



**ABQURP's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference – TENTATIVE AGENDA**

**September 11-12, 2025**

**Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater Beach, FL**

**Partnering for Success: Quality-Focused Collaboration in Health Care**

Utilizing collaboration and emerging technologies across health care settings to break down silos to ensure quality improvement.

**Wednesday, September 10, 2025**

**4:30-6:30pm Early Registration**

**Thursday, September 11, 2025**

**6:45-7:45am Registration and Continental Breakfast Buffet**

**7:45am Welcome and Announcements**

*Sunil K. Sinha, MD, MBA, CHCQM, FACHE, FABQURP*

Education Committee Chair – ABQURP

Medical Director for Value Based Care and Provider Network – Sentara Health Plans

**8:00am Population Health – Where Are We Today?**

*Tabassum Salam, MD, CHCQM, MBA, FACP*

Chief Learning Officer – ChristianaCare Health System

- Gain insight into the evolution of population health and discuss the key factors driving these changes.
- Discuss the impact of the shift from fee-for-service models to value-based health care on health outcomes and cost management.
- Examine effective strategies and best practices for promoting and optimizing population health initiatives and transforming health care delivery.

**9:00am Legislative and Regulatory Updates**

**10:00am Networking Break**

**10:15am Block Chain for Health Care Providers**

*Gerard Dache* - Government Blockchain Association

**11:15am Hospital at Home Initiatives**

*Linda V. DeCherrie, MD*

Vice President, Clinical Strategy and Implementation – Medically Home

- Describe the Hospital at Home model of care.
- Outline which patients can benefit from Hospital at Home.
- Identify payment and regulatory barriers to the models.

**12:15pm Networking Lunch (Buffet Lunch Provided)**

**1:15pm Clinical Use and Cost Reduction Utilizing Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

*Mark Michalski, MD* - Ascertain



**2:15pm**      **Health Care for an Aging Population**  
*Michael Hodin* - Global Coalition on Aging

**3:15pm**      **Networking Break**

**3:30pm**      **The Self-Leadership Framework: A New Model for Influence and Impact**  
*Traci Fisher*  
Chief Executive Officer – The Wellness Coach

- Analyze how leadership behavior influences team performance, psychological safety, and organizational resilience.
- Apply key neuroscience-based strategies to enhance self-leadership, improve decision-making, and drive consistent, high-impact actions.
- Identify creative strategies for maintaining focus, resilience, and influence under pressure, transforming challenges into opportunities for long-term success.

**4:30pm**      **Quality and Safety Considerations for Reconciling Analgesic Medications During Care Transitions**  
*Elizabeth Cook, PharmD, BCACP, DECES*  
Clinical Pharmacist Practitioner - Primary Care - Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center

- List steps to verify a medication regimen with a patient suffering from acute and/or chronic pain conditions.
- Describe clinical considerations in clarifying the appropriateness of an analgesic regimen.
- Identify examples of medication discrepancies that can occur when reconciling an analgesic medication regimen.

**5:30pm**      **Closing Remarks and Adjournment**

**5:30-7:30pm**      **Registration and Networking Reception (21 and over only, please)**

**Friday, September 12, 2025**

**6:45-7:45am**      **Registration and Continental Breakfast Buffet**

**7:45am**      **Welcome and Announcements**  
**CHCQM Diplomate Achievement Award Presentation**  
*Sunil K. Sinha, MD, MBA, CHCQM, FACHE, FABQAURP*  
Education Committee Chair – ABQAURP  
Vice President Population Health and Quality – Sentara Health Plans

**8:00am**      **Utilization Management, Industry Regulations, Revenue Leakage and Workflow Inefficiency**  
*Timothy Brundage, MD, CCDS*  
Medical Director, CEO - Brundage Group

- Specify the challenges in holding Medicare Advantage plans accountable for the Medicare Two-Midnight Rule.
- Summarize utilization review workflow inefficiencies that contribute to revenue leakage.
- Examine the importance of observation length of stay as a key utilization review metric.

**9:00am**      **Throughput Optimization to Improve Quality Metrics and Patient Experience**  
*Cynthia Moon, MD, CHCQM*  
Medical Director, Physician Advisory Services - Methodist Hospital

- Demonstrate how throughput and patient experience begin in the Emergency Department.
- Identify best practices for multidisciplinary rounds (MDRs).
- Describe how patient experience can improve with throughput optimization and effective MDRs.



- 10:00am      Networking Break**
- 10:15am      Enhancing Quality Through Utilization Management: Best Practices for UM Committee and Strategies for Improving Resource Utilization During Healthcare Crises**  
*Nitin Ubhayakar, MD, CHCQM*  
Medical Director of Advisory Services – Sound Advisory
- Identify best practices for UM Committee meetings to make actionable improvements in the hospital.
  - Describe how patient throughput (length of stay) is affected by unnecessary overutilization of resources.
  - Recognize how local and national emergencies can impact utilization of hospital resources and evaluate the effectiveness of strategies aimed at decreasing inappropriate utilization during these crises.
- 11:15am      Improving Quality to Drive Down Readmissions**  
*William Frederick, III, MD, PhD, CHCQM-PHYADV* - Medical Director – Care Management/Utilization Management – Physician Advisor Group, Stanford Healthcare
- 12:15pm      Networking Lunch (Buffet Lunch Provided)**
- 1:15pm      The Evolving Role of Physician Advisors in Quality and Safety Oversight**  
*Carl Fitch, MBA* - Principal & Practice Leader – WittKieffer  
Panel Discussion: *Sunil K. Sinha, MD, MBA, CHCQM, FACHE, FABQAURP; Tabassum Salam, MD, CHCQM, MBA, FACP; and Melissa Buchner-Mehling, MD, CHCQM, CPHYADV*
- Trace the origin and evolution of the Physician Advisor role within the context of today's shifting healthcare landscape.
  - Explain how healthcare providers are leveraging Physician Advisors in quality and safety initiatives and the potential impact these leaders can have across organizations.
  - Identify the prerequisites and needed skills, as well as the inherent rewards and challenges, of the Physician Advisor role for those considering it as a career option and stepping stone to senior physician executive positions.
- 2:15pm      Financial Stability Through Denials Management**  
*Wendy Ayers, MSHI, BSN, RN, ACM* - Director of Utilization Review / Revenue Cycle - Inova Health Systems
- 3:15pm      Networking Break**
- 3:30pm      Physician Advisor and Care Team Trivia**  
*Melissa Buchner-Mehling, MD, CHCQM, CPHYADV*  
Associate Chief Medical Officer of Advisory Services – Sound Advisory Services
- Natasha Chen, MD, CHCQM, CPHYADV*  
Physician Advisor - Natasha L. Chen, M.D. PLLC
- Describe Medicare beneficiary notices and when to issue.
  - Assess the appropriate level of inpatient or outpatient care and best practices for documenting and billing patient services
  - Identify physician advisor roles and responsibilities within the health care team
- 4:30pm      Closing Remarks and Adjournment**