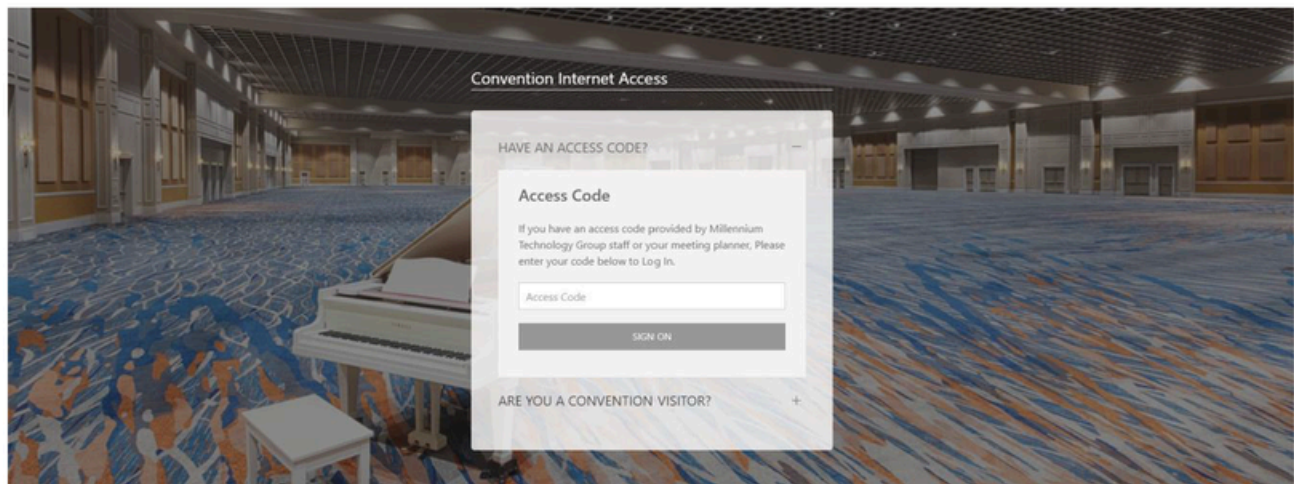
American Heart Association.
Certified Care™
Palliative/Hospice
Heart Failure

WIRELESS INSTRUCTIONS

Rosen Conventions

Access Code: SCHXZ

1. Connect to: "Convention Wireless"
2. Open a web browser.
3. You will be redirected to the Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Internet Access portal page.



4. Click on the "+" next to "HAVE AN ACCESS CODE?"
5. Click in the "Access Code" box.
6. Enter the Access Code provided above. This code is case sensitive.
7. Click the "Sign On" button to validate.

YOU ARE NOW FREE TO BROWSE THE INTERNET

To log a device out of the account, go to <http://user.logout>.
For assistance please contact (407) 996-3333

Product Theater Meal Programs

Thursday, October 23rd

Lunch Sponsored by Viatris | 11:45am-12:45pm | Suwannee 13/14

The Role of Nebulized Long-Acting Maintenance Treatment of COPD in the Long-Term Care Setting
Speaker: Lacey Matheis APRN, MSN, FNP-C



Friday, October 24th

Lunch Sponsored by Neurocrine Biosciences | 11:35am-12:35pm | Suwannee 15

Chorea Associated with Huntington's Disease
Speakers: Olga Klepitskaya, Medical Affairs Director, MD & Nicole Stinson, Clinical Practice Liaison



Lunch Sponsored by Teva Pharmaceuticals | 11:35am-12:35pm | Suwannee 14

Tardive Dyskinesia in Long-Term Care Residents: Screening for Movements, Assessing Impact, and Treatment Considerations
Speaker: Phyllis Howell, MSN, Ed, FNP-BC, DNP



Dinner Sponsored by Otsuka Pharmaceuticals | 6:10pm-7:10pm | Suwannee 14/15

Agitation Associated with Dementia Due to Alzheimer's Disease: Impact and Symptom Management Considerations In a Long-term Care Setting
Speaker: Dr. Jeffrey Deitch



Helping Patients Age In Place at Their Preferred Care Setting

VITAS® Healthcare offers higher levels of care for patients with serious illness.

Are you caring for patients in nursing homes with serious progressive illness? There is no need for disruptive care transitions. VITAS supports healthcare professionals in the nursing home setting by providing a range of services to hospice-eligible patients:

- **Care Coordination:** The VITAS team facilitates communication regarding patient care transitions, symptom management, health status, and quality of life.
- **24/7/365 Clinical Care Support:** VITAS provides around-the-clock access to clinicians for triage, assessment, and treatment guidance.
- **Complex Modalities:** VITAS offers support when complex interventions or intensive symptom management is needed, to ensure patients are comfortable.

VITAS can evaluate and admit hospice-eligible patients within hours, in most cases. Refer to VITAS 24/7.

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Heart Failure



Conference Faculty

A-Br



Mari Adams, MSN-Ed., BSN- RN, CHPN

Clinical Nurse Educator

Chapters Health System-Cornerstone Hospice and Palliative Care

Madams@chaptershealth.org

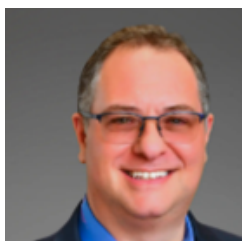
Mari has been in the world of healthcare for many years in multiple roles working in the hospital, outpatient surgery centers, public health, home health, and hospice care. Mari has been an educator for the last ten years and has presented at multiple conferences and seminars on many topics including end-of-life care. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Nursing at ECPI University. Mari started her health career as an LPN and RN, then received her Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in nursing. She is active in the community and thrives on educating others on a variety of health topics.



Shark Bird, MD, CMD

Dr. Bird is a Certified Medical Director with PALTmed. He previously served as Chief Medical Officer for the nation's largest provider of wound physicians in the post-acute setting and spearheaded the writing and development of their year-long fellowship program.

Dr. Bird attended undergraduate and graduate school at Ball State University in Muncie, IN, and Medical School at Marshall University School of Medicine in Huntington, WV. He completed his residency in family medicine with West Virginia University/CAMC in Charleston, WV, before beginning his solo practice in rural West Virginia. He currently serves as president of FMDA Florida Society for post-acute and long-term care.



Rich Brooderson Esq.

Richard J. Brooderson, is an AV-rated Board Certified Health Law attorney with an extensive background in the legal profession, both in litigation and health law. He graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign with a degree in Physiology with a concentration in Genetics and Physiological Psychology. Rich then went on to complete his Ph.D. in Pharmacology at Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1992, where he was the honored recipient of one of four available prestigious National Institute of Health National Research Service Award (NIH-NRSA) Training Grants. While at Wayne State University School of Medicine, in addition to his research activities, Dr. Brooderson served as a teaching assistant to medical students during their pharmacology training.

Dr. Brooderson then completed Post-Doctoral Training through the University of Florida College of Medicine and College of Pharmacy. Following his Post-Doctoral Training, Rich graduated from the University of Florida College of Law with his Juris Doctor degree in 1996.

Conference Faculty

Bu-C



Dr. Steven Buslovich, MD, CMD, MSHCPM

Dr. Steven Buslovich is the Chief Medical Officer of Senior Care at PointClickCare, where he leads innovative strategies in senior care delivery. A practicing geriatrician and certified medical director, Dr. Buslovich brings extensive expertise from his role as CEO and Co-Founder of Patient Pattern—a comprehensive care management platform for value-based care that was acquired by PointClickCare. With active involvement in key industry organizations, including the Advancing Excellence in Long Term Care Collaborative, the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (PALTmed), and the American Geriatrics Society (AGS), Dr. Buslovich is recognized for his leadership in transforming long-term care. His accolades include AMDA's Shark Tank Innovation Award, and he is currently collaborating with CMS and ONC to standardize clinical data elements across post-acute care settings. Dr. Buslovich is an expert in operationalizing frailty risk and enhancing care outcomes within value-based care models. He continues to redefine best-practices and advocate for the future of senior care innovation.



Farid Chekaoui, MD

Dr. Chekaoui is a board-certified geriatric psychiatrist specializing in the intersection of behavioral health, regulatory compliance, and quality improvement within long-term care. As the founder and clinical lead of a psychiatric practice serving NW Florida SNFs, he works closely with interdisciplinary teams to optimize mental health care, minimize survey risks, and enhance performance on CMS quality measures. With 20 years of hands-on experience consulting across diverse nursing home settings, he brings a unique dual focus: evidence-based psychiatric care and deep regulatory fluency. From schizophrenia diagnosis compliance to antipsychotic GDR strategies, he helps facilities align with evolving standards while preserving high-quality resident care. Dr. Chekaoui's goal is to support medical directors and facility teams in improving outcomes, reducing psychotropic use risks, and staying ahead of CMS expectations — without sacrificing clinical integrity.



Ariel Cole, MD, FAAFP, CMD

Dr. Cole received her medical degree from the University of South Florida in Tampa and completed her residency and fellowship training at Florida Hospital, now AdventHealth. As part of her role as director of the Geriatric Fellowship, Dr. Cole supervises medical students, residents, and geriatric fellows in the care of elderly patients in outpatient settings and nursing homes. She oversees a Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment Clinic where elder patients and their caregivers meet with an interdisciplinary team to evaluate their medical, functional, and psychosocial status.

Dr. Cole is the Orlando campus Clerkship Director for Geriatrics at the Florida State University (FSU) College of Medicine. Dr. Cole is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Geriatrics Society, and the American Medical Directors Association. She is Board Certified in Family Medicine and Geriatric Medicine and is a Certified Medical Director.

Conference Faculty

D-G



Parikshit A. Deshmukh MD DFAPA FASAM

Dr. Deshmukh graduated from a renowned psychiatry residency program at Case Western Reserve University, where he served as Chief Resident. Alongside his residency, he completed certificate courses in various psychotherapy treatment modalities. After graduating from residency, he achieved triple board certification in General Psychiatry, Addiction Medicine, and Integrative Holistic Medicine. He was awarded the distinction of Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (DFAPA) and Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (FSAM).

In 2016, he co-founded Balanced Wellbeing LLC with his wife, where he currently serves as CEO and Medical Director. Under his ownership and leadership, Balanced Wellbeing grew from serving 15 facilities with 2 clinicians and 3 ancillary staff members in 2016 to currently servicing over 450 facilities (including 200+ nursing homes, 200+ assisted living facilities, 30+ group homes, 5 clinics, hospitals, and addiction rehabilitation centers) with its 130+ full-time healthcare providers (psychiatrists and psychologists).



Cindy Fronning, RN, GERO-BC, IP-BC, AS-BC, RAC-CT, CDONA, FADONA, EFLP, CALN, QAPI-BC

Cindy has over 45 years of experience in long-term care as a DON, a Multi-Facility Organization consultant and a National Clinical Consultant specializing in clinical reimbursement. Cindy's experience includes education of nursing home personnel, mentoring of nurses and Directors of Nursing, clinical systems and form development, department restructuring, mock surveys, and a comprehensive understanding of State and Federal regulations. Cindy was the Director of Education for NADONA for 6 years. Her role was responsible for the planning, direction, and implementation of all educational projects and pursuits within NADONA. She created and is an instructor for the NADONA Certification courses and exams for Nurse Leaders, Infection Preventionists, Antibiotic Stewardship, QAPI and Staff Development Coordinator. Currently Cindy is the Executive Director of NADONA. Her responsibilities include the oversight of the entire organization and together, with the Board of Directors, determines the direction and growth of NADONA.



F. Michael Gloth, III, MD, FACP, AGSF

Dr. Michael Gloth is a Clinical Professor of Geriatrics at Florida State University College of Medicine, an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and President and CEO of AMDG Naples 100 Senior Concierge and Consulting, LLC. He is a past president of the Hospice and Palliative Care Network of Maryland, the Baltimore Medical Society, and the Florida Geriatrics Society. He has provided consultant services to many organizations, including the US Conference of Catholic Bishops on end-of-life issues and for health systems developing geriatrics programs. Currently, he serves on the Health in Aging Foundation Board. His publications are extensive, including medical informatics, in-patient geriatric units (ACE or GEM units), medication management in older adults, Handbook of Pain Relief in Older Adults, and an International Book Award winner, Fit at Fifty and Beyond.

Conference Faculty

Ka-Ki



Michael Kaplan, DPT

Michael S. Kaplan, PT, DPT, CMPT completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Central Florida before earning his Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Florida Gulf Coast University in 2013. He currently serves as a physical therapist at B Physical Therapy in Lake Mary, FL, and previously served as the clinical director at Ability Rehabilitation's Winter Park office for 8 years. With 12 years of experience as a PT, Michael specializes in helping patients work through various orthopedic conditions through the use of manual therapy and a fitness-forward approach. Specializing in exercise prescription and hope-dealing, Michael most enjoys taking sedentary individuals of all ages and moving them towards a more active lifestyle. In 2024, he received a Geriatric Clinical Specialist Certification. He has recently completed a certification in Modern Management of the Older Adult through the Institute of Clinical Excellence, a series of courses designed to re-examine and challenge traditional models of care for older adults. Michael lives in Winter Springs with his wife Julia, three elementary-aged children, and dog, Lucy. Outside of the clinic, Michael enjoys trail running, taking Peloton classes, and coaching his son's baseball teams.



Gaurav Kiri

Dr. Gaurav Kiri, MD, is an internal medicine intern at UF Health Jacksonville planning to pursue a fellowship in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. He earned a Master's in Medical Sciences from USF Morsani College of Medicine and graduated from UCF College of Medicine (UCF COM) in Lake Nona. He has been involved in research since undergraduate college and has had multiple poster and oral presentations at regional, national, and international conferences. He was the founding president of the Aging in Medicine and Surgery Interest Group at UCF COM, and he was a member of the board of the Florida Geriatrics Society as the Chair of the Student Leadership Council.

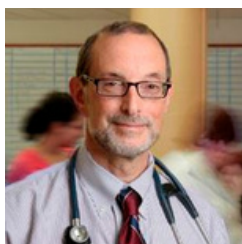


Saurav Kiri

Saurav Kiri is a 3rd year medical student at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine (class of 2027). He graduated from New College of Florida with a B.A. in Cellular and Molecular Biology with minors in Mathematics and Chemistry. In addition to serving on the FMDA Education Committee, he has also previously served as chair of the Student Leadership Council of the Florida Geriatrics Society. His primary interests include the fields of Internal Medicine and Neurology.

Conference Faculty

Kat-My



Paul Katz, MD, CMD

Dr. Paul Katz is Professor of Medicine at Florida State University College of Medicine and McMaster University. He has served in a number of leadership positions including Vice President of Medical Services at the Baycrest Health Science Centre, an affiliate of the University of Toronto, as well as Chief of the Division of Geriatrics/Aging at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Chair of the Department of Geriatrics at FSU. While in Rochester, Dr. Katz served as medical director for 16 years at Monroe Community Hospital, one of the first teaching nursing homes in the US.

Dr. Katz is past president of Post Acute and Long-Term Care Medical Association (PALTmed-formerly AMDA). He has co-edited 12 books, has over 150 scholarly publications, and is currently co-editor in chief of JAMDA: The Journal of Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine. Dr. Katz is an active member of the Senior Quality Leap Initiative (SQLI), a consortium of 15 Canadian and US senior care organizations dedicated to quality improvement in nursing homes. He also serves as corporate medical director for Westminster Communities of Florida and Presbyterian Senior Living in Pennsylvania.



Lauren Loftis, MD, FAAHPM, HMDC

As regional medical director for VITAS® Healthcare, Dr. Loftis supports nine VITAS programs stretching from Mobile, Alabama, to Brevard County, Florida. In her role, she leads the medical care for more than 6,500 end-of-life patients and their families throughout Citrus County and the Nature Coast, Pensacola, Panama City, Jacksonville, and Tallahassee. Dr. Loftis received her medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. She received a bachelor's degree in biomedical sciences from Texas A&M University in College Station. She is board-certified in family medicine and hospice and palliative medicine. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine and received the Hospice Medical Director Board Certification HMDCB.



Joseph Mylotte, MD

Dr. Mylotte received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the School of Medicine, State University of New York at Buffalo in 1973. After completing a residency in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the University at Buffalo, he joined the full-time faculty of the School of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, University at Buffalo in 1980. Dr. Mylotte also served as an attending physician on the Acute Geriatrics Service at Erie County Medical Center, Buffalo, NY, from July, 1997 to January, 2006; he was the director of the unit from 2000-2006. From 2006 to 2015 he was a full-time attending physician for several nursing homes in Western New York, primarily doing post-acute care. He also served as a medical director for several nursing homes. Dr. Mylotte's research in the past 25 years focused on the study of nursing home pneumonia, antibiotic use in long-term care with an emphasis on metrics, and C. difficile infection in long-term care. Dr. Mylotte is a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Fellow, Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, and Fellow, American College of Physicians.

Conference Faculty

R-S



Anita Rajasekhar, MD, MS, FACP

Dr. Rajasekhar ("Dr. Raj") is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology/Oncology at the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville, Florida. She completed her Medical Degree and Master's in Clinical Investigation at the University of Florida. She is a clinician and clinical investigator with a focus on classical hematology. Dr. Raj's primary clinical interests include diagnosis and treatment of thrombotic and bleeding disorders. Her research has focused on the prevention and treatment of venous thromboembolism. She is the adult medical director of the UF Hemophilia Treatment Center. Dr. Raj is an active member of the American Society of Hematology and serves on the Board of Directors for the Anticoagulation Forum.



Ronald Rosen, MD

Dr. Ronald Rosen is a geriatrician with Mass General Brigham's Extended Care practice, where he cares for patients in post-acute and long-term care settings. He also works with Care Dimensions Hospice and Palliative Care, specializing in end-of-life care for residents of long-term care facilities. His medical-legal work has fostered a particular interest in pressure injuries. Dr. Rosen volunteers as a Medical Team Manager with Massachusetts Task Force 1, FEMA's urban search and rescue team for New England, and has deployed to natural disasters across the United States. He also pursues woodworking, designing and building handcrafted furniture as a creative counterbalance to medicine.

Dr. Rosen earned his medical degree from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center and completed a family medicine residency at Franklin Square Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He is board-certified in family medicine with added qualifications in geriatrics and hospice and palliative medicine.



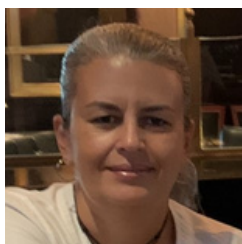
Kimberly R. Smoak, MSH, QIDP

Ms. Smoak has been with the Agency for Health Care Administration since August 1995. She is the Deputy Secretary of the Health Quality Assurance Division. The Division licenses and/or certifies and regulates 30 providers, including hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and home health agencies. The Division licenses, certifies, regulates, or provides exemptions for more than 50,000 providers.

Ms. Smoak is also the State Survey Agency Director for the State of Florida and holds a Master of Science in Health with a program emphasis in Aging Studies. She is also a Qualified Intellectual Disability Professional (QIDP). In 2009 and 2017, she received Survey & Certification Achievement Awards, presented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, for her work in Survey and Certification.

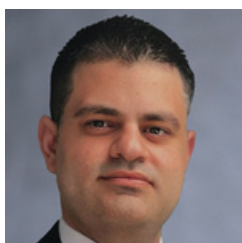
Conference Faculty

T-Z



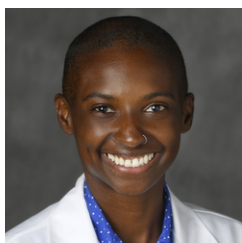
Melanie Trigo, PharmD

Melanie Trigo, Pharm.D, has been a long-term care consultant pharmacist for Omnicare for the past 21 years. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Nova Southeastern University in 1994 and her Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy from the Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy in 2008. Dr. Trigo has held positions as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at Nova Southeastern University and Professor at Larkin School of Nursing. Prior to her long-term care practice, Dr. Trigo was Clinical Specialist and Operations Supervisor at Miami Heart Institute and Director of Pharmacy Services at Coral Gables Hospital.



Kamal Wahab, MD

Dr. Kamal Wahab is a Geriatric and Hospice & Palliative medicine specialist, serving as Regional Medical Director for VITAS Healthcare in Central and North Florida. He is also one of the Hospice and Palliative faculty at the HCA North Florida fellowship program, where he helps train the next generation of physicians in compassionate, patient-centered care. Based in Gainesville, Dr. Wahab is married to a fellow physician and is a proud dad of two daughters. Outside of medicine, he enjoys sports cars, grilling, and—like any true Gainesville local—cheering on the Florida Gators. Go Gators!



Brianna Wynne, MD

Brianna Wynne, MD, FAAFP is a board-certified geriatrician with a family medicine background. She is faculty at AdventHealth Winter Park geriatric fellowship, where she completed her geriatric training and currently teaches medical students, residents and fellows. She has been involved in The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine's Education Committee since 2022 and is also actively engaged in the American Geriatric Society and American Academy of Family Physicians.

Thank You to Our Sponsors

On behalf of the the Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (FMDA), the Florida Geriatrics Society (FGS), Florida Chapters – Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (FL-GAPNA), and the National Association Directors of Nursing Administration (NADONA), we want to express our sincere gratitude for the generous sponsorships from VITAS Healthcare, Psych Health Associates, and The Rose Program.

Our Sponsors play a pivotal role in making the BPC Conference a successful and memorable experience for each and every attendee. We are incredibly thankful for your commitment to our cause and for your contribution to making the 34th Annual Conference a triumph!

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Thank You For Your Support

We express our deepest gratitude for the following generous contributions to our Best Practices 34th Annual Conference from VITAS Healthcare. The following Conference experiences are brought to you by VITAS Healthcare:

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Friday Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

Saturday Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations

Saturday Break in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations

Saturday President's Wine and Cheese Reception



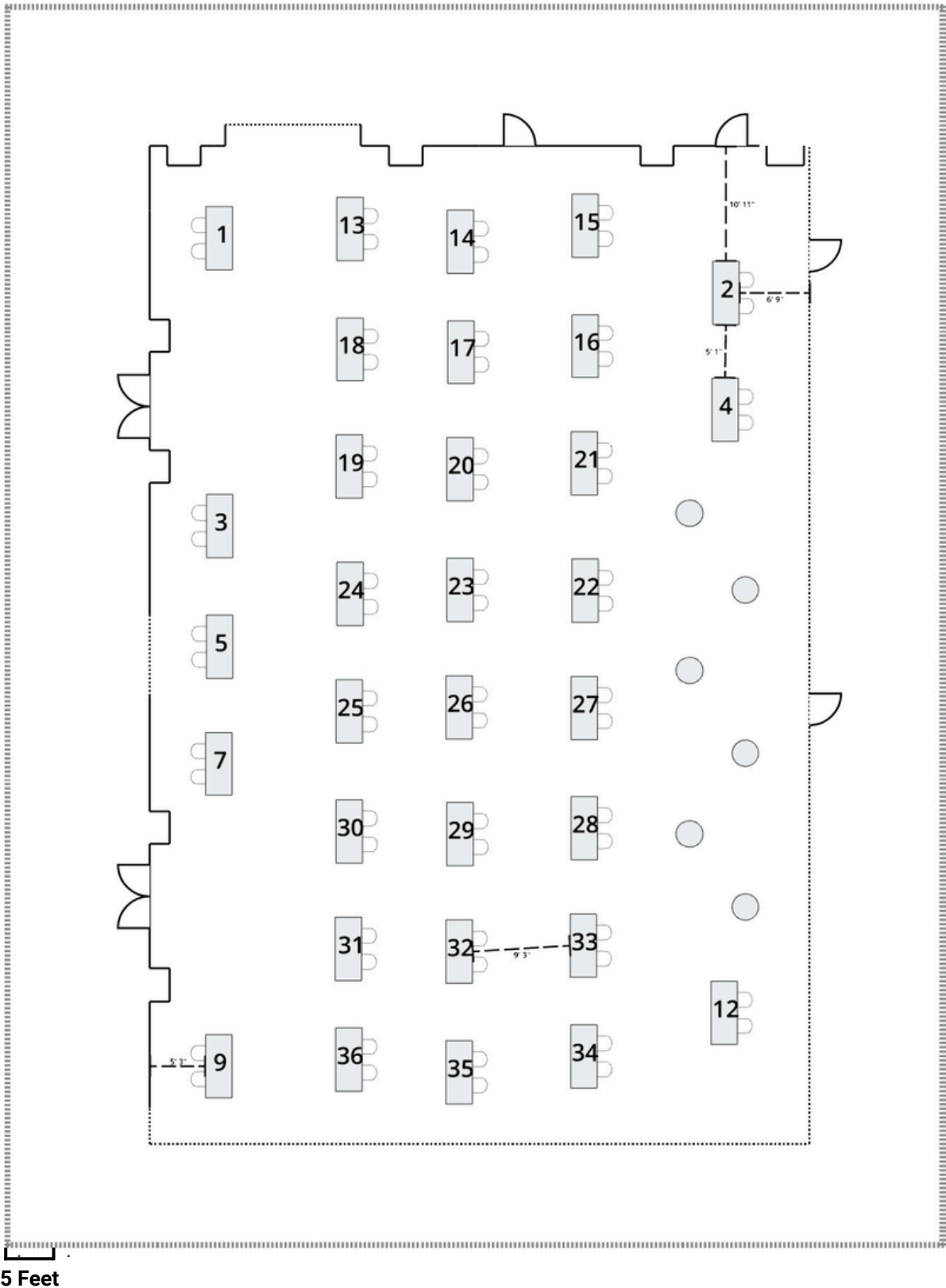
Our sincere thanks for the following generous contributions to our Best Practices 34th Annual Conference from Psych Health Associates. The following Conference experience are brought to you by Psych Health Associates:



Friday Afternoon Coffee Break Sponsor: Psych Health Associates



2025 Annual Trade Show Map



2025 Annual Trade Show Exhibitors



Acadia Pharmaceuticals (#20)

Heather Highfield
Executive LTC Representative
4650 Links Village Drive A104
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127
heather.highfield@acadia-pharm.com
(407) 399-0361

Acadia's mission is to be the leading pharmaceutical company dedicated to the advancement of innovative medicines that improves the lives of patients with central nervous system disorders.



Alpha Cognition, Inc. (#21)

Greg Anderson
Regional Business Director
4610 SE 8th St. Ocala, FL 34471
GANDERSON@ALPHACOGNITION.COM
(352) 804-1455

Alpha Cognition is a biopharmaceutical company dedicated to developing innovative treatments for patients suffering from neurodegenerative diseases. Our mission is to enhance the lives of patients and caregivers by delivering safe, effective, and accessible therapies that target unmet medical needs in neurology.



American Heart Association (#27)

Marissa Snellinger
Healthcare Quality Solutions Manager
3811 SE 18th Place, FL 33904
marissa.snellinger@heart.org
(703) 732-2200

The AHA Heart Failure Certification helps agencies elevate care by aligning with evidence-based guidelines. It validates excellence in program management, education, care coordination, and clinical practices, ensuring smoother transitions and better outcomes for heart failure patients.

ARKRAY USA, INC.

ARKRAY USA (#2)

Melissa Ritchie
Marketing & Event Specialist
801 South Marquette Ave., Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55402
ritchierm@arkrayusa.com
(612) 357-2937

Since 1960, ARKRAY has been a leader in the blood glucose monitoring market with a dominant market share in long-term care. For healthcare providers, this means cutting-edge and reliable products combined with superior customer support. With products and programs that reach throughout the industry, ARKRAY has become the trusted source across the healthcare continuum.



Balanced Wellbeing LLC (#9)

Kathleen Miller
VP Operations
3200 SW 34th Ave., Suite 701
Ocala, FL 33474
kathleenmiller@balancedwellbeing.com

At Balanced Wellbeing, we use a patient-centered and collaborative approach for your mental health needs. We offer in-person clinic services, telepsychiatry with medication management, and psychotherapy.



CARES® Dementia 5-Step Training (#14)

Cathy Rose Events Coordinator
6120 Earle Brown Dr., Suite 214
Minneapolis, MN 55430
crose@hcinteractive.com
(612) 670-9687

HealthCare Interactive offers the CARES® Dementia 5-Step Method, an award-winning, evidence-based series of 10 online dementia care training, certification, and credentialing programs for individuals and healthcare facilities. CARES® has been proven to increase observable person-centered care and reduce anxiety in those living with dementia.



ChartPath (#26)

Nicki Cadle
Field Marketing Manager
2035 Lakeside Center Drive, Suite 190
Knoxville, TN 37922
nicki.cadle@livtech.com
(571) 216-4311

ChartPath is the EHR built specifically for physicians who round in SNFs and other LTPAC environments. We simplify documentation, coding, and billing with a single-page encounter template and a powerful clinical decision support engine.



Crestmark Pharmacy Services (#35)

Krista Olson Regional
VP of Business Development
433 N. MacArthur Ave.
Panama City, FL 32401
krista@pharmacy-services.net
(214) 529-5321

Crestmark Pharmacy partners with providers to lighten nursing burdens, improve quality, and reduce costs. Through personalized service, pharmacist leadership, and innovative technology, we support compliance, streamline operations, and enhance outcomes helping long-term care communities focus on what matters: exceptional resident care.



DispatchHealth IMAGING (#16)

Jennifer Butz
Sr. Vice President-Imaging
3200 Southwest 34th Ave.
Ocala FL, 34474
Jennifer.butz@dispatchhealth.com
(240) 447-3238

National provider of mobile (portable) diagnostic imaging services, including X-Rays, Ultrasound and EKGs. 100% Digital Imaging with seamless customer access to our operating platform for Reviewing DICOM Images, Results and Reports. We provide full electronic integration with EMR (electronic medical record) Systems.

Exhibitors



Gentell (#32)
Brinn Helton
Regional Manager
1000 Floral Vale
Yardley, PA 19067
brinn.helton@gentell.com
csallitto@gentell.com
beth.leak@gentell.com
(215)788-2700

Gentell is the largest vertically-integrated wound care company in the world. We offer efficient, affordable wound care solutions for a variety of care settings, both in the United States and internationally.



Jelly Drops (#15)
Caroline Humphreys
PR Manager
Unit 71, Regent Studios, 8 Andrews Road
London E8 4QN
United Kingdom
(447) 951-090776

Jelly Drops are tasty sugar-free water candies, with added electrolytes, to boost health and hydration for anyone with challenges meeting their daily fluid intake. They are backed by the Alzheimer's Society UK through their Innovation programme and AARP, through their AgeTech collaborative programme and have recently been recognised with a SMART award from the Dementia Society of America.



LTC ACO (#29)
Carol Bauer
Sr. Director, Network Development 101
East State Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
carol.bauer@ltcacoco.com
(610)-66-2-4034

LTC ACO is the first Accountable Care Organization to serve Medicare beneficiaries who live in long-stay facilities. Since 2016, our mission is to enable the success of our partners practices in value-based care with no downside risk.



MDOps (#34)
Matthew Almgren
Development
188 Cranberry Ct.
Melville, NY 11747
malmgren@mdops.com
(631) 617-8659

MDOps offers MDLog, a clinical documentation app with built in instant dictation. Dictate instant new notes and access your past notes using only your voice and an iPhone. MDLog also offers: Chronic Care Management, eRx including EPCS, patient/caregiver/family portal, integration with PointClickCare, MatrixCare American HealthTech and more.



We make healthcare run better.

Medline Industries (#4)
David Lilley
Division Manager
918 Yates Street
Orlando, FL 32804
DLilley@medline.com
(407) -86-4-7791

Medline is a manufacturer and distributor of medical supplies and equipment. We make healthcare run better by delivering improved clinical, financial and operational outcomes.



Monaghan Medical Corporation (#7)
Catherine Fenton
Marketing Assistant
153 Industrial Blvd.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
cfenton@monaghanmed.com
(315) 430-2080

Monaghan Medical Corporation is dedicated to providing unsurpassed quality products for the management of asthma, COPD, bronchiectasis, and other respiratory illnesses. We are committed to creating innovative medical devices that enhance the quality of life for people of all ages.



Netsmart (#3)
Kaitlyn Woicke
Program Coordinator
11100 Nall Ave.
Overland Park, KS 66211
kwoicke@ntst.com
(913) 617-9514

Netsmart is an industry-leading healthcare technology company empowering providers to deliver value-based care to the individuals and communities we serve. The Netsmart CareFabric® platform serves as a unified, connected framework of solutions and services for human services, post-acute, payers and public sector communities.



Neurocrine Biosciences (#30)
Matt Starr
Affiliate
6027 Edgewood Bend Court
San Diego, CA 92130
mstarr@neurocrine.com
(813) 629-7614

Neurocrine Biosciences has FDA approved treatments for tardive dyskinesia, Huntington's disease chorea and classical congenital adrenal hyperplasia. We are dedicated to the discovery of potential life-changing treatments for patients with neurological, neuroendocrine, and neuropsychiatric disorders.



Otsuka Pharmaceuticals (#13)
Tracy Monfort
Director, Long Term Care
508 Carnegie Center Dr.
Princeton, NJ 8540
karen.mitcam@otsuka-us.com
(614) 783-1145

Otsuka is focused on the impact and symptoms of agitation associated with dementia due to Alzheimer's disease, specifically surrounding patients living in a long-term care setting.

Exhibitors

PointClickCare®

PointClickCare (#1)

Zach Gordon
Sr Event Coordinator
5570 Explorer Drive
Mississauga, ON L4W 0C4
Canada
zach.gordon@pointclickcare.com
(519) 766-2903

PointClickCare is a leading health tech company with one simple mission: to help providers deliver exceptional care.



Psych Health Associates

Psych Health Associates (24)

Melissa Mason
Director of Operations
525 Technology Park Ste 109
Lake Mary, FL 32746
mmason@phapsych.com
(407) 402-7203

Psych Health Associates provides comprehensive behavioral health services to skilled nursing and assisted living facilities across Florida. Our psychiatrist-and nurse practitioner-led team offers on-site and telepsychiatry care, medication management, psychology services, and compliance-focused support to improve outcomes, reduce readmissions, and ease the burden on facility staff.



Quest Healthcare, A Division of Quest Products, LLC (#17)

Margaret Swantko
Director of Sales and Education
8201 104th Street
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158
margaret.swantko@questproductsinc.com
(610) 291-0093

Constipation and dry mouth impact quality of life in LTC. Quest Healthcare provides solutions like Enemeez for fast, effective bowel relief in 2-15 minutes, and XyliMelts to improve oral comfort, chewing, and speech. Both products support Title 42 standards for resident care, including bowel management (483.75) and oral health (483.24)



SUN Pharma (#33)

Stan Radomski Manager, Tradeshow and Conferences
2 Independence Way
Princeton, NJ 8540
Stan.Radomski@sunpharma.com
(609) 819-7866

Sun Pharma is a leading global pharmaceutical company with specialty and generic presence in the world's largest pharma markets. The Company has solidified its position as a major player in the U.S. generics market and is continuously expanding its footprint in the specialty segment, focusing on dermatology, ophthalmology, and oncology.



Teva Pharmaceuticals (#31)

Danielle Friedman
Sr. Manager
400 Interpace Pkwy
Parsippany, NJ 7054
danielle.friedman@tevapharm.com
(973) 264-6091

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. has been developing and producing medicines to improve people's lives for more than a century. We offer generic, biosimilars and innovative medicines with a portfolio consisting of over 3,600 products in nearly every therapeutic area. Learn more at www.tevapharm.com.



The Rose Program (#25)

Lisa Dusch
VP of Clinical Operations, Palliative Division
2000 Cliff Mine Road, Suite 5000
Pittsburgh, PA 15001
ldusch@pcmanetwork.com
(724) 513-4835

The Rose Program offers upstream palliative medicine consultations within the post-acute care continuum, making palliative care accessible to chronically ill and frail patients. This program educates patients and decision-makers on disease progression, symptom management, and goals of care discussions that align with prognosis and patient values.



Thrive Behavioral Sciences (#22)

Stephen Lomonico
President
1212 Omeara Ct.
Trinity, FL 34655
lomonico@thrivebehavioralsciences.com
(727) 418-2567

Thrive Behavioral Sciences is a leading provider of psychiatric and psychological care for nursing homes and assisted living facilities.



Viatris (#28)

Anna Harris
Regional Convention
1000 Mylan Blvd.
Canonsburg, PA 15317
anna.harris@viatris.com
(681) 455-7763

VIATRIS™ is a new kind of healthcare company, empowering people worldwide to live healthier at every stage of life. We provide access to medicines, advance sustainable operations, develop innovative solutions and leverage our collective expertise to connect more people to more products and services through our one-of-a-kind Global Healthcare Gateway®.



Vidafuel Nutrition (#23)

Julie Ruff
Registered Dietitian and Clinical Sales Executive
2004 Hayes Street
Nashville, TN 37203
jruff@vidafuel.com
(201) 280-4162

Vidafuel Wellness Protein is a convenient 2 oz thin liquid supplement delivering 16 grams of complete protein with only 90 calories. Designed for long-term care, dialysis, oncology, and bariatric patients, Vidafuel improves compliance and reduces waste, helping facilities streamline formularies by replacing high volume shakes and sticky protein modulars with a simple solution.

Exhibitors



VitalCare (#36)
Brenden Gaskins
VP of Sales
3079 N 3055 W
Lehi, UT 84043
brenden@vitalcare.org
(385) 208-4803

VitalCare is a provider group that partners with provider groups to augment, assist and handle night, weekend and holiday call.



VITAS Healthcare (#18 & #19)
Cristhian Piraquive
Marketing EA
2201 Lucien Way, Suite 100
Maitland, FL 32751
cristhian.piraquive@vitas.com
(407) 599-2505

A hospice pioneer since 1978, VITAS® Healthcare is the nation's leading provider of end-of-life care. Patient-centered, comfort-focused care by an interdisciplinary VITAS team reduces hospital readmissions, length of stay, and overall healthcare costs while improving quality metrics and patient satisfaction. Call 800.93.VITAS. Visit VITAS.com. Download the mobile referral app at VITASapp.com.



Vohra Wound Physicians (#5)
Brad Sherwood
Director of Business Development
3601 SW 160th Ave.
Miramar, FL 33027
bsherwood@vohraphysicians.com
(954) 399-4648

Vohra Wound Physicians is the nations largest physician group specialized in wound management. Our physicians partner with 3500 skilled nursing facilities in 27 states. We partner with post-acute care facilities to develop center of excellence programs that are physician led, patient centric, and data driven. We provide comprehensive training for our facility nurses with certification & CEU's.

Thank You to Our Exhibitors!

On behalf of the The Florida Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (FMDA), the Florida Geriatrics Society (FGS), Florida Chapters – Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association (FL-GAPNA), and the National Association Directors of Nursing Administration (NADONA), thank you to all our Exhibitors!

We value you as industry experts, and know that you provide our attendees with valuable knowledge and insights they might not find elsewhere. Thank you for participating in our 34th Annual Conference!

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Alpha Cognition, Inc
American Heart Association
ARKRAY USA
Balanced Wellbeing LLC
CARES® Dementia 5-Step Training
ChartPath
Crestmark Pharmacy Services
DispatchHealth IMAGING
FMDA
Gentell
Jelly Drops
LTC ACO
MDOps
Medline Industries
Monaghan Medical Corporation

Otsuka Pharmaceuticals
Netsmart
Neurocrine Biosciences
PointClickCare
Psych Health Associates
Quest Healthcare, A Division of Quest Products, LLC
SUN Pharma
Teva Pharmaceuticals
The Rose Program
Thrive Behavioral Sciences
Viatrix
Vidafuel Nutrition
VitalCare
VITAS Healthcare
Vohra Wound Physicians

Win Trade Show Prizes!

Registered Attendees: don't forget to turn in your completed Trade Show Flyer sheet at the Panzacola Registration Desk by **Saturday 10/25 at 1:00pm** to be eligible to win a door prize/gift cards! You must be there during the drawing to win.

Session Objectives

Session 101

Keynote Address: Past, Present and Future of Nursing Home Care (Lessons from Sisyphus)

Paul Katz, MD, CMD

Learning Objectives

1. Summarize the system changes impacting health care delivery to NHs that impact medical providers.
2. Understand and implement new quality measures specific to medical providers.
3. Identify opportunities to be effective advocates for high quality NH care.

Session 102

DON & The Medical Director: The Meeting of the Minds

Cindy Fronning, RN, GERO-BC, IP-BC, AS-BC, RAC-CT, CDONA, FACDONA, EFLP, CALN, QAPI-BC

Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the type of relationship that is needed between the DON & Medical Director to form a cohesive working bond between them.
2. Explain the expectations that the DON & Medical Director should have of each other.
3. Identify 3 F Tags that reflect Medical Director and DON's need for cooperation.
4. Describe three areas that require clear communication between the DON & Medical Director.

Session 103

The Question of Spirituality

F. Michael Gloth III, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Define "Spirituality" as it applies to Medicine
2. Provide historical perspective as it relates to a medical model, i.e., hospice/palliative care/physician-assisted suicide.
3. Propose options for a primary care model.

Session 104

Alzheimer's Update: Biomarkers and Anti-Amyloid Monoclonal Antibody Medications

Ariel Cole, MD, FAAFP, CMD

Learning Objectives

1. Comfortably utilize blood biomarkers in patients presenting with early or undiagnosed memory loss to aid in diagnosis or exclusion of Alzheimer's disease.
2. Understand appropriate candidates for anti-amyloid monoclonal antibody medications for Alzheimer's patients.

Session 105

Regulatory Update

Kimberly R. Smoak, MSH, QIDP

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the top-most commonly cited deficiencies and ways to improve to avoid these areas of non-compliance. And how can the medical director assist with oversight to improve in these areas of non-compliance.
2. Discuss and review the significant changes to the nursing home regulatory requirements.
3. Summarize the 2024 and 2025 immediate jeopardy findings for nursing homes and discuss how the role of the medical director, nurse leaders and pharmacist can help the nursing homes identify areas for improvement to avoid immediate jeopardy findings.

Session Objectives

Session 106

SCALE – Skin Changes at Life’s End - Reframing the Narrative: Improving Diagnostic Precision in Terminal Ulcer Identification

Ronald Rosen, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Review the concept of skin failure and terminal ulcers.
2. Improve diagnostic skills in identifying unavoidable skin ulcers.
3. Increase legal and regulatory awareness.
4. Use more appropriate terminology when documenting terminal skin ulcers that align with organ failure models.

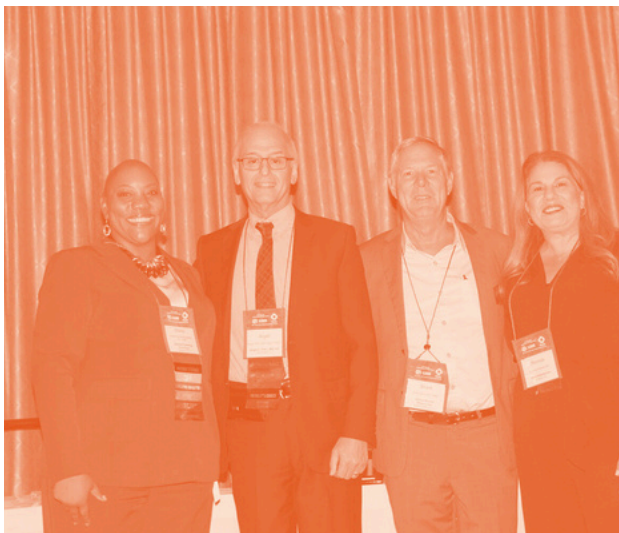
Session 107

Navigating the Last Six Months of Life with the Right Care in the Right Place at the Right Time

Lauren Loftis, MD, FAAHPM, HMDC, ABFM

Learning Objectives

1. Identify patients in need of end of life services.
2. Connect patients at end of life with need services.
3. Utilize services available with fiscal responsibility.



Session 108

Nurturing Your Mind: A Path to Effective Leadership, Patient Care, and Emotional Well-Being

Pari Deshmukh, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Understanding the Mind: Gain insights into the fundamental functions of the human mind and the factors that contribute to mental health challenges.
2. Recognizing Early Signs: Learn to identify early warning signs of mental health issues in yourself and others.
3. Mastering Mental Wellness: Discover practical strategies for managing stress, improving relationships, and boosting overall mental well-being. Experience firsthand the transformative power of breathing exercises, mental detoxification, body relaxation, mindfulness and meditation techniques.

Session 109

In-House Acquired Foot Wounds: Are They Really All Pressure?

Shark Bird, MD, CWSP, CMD

Learning Objectives

1. Participants will know the essential difference between presentation of different foot wounds.
2. Participants will learn a clinically accurate diagnostic approach to new foot wounds.
3. Participants will increase their ability to identify and diagnose different types of foot wounds.

Session Objectives

Session 110

Optimizing Psychiatric Quality Measures and Behavioral Health Collaboration in Skilled Nursing Facilities: Enhancing Care and Maximizing Reimbursement

Farid Chekaoui, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Identify key psychiatric-related Quality Measures (QMs), including antipsychotic and antianxiety use, that directly impact Five-Star ratings and Florida's QIP reimbursement.
2. Discuss the expanded compliance responsibilities of SNF medical directors outlined in recent CMS updates, including their role in oversight of psychiatric diagnoses and prescribing practices.
3. Recognize documentation and diagnostic pitfalls—such as unsupported schizophrenia coding—that lead to regulatory citations, QM penalties, and financial loss.

Session 111

Concurrent Session I Legal Issues: Strategies Related to Medicare Audit Preparedness

Rich Brooderson Esq.

Learning Objectives

1. Know where their strengths and weaknesses are within their system as far as audits are concerned.
2. Be able to begin the process of correcting known deficiencies and potentially spot new deficiencies.
3. Know how to utilize system resources including personnel.

Session 112

Concurrent Session I Disease Specific Indicators for Hospice Referrals

Mari Adams, MSN-Ed., BSN- RN, CHPN

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the need for Hospice care in the medical paradigm.
2. Discuss the nationwide top end stage processes.
3. Recognizing disease specific indicators as end of life is approaching.
4. Define hospitalization rates locally, regionally, and statewide.
5. Examine the potential of palliative care in the improvement of quality of life.
6. Connect the responsibilities of the attending of record and the consulting physician.

Session 113

Concurrent Session II Trainee Leadership Geriatric Review

- **The Use of SGLT2 inhibitors in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic CKD: Review of Current Literature**
- **Optimizing Care of Persons with COPD In the Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Settings**

Saurav Kiri, MS3 (class of 2027, UCF COM)
Gaurav Kiri, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the mechanism behind the renal-protective aspects of GLT2i's in diabetic kidney disease.
2. Summarize current data on the effect of SGLT2i's on cardiovascular and renal outcomes in patients with non-diabetic CKD.
3. Review current literature on the use of SGLT2i's in glomerular disease, particularly IgA nephropathy and focal segmental glomerulosclerosis.
4. Review COPD care delivery.
5. Review unique circumstances of PALTC .
6. Align care delivery with the PALTC setting.

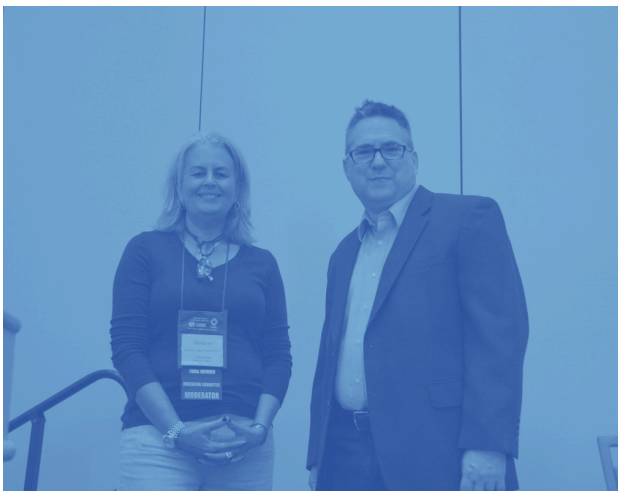
Session Objectives

Session 114

Concurrent Session II
Anticoagulants in Older Adults:
Key Considerations and Common Problems
Anita Rajasekhar, MD, MS, FACP

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the major challenges of anticoagulation in older adults in post-acute and long-term care settings, including heightened bleeding risk, frailty, and the frequent presence of multiple comorbidities that complicate management decisions.
2. Apply validated risk assessment tools such as CHA₂DS₂-VASc and HAS-BLED to guide individualized anticoagulation therapy, balancing the risks of thromboembolism and bleeding in older adults.
3. Evaluate clinical scenarios to differentiate between high- and low-risk older patients for anticoagulation, and determine when modification or discontinuation of therapy is appropriate based on comorbidities, geriatric syndromes, and evolving clinical status.
4. Strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration among healthcare professionals to support safe, effective, and patient-centered anticoagulation management in older adults in post-acute and long-term care environments.



Session 115

Determining Appropriateness of Antibiotic Therapy in Nursing Home Residents
Joseph Mylotte, MD

Learning Objectives

1. List the most common criteria used to assess appropriateness of initiating antibiotic therapy in residents.
2. List the limitations of the criteria used to assess appropriateness.
3. Understand that some studies of appropriateness used criteria that were not designed for that purpose.
4. Learn and apply the components of the antibiotic prescribing process in their practice, especially focusing on duration of treatment.
5. Understand that the lack of a gold standard for the diagnosis of bacterial infection in nursing home residents makes it impossible to construct the “perfect” set of criteria for initiating antibiotic therapy.
6. Understand that there are provider, resident, facility, and family factors that influence the initiation of antibiotic therapy.

Session 116

The Triumphs and Tribulations of AI in a Value Based Care World
Steven Buslovich, MD, CMD, MSHCPM

Learning Objectives

1. Identify core principles about the use of AI in health care.
2. Apply AI to produce accurate, real-time data and use it to identify QI opportunities, monitor patients, assess and address risks, and ensure accurate reimbursement that align with value-based care.
3. Understand how AI tools may intensify or promote structural inequities and racial biases and how to overcome these.
4. Use AI is a way that fosters public trust, protects resident privacy/rights, and aligns with applicable values, regulations, and laws.

Session Objectives

Session 117

Opioid Conversions Within Hospice and Palliative Care

Kamal Wahab, MD

Learning Objectives

1. Identify Opioid conversion when it occurs.
2. Properly address occurrences.
3. Provide best outcomes for patients at end of life.

Session 118

Osteoporosis: Beyond the Basics

Michael Kaplan, DPT; Melanie Trigo, PharmD; and Brianna Wynne, MD, FAAFP

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the pathophysiology and diagnosis of osteoporosis for those staying in post-acute and long-term care facilities.
2. Establish a comprehensive osteoporosis treatment plan for nursing facility residents that includes bone health nutrition, appropriate use of FDA-approved osteoporosis medications, fall prevention, and weight bearing exercise.
3. Identify the different therapeutic classes, mechanisms of action, dosages, side effects and contraindications associated with approved drug therapy for the treatment of osteoporosis.



Poster Presenters

Check out these incredible Presenters and their research:

Blake Tocci

Improving Patient Safety in Long-Term Care: A Practical Troubleshooting Algorithm for Feeding Tubes and Drains Sharing Interventional Radiology Expertise to Reduce Transfers and Improve Outcomes

Nicole Stinson

Once-Daily Valbenazine for the Treatment of Tardive Dyskinesia in Elderly Adults and Other Special Populations

Nicole Stinson

Valbenazine Improves the Impacts and Symptoms of Tardive Dyskinesia: Results from the Phase 4 KINECT-PROTM Study

Padma Vedantam and Maryrose De Guzman

Utilizing Virtual Reality to Assess Fall Risk in a Skilled Nursing Facility

Schedule

Please join our Presenters in **Panzacola F3/4** at the following days/times:

Friday, October 24th

Grand Opening of Trade Show and Poster Presenters

1:45pm - 2:50pm

Saturday, October 25th

Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations

Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare
7:00am - 8:00am

Break in Exhibit Hall with Trade Show and Poster Presentations

Sponsored by VITAS Healthcare
10:40am - 11:40am

Save the Date



35th Annual Conference & Trade Show



October 27 through
November 2, 2026



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