



WEBINAR

# Optimizing Transitions between Nursing Homes and EDs in the age of COVID-19

APRIL 20, 2020  
3:00 PM EST

- 00:28:54 Ula Hwang: @theGEDC
- 00:30:29 Ula Hwang: New York, NY
- 00:30:33 maaret castren: Finland, ED
- 00:30:36 Cindy Zimmerman: Indianapolis, IN
- 00:30:38 Andrea Garcia: Grand Island NE VA Medical Center
- 00:30:43 DEBORAH DUNCAN: Louisville KY VA medical center outpatient clinic
- 00:30:44 Linda Taylor: Hi from Thunder Bay, LTC there are 5 of us. We would like to know how best to transfer residents in
- 00:30:53 Carlomagno G. Almonte: VA Northern California
- 00:31:00 Carla Lenton: Nursing home, Manitoba Canada - general information
- 00:31:01 Stacey Kitz: Brandon MB, ER chief and COVID lead
- 00:31:02 Joseph Barchak: Joplin, MO VA CBOC
- 00:31:06 Poonam Jain: Poonam Jain - Saint Louis VA Medical Center
- 00:31:09 Joanna Hill: port Colborne Ontario LTC
- 00:31:12 Brandy Stadnyk: Winnipeg, MB; long term care-hybrid health centre
- 00:31:13 Sethany Thomas: Home and Community with VA Medical Center in New Orleans, La.
- 00:31:30 Bruce McTurk: Barrie Ontario Nursing Home
- 00:38:19 Don Melady: Kathleen, Have there been challenges in getting a sufficient supply of PPE for all your staff? How did you navigate that?
- 00:38:27 Ula Hwang: atypical presentations for older adults with COVID
- 00:40:26 Ula Hwang: PPE considerations for use by NH staff, plans for testing of patients (entire wings and staff (don't forget housekeeping), for isolation and cohorting of covid+ NH patients
- 00:41:32 Ula Hwang: Best practice tip: Whenever having a LTC patient test positive, have a line open for NH staff to answer questions and answers to improve communication and allay anxieties
- 00:42:53 Adam Perry: <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6913e1.htm>
- 00:43:33 Ula Hwang: Innovative patient monitoring ideas include using video monitors in NH patient rooms if they need to be placed in room requiring doors closed.
- 00:43:37 Andrea Garcia: Are you seeing nursing facilities asking for a negative COVID test prior to admission from a hospital, regardless of respiratory problems/COVID symptoms in their immediate health history?
- 00:44:11 Adam Perry: MMWR APRIL 3RD 2020 - 57% of + NH residents were presymptomatic at time of + test



- 00:44:15 Don Melady: If you're posting in the Chat Box please ensure you have selected "All panelists AND attendees"
- 00:44:32 Mike Wasserman: one negative test has a 30% False negative rate, two negatives, 10%, abundance of caution needed
- 00:45:49 Ula Hwang: <https://www.optimistic-care.org/probari/covid-19-resources> for key information for NH facility staff about advanced care planning discussions during a crisis
- 00:46:47 Mike Wasserman: Long Term Care Quadruple Aim for COVID-19 Response, [www.caltcm.org/covid-19](http://www.caltcm.org/covid-19)
- 00:46:54 Bruce McTurk: when is a negative test not truly neg?
- 00:46:57 Chris Carpenter: Question: How should ED providers balance recommendations for Advanced Directives (and efforts to find/interpret them) with series of TRIAD studies demonstrating inability for multiple levels of emergency medicine providers to accurately and reliably interpret them (see <http://pmid.us/17214023> + <http://pmid.us/17976563> + <http://pmid.us/19157750> + <http://pmid.us/22100496> + <http://pmid.us/25692502>)?
- 00:47:50 Hugh Boyd: From Post-acute hospital & LTC - Guelph & Hamilton, Ontario.
- 00:47:52 Chris Carpenter: Question: What can ED,Äôs within hospitals without any Palliative Care programs or interest do during COVID-19 to ease patient suffering? In other words, what feasible Palliative Care approaches for non-Palliative Care trained individuals exist?
- 00:48:00 Mike Wasserman: Long Term Care Quadruple Aim for COVID-19 Response, [www.caltcm.org/covid-19](http://www.caltcm.org/covid-19)
- 00:48:54 Bruce McTurk: does testing negative change management?
- 00:48:59 Eugene Ginchereau: Gene Ginchereau, Pittsburgh VA Health System
- 00:49:17 cathy leone: Our nursing home requires a negative COVID-19 result prior to transfer from any setting to our nursing home, due to pre-symptomatic conditions, no matter what their diagnoses. In our state a resident was transferred to the NH from a hospital for a fracture hip repair, and that nursing home now has 30+ positive cases, as well as staff, and many deaths. We will not take that chance.
- 00:50:21 Chris Carpenter: Question: The Journal of Geriatric Emergency Medicine review describing, "Nursing Home Transfers" emphasizes the importance of shared decision making with LTCF patients and families prior to ED transfer. What prognostic models/instruments exist to guide shared decision-making discussions with family - preferably adjusted for health literacy levels and cognitive impairment. In other words, which patients are more likely to survive? Early reports from northern California indicate a 50% extubation rate for those (of all ages) who were intubated, whereas Italy (cited in the JGEM review) reported 80% never able to extubate. Why the large difference?
- 00:50:22 Mike Wasserman: Cathy, you are correct. That's why I'll be speaking about COVID19 positive facilities
- 00:51:02 PRAVINSAGAR MEHTA: Nobody picks up phones
- 00:51:23 Michelle Moccia: Bravo for emphasizing the importance of knowing the type of facility and their capabilities. Create a directory of the facilities that use your ED as their 911



care provider and hyperlink their capabilities. Consider color code example: green "independent"; yellow "assisted living" and red "skilled" etc.

- 00:52:05 Ula Hwang: Awesome tip Michelle!
- 00:53:14 Don Melady: Lisa, please change your setting to ATTENDEES. That message came only to me!
- 00:53:16 Nicole Bolton: one thing we lack in our emergency room is the skilled nursing home facility or assisted living's staff calling the ER to give us report
- 00:53:18 Ula Hwang: Hi Lisa, add panelist and attendees to your chat
- 00:53:56 Lisa Kummer: Michelle great ideas, shared from Sioux Falls, South Dakota VA
- 00:54:22 Ula Hwang: Ideal best practices pre-COVID and during COVID is good two-way communication between NH and ED
- 00:55:04 Ula Hwang: <https://www.vitaltalk.org>
- 00:55:27 Michelle Moccia: Consider reaching out to the skilled and assisted living and discuss why the "warm handoff" is beneficial for their resident. Give them examples of a great and poor handoff. When they do call, make sure you acknowledge this win.
- 00:55:40 Ula Hwang: <https://www.capc.org> for good examples of communication dialogues around goals of care with COVID
- 00:56:20 Michelle Moccia: Vital talk tips is an app. Free! Check out the OOPS conversation tips. I think we have all had an OOPS
- 00:56:48 Conor Sullivan: Webinar Resources: Here is the URL for the Geriatric Emergency Department's website <https://gedcollaborative.com/> Check out COVID Resources on the GEDC website later today. <https://gedcollaborative.com/resources/> where you will be able to find the presentation slides upon conclusion of today's webinar.
- 00:58:02 Conor Sullivan: Dr. Perry  
<https://emottawablog.com/2020/03/end-of-life-care-in-the-ed-related-to-covid-19/>  
End-of-life care in the Emergency Department for the patient imminently dying of a highly transmissible acute respiratory infection (such as COVID-19). The EMOTTAWA link describes an excellent protocol.  
CAPC <https://www.capc.org/> Dr. Unroe <https://www.optimistic-care.org/probari/covid-19-resources/> Advance Care Planning During a Crisis – Key information for nursing facility staff
- 00:59:35 Andrea Garcia: Thank you for this discussion!
- 01:00:17 Lisa Kummer: Thank you, great information!
- 01:00:39 Conor Sullivan: Dear Colleagues, Thank you for participating in the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative's webinar GEDC Webinar "Transitions Between Nursing Homes and EDs in the Age of COVID-19" Webinar Resources: Here is the URL for the Geriatric Emergency Department's website <https://gedcollaborative.com/> Check out COVID Resources on the GEDC website later today. <https://gedcollaborative.com/resources/> where you will be able to find the presentation slides upon conclusion of today's webinar.  
Dr. Agha <https://www.westhealth.org/covid-19-resource-center/> Outstanding resources at West Health's Covid resource page with full implementation manual and toolkits for EDs and PALTCs.



- 01:00:41 Ula Hwang: Shoutout to Michelle Moccia at St. Mary's in Michigan for daily huddles on how to improve communication between ED and NH care. Scroll up for some innovative tips she has given
- 01:01:05 Chris Carpenter: Question: For large urban areas with 50 (or more) LTCF's each with their own leadership and none of which coordinate or communicate with one another, which LTCF should Geriatric ED leaders target for communication recommended by Dr. Malady? We certainly cannot have dozens of conversations with different leaders generating different protocols, priorities, transfer forms, and procedures?
- 01:03:08 Kevin Biese: Good question Chris. In most cases, the SNFs have referral practice patterns - which means that a relatively limited number of SNFs send the ED the majority of patients that ED receives from SNFs. Ie - reach out to the ones that send you the most patients first.
- 01:03:47 Mike Wasserman: I would strongly urge connecting with your state's AMDA (Society for Post Acute and Long Term Care Medicine) chapter
- 01:04:04 Mike Wasserman: Also, connect with your state's QIN-QIO
- 01:04:09 Kathleen Unroe: Also trade organizations for nursing homes (AHCA and LeadingAge chapters) can be excellent vehicles to disseminate best practices/information across facilities.
- 01:04:15 Chris Carpenter: What is QIN-QIO?
- 01:04:33 Mike Wasserman: Quality Improvement Organization
- 01:04:50 Chris Carpenter: Have the national, regional or state AHCA and LeadingAge chapters disseminated the JGEM article and webinar?
- 01:05:22 Kathleen Unroe: in addition to protocols, etc, warm hand off/phone calls are still needed for each patient, particularly now
- 01:06:00 Michelle Moccia: We are hosting daily huddles at 07:30 with the facilities who use us as their 911 care provider. 34+. We start the huddle with the update on our numbers of COVID-19 positive. We let them know the number of patients needing placement. We ask them to report out if their PPE is adequate, are they have challenges in staffing, their ability to take COVID-19 patients and any problem they are experiencing. We distribute supplies and/or we discuss with others who may help. We have one hour weekly calls with our ED Leadership and CMO, Infection Control Officers to help field questions, alleviate concerns, connect them with resources - powerful sharing. We have set up COVID-19 swab test kits too for them to use. We are working with a facility setting up a COVID-19 wing. We hosted our first Medical Director meeting: "Sharing Care Strategies for the most vulnerable during the COVID-19 pandemic". Encourage the Med Dir. of facility to notify the ED physician prior to transfer "forward triage"
- 01:07:20 Kathleen Unroe: THANK YOU Michelle for providing real support to nursing facilities in your region - willingness to communicate and facilitate access to PPE, etc!
- 01:08:51 jane carmody: Michelle! wow. great info Also, in my health system days... looked at the discharge data ... started communicating with those facilities with highest numbers of the health system's patients
- 01:09:34 Alice Bonner: <http://www.ihl.org/Topics/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-19-Care-of-Older-Adults.aspx> This IHI webpage on COVID-19 and Older Adults is updated every 1-2 weeks. Age Friendly Health System work now includes a focus on COVID-19.



# GEDC

THE GERIATRIC  
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT  
COLLABORATIVE

EDUCATE IMPLEMENT EVALUATE

- 01:10:04 Carlomagno G. Almonte: <https://www.voanews.com/silicon-valley-technology/us-military-government-workers-still-use-zoom-despite-fbi-warning>
- 01:10:08 Mike Wasserman: Never too late!
- 01:10:15 Michelle Moccia: Most facilities want to work with their local ED and hospital. They are waiting for an invitation.
- 01:10:58 Lisa Kummer: thank you!
- 01:11:42 Kevin Biese: West Health tele health guide:  
[www.westhealth.org/resource/telehealth-paltc-guide](http://www.westhealth.org/resource/telehealth-paltc-guide)
- 01:11:59 terry fulmer: please check the JAHF website for our NH plans
- 01:12:41 Michelle Moccia: Thank you for the all the websites
- 01:13:22 Zia Agha: West Health Covid resources link
- 01:13:37 Kevin Biese: West Health SNF ED tele health implementation toolkits  
[www.westhealth.org/covid-19-resource-center](http://www.westhealth.org/covid-19-resource-center)
- 01:14:08 Don Melady: Great point about maintaining the health of the staff ,Ä both for keeping them healthy AND for protecting the residents.
- 01:14:20 catherine eberle: JAHF is the John A Hartford Foundation
- 01:14:33 Zia Agha: <https://www.westhealth.org/covid-19-resource-center/>
- 01:15:23 Kathleen Unroe: NHs are required by CMS to have an "infection preventionist" on staff however the person with this responsibility may wear multiple hats; Dr. Wasserman advocating for these to be full time positions.
- 01:15:36 sarit gutmann: can you please share direct link to slides in this chat box. Thank you
- 01:15:43 Don Melady: Terry – could you copy and paste the JAHF URL into the chat – the best way for people to access it.
- 01:15:50 Andrea Garcia: Watching from a hot spot; nursing home staff and residents definitely starting to feel the stress.
- 01:15:57 Lisa Kummer: WE are just going through the curve now, Sioux Falls, South Dakota... this is very helpful.
- 01:16:12 Ula Hwang: Slides and a recording of this presentation will be available after the session is complete. Please check back on the GEDC website for these.
- 01:16:23 Lisa Kummer: Thank you Ula!
- 01:16:31 Don Melady: Marcus – please send that post to ALL ATTENDEES
- 01:16:56 Chris Carpenter: GEDC website is <https://gedcollaborative.com/>
- 01:17:26 Marcus Escobedo: Thanks Catherine. And here are two  
<https://gedcollaborative.com/> links for JAHF/The John A. Hartford Foundation on nursing homes that Dr. Fulmer referenced Resources:  
<https://www.johnahartford.org/dissemination-center/view/nursing-home-long-term-care-resources> and Blog post: <https://www.johnahartford.org/blog/view/nursing-homes-in-the-time-of-covid-19-we-need-urgent-action-now-and-a-long-term-strategy>
- 01:17:58 Kevin Biese: Check out <https://gedcollaborative.com> for the slides and many other tools for ED clinicians caring for older adults during COVID
- 01:18:20 jane carmody: NHs are required by CMS to have an "infection preventionist" on staff however the person with this responsibility may wear multiple hats; Dr. Wasserman advocating for these to be full time positions. Great way for health systems to share their resources and expertise, infection preventionists



- 01:21:00 Lisa Kummer: thank you
- 01:21:49 Conor Sullivan: Dr. Steinberg <https://www.speakupontario.ca/>  
<http://www.goalsofcaremodule.com/> Vital Talk <https://www.vitaltalk.org/guides/covid-19-communication-skills> Serious Illness Conversation (SIC) <https://bc-cpc.ca/cpc/category/sic/>
- 01:21:57 Ula Hwang: For Mike Wasserman's NH Covid units, staffing includes: Staffing Volunteers <Age 65No diabetes/heart disease/or lung diseaseNo immunocompromising conditionsAntibody evidence of previous COVID-19 immunity (eventually)Willingness to stay in hotel (and willingness not work anywhere else for the duration of duties)
- 01:22:34 Michelle Moccia: Work also with your EMS to help you identify concerns they have when they go into a facility eg. lack of PPE; incorrectly using PPE. Not punitive but helpful so you can all work together to improve education and strategies to reduce the spread.
- 01:23:12 Don Melady: Speak Up Ontario website
- 01:23:53 Don Melady: <https://www.speakupontario.ca>
- 01:24:44 Ken Boockvar: Helpful guide for NHs to simplify medication regimens to reduce staff exposure to COVID and time administering medicines from Lamy center and US Deprescribing Research Network: <https://www.pharmacy.umaryland.edu/PALTC-COVID19-MedOpt>
- 01:25:15 Adam Perry: An initial step in collaboration is to let referring facilities know that the ED prioritizes communication with NH providers by assigning a single point of contact, such as a phone line to an ED provider or transition coordinator.
- 01:26:43 Ula Hwang: SDM - Shared Decision Maker
- 01:26:57 Ula Hwang: Surrogate Decision Maker
- 01:27:36 Michelle Moccia: Great tip Adam!
- 01:28:12 Conor Sullivan: Dr. Steinberg <https://www.speakupontario.ca/>  
<http://www.goalsofcaremodule.com>
- 01:28:24 Todd James: Thank you everyone!
- 01:28:29 Kevin Biese: What a great webinar - thank you all!!
- 01:28:34 Chris Carpenter: Excellent job by all of the speakers! Thank you - thank you - thank you!
- 01:28:41 Conor Sullivan: Dear Colleagues, Thank you for participating in the Geriatric Emergency Department Collaborative's Webinar, "Transitions Between Nursing Homes and EDs in the Age of COVID-19" Some Post-webinar Resources: Here is the URL for the Geriatric Emergency Department's website <https://gedcollaborative.com/> Check out COVID Resources on the GEDC website later today. <https://gedcollaborative.com/resources/> where you will be able to find the presentation and slides upon conclusion of today's webinar. Dr. Agha - West Health <https://www.westhealth.org/covid-19-resource-center/> Outstanding resources at West Health's COVID resource page with full implementation manual and toolkits for EDs and PALTCs. Dr. Perry <https://emottawablog.com/2020/03/end-of-life-care-in-the-ed-related-to-covid-19/> End-of-life care in the Emergency Department for the patient imminently dying of a highly transmissible acute respiratory infection (such as COVID-



- 19).CAPC <https://www.capc.org/> Dr. Unroe <https://www.optimistic-care.org/probari/covi>
- 01:28:51 Carlomagno G. Almonte: How do we get the CEU?
- 01:29:24 Libby Hoy: Thank you!
- 01:29:29 Conor Sullivan: Dr. Steinberg <https://www.speakupontario.ca/>  
<http://www.goalsofcaresmodule.com/> Vital Talk <https://www.vitaltalk.org/guides/covid-19-communication-skills> Serious Illness Conversation (SIC) <https://bc-cpc.ca/cpc/category/sic/>
- 01:29:30 Ula Hwang: May 11 3p EST next webinar
- 01:29:34 Jennifer Porth: Great presentation! Thanks!
- 01:29:35 John Schumacher: Thanks. Great information
- 01:29:45 Charles Graffeo: Thanks!
- 01:29:45 Ula Hwang: Thank you speakers!!
- 01:29:48 Andrea Garcia: Thank you all, great information!
- 01:29:52 Sethany Thomas: From Sethany Johnson RN at VA Medical Center in New Orleans, La. Very informative!!!
- 01:29:55 Conor Sullivan: More COVID/GED related resources:

SCCM Surviving Sepsis Campaign COVID-19 Guidelines.

<https://www.sccm.org/disaster>

BMJ Best Practice.

<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-us/3000168#important-update>

COVID at LTACH

[https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2005412?query=featured\\_coronavirus](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2005412?query=featured_coronavirus)

AMA Journal of Ethics

March 2020 - Ethics Talk Podcast: COVID-19 Pandemic Response

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/covid-19-ethics-resource-center>

March 27 - The Importance of Addressing Advance Care Planning and Decisions About Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders During Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2763952>

March 27 - Epidemiology of Covid-19 in a Long-Term Care Facility in King County, Washington

[https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2005412?query=featured\\_coronavirus](https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2005412?query=featured_coronavirus)

March 20 ,Äi Surviving Sepsis Campaign: Guidelines on the Management of Critically Ill Adults with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://sccm.org/getattachment/Disaster/SSC-COVID19>