

## Chapter News

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we move through February, excitement is building for PALTC24, AMDA's annual conference in San Antonio on March 9-11. The learning sessions are geared toward our practice in long-term and subacute care, presenting the latest research. I find them stimulating and the discussions thought-provoking. Best of all, I am amongst my peers who do the same work I do every day, and uniquely understand the challenges of being a skilled nursing facility provider. I hope you can join us.

Part of the annual conference is the House of Delegates meeting, where representatives from each state chapter will meet to vote for AMDA officers for the coming year as well as proposed resolutions that the organization will focus on. Our delegates from Michigan are Mirza Beg MD, Iris Boettcher MD, Nicholas Kleinhorn MD, Cynthia Ochs DO, and myself. **There are six resolutions up for a vote this year, attached to this email.**

If you have questions, thoughts, or opinions regarding the AMDA resolutions, please attend our **Town Hall on Tuesday, February 27 at 7pm**. Let your delegates know how you feel about these issues. A calendar invitation has been sent to MIMDA members. **The link Zoom meeting is [MIMDA Town Hall](#) , Meeting ID: 753 270 7051, Passcode: 234146**

Our chapter is in the midst of developing a new website which is coming together nicely. Once up and running, you will be able to register for **MIMDA's annual educational conference, October 18-19 at the Otsego Resort in Gaylord**. Once again, we'll offer a half-day PALTC provider bootcamp on Friday afternoon, for new providers as well as seasoned clinicians who want to brush up on the ins and outs of practice in post-acute and long-term care.

As always, please let us know about your concerns. Email us at [michiganmda@gmail.com](mailto:michiganmda@gmail.com).

*Cheryl Huckins, MD CMD*  
MIMDA President

## PATIENT CARE INITIATIVES



### Fentanyl Test Strips

Non-prescription Fentanyl is often mixed with other medications like heroin, cocaine, Xanax, Percocet and other medications, creating an increased risk of overdose. This [poster](#) addresses how to access fentanyl test strips, directions for use and provides safety tips that can lower the risk of an overdose. The posters and these [convenient cards](#) can be printed and shared with patients, staff, visitors and community partners.

### Free Mobile Vaccination Clinics

Is your long-term care facility (skilled nursing facility, assisted living facility or independent living facility) or senior service agency in need of a free mobile vaccination clinic? Superior Health Quality Alliance can help! Please reach out to [immunizations@superiorhealthqa.org](mailto:immunizations@superiorhealthqa.org) for assistance with a COVID-19, influenza or pneumococcal vaccination clinic.

## AMDA Resources

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

### AMDA On-The-Go Podcast Series



[AMDA-On-The-Go | Ageism Two-Part Series | Is Ageism the Cornerstone of Our PALTC Infrastructure? \(Part 2 of 2\)](#)

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

[AMDA On-The-Go | Ageism Two-Part Series | The Culture of Aging and the Bias of Ageism \(Part 1 of 2\)](#)

[AMDA On-The-Go | BPSD Bootcamp: What to Do in a Crisis? \(Part 2 of 2\)](#)

[Caring On-The-Go | January-February 2024 with Special Guest Dr. Jerald Winakur on Narrative Medicine](#)

[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](#)

## Free Viven Health Vaccination Modules

Superior Health Quality Alliance (Superior Health) partnered with Viven Health, a nurse-led behavior change company, to provide an innovative, virtual learning program to complement our current infection prevention practices. The program is called the Interactive Combined Vaccination Program, designed to increase vaccination rates and awareness of COVID-19, pneumonia, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza vaccines. Unlike traditional, passive education, the material in the program is presented in a fun and interactive online experience. The best part...the program is FREE to you, underwritten by Superior Health under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

Join us for an information session, during the Nursing Home Leadership Roundtable, on Feb. 28 at noon CT/1 p.m. ET. Register online to obtain the meeting link.

You can preview the content of Viven Health vaccination trainings using this demo page. **We look forward to your questions at the Feb.28 information session.**

## INFECTION PREVENTION - *contribution from WSU – CEID*



**FOR FACILITIES LOCATED WITHIN DETROIT:  
Infection Prevention Education & Outreach for  
Skilled Nursing Facility Staff**

*Offered by Wayne State University's Center for Emerging & Infectious Diseases*

### OBJECTIVES:

To enhance the knowledge and skills of skilled nursing facility staff in infection control and prevention, ensuring the highest standards of resident safety and care.

This educational seminar series aims to provide comprehensive training on the latest infection control protocols, effective prevention strategies, and updated regulatory compliance guidelines, empowering staff to create a healthier, safer environment for all residents.

### SEMINAR TOPICS:

- Understanding and Implementing CDC Guidelines in Infection Control and Project Firstline materials
- Advanced Hand Hygiene Techniques and Protocols
- Preventing Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAIs) in Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Usage, Disposal, and Best Practices
- Transmission-based precautions and practices
- Ventilation/air exchanges and environmental systems
- Emergency Preparedness: Managing Infectious Outbreaks in Nursing Homes
- Vaccines and immunizations for staff and residents

### FORMAT AND DETAILS:

- Seminars are presented on days/times that are convenient for staff
- Slide presentations with Questions/Answers

### DR. TRINI MATHEW, MD, MPH

Presenter, Inservice Program,  
Healthcare epidemiologist; Specialist in infection prevention and control

Reference:

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>

**To schedule in-service sessions, please contact:**

JESSICA HEINONEN, RN

EMAIL: [JHEINON1@HFHS.ORG](mailto:JHEINON1@HFHS.ORG)



**Discover Opportunities.  
Recruit Talented Staff.**

**Visit AMDA's  
CAREER  
CENTER**

**Inspire and Support  
Post-Acute and  
Long-Term Care  
Medicine  
Practitioners**

**DONATE NOW!**

[Donate](#) to support the work of the  
Foundation for Post-Acute and Long-Term  
Care Medicine

## Education for the Prevention of Infection March 19-22, 2024, In-person (Lansing, MI)

In partnership with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), MDHHS Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated & Resistant Pathogens (SHARP) Unit is offering complimentary Education for the Prevention of Infection (EPI®) Training. **Training attendees will also receive a free one-year APIC membership; existing members will receive a one-year extension.**

This intensive training benefits healthcare professionals in acute care by providing training and competency-building to understand the core principles of IPC including epidemiology; microbiology; pathogens and diseases; and more.

**To express your interest and initiate an application for attending the EPI course, click on the link below for application instructions.**

[Learn More | Apply](#)

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## EDUCATION

**Wednesday, February 28, 6:00-7:30 PM ET: AMDA**  
Webinar, TBP, EBP, and Outbreaks: Case-Based Unlocking of Infection Control Conundrum

An interdisciplinary panel of experts will discuss the principles and types of transmission-based precautions (TBP) and the use of enhanced barrier precautions (EBP) in nursing homes, along with implementation challenges and successes in the nursing facility.

**Moderator:**

Swati Gaur, MD, MBA, CMD

**Speakers:**

Muhammad Salmon Ashraf, MBBS

Kara Jacobs Slifka, MD, MPH

Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN

**Price:** FREE to PALTC24 Registrants and Members/\$69 for Non-Members

*Eligible for CME/CMD Management/MOC*

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER](#)

**OMDA Congregate Care Calls** are held every Thursday at 8:00 am. Here is the 2023/2024 weekly schedule of topics/speakers:

- **February 29** - What is Cognitive Stimulation, Lori Horstman, Certified Dementia Specialist, CEAL, CDP, CADDCT, CFRDT, CMDCP, CDSGF
- **March 7** - THC, Alvin Pelt, MD, FASAM
- **March 14** - Oral Health, Suparna Mahalaha, DDS, MPH
- **March 21** - POLST/Honoring Wishes Update, Susan Wallace, MSW, LSW President/CEO, LeadingAge Ohio
- **March 28** - 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. If you need an Outlook Zoom calendar invite emailed to you, *contact Jeannine Windbigler, Administrator, at [jeannine@ohiomda.org](mailto:jeannine@ohiomda.org)*

## 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.

The LOI should include a statement of need and proposed solution, goals and objectives, target population, methods, evaluation and impact, and organizational qualifications, partners, and stakeholders. Foundation officials will review the LOIs and, if appropriate, will invite a full proposal.

The Foundation focuses its grantmaking activities on advancing vital strategic priorities that promote its charitable purposes and support the vision and mission of AMDA – The Society for PALTC Medicine. This year, the Foundation would like to support small or pilot research projects not exceeding \$25,000 each. The award can be used to fund a portion of a larger project or a pilot project in preparation for a more extensive submission and does not have to constitute funding for the entire project budget. However, the portion that is being requested must be clearly defined in the budget template and budget narrative. The project must be completed within 12 months beginning from the award notification date and be eligible for a poster presentation at an AMDA conference.

We encourage all AMDA 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](mailto:ccoleman3@kumc.edu)

**Kristine Williams, RN, PhD, FGSA, FAAN**

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



## There are 2 ways to participate in PALTC24: in-person (San Antonio, TX) or via the Virtual Learning Track

Embark on a memorable journey in San Antonio, TX, where you'll have the opportunity to fully engage in a dynamic program offering valuable sessions, stimulating discussions, and ample networking opportunities. [View Full Program.](#)

Can't make it to San Antonio? No problem! AMDA's offering a Virtual Learning Track which will provide you with access to the live-streamed General Sessions, nine live-streamed sessions, and all concurrent session recordings through March 31, 2024. [View Virtual Learning Track.](#)

[Join AMDA to save](#) on your registration fee!

[REGISTER NOW](#)

## Check out AMDA's new website!

AMDA recently launched a brand new website containing features such as:

- [Clinical Topic Search](#): browse PALTC resources and education covering nearly 60 topics areas
- [Education](#): explore upcoming events and AMDA's on-demand education
- [Certification](#): elevate your professional standing and demonstrate your comprehensive understanding of the role by becoming a Certified Medical Director (CMD)
- [Get Involved](#): discover the many ways to get involved
- [AMDA Policy Finder](#): search resolutions, white papers and position statements
- Members Only Forum to launch in late February!

[EXPLORE WEBSITE](#)

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