

PENNSYLVANIA GERIATRICS SOCIETY WESTERN DIVISION



AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY

VOLUME 24 No. 1
FALL 2020

Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society – Western Division
Presents the

Fall Program

COVID-19 Across the Healthcare Spectrum

Panel Discussion Featuring

David Nace, MD, MPH, (Moderator) Clinical Chief of Geriatric Medicine,
Director of Long-Term Care, Division of Geriatric Medicine at University of Pittsburgh

Eitan Dickman, MD, MMM, FACEP, FAIUM, Executive Vice Chairman and
Medical Director, Department of Emergency Medicine, Maimonides Medical Center,
Brooklyn, NY

Aaron Pickering, PharmD, BCPS, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – Infectious
Diseases, UPMC St. Margaret, Pittsburgh, PA

Douglas White, MD, MAS, Vice Chair and Professor of Critical Care Medicine,
UPMC Endowed Chair for Ethics in Critical Care Medicine, Director, Program on Ethics and
Decision Making in Critical Illness, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

This program is designed to educate those involved in the direct care of older persons by exploring resource allocation, end-of-life issues and the emotional toll on healthcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Expert panelists will provide insight and remarks ranging from emergency room to long-term care best practices. Audience participation is encouraged.

This activity is approved for the following credit: *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*, ANCC, and ACPE. Other health care professionals will receive a certificate of attendance confirming the number of contact hours commensurate with the extent of participation in this activity.

Tuesday
NOVEMBER

10

6:00 pm

6:00 pm - PAGSWD Annual
Business Meeting

6:15 pm - 8:00 pm
Program

This program is sponsored by
The Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society – Western
Division and University of Pittsburgh School of
Medicine Center for Continuing Education in the
Health Sciences

Virtual Zoom Meeting

In Collaboration with the
Jewish Healthcare Foundation

Complimentary Registration for Members
(RSVP is required)
Guests welcome (guest fee \$25)

To register: Visit www.pagswd.org

A confirmation will be sent to the email address you provide,
upon successful registration.

Questions? Contact Michelle Besanceney, Administrator
michelle@acms.org or (412) 321-5030

Thank you to the following who provided support for the program



President's Message

As president, I am pleased to report that our organization is strong, active, and hard at work. As you will read in the following pages, 2020 has been a productive year despite obstacles imposed during a pandemic. I hope you had the opportunity to attend our annual update offered in the spring. We were fortunate to be able to hold our spring conference in-person. Little did we anticipate at that time that for the foreseeable future, we will be conducting our professional and personal lives in a very different manner. We are thankful to all the healthcare and essential workers who have continued to provide care to the vulnerable population.

Keeping with the times and challenges that the current COVID-19 pandemic has put forth, the final program for 2020 (Fall Program) will take place virtually on Nov. 10, 2020. This year's program features a panel discussion about challenging medical issues affecting older adults during a pandemic. Panelists representing emergency room and critical care physicians, pharmaceutical and nursing home care will discuss their experiences and best practices. Discussion will focus on how care for older adults in various settings during a pandemic can best be handled. A broad spectrum of CME and CEU credits will be offered to attendees ranging from social workers and pharmacists to nurses and physicians.

Mark your calendar and join this virtual program Nov. 10 as the evening promises to be both educational and thought-provoking.

A recap of highlights from this year include:

- The *Clinical Update in Geriatric Medicine* - The conference yielded a robust attendance, and comments and evaluation scores were superlative. This premier

educational event held "in our own backyard" provides outstanding and timely education to all geriatric healthcare professionals. The conference is designed by the PAGS-WD planning committee, which consists of a consortium of your colleagues, including those from the community, academic and payor sectors.



Dr. Ahuja

- *Geriatrics Teacher of the Year Award* - Initiated in 2016, this award recognizes outstanding teachers for their dedication and commitment to geriatric education and who have made significant contributions to the education and training of learners in Geriatrics. The call for nominations will begin Oct. 1, with the awards presentation to take place during the 29th Annual Clinical Update, scheduled for April 8-10, 2021.

- *David C. Martin Award* - Named after Pittsburgh's first full-time geriatrician, this award provides financial support for medical students and other trainees who have had scholarly work accepted for presentation at the national meeting of the American Geriatrics Society. A student may receive up to \$1,500 for travel, registration, and hotel costs. Since its inception, the Society has granted more than \$80,000 to awardees.

- Resident and fellow interest remains strong, with recruitment of nine new resident and fellow members this year. This brings the total number of resident and fellow members to 33. The Society waives membership dues for the length of training. We hope this initiative will be a pipeline to bring young physicians into our organization.

President's Message

As a member of the Society, your commitment is a testament to our efforts and mission: to educate, communicate, and engage healthcare professionals in the provision of quality healthcare for all older persons. At the end of this year, I will have served my two-year term as President of the Society. It has truly been an honor and privilege to have served in this role. I wish to thank the Board of Directors and Planning Committee members for their support and dedication to achieve our goals of the mission statement, which

include the provision of educational activities for our members and for the healthcare community in our region.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to your participation in the Fall Program on Nov. 10.

Namita Ahuja, MD, MMM

Members in the News

David A. Nace, MD, MPH, CMD, Named to White House Coronavirus Commission

David A. Nace, MD, MPH, CMD, President of AMDA, The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine in Pennsylvania, Chief Medical Officer of UPMC Senior Communities in Pittsburgh and a member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society - Western



Dr. Nace

Division, was selected among the top leaders in the long-term care industry to serve on the newly formed federal nursing home task force.

In this role, Dr. Nace will review nursing homes' response to the COVID-19 pandemic and recommend new regulations and procedures for future emergency situations.

Task force members will work to formulate best practices to protect nursing home residents on three fronts:

- Putting nursing home residents first by ensuring they are protected from COVID-19 and improving the responsiveness of care delivery to meet the needs of all residents to maximize quality of life for residents
- Strengthening regulations to enable rapid and effective identification and mitigation of COVID-19 transmission in nursing homes
- Enhancing federal and state enforcement strategies to improve compliance with infection control policies in response to COVID-19

The White House Commission met regularly this summer and planned to provide a report the first week of September 2020.

Membership

2021 Member Dues

Members will receive an email which will include an E-statement to pay dues. A link will be provided on the E-statement for online payment (Visa, Mastercard, Discover). Paper statements will be mailed to members who do not have an email address on file. You also may send a check payment or contact Michelle Besanceney if you wish to renew your dues by phone. She can be reached at 412-321-5030, or michelle@acms.org.

Membership supports our award-winning programming for healthcare professionals in our region and sustains our philanthropic efforts in support of medical students, residents and fellows. As a member, you are entitled to discounts (and complimentary registration) for all Society-sponsored programs.

RECRUIT A MEMBER!

The Fall Program is the perfect opportunity to strengthen our membership. Consider inviting a colleague to participate in the program. The nominal guest fee of \$25 includes the entire program. Forward the Society website, www.pagswd.org, for program registration and to download the membership application.

Nominating Committee

Please see page 8 for the 2021 Official Ballot.

Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society - Western Division

Serving as a resource in providing information and educational programming among a society of professionals who are dedicated to advancing clinical care and quality of life for the elderly.

29th Annual Clinical Update in Geriatric Medicine

WE ARE GOING VIRTUAL!

The world has changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and with it, the 29th Annual Clinical Update in Geriatric medicine conference will be changing as well. *The conference is going fully virtual for 2021.*

This well-respected, American Geriatrics Society (AGS) award-winning course, jointly provided by the Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society - Western Division (PAGS-WD), UPMC/University of Pittsburgh Institute on Aging, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, will take place April 8-9, 2021.

We understand that a virtual event isn't quite the same as an in-person one, but course directors Shuja Hassan, MD, Neil Resnick, MD, and Lyn Weinberg, MD, working with the Planning Committee members, are fully committed to: identifying speakers whose expertise is nationally recognized (and often responsible for advances relative to practice) and their ability to share their knowledge in a practical, succinct and entertaining way to facilitate its easy incorporation into a practice; and offering an evidence-based approach to help clinicians take exceptional care of frail individuals.

Conference credits include AMA PRA Category 1 creditsTM, AAFP, Nursing, Risk and ACPE credits. Members of the PAGS-WD receive a discount when registering. To become a member or to check your membership status, please contact Michelle Besanceney at (412) 321-5030 or michelle@acms.org.

We look forward to providing an engaging and robust virtual experience and appreciate your patience as we continue planning! Visit <https://dom.pitt.edu/ugm/> periodically for details on the course.

Mark Your Calendar

29th Annual Clinical Update in

GERIATRIC MEDICINE

APRIL 8-9, 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING

Course Directors: Shuja Hassan, MD ■ Neil M. Resnick, MD ■ Lyn Weinberg, MD ▼

Presented by

The Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society* – Western Division
UPMC / University of Pittsburgh Aging Institute
and

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences

*Join the Society Now and Save! Call Michelle Besanceney at (412) 321-5030.

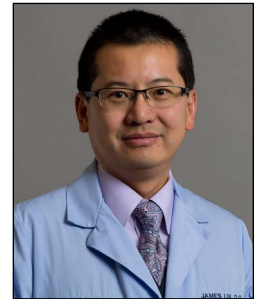
▼
The fastest growing segment of the population comprises individuals above the age of 85 years. The purpose of our conference is to provide an evidence-based approach to help clinicians take exceptional care of these often frail individuals.

▼
This course is the recipient of the American Geriatrics Society State Achievement Award for Innovative Educational Programming.

PLANNING IS UNDERWAY. Information and conference details will be available on our website: <http://www.dom.pitt.edu/UGM> or email us: pagswd@acms.org

AGS Names 2020 Clinician of the Year

The American Geriatrics Society (AGS) named James Lin, DO, MS, MHSA, President of the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) Institute for Successful Aging, its 2020 Clinician of the Year. Dr. Lin will be honored at the AGS 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting, May 13-15, 2021 in Chicago, due to the cancellation of the AGS 2020 Annual Scientific Meeting based on the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr. Lin

According to AGS Board Chair Sunny Linnebur, PharmD, FCCP, FASCP, BCPS, BCGP, "Dr. Lin's drive to enhance geriatrics stems from something deeply personal: Witnessing the marginalization of older adults while caring for his own father. Wanting better - and knowing it was possible - launched more than just a career as an expert clinician; it launched a commitment to modeling the way for others, which is well worth this high recognition."

LECOM leadership, aware of Dr. Lin's vision for education and improved geriatric care, empowered him to develop a program that could not only accelerate better care but serve as a guide for others in the field. Dr. Lin not only developed a robust geriatric service at LECOM but also became one of its principal champions by providing care to hundreds of older adults while translating that standard of care to training for future health professionals.

Dr. Lin became a member of AGS in 2007, after earning his medical degree from LECOM in 2002. Dr. Lin completed his geriatric fellowship at the University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey before joining LECOM as Director of its Institute for Successful Aging. He is board certified in internal medicine, geriatric medicine and hospice and palliative medicine.

About the AGS Clinician of the Year Award

The AGS Clinician of the Year Award was established to recognize the contributions of practitioners to quality health care for older people and the importance of the geriatrics clinician in our healthcare delivery system. Through awardees' efforts, scientific advances are integrated into the practice of geriatrics, resulting in improved well-being and quality of life for older adults.

Recruit a member! Invite a colleague to join!
A membership application can be downloaded at www.pagswd.org.

Job Opportunity

Lifesolutions Employee Assistance Program, through UPMC, announces a position specializing in the Resources for Life program for our Medicare members that offers short-term supportive counseling. We are looking to add to our affiliate network, preferably a counselor who specializes in older adult cases. Previous experience in Case Management would be preferred, but not required. We require a licensed professional counselor or Licensed Clinical Social Worker. While not guaranteed, we anticipate that this counselor would need to be available to cover about 24 hours per week for telephonic case counseling.

The description of the affiliate provider is as follows:

Affiliate Providers

Lifesolutions/Resources for Life contracts with licensed counselors to provide "best in practice" counseling to our clients. We are currently looking for a licensed, master's level clinician to serve our UPMC for Life Medicare population. Experience working with older adults, and knowledge of care management is desirable. You would work closely with the program managers to provide services to this unique population. Lifesolutions/Resources for Life is a counseling services that uses brief, solution focused treatment.

Advantages of joining our network include:

- Minimal paperwork requirements
- Competitive reimbursement rates
- Prompt payment at case closing
- Licensed clinical staff in our National Service Center to partner with on any clinical issues that may arise in service delivery.
- Ninety-eight percent of our affiliate providers indicate that they are satisfied or very satisfied with their experience as an affiliate provider for Lifesolutions.

Contacts: Suzan W. Clark, Program Director, clarksw@workpartners.com; or Shannon Miller, Program Manager, millers28@workpartners.com, 600 Grant Street, U.S. Steel Tower, 8th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.



Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society

Western Division

An Affiliate of the American Geriatrics Society

713 Ridge Ave ♦ Pittsburgh, PA 15212 ♦ Phone (412) 321-5030 ♦ Fax (412) 321-5323 ♦ www.pagswd.org

2021 Election Ballot

Instructions: Mark the ballot with an X next to the candidate(s) you wish to place your vote. A vote may be made for a candidate whose name does not appear below by writing his or her name on the appropriate "Write in Vote" line. Once complete, please return the ballot by email to michelle@acms.org. You may fax the ballot to Michelle Besanceney at 412-321-5323. **Ballots must be returned no later than Thursday, December 10, 2020.**

Officers

President *Christine Herb, MD*

Secretary/Treasurer *Judith Black, MD, MHA*

Board of Director (Vote for up to 5)

(three-year term beginning January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023)

- Elizabeth Mohan, MD*
- Heather Sakely, PharmD, BCPS, BCGP*
- David Yuan, MD*
- Lezleyan DeLucia, RN*
- Michelle Criss, PT, PhD*

Write in Vote _____

Ballots must be returned no later than Thursday, December 10, 2020.
Please email to michelle@acms.org; or fax your ballot to 412-321-5323

Mark Your Calendar

National Conference of Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association

When: September 24-26, 2020

Where: Virtual Conference

Phone: 866-355-1392

Email: gapna@aji.com

Website/Registration: www.gapna.org/annual-conference

American Society of Consultant Pharmacists – Annual Meeting

When: November 12-15, 2020

Where: Gaylord Palms Resort, Kissimmee, Florida

Pharmacists can earn up to 18 BCGP Recertification Credits and up to 22 CPE Credits. Plus earn up to an additional 19 hours of CPE Credits. Pharmacy technicians can earn up to 12 CE Credits. Virtual offering available.

Website/Registration: <https://annual.ascp.com/register/>

American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) the Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine – 2021

When: March 11-14, 2021

Where: Virtual Conference

Email: registration@paltc.org

Credit Type: CEUs for Nurses, CMD Clinical, CMD Management, CME, Other

American College of Physicians - Internal Medicine 2021

When: April 29-May 1, 2021

Where: Orlando, FL

Phone: 800-523-1546 x2600 or 215-351-2400

Website: <https://annualmeeting.acponline.org>

Choose from more than 200 CME courses in internal medicine and subspecialties presented by distinguished faculty and the ability to earn up to 30.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Society of General Internal Medicine 2021 Annual Meeting – Transforming Values into Action

When: April 21-24, 2021

Where: Boston, MA

Website: <https://www.sгим.org/meetings>

Email Annual Meeting inquiries to: support@sgim.org



American Geriatrics Society 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting

When: May 13-15, 2021

Where: Chicago, IL

Phone: 212-308-1414

Website: <https://meeting.americangeriatrics.org>

The AGS Annual Scientific Meeting is the premier educational event in geriatrics, providing the latest information on clinical care, research on aging, and innovative models of care delivery. The Annual Meeting Program Committee has worked hard to create an exciting program that will present high quality clinical and scientific content to our diverse audience. The 2021 Annual Meeting will address the educational needs of geriatrics health professionals from all professions. Physicians, nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, social workers, long-term care and managed care providers, health care administrators, and others can update their knowledge and skills through state-of-the-art educational sessions and research presentations.

The American Geriatrics Society designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 27.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Assisted Living in Pennsylvania – Free Resource Available

Many seniors are unaware of the available care options and programs that can help maintain their independence and quality of life. A free resource that provides comprehensive information on topics like financial support, organizations, and available care options (that are in every city in Pennsylvania) has been developed that can help senior citizens stay connected with their community.

Visit:

<https://www.caring.com/senior-living/assisted-living/pennsylvania/>

State Launches Regional Response Health Collaboration Programs (RRHCP)

Will Provide Covid-19 Assistance to Long-Term Care Facilities

UPMC & AHN Partner with JHF and Local Health Systems, Creating the Western PA RRHCP

More than 45,000 Pennsylvanians live in excess of 1,200 personal care homes and assisted living residences, while more than 80,000 residents live in 693 skilled nursing facilities throughout the Commonwealth. These residents often are some of the most vulnerable and susceptible to COVID-19. Based on this information, the Educational Support and Clinical Coaching Program (ESCCP) was rapidly launched in Pennsylvania to address long-term care facilities' needs in April 2020. A partnership between Nancy Zions, COO and Chief Program Officer at the Jewish Healthcare Foundation (JHF), the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, and seven Pennsylvania health systems, the ESCCP has provided long-term care staff with training and support to advance care for seniors across the state. Since the program's start, JHF has hosted 15 webinars and engaged more than 2,000 participants in discussions about COVID-19 response, preparation and planning for the new normal that congregate living facilities are facing.

Recognizing the need and success of programs initiated by ESCCP, former PA Speaker of the House, Michael Turzai, worked with David A. Nace, MD, MPH, President of AMDA, The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine and Chief Medical Officer of UPMC Senior Communities in Pittsburgh (an active member of the PA Geriatrics Society - Western Division), who collaborated with UPMC and Allegheny Health Network (AHN) to create a bill to expand the

program. House Bill 2510 was passed by both PA Houses of Congress and signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf. The bill created the Regional Response Health Collaboration Programs (RRHCP), which are designed to assist the state in providing clinical, operational, and administrative support to protect residents in long-term care facilities from COVID-19. The six RRHCP programs will help facilities implement best practices in infection control, conduct onsite COVID-19 testing, implement contact tracing programs in facilities, and provide advanced clinical care consultation. The RRHCPs also may assist facilities with obtaining emergency staffing augmentation, PPE appropriation, and identification of alternative care sites when needed.

Serving southwest and portions of northwest Pennsylvania, the Western PA RRHCP program is a cooperative partnership led by UPMC Senior Services and AHN. The Western PA RRHCP works closely with JHF and the Healthcare Council of Western Pennsylvania, in addition to several local health systems including Excelsa Health, St. Clair Hospital and Penn Highlands.

According to Emily Jaffe, MD, Vice President and Executive Medical Director of HM Home and Community Services and post-acute Medical Director at AHN, "To effectively meet the health needs of all members of western Pennsylvania communities during this unprecedented time, we are extremely pleased to be part of this collaborative which brings together the region's leading healthcare resources for the benefit of seniors and others who are at most risk for COVID-19."