

## Chapter News

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Providers,

September has come and gone, but we have much to share! First and foremost, the 27th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Michigan Medical Directors Association/Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care took place September 29 and 30 in Grand Rapids. The conference opened with a Bootcamp for new PALTC providers and those who would like updates on the CMS Rules and Regulations as well as clinical pearls. Our Friday dinner included a presentation from Alex Bardakh, AMDA's liaison with CMS and Congress. He provided updates on changes being considered that impact our work. Our other sessions covered rehospitalizations, pharmacy and disease-specific updates and dementia training. Join us during this last weekend of Art Prize in Grand Rapids.

Point Click Care was also our meeting as a sponsor, available to talk about their product that gives hospitals and SNFs real-time bidirectional communication. Imagine orders coming from the hospital that just need your signature if approved, with no transcription errors. This product needs to be purchased by a hospital system, and we are looking into a grant to pilot this in Michigan.

We are working with LARA on the MI-POST re-rollout and are hearing an earful on how that is going. They would like to hold a town hall listening session with our members remotely in October to hear what your experience has been using MI-POST, or if you haven't, why not. Please let us know if you are interested in participating and, if possible, summarize your story briefly for us, so as many people as possible can speak at the town hall.

We also have continued our collaboration with the Center for Emerging Infectious Diseases, which is providing in-house training for Detroit facilities on infection prevention. We are working with them to produce webinars for our membership on current topics-including the new enhanced barrier techniques for infection prevention as well as Candida auris updates.

Our membership survey has been completed and we have heard from you. Please see the data attached.



2023 Membership  
Survey.pdf

Our board will begin our strategic planning in November and December. Please let us know if you are interested in participating in this. As always, we can be reached at [michiganmda@gmail.com](mailto:michiganmda@gmail.com).

## MIMDA SPOTLIGHT

### EDUCATION

**OMDA Congregate Care Meetings:** This complimentary OMDA forum takes place via Zoom on Thursdays, 8:00 am. If you are interested in attending, email [jeannine@ohiomda.org](mailto:jeannine@ohiomda.org) or complete the online registration **form**.

**October 5** - Depression, Irene Hamrick, MD, CMD, AFSF, FAAFP

**October 12** - Minimum Staffing Rule, Peter Van Runkle, Executive Director, OHCA

**October 19** - Sexuality and Consent in PALTC, Alan C. Horowitz, Esq. RN

**October 26** - COVID Activity, Dr. David Hartley, Moving Forward, Nursing Home Quality Coalition Update, Alice Bonner

**November 2** - Wounds in PALTC, Steve Burdette, MD, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine, Wright State University

**November 9** - Staffing, Dr. Tamara Moyer, DNP, RN, CNE, CNEcl

## AMDA Resources

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**November 16** - Overview of Vaccination Recommendations (flu, pneumonia, RSV, COVID), Liz Wheeler, BSN, RN, CHPN, CDP, IPCO, QCP, LeaderStat

**October 10, 1:00 PM ET AELTCC Leadership in PALTC Spotlight Series.**

Information and registration available at [Leadership in PALTC Part 2: Engaging Clinical Leadership](#)

**October 12, 4:00 PM ET More of a Good Thing: A Framework to Grow and Strengthen the PALTC Careforce.** AMDA's new series of roundtable discussions is designed to highlight and share effective strategies being used to improve staff retention and recruitment in post-acute and long-term care settings. Each roundtable begins with a brief presentation about a project or strategy that is seeing success in growing the PALTC careforce. Then participants can ask questions and share their own successes and challenges, so we can all benefit from what others are learning.

The first one, **Teaching Nursing Home Project**, features Nancy Zionts, MBA, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Program Officer at Jewish Healthcare Foundation. Join the roundtable as Nancy discusses next steps for the Teaching Nursing Home Collaborative which has enjoyed great success in Pennsylvania and is expanding to other states. The initiative helps build stronger relationships between nursing schools and local long term care facilities with the goal of guiding more new nurses into the challenging and fulfilling PALTC setting. Register at [More of a Good Thing: A Framework to Grow and Strengthen the PALTC Careforce](#)

**October 19 - November 16 Doctors with Dementia: Flipping the Script**

National Council of Dementia Minds is proud to introduce a webinar series by Doctors With Dementia. Doctors With Dementia is a dedicated group of retired physicians living with various types of dementia. They invite you to join for a series of webinars in which they will share their perspectives as educators and advocates. Their goal is to change the way dementia care is approached. Please join to enhance your understanding of cognitive impairment, improve communication and care skills, and be a part of a collaborative and compassionate approach to supporting persons living with dementia.

These webinars are relevant and beneficial for a wide range of attendees, including:

- Current and future healthcare professionals
- Faculty of medical schools and allied health professions
- Persons living with dementia
- Care partners, family members, and friends
- Service providers
- Insurance companies

Registration Information [Doctors with Dementia: Flipping the Script](#)

*Webinars will be held every Thursday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. ET*

**November 17: Finding Your Value in Evolving Payment Models** Are you looking for ways to leverage new payment models to get reimbursed for delivering compassionate, coordinated, and effective care? Look no further than this brand-new virtual symposium from AMDA. Whether you are practicing using traditional fee-for-service or value-based payment models, don't miss this opportunity. Register now at [Finding Your Value in Evolving Payment Models](#)

[Psychiatric Management: Tips From the Pros: Basics of Psychiatric Management in the Nursing Home](#)

**On-Demand/Self-Study**

**Tips from the Pros: Basics of Psychiatric Management in the Nursing Home**

The majority of nursing home residents have a psychiatric diagnosis, yet their care is usually managed by non-psychiatrists. This interactive course is intended to equip long-term care providers with essential skills to address common psychiatric issues. It addresses dementia and related behaviors, psychotropic prescribing safety, performing medication reviews, and caring for those with major chronic psychiatric illnesses. You will also learn how to assess capacity, manage residents living with personality

disorders, when and when NOT to seek outside consultation, and how to design a “practice philosophy” that includes healthy limit-setting.  
Register here: [Tips from the Pros: Basics of Psychiatric Management in the Nursing Home](#)

## CARE QUALITY

### AMDA Urges Prioritization of Adequate Staffing Over Minimum Staffing in Response to New Staffing Rules

Today, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), issued a [proposed rule](#) that seeks to establish comprehensive staffing requirements for nursing homes—including, for the first time, national minimum nurse staffing standards.

AMDA - The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine, while applauding the effort by CMS to support staffing in nursing homes, is concerned about a “one size fits all” approach of mandating a specific minimum number for all nursing facilities to meet. As stated in [AMDA's Position on Staffing Standards in Long Term Care \(08-10-2022\)](#), the Society recognizes that while having adequate staffing is critically important, minimum staffing levels should not become a fixed ceiling. Staffing levels based only on resident-to-worker ratios or assumptions that staff availability is an easily fixable variable will not adequately or safely address and meet residents' needs.

CMS' request for “alternative approaches” and the possibility of providing flexibility in implementing this rule is encouraging. The Society strongly urges CMS to not take a “one-size fits all” approach and take recommendations from its own study that clearly showed that no specific number is the solution. Instead, this critical problem requires a multi-faceted approach including taking into account complexity of the population (e.g., facility case-mix), availability of nurses, training programs, as well as innovative models that incorporate telehealth and technology advances to improve efficiencies and access to expertise, and the workplace culture.

The Society has long urged CMS and the Federal Government to invest in the post-acute and long-term care workforce to improve quality of life and quality of care for our nation's nursing home residents. A trained and committed workforce that works in a supportive environment is the backbone of our nation's healthcare system.

Milta Little, DO, CMD  
President  
AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

## Infectious Disease

- [Michigan Candida auris Surveillance Updates](#)
- **WSU-CEID**
- influenza vaccinations started on Sept 1st. information to develop vaccine confidence & increase vaccine uptake

## MIMDA OPPORTUNITIES

This is an exciting time for our chapter. Our board is committed to growth in the areas of education, advocacy and membership. We invite you to work with us as we strive to improve practice and patient care. Please consider getting involved in one of our initiatives:

- **Education:** development of topics for webinars and annual conference
- **Advocacy:** working with state organizations to address issues that impact post-acute and long-term care
- **Membership:** we seek to increase our chapter membership for the benefit of providers that work in post-acute and long-term care.
- **Or serve as a board member**

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## Policy Forum: Finding Value in Evolving Payment Models

Are you looking for ways to leverage new payment models to get reimbursed for delivering compassionate, coordinated, and effective care? Look no further than AMDA's brand-new virtual symposium—Finding Your Value in Evolving Payment Models—being held on **November 17 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM ET**.

The symposium speakers—all experts in PALTC payment issues—will tackle the following hot topics:

- Defining Value-Based Reimbursement Models
- Evolution and Trends of “Traditional” CPT Coding
- Impact of Diagnosis Coding/Documentation on PDPM and Value-Based Models – ICD-10/HCC Scoring
- Value-Based Medicine Reimbursement Perspective - The Ground View
- Ask the Experts: Where are Your Opportunities in Value-Based Reimbursement

[Register Now](#)

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## AMDA Reacts to Proposed Rule About Staffing Requirements for Nursing Homes

On September 1, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through CMS, issued a [proposed rule](#) that seeks to establish comprehensive staffing requirements for nursing homes—including, for the first time, national minimum nurse staffing standards.

AMDA, while applauding the effort by CMS to support staffing in nursing homes, is concerned about a “one size fits all” approach of mandating a specific minimum number for all nursing facilities to meet. As stated in [AMDA's Position on Staffing Standards in Long Term Care \(08-10-2022\)](#), the Society recognizes that while having adequate staffing is critically important, minimum staffing levels should not become a fixed ceiling. Staffing levels based only on resident-to-worker ratios or assumptions that staff availability is an easily fixable variable will not adequately or safely address and meet residents' needs.

[Read Full Response](#)

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## Hill Day 2023



AMDA leadership and key staff members descended on Washington, DC, last week to participate in the Society's annual Hill Day. Among the issues discussed:

- Support for H.R. 177, The Nursing Home Disclosure Act, to ensure nursing facilities publicly report information on medical directors on Nursing Home Compare; contact your representatives and ask for their support
- Medicare payment reform, including H.R. 2474, The Strengthening Medicare Patients and Providers Act, which advances the need to provide financial stability for physician practices to preserve access to care for

Medicare beneficiaries; contact your representatives and ask for their support

- Clinician shortages in PALTC

Thank you to all the participants!

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