



Geriatrics and Palliative Care Portfolio Standing Committee

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

R. Sean Morrison, MD

Co-Director, Patty and Jay Baker National Palliative Care Center; Director, National Palliative Care Research Center; Director, Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

New York, New York

Nominated by the Center to Advance Palliative Care

Dr. Morrison has served on the MAP Hospital Workgroup since 2011. He has extensive knowledge of quality measurement and the nine different federal hospital and setting-specific quality programs. He is a demonstrated leader in the field of palliative medicine, both providing direct care to patients and spearheading countless national research initiatives to expand the evidence-base and ensure that findings are rapidly translated into clinical practice. This research includes pain and symptom management in high-risk and medically underserved populations, decision making at the end of life, and quality measures in palliative care. Most recently, Dr. Morrison's research has focused on improving the management of pain in older adults and on developing and evaluating models of palliative care delivery in hospitals and the community. Outside of MAP, he has chaired numerous task forces and committees, both nationally and internationally, and served as the President of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Dr. Morrison's CV demonstrates his vast experience directing and conducting research, and reporting findings back to a number of federal entities including NIH and HHS.

Deborah Waldrop, PhD, LMSW, ACSW

Professor, University of Buffalo, School of Social Work

Buffalo, New York

Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Deborah Waldrop, LMSW, PhD is a Professor and the Associate Dean for Faculty Development at the University at Buffalo School of Social Work (UBSSW). Deborah joined the UBSSW faculty after spending 20 years as a social worker in a variety of healthcare settings including hospice. Drawing from the experiences of older adults and their families Dr. Waldrop conducts research about the needs and concerns that emerge at life's end, means for improving advance care planning and caregivers' adaptation in bereavement. Deborah participated as a member of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine's Measuring what Matters initiative.

Bob Archuleta, MD

Physician, Pediatric Associates

Midlothian, Virginia

Nominated by the American Academy of Pediatrics

Dr. Archuleta received his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Wyoming in 1971 and his medical degree from the University of Colorado in 1975. He performed his internship and residency in pediatrics at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas. Then he served as Chief of Pediatrics at Fort Lee, Virginia for two years before entering into private practice. He has been a primary care pediatrician in private practice in Richmond, Virginia for 37 years. He has been married to Felice M. Archuleta, M.D. for 37 years and they have a 32 year old son, Henry, and a 25 year old daughter, Christine.

Dr. Archuleta became active in hospice and palliative care because as a practicing pediatrician his greatest challenge was in helping children and families who face life-limiting illness and children who grieve the loss of a loved one. He founded Noah’s Children in 1997 to address the deficiency in addressing the needs of children with life-threatening and life-limiting illness.

Dr. Archuleta has served as Medical Director of the Noah’s Children Hospice and Palliative Care Program since it was licensed. In October, 1999 he was presented the President’s Award from the Virginia Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics “for his vision, dreams and dedication as the founder of Noah’s Children, serving the needs of special children and their families in his community.”

In 2000, the Richmond Academy of Medicine Board of Trustees presented Dr. Archuleta with the Distinguished Service Award for Ministry to Children “In grateful appreciation for your courage and commitment to the children and families of Metropolitan Richmond for whom you created Noah’s Children so that every child has a safe and comforting haven for their journeys.”

In 2004 Dr. Archuleta received his board certification from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, making him the 18th pediatricians in the country to be board certified in both pediatrics and hospice & palliative medicine. He was again board certified by the ABMS in Hospice and Palliative Medicine in 2012. In 2014, Dr. Archuleta was honored to become a Fellow of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

Dr. Archuleta served as the Bundy Professor and Chair of Community Pediatrics for VCU from 2003 to 2005. During that time he chaired a task force that developed a hospital-based pediatric palliative care and pain management program for the VCU Department of Pediatrics and then served as medical director of the program from 2005 to 2007.

Dr. Archuleta practices full-time general pediatrics in Richmond. He continues to serve as Medical Director of Noah’s Children, now that Noah’s Children is a community outreach program of the Bon Secours Health System.

Margie Atkinson, D. Min, BCC

Director, Pastoral Care, Ethics and Palliative Care, Morton Plant Mease/Bay Care Health System
Palm Harbor, Florida

Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Dr. Margie Atkinson is the Director of Pastoral Care, Ethics and Palliative Care programs for Morton Plant Mease Healthcare, part of BayCare Health System in the Tampa Bay Area of Florida. Atkinson's expertise includes pastoral and spiritual care, and administration in multiple settings, including hospice, acute care and children's hospital settings. Atkinson currently oversees the spiritual care and palliative care services for four acute care hospitals and one LTACH in the Tampa Bay area. She implemented a clinical pastoral education program in BayCare Health System and has been instrumental in developing palliative care in two health systems. She currently co-leads the 13-hospital system's palliative care collaborative, a group consisting of leadership from across the system.

Samira Beckwith, LCSW, FACHE, LHD

President and CEO, Hope HealthCare Services
Fort Myers, Florida

Samira Beckwith has more than 30 years of experience in hospice and healthcare. As President and CEO of Hope HealthCare Services for over 25 years, Dr. Beckwith created an innovative national model of healthcare for the future by bridging hospice with other long-term care programs. She also launched a successful PACE program and recently expanded the Hope Kids Care program to meet growing community needs. Beckwith has clinical, administrative, and public policy expertise, as well as extensive federal and private payer knowledge. She is a frequent participant in national and state health policy forums and has provided expert testimony before government bodies including the US House Judiciary Committee and U.S. Senate Aging Committee.

Amy J. Berman, BSN

Senior Program Officer, John A. Hartford Foundation
New York, New York

Amy Berman, a senior program officer with The John A. Hartford Foundation, is best known for publicly sharing her experiences living with Stage IV breast cancer. She authored pieces on value in health care decisions, palliative care, and implications for patients, practice and policy. Her piece in Health Affairs, Living Life In My Own Way—And Dying That Way As Well, was among the most read in the history of the journal. At the John A. Hartford Foundation, Ms. Berman, a nurse, leads the Foundation's investments in models of care that improve health of older adults including palliative care. Ms. Berman is the recipient of numerous honors for advocacy on behalf of those facing serious illness including the Presidential Citation from AAHPM.

Eduardo Bruera, MD

Professor and Chair, Department of Palliative, Rehabilitation and Integrative Medicine, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

Dr. Bruera is trained in medical oncology and is board certified in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. In 1999, he joined The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center where he holds the F.T. McGraw Chair in the Treatment of Cancer, and is Chair of the Department of Palliative, Rehabilitation and Integrative Medicine.

Dr. Bruera developed and led the Edmonton Regional and Palliative Care program in Canada. He

has conducted and published many research studies, with 1000+ publications and 900 lectures. Dr. Bruera has participated actively in quality initiatives with MD Anderson, the National Quality Forum, ASCO, and IOM.

Cleanne Cass, DO, FAAHPM, FAAFP

Director of Community Care and Education, Hospice of Dayton
Dayton, Ohio
Nominated by the American Osteopathic Association

Cleanne Cass, DO, FAAHPM, FAAFP is the Director of Community Care and Education, Hospice of Dayton, heading in-home patient services and education for medical students, residents and fellows in Hospice and Palliative Medicine.

Dr. Cass is an appointed member of the Ohio Governor's Cabinet Opioid Action team developing guidelines for safe opioid prescribing. She is also a member of the state task force working toward implementation of MOLST (Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment).

She represented the AOA on the NQF Advisory Panel which developed A National Framework and Preferred Practices for Palliative and Hospice Care Quality published December 2006.

George Handzo, BCC, CSSBB

Director, Health Services Research and Quality, HealthCare Chaplaincy
Los Angeles, California
Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Rev. Handzo is widely regarded as a leading international authority on the practice of professional healthcare chaplaincy. He participated in the development of the Systems of Belief Inventory (SBI). He led the effort that created North American standards for the certification of chaplains, and is currently leading the development of the first set of measurable outcomes for healthcare chaplaincy. Rev. Handzo has been part of two national and one international interdisciplinary consensus conferences developing models and goals for the integration of spiritual care in healthcare and is a member of the Global Network for Spirituality and Health leadership team.

Arif H. Kamal, MD, MBA, MHS, FACP, FAAHPM

Physician Quality and Outcomes Officer, Duke Cancer Institute
Durham, North Carolina
Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Dr. Arif Kamal is the Physician Quality and Outcomes Officer for the Duke Cancer Institute, with dual appointments in the Division of Medical Oncology and Section of Palliative Care at Duke University. He is a leader in several national palliative care quality initiatives, including the Global Palliative Care Quality Alliance, and has research funding from AHRQ, Cambia Health Foundation, and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Innovation at CMS. Dr. Kamal completed Internal Medicine residency and Hospice and Palliative Medicine fellowship at the Mayo Clinic and Hematology/Oncology fellowship at Duke University. He holds a Masters in Health Sciences – Clinical Research from the Duke Clinical Research Training Program.

Katherine Lichtenberg, DO, MPH, FAAFP

Physician Director, Enhanced Personal Health Care, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
Saint Louis, Missouri

Kate Lichtenberg is Physician Director for Enhanced Personal Health Care with Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MO, where she leads the medical home initiative to improve quality while reducing costs. Dr. Lichtenberg is board-certified in family medicine and public health/general preventive medicine, and practiced full-time until joining Anthem. She serves on the AAFP Commission for Quality and Practice reviewing quality measures and formulating policies on quality and practice issues. She has spent the last 12 years volunteering at a retirement convent where she delivers acute, chronic and end-of-life care to geriatric residents.

Alvin Moss, MD, FACP, FAAHPM

Director, Center for Health Ethics and Law, Professor of Medicine Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center of West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia
Nominated by the Renal Physicians Association

Dr. Moss is a Professor of Medicine at West Virginia University School of Medicine and board-certified in nephrology and hospice and palliative medicine. He is the Director of the West Virginia Center for End-of-Life Care. He chairs the Coalition for Supportive Care of Kidney Patients. He led the Renal Physicians Association workgroup that published the second edition in 2010 of the clinical practice guideline on shared decision-making in dialysis. He has experience in clinical performance measure development having served on the American Medical Association's Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement (PCPI) working group to develop geriatrics performance measures.

Douglas Nee, Pharm D., MS

Clinical Pharmacist, Self
San Diego, California

Dr. Nee is a clinical pharmacist with a practice focus in hospice and palliative care. He received the designation of Faculty Scholar from the Harvard Program in Palliative Care Education and Practice. Dr. Nee previously served on the NQF Steering Committee for Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care, and is previous Chair of the Section Advisory Group on Pain Management and Palliative Care for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. He has authored book chapters and published articles in hospice and palliative care, and lectures at the state and national level on pain management, palliative care, and end-of-life care.

Laura Porter, MD

Medical Advisor and Senior Patient Advocate, Colon Cancer Alliance
Washington, District of Columbia

Laura Porter is a 10 year stage 4 colon cancer survivor. She has worked with the Colon Cancer Alliance on a variety of patient support and advocacy issues. She has taken the lead on a variety of palliative care and end of life issues. Her desire is that all patients have the best quality of life throughout their journey and be as comfortable as possible at the end of life.

Cindi Pursley, RN, CHPN

Administrator, VNA Colorado Hospice and Palliative Care
Denver, Colorado

As Administrator of Colorado VNA Hospice & Palliative Care, Cindi Pursley, RN, CHPN, is part
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of the Senior Leadership Team. She is directly responsible for tracking and improving all quality measures for Hospice & Palliative Care. She works directly to oversee audit and reporting of mandatory Hospice Item Set and HCAHPS measures and proudly reports that the organization is beating State and National in HCAHPS in 9 of 11 domains! To ensure high quality performance, she is accountable for staff training and compliance functions as well. Prior to her 12 year tenure with Colorado VNA, she held many positions in hospice and palliative care including Case Manager, Clinical Manager, Director and educator. In 1998 Cindi wrote and presented the new Hospice Pain Management Protocol and Competency in preparation for the JCAHO 'Pain as the 5th VS'.

Lynn Reinke, PhD, ARNP, FAAN

Research Investigator/Nurse Practitioner, VA Puget Sound Health Care System
Seattle, Washington

Lynn Reinke's program of research focuses on improving the delivery of palliative care for patients with advanced, serious illnesses specifically COPD, lung cancer and multi-morbidities. Ms. Reinke is testing methods of identifying unmet physical and psychosocial needs among older patients with multi-morbidities and is sought out for her clinical expertise in managing patients with severe dyspnea and dyspnea crisis. In her role as a Health & Aging Policy fellow she is working on aggregating data from care plans to allocate community resources for elderly persons whose goal is to remain independent. Ms. Reinke served on "Measuring what Matters" panel for AAHPM/HPNA.

Amy Sanders, MD, MS, FAAN

Assistant Professor, Director of Cognitive and Behavioral Neurology, Departmental Quality Officer,
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, New York

Amy E. Sanders, M.D., M.S., FAAN graduated summa cum laude from Loyola University of Chicago, completed her Neurology residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, and a clinical research fellowship in geriatric neurology at the Einstein Aging Study including a Master's degree in Clinical Research Methods, with distinction. She is Assistant Professor of Neurology and Director of Cognitive and Behavioral Neurology at SUNY Upstate Medical University. She is board-certified in Adult Neurology and her primary clinical and research interests focus on neurocognitive function in older adults, including evaluation and management of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. She served on the AMA- PCPI sponsored Dementia Measurement Development Work Group (2010) and is currently Co-Chair of the working group updating the Dementia Management Measurement Set (2013), a joint effort of the American Academies of Neurology and Psychiatry. She is a member of the AAN's Quality and Safety Subcommittee, where her work has included methodological facilitation of measurement sets for Headache and Multiple Sclerosis. She is the current AAN representative to the PCPI Foundation and a past member of the Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee at CMS. An active clinical trialist, she is the Site PI for the ADCS/Toyama Noble study and will soon be taking part in the IDEAS (Imaging Dementia – Evidence for Amyloid Scanning) clinical trial. She is a faculty member in the New York State-sponsored Center for Excellence in Alzheimer's Disease at Upstate.

Tracy Schroepfer, PhD, MSW

Associate Professor of Social Work, University of Wisconsin, Madison, School of Social Work
Madison, Wisconsin
Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Dr. Schroepfer is an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Social Work and is affiliated with the University's Institute on Aging, Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Center on Patient Partnerships. She is a recipient of the Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholar Award, a national award that provided support for her research in the area of aging and end-of-life. Nationally, Dr. Schroepfer is president of the Association for Gerontology Education in Social Work (AGESW), an executive committee member of the Social Work and Hospice Palliative Care Network (SWHPN), and a prior member of the National Quality Forum (NQF) Palliative Care and End-of-Life Steering Committee. Dr. Schroepfer served as a reviewer for the Institute on Medicine's (IOM) 2014 report, "Dying in America: Improving Quality and Honoring Individual Preferences Near the End of Life. She has been an invited participant to several end-of-life and healthcare think tank meetings held in Washington DC by the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Linda Schwimmer

Attorney, Vice President, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute
Pennington, New Jersey

Linda Schwimmer is Vice President of the Quality Institute in 2013. Earlier Linda was Director of Strategic Relations and External Affairs at Horizon Healthcare Innovations. Linda served as Director of Legislation and Policy for the NJ Department of Banking and Insurance, representing them before the Legislature and worked on the Affordable Care Act. Her experience includes senior policy positions with the Senate Majority Office.

Schwimmer clerked for a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge and is a board member of the Leapfrog Group.

She received a B.A. from University of California, Berkeley and a J.D. from Georgetown University.

Christine Seel Ritchie, MD, MSPH

Professor of Medicine in Residence, Harris Fishbon Distinguished Professor for Clinical Translational Research in Aging, University of California San Francisco, Jewish Home of San Francisco Center for Research on Aging
San Francisco, California

Nominated by the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care

Christine Ritchie, MD, MSPH, is the Harris Fishbon Distinguished Professor at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF). She is a board certified geriatrician and palliative care physician with long-standing experience in clinical care delivery and advanced illness research. Dr. Ritchie's research focuses on quality of life and health care issues surrounding multimorbidity. She works locally and nationally with American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and the Center to Advance Palliative Care, and the Coalition to promote the development of quality of care measures for palliative care. She has served in an advisory role to both the Quality Data Assessment Collection Tool (QDACT) Initiative and the Palliative Care Quality Network (PCQN).

Robert Sidlow, MD, MBA, FACP

Division Head, Survivorship and Supportive Care, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
New York, New York

Dr. Robert Sidlow is Head of the Division of Survivorship and Supportive Care at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, and he is Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Weill Cornell College of Medicine. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and he is a certified Hospice Medical Director. Dr. Sidlow serves as a member of the subspecialty board for the American Board of Internal Medicine. Previously, Dr. Sidlow served as Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Vice Chairman of the Department of Medicine, and Director of Palliative Medicine at Jacobi Medical Center.

Karl Steinberg, MD, CMD, HMDC

Chief Medical Officer, Mariner Health Central; Medical Director, Life Care Center of Vista,
Carlsbad by the Sea Care Center, Hospice by the Sea
Oceanside, California
Nominated by the AMDA-The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine

Dr. Steinberg is an experienced hospice and palliative medicine specialist and long-term care geriatrician who has served as a hospice and nursing home medical director for over 20 years. He got his undergraduate degree in biochemistry and molecular biology at Harvard, then taught high school for three years in New York City before returning to medical school at The Ohio State University. He trained in family medicine at the University of California San Diego. Dr. Steinberg serves as affiliate faculty at the California State University Institute for Palliative Care and has held leadership positions in numerous professional organizations including AMDA, the National POLST Paradigm Task Force, and the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California.

Paul E. Tatum, MD, MSPH, CMD, FAAHPM, AGSF

Associate Professor of Clinical Family and Community Medicine, University of Missouri-Columbia
School of Medicine
Columbia, Missouri
Nominated by the American Geriatrics Society

Dr. Tatum is Associate Professor, Fellowship Director for the Palliative Medicine, and Associate Fellowship Director for Geriatrics at the University of Missouri-Columbia. In addition, he serves as medical director for both hospice and nursing homes. Nationally, Dr. Tatum is a member of Hospice Compassus's National Medical Directory Advisory Council. He was recently elected as Director-at-Large for the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM). As part of his Geriatric and Academic Career Award Dr. Tatum trained in quality improvement with Intermountain Health Care's Advance Training Program and leads quality improvement for Compassus' JeffCo region.

Gregg VandeKieft, MD, MA

Medical Director for Palliative Care, Providence Health & Services
Olympia, Washington

Gregg VandeKieft serves as the Providence system-wide medical director for palliative care and currently holds an appointment as Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the

University of Washington School of Medicine, where he co-directed the Palliative Care Module of the Chronic Care Clerkship from 2009-12. He co-chairs the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine's (AAHPM) Public Policy Committee, previously chaired the AAHPM Ethics Special Interest Group, and is appointed as the AAHPM's representative on the Patient Quality of Life Coalition's Steering Committee. Dr. VandeKieft also serves as the Providence representative on the Supportive Care Coalition's board of directors.

Debra Wiegand, PhD, MBE, RN, CHPN, CCRN, FAHA, FPCN, FAAN

Associate Professor, The University of Maryland School of Nursing

Baltimore, Maryland

Nominated by the American Heart Association

Debra Wiegand, PhD, RN, is an Associate Professor at the University of Maryland School of Nursing and a practicing clinician who is certified in Critical Care and Hospice and Palliative Care. She also holds a Master's degree in bioethics. Her research focuses on improving palliative and end-of-life care provided to families of patients with life-limiting illnesses and injuries. She is currently conducting an investigation measuring physical and psychological outcomes of vulnerable, grieving, and bereaved families that will inform the design of interventions to promote the health of families when life-sustaining technology and medical interventions have reached their limit.