

Chapter News

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Is it spring, or is it winter? In Michigan it is hard to tell! While the weather was seesawing in our state, the temperature in San Antonio at the PALTC24 was comfortable. However, the issues were hot!

The House of Delegates voted to accept the new name for the AMDA organization, **Post-Acute and Long Term-Care Medical Association, or PALTMed**. They will proceed with new branding strategies which will roll out over the coming months. We do not need to change MIMDA's name at this time, but will discuss later in the year if we want to follow their lead. We want to be certain that we are welcoming to all licensed providers of care in this space, not just physicians.

Along that line, I'd like to share that **Michelle Daniels, the CEO of the Eden Alternative, will be speaking at MIMDA's annual conference in the fall**. Eden Alternative is a nationally known program of caring for dementia patients that flips the paradigm, leading to happier residents and staff who take pride in their work, improving retention. Please let your administrator and Director of Nursing know, and invite them to join us at the **Otsego Resort in Gaylord, October 18th-19th**.

The MIMDA Workgroup meeting on Tuesday March 26 will focus on finalizing details of our annual meeting and discuss topics for potential webinar presentation. We hope you will sign in:

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 753 270 7051

Passcode: 234146

PALTC Futures Award Recipient: Sara Margosian, MD is this year's award recipient from Michigan. She was recognized at the PALTC24 conference and expressed her gratitude in this email:

I wanted to reach out and sincerely thank all members of the Michigan Chapter of the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine who supported the Futures Program this year and me as a recipient. I am a geriatric fellow at the University of Michigan planning to continue my career in academic medicine, including clinical work in the post-acute and long-term care setting.

I am very grateful for this opportunity to network with other professionals in the field and learn more about care of this vulnerable sector of older adults.

Thank you for making this possible!

Warm Regards,

Sara Margosian, MD
Geriatric Medicine Fellow
University of Michigan

Looking for Five Nursing Homes that Want to Get Ahead

Moving Forward Michigan is progressing in its grant project to provide leadership training to Michigan facilities. Five nursing homes will be trained on the principles of leadership, in ten 30-minute sessions. We will soon be actively enrolling homes, so please discuss with your administrators their desire to take advantage of this opportunity. The nursing home will be paid for participating, to acknowledge that it takes resources to enable training. They need to commit to participating in the project for 18 months, as the Moving Forward team will be assisting the home with performing a process improvement project in the second year.

AMDA Resources

- [Events](#)
- [Educational Programs](#)
- [Product Store](#)
- [Caring for the Ages](#)
- [JAMDA](#)
- [Career Center](#)
- [Foundation](#)
- [ABPLM \(Certification\)](#)

AMDA On-The-Go Podcast Series



[Caring On-The-Go | March 2024](#)

[Antimicrobial Stewardship & Quality](#)

[AMDA-On-The-Go | Assisted Living Three-Part Series | Current Landscape of AL \(Part 1 of 3\)](#)

[JAMDA On-The-Go | February 2024](#)

[VIEW ALL EPISODES](#)



Search Clinical Topics A-Z

Search our clinical library for access to education and resources specific to PALTC practice.

[SEARCH CLINICAL TOPICS](#)



Discover Opportunities.
Recruit Talented Staff.

Visit AMDA's
CAREER CENTER

AMDA

AMDA's call for volunteers is now open - apply by March 28! AMDA is looking for volunteers to join several committees and subcommittees this year. [Learn More](#)

AMDA's 2024 Resolutions – Voting Results

Resolution A24: Update the AMDA 1997 Position Statement on Care at the End of Life that Opposes Any Physician Involvement in Medical Aid in Dying PASSED

Resolution B24: Tele-Presenter Fee for PALTC Telemedicine Visits PASSED

Resolution C24: Education and Training on the Evidence-Based Diagnosis and Clinical Care of Opioid Use Disorders in Skilled Nursing Facilities PASSED

Resolution D24: Expand Access to Skilled Nursing Facility Services for Patients with Opioid use disorder (OUD) PASSED

Resolution E24: Real-Time Bidirectional Communications Between Venues of Care REFERRED TO THE BOARD

Resolution F24: Clinician's Role and Impact in Eliminating Health Care Disparity and Inequity for Early Detection of Stage I Pressure Injury and Deep Tissue Pressure Injury Among People with Dark Skin Tones PASSED

EDUCATION

OMDA Congregate Care Calls are held every Thursday at 8:00 am. Here's the weekly schedule of topics/speakers:

- **March 28 - What to do When Dementia Tips and Tricks Don't Work**
Lori Horstman, Certified Dementia Specialist, CEAL, CDP, CADDCT, CFRDT, CMDCP, CDSGF
- **April 4 - Infection Control, current COVID-19 Guidelines and regulatory updates**
Liz Wheeler, BSN, RN, CHPN, CDP, IPCO, QCP, LeaderStat
- **April 11 - IPPI Project**
Katherine Abbott, PhD, MGS, Kimberly Van Haitsma, PhD
- **April 18 – TBD**
- **April 25 - TBD**
- **May 2 - ID/DD Population with Cognitive Changes**
Jennifer Pettis, MS, RN, CNE
- **May 9 - TBD**
- **Date to be determined - Staffing and Education/Training from the Educator's Point of View**
Dr. Tamara Moyer, DNP, RN, CNE, CNEcl, Med Assistant Program, Jeannie Ricker, RN, BV Health System

Register online today!

The weekly schedule of topics and speakers can be found [here](#). Please note, the OMDA Zoom sign in link has changed. For calendar invite: *Jeannine Windbigler, Administrator, at jeannine@ohiomda.org*

PATIENT CARE INITIATIVES



SUPERIOR HEALTH
Quality Alliance

Clinical Information and Considerations for Cannabis Use in Senior Care Settings

The Minnesota Association of Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians (MAGIC), Alliance for Clinical Excellence (ACE) has created a [Clinical Information and Considerations for Cannabis Use in Senior Care Settings](#) document to help provide education and a resource to assist senior care settings navigate this new landscape while respecting resident rights. The document includes an introduction, uses, general clinical considerations and resources to help providers better understand the clinical implications when residents chose to use cannabis products.

AHCA/NCAL Infection Preventionist Hot Topic Brief

RSV Vaccine in the Older Adult

Focal Problem or Issue

Two vaccines to prevent respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) for use in adults 60 years or older are available, but uptake in long-term care (LTC) has been low. According to CDC, there is a need to protect nursing home residents against severe outcomes of respiratory illnesses. Frail residents of nursing homes with advanced age or those with certain chronic or underlying medical conditions are identified as likely to benefit from receipt of the RSV vaccine.

Background and Scope

In the United States, RSV causes seasonal epidemics of respiratory illness that in older adults, particularly those residing in LTC settings, can lead to increased risk of serious illness, hospitalization, declines in function, or death. Each year, RSV infections cause between 60,000–160,000 older adults in the United States to be hospitalized and 6,000–10,000 deaths among adults 65 years and older.

People at highest risk for severe RSV disease and those most likely to benefit from RSV vaccine includes people older than the age of 60 with certain chronic and underlying medical conditions such as:

- chronic heart, lung, kidney, liver, or neurologic disease
- weakened immune systems
- frailty and advanced age
- living in nursing homes or long-term care facilities

Both vaccines are recombinant protein vaccines that cause the immune system to produce RSV antibodies. Both are approved as a single dose and were shown in clinical trials to reduce symptomatic RSV lower respiratory disease by more than 80% in the first RSV season after vaccination.

Co-administration of the RSV vaccine with other vaccines is acceptable. As stated in the Hot Topics in November, vaccines — including the influenza, RSV, and COVID-19 vaccines — can be given at the same visit. The vaccines should be administered in different body locations at least one inch apart based on the individual's physical condition and specific needs. **More information can be found [here](#).**

If you choose not to administer the vaccines on the same day, it is acceptable to administer them within a few days of each other. As with other vaccines, individuals may have a day or two of constitutional symptoms following the vaccine such as pain, redness, and swelling where the shot is given, fatigue (feeling tired), fever, headache, and muscle or joint pain. These symptoms are easily treated with acetaminophen.

Suggestions for Practice and Resources

The CDC recommends that adults ages 60 and older be provided the option to receive a single dose of RSV vaccine using shared clinical decision-making (SCDM). In SCDM the decision you should consider multiple factors including:

- the risk factors for severe RSV, which are higher among older adults with chronic diseases who reside in long term care
- risk of exposure to RSV
- resident's preferences for RSV vaccine
- clinical opinion of the resident's health care provider

Adults over the age of 60 with increased risks of complications from RSV, which includes residents in LTC settings, are recommended to receive the RSV vaccine.

- Speak to the resident's primary care physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, registered nurse, or facility pharmacist about offering the RSV vaccines to your residents.
- Educate the resident and/or responsible party on the risks and benefits of the vaccine, noting that common side effects include pain, redness, and swelling at the injection site, fatigue, fever, headache, and muscle or joint pain. These are usually mild. **Feel free to use CDC's [RSV Vaccine Information Sheet \(VIS\)](#) to help with these discussions.**
- RSV vaccines appear to provide some protection for at least two RSV seasons. Additional surveillance and evaluation activities are planned to assess how long the vaccines protect against RSV and whether additional doses will be needed. RSV vaccine is currently not considered an annual vaccine.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

AMDA Foundation is Accepting Research Grant LOIs Now

The Foundation for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care (PALTC) Medicine—Your Foundation—is accepting research grant Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) through April 3. Selected LOIs will result in a request to submit a full research grant proposal with a deadline of July 15.

AMDA encourages all members and non-members working in the PALTC community who are aligned with the Foundation's mission, vision, and values to submit an LOI for projects that advance the Foundation's strategic priorities. Letters can be submitted through the Foundation website.

[Get More Information](#)



Greetings!

We are from the University of Kansas School of Nursing and are seeking nursing homes nationwide to participate in an NIH-funded research study testing a new online version of the evidence-based Changing Talk (CHAT) communication training program.

CHAT educates staff about reducing elderspeak (infantilizing communication) and results in reduced behavioral symptoms and the need for psychotropic medication for residents with dementia. The new online version, Changing Talk: Online Training (CHATO), consists of three one-hour interactive online modules that provide flexible and accessible access for staff.

There is no cost, direct-care staff can earn three contact hours, and all staff get a Certificate of Completion.

Benefits to you, your staff, and your residents include:

- A person-centered approach
- Education about elderspeak and better communication strategies
- Reduction in resistiveness to care and other behavioral symptoms in residents with dementia
- Reduction in the need for psychotropic medication
- Convenient, online educational format for busy nursing homes
- Qualifies for CMS dementia care training hours requirements
- A free, nonpharmacological, evidence-based intervention that is an excellent addition to a Quality Improvement Plan

Please see our [website](#) to learn more about CHATO and sign up for an informational meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to share this information with your network and nursing home colleagues.

Carissa Coleman, PhD

Research Assistant Professor
(970) 270-6839 or ccoleman3@kumc.edu

Kristine Williams, RN, PhD, FGSA, FAAN

E Jean Hill Professor
(913) 588-1673 or kwilliams1@kumc.edu



National Day of Recognition for LTC Physicians

In 2010, the United States Congress designated March 20th as the National Day of Recognition for Long Term Care Physicians. We encourage you to celebrate this day - whether you are a long-term care physician, you work with one, or you or a family member are under the care of one. [Learn More](#)



[Skilled Nursing Facilities: Billing Medicare for Respiratory Vaccines](#)

[Change Healthcare/Optum Payment Disruption \(CHOPD\) Accelerated and Advance Payments for Part A Providers and Part B Suppliers FAQs](#)

AMDA Foundation - Research Grant LOIs Due on April 3

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Get More Information

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Upcoming Webinar: Leading with Purpose Series | Giving Feedback (and Feed Forward)...That Works

30-minute virtual session on leadership strategies that can help facility leaders assess their strengths, lead change, cultivate a positive work culture, and ultimately retain and recruit new members to their teams.

Date: Thursday, March 21

Time: 4:30-5:00 PM ET

Price: FREE

LEARN MORE & REGISTER

AMDA Launches New Member Forum

Not only did AMDA launch a [new website](#) in February, but they also launched a new Member Forum. This is an your exclusive community to solicit advice, share expertise, exchange ideas, and most importantly, connect with other members. [Not a member of AMDA? Join today!](#)

Medical Leadership Training

This unique program offers comprehensive instruction, equipping you with the essential tools and leadership skills required to excel as a medical director in PALTC settings. Connect with medical directors nationwide, exchange ideas, and gain inspiration from diverse experiences. [Learn More](#)

Covid-19 Recertification Grace Period Ends June 30, 2024

If you are past due for [recertification](#), submit your application before the grace period ends on June 30, 2024 or you will lose your CMD credential. Deadlines for applications is April 1, 2024.

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