SCAPA
South Carolina Academy of PAs

Charting Knowledge CME Conference

Sonesta Resort Hilton Head Island

October 7-11, 2026

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This activity has been reviewed by the American Academy of Physician Associates Review Panel and is compliant with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 34 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation. Approval is valid from 10/7/2026 to 10/11/2026. AAPA reference number: CME-2016536.

An additional 1.5 credits will be provided by the France Foundation.

TIME	EVENT TYPE	EVENT	CME (to be applied for)	Controlled Substance	Pharmaco-therapeutics	Location	SPEAKER	Description/Objectives
Wednesday, October 7								
8:00 am - 5:30 pm		Registration Open						
8:15 am - 1:15 pm	Optional Workshop	**BLS Workshop**	5 CME			Salon A	*Rita Brown, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Identify signs of cardiac arrest, respiratory distress, and obstructed airways promptly in adults, children, and infants. • Execute high-quality chest compressions and rescue breaths with proper rate, depth, and chest recoil for single and multiple rescuers. • Demonstrate the correct and timely use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in various clinical settings. • Apply effective airway clearance techniques, including abdominal thrusts and finger sweeps where appropriate, for conscious and unconscious choking victims. • Practice coordinated, multi-rescuer team dynamics, clear communication, and defined role assignments to minimize interruptions in patient care.*
1:00 - 7:00 pm		**Exhibits Open**				Prefunction		*35 tables - absolute max*
1:30 - 1:35 pm		**Welcome & Opening Remarks**				Salon EFGH	*Jennifer Coker*	
1:35 pm - 2:30 pm	Session 1	Pediatric ENT	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Byron Mathis, DMSc, PA-C*	*• Identify common ENT complaints in the pediatric population • Recognize urgent and emergent ENT disorders • Learn how to treat common ENT issues that you may encounter in clinical practice*
2:30 pm - 3:25 pm	Session 2	Primary Care in a Changing Healthcare Landscape	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Byron Mathis, DMSc, PA-C*	*1. Review the most up-to-date guidelines for cancer and other screening (breast cancer, colon cancer, cervical cancer, diabetes, lipid, hypertension, and cardiovascular, osteoporosis, etc.). 2. Discuss non-medical obstacles in primary care (rural health, increased specialization, healthcare cost, changes in legislation).*
3:25 pm - 4:00 pm		**Refreshment Break w/ Exhibitors**						
4:00 pm - 4:55 pm	Session 3	Controlled Substance	1 CME	Yes		Salon EFGH	*Talisha Payne Ratliff*	*• Accurately analyze patient controlled substance histories • Evaluate patient clinical markers, multi-provider tracking metrics, and prescription timelines to identify potential misue or diversion • Design evidence-based risk mitigation strategies to reduce misuse and overdose*

4:55 pm - 5:50 pm	Session 4	BPH and Painless Hematuria	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Chad Robinson, PA-C*	*• Formulate risk-stratified management plan for BPH and hematuria* *• Differentiate between medical and procedural therapies for BPH* *• Apply current AUA guidelines to differentiate between benign BPH- related bleeding and high-risk painless hematuria.*
5:50 pm - 6:45 pm	Session 5	Dyslipidemia	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Eric Shoup, MS, PA-C, CLS*	*• Discuss the impact of lifestyle modification on the treatment of dyslipidemia* *• Discuss the impact of currently accepted standards of pharmacologic therapy on the treatment of dyslipidemia.* *• Discuss new treatment modalities for dyslipidemia refractory to lifestyle*
6:45 pm - 7:45 pm		**Welcome Reception w/ Exhibitors - Sponsorship Available**				Prefunction		
Thursday		**10/8/26**						
7:15 am - 8:15 am		**Continental Breakfast**				Salon D		
7:30 am - 4:00 pm		**Registration & Exhibits**				Prefunction		
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Session 6a	Rethinking Cultural Perspectives of the Body and Health Through Art - Provided by the France Foundation	0.5 CME			Salon EFGH	*Siobhan Conaty, PhD*	*CME for this session is provided by The France Foundation* *• Apply close-looking techniques from art history to enhance observation and nonverbal communication with patients* *• Integrate cultural and social context analysis to understand factors influencing our perceptions of obesity and related comorbidities*
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Session 6	Practical Strategies for Navigating Obesity Management in Primary Care - Provided by The France Foundation	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Catherine Varney, DO, FAAFP, FOMA*	*CME for this session is provided by The France Foundation* *• Prioritize the management of obesity in treatment plans for patients with obesity or overweight and comorbid complications* *• Utilize evidence-based strategies to establish treatment plans with patients with obesity or overweight* *• Modify treatment plan for patients with obesity or overweight based on composite medical outcomes, including comorbidities and cardiometabolic risk measures*
10:00 am - 10:55 am	Session 7	Recent Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of MASLD/MASH	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Lawrence Herman, DMSc, MPA, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Describe the prevalence, epidemiology and clinical significance of MASLD/MASH;* *• Apply best primary care practices in diagnosis and testing, including readily available tools and consensus treatment algorithms; and,* *• Understand treatment strategy goals, from lifestyle management to emerging therapies.*
10:55 am - 11:25 am		**Refreshment Break w/ Exhibitors**						
11:25 am - 12:20 pm	Session 8	Beyond the Diagnosis: Recovery Through the Lens of Lived Experiences	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Lindsey McKinney, CPSS; Erin Sullivan, CPSS; and Ashley Siwecki, CPSS; with moderator Anjinetta Yates-Johnson, PA-C, MPAS,*	*•Recognize the challenges and barriers faced by individuals recovering from substance use disorder.* *•Identify evidence-based approaches to support patients with a history of substance use disorder in the healthcare setting* *•Apply strategies to reduce stigma and promote compassionate, patient-centered care for individuals in recovery*
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm		**Product Theater Lunch - One Patient's Journey with Auvelity: A Rapid-Acting Antidepressant that Modulates Glutamate, Sigma-1, and Monoaminergic Pathways**				**Salon D**	**Benjamin Epstein, DMSc, PA-C**	***100 total seats available***
1:35 pm - 2:30 pm	Session 9	Advocacy Skills for Every PA	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Rita Brown, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Describe the importance of professional advocacy in advancing the PA profession.* *• Differentiate between advocacy efforts at the federal, state, and local levels* *• Identify practical, time-efficient advocacy strategies for any career stage.* *• List resources to support advocacy at all levels.*

2:30 pm - 3:25 pm	Session 10	The Honeymoon is Over: The Return of International Pathogens to Your Waiting Room	1 CME				*Lawrence Herman, DMSc, MPA, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Understand key pertinent positive and negative historical questions and physical examination data points to assist in ruling in or ruling out specific emerging infectious diseases on the rise in the United States;* *• Be able to synthesize an appropriate differential diagnosis and – when appropriate – order additional confirmatory testing modalities;* *• Evaluate and recommend appropriate treatment strategies individualized for patient risk factors; and,* *• Apply principles for emergent and urgent patient referrals to an infectious disease specialist when necessary.*
3:30 - 5:30 pm	Optional Workshop	**Demystifying EKGs: A Practical Clinical Refresher**	2 CME			Salon A	*Rita Brown, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Apply a stepwise approach to EKG interpretation.* *• Identify common atrial and ventricular rhythms encountered in primary care settings.* *• Interpret 12-lead changes suggestive of ischemia, infarction, and conduction abnormalities* *• Apply EKG findings to realistic primary care scenarios*
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Optional Workshop	**Ultrasound Demonstration**				Salon BC	*Sonosite Reps*	
Friday		**10/9/26**						
7:15 am - 8:15 am		**Continental Breakfast**				Salon D		
7:30 am - 4:00 pm		**Registration & Exhibits**				Prefunction		
8:30 am - 9:25 am	Session 11	Deceptively Dangerous Patients: Simple Emergency Department Cases That Simply Are Not	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Lawrence Herman, DMSc, MPA, PA-C, DFAAPA*	*• Examine strategies to prevent cognitive biases during diagnosis;* *• Recognize warning signs to aide in not missing otherwise catastrophic illnesses in apparently simple patient presentations;* *• Identify how to ask the right questions to obtain the information needed to not miss important clues from patients; and,* *• Recognize clinical pearls based upon real patient presentations which will prevent the practitioner from making the same mistakes.*
9:25 am - 10:20 am	Session 12	Beyond the Basics: Advanced Cardiometabolic Testing and Personalized Medicine for True Risk Assessment in Preventive Care	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Carey McNamara, PA-C*	*• Describe the limitations of standard cardiovascular and metabolic risk assessment — why a "normal" basic blood panel or treadmill stress test does not necessarily mean low risk.* *• Explain the role and interpretation of advanced testing modalities (e.g., advanced lipids, inflammatory markers, genetics, CIMT, CPET) and how they provide actionable clinical insights.* *• Integrate advanced diagnostic strategies into real-world practice workflows, with case*
10:20 am - 10:50 am		**Refreshment Break w/ Exhibitors**						
10:50 am - 11:45 am	Session 13	Pituitary Surgery	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Annette Rauch, DMSc(c), PA-C*	*• Describe the clinical presentation, signs/ symptoms and appropriate diagnostic workup for pituitary masses.* *• Describe the difference between a secreting and non- secreting pituitary masses and the surgical indications for each type.* *• Answer why a benign pituitary mass would have surgical indications for resection, and which indications require urgent or emergent surgical intervention.* *• Define pituitary apoplexy.* *• List the common types of pituitary malignancies.*
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		**Product Theater Lunch - When Patients With Hypothyroidism Speak, Are We Listening? A Personalized Approach to Care with NP Thyroid - Sponsored by Acella Pharmaceuticals**				Salon D	Olivia Crimmins, PA-C, & Jaime Ginney, PA-C	***100 total seats available***

1:05 pm - 2:00 pm	Session 14	The Importance of Dental Hygiene	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Charles Crane, DMD*	*1) How dental health affects overall health (inflammation, joint replacements, heart valves, endocarditis osteoporosis meds)* *2) Adverse health consequences of inadequate dental health (Alzheimer's link, preterm birth link and others)* *3) How to work with your dental colleagues for better patient outcomes.*
2:00 pm - 2:55 pm	Session 15	My Joints Hurt! OA vs. RA vs. Gout	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*DeAnna Baker-Frost, MD, PhD*	• *Discuss differences in presentation of OA, RA and Gout* • *Discuss differences in diagnosis for OA, RA and Gout* • *Discuss treatment options for OA, RA and Gout*
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm		SCAPA Board of Directors Meeting						
3:30 - 6:30 pm	Optional Workshop	**Basic Suture Workshop**	3 CME			Salon A	*Robin Mozenter Tippett*	• *Demonstrate proper needle loading techniques and suture selection* • *Perform basic suturing techniques such as simple interrupted sutures, mattress, running skin sutures, deep burried suture and running subcuticular closure.*
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm		Cookout				Beach Pavilion		*Members attend free; nonmember, guest, and discounted children's tickets available for purchase.*
Saturday		**10/10/26**						
8:00 am - 9:00 am		**Continental Breakfast**				Salon D		
8:00 am - 4:00 pm		**Registration**				Prefunction		
8:00 am - 1:00 pm		**Exhibits**				Prefunction		
9:00 - 9:55 am	Session 16	Artificial Intelligence in Medicine: Embracing the Change	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Laura McElhaney, DHSc, MHE, PA-C*	• *Discuss the impact on artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in health care* • *Recognize potential strengths and limitations of AI in health care settings such as patient care, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics and healthcare education* • *Apply validity judgement and bioethical decision making principals to AI platforms and systems*
9:00 am - 12:00 pm		**Student Suture Workshop**				Salon A	*Robin Mozenter Tippett*	*For PA students only - limit 16 participants*
9:55 - 10:50 am	Session 17	Case-Based Pain Management	1 CME	Yes		Salon EFGH	*Dennis Rivenburgh, MS, ATC, PA-C, DFAAPA*	• *Employ comprehensive H&P and testing to solve pain presentations.* • *Explore integrative and non-pharmacological options for pain management.* • *Discuss potential benefits and risks of medical and recreational marijuana use.* • *Proactively manage initiating, monitoring and tapering of opioids.*
10:50 am - 11:20 am		**Refreshment Break w/ Exhibitors**						
11:25 am - 12:20 pm	Session 18	Beyond Fiber and Laxatives: Recognizing and Managing Dyssynergic Defecation	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Amanda Stanton, DMSc, PA-C*	• *Define dyssynergic defecation and explain its pathophysiology, including the mechanisms of paradoxical pelvic floor contraction and inadequate propulsive forces during defecation* • *Describe the diagnostic approach to dyssynergic defecation, including clinical features, digital rectal examination findings, and the role of objective testing with anorectal manometry, balloon expulsion test, and defecography.* • *Evaluate the evidence supporting anorectal biofeedback therapy as first-line treatment for dyssynergic defecation and identify appropriate candidates for this intervention* • *Recognize the limitations of symptom-based diagnosis and understand why objective testing is necessary to differentiate dyssynergic defecation from other causes of chronic constipation.* • *Implement a stepwise management approach for dyssynergic defecation, incorporating conservative measures, biofeedback therapy, and alternative treatments for refractory cases.*
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm		**Lunch on your own**						
1:35 pm - 2:05 pm		SCAPA Member Meeting				Salon EFGH		
1:45 pm - 3:30 pm		**Exhibitor Breakdown**				Prefunction		
2:00 pm - 2:55 pm	Student Track Session 1	Retrieval Learning Strategies				Savannah Ballroom	*Laura McElhaney , DHSc, MHE, PA-C*	

2:05 pm - 3:00 pm	Session 19	Spine Trauma	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Joseph Cheatle, MD*	• *PA will recognize clinical signs of Spine Trauma* • *PA will understand the mBIG scoring system* • *PA will be proficient in triage and initial management of Spine Trauma patients*
3:00 pm - 3:55 pm	Student Track Session 2	Contract Negotiations				Savannah Ballroom	*Rita Brown, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA*	
3:00 pm - 3:55 pm	Session 20	Common Genetic Disorders in SC	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Wesley G. Patterson, PhD, MSPA, PA-C, CAQ-Peds*	• *Examine the genetic etiology of common genetic disorders seen in primary care* • *Discuss frequency, common findings, and management of common genetic disorders* • *Understand the distinctive features associated with these disorders*
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Challenge Bowl	**Student Challenge Bowl**				Salon D		*Student teams from PA schools in South Carolina compete for the opportunity to showcase*
Sunday		**10/11/26**						
7:00 am - 10:30 am		**Registration**				Prefunction		
6:45 am - 7:20 am		**Continental Breakfast**				Salon D		***SPONSOR***
7:25 am - 8:20 am	Session 21	Psychiatry for the Non-Psych Provider	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Julie A Romeis, DMSc, PA-C, MPAM, CAQ-Psych*	• *Learn the function of the five neurotransmitters* • *Recognize, identify, and diagnose psychiatric disorders that can be managed in a primary care setting* • *Differentiate which neurotransmitter imbalanced through a detailed history*
8:20 am - 9:15 am	Session 22	The Overlooked Patient: A Practical Approach to Hormone Therapy in Perimenopause and Menopause	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Madison Coste, DMS, PA-C*	• *Differentiate perimenopause and menopause based on endocrine physiology and clinical presentation.* • *Apply current evidence-based guidelines to initiate and manage hormone replacement therapy, including appropriate risk stratification and contraindications.* • *Evaluate complex or refractory menopausal presentations and determine when laboratory assessment, off-label therapy considerations, or referral to a hormone specialist may be appropriate.*
9:20 am - 10:15 am	Session 23	Pain Management & Opioids: A Patient-Centered Approach. This activity is created and managed by AAPA in partnership with the Collaboration for REMS Education (CO*RE) supported by an independent educational grant from the Opioid Analgesic REMS Program Companies.	1 CME	Yes		Salon EFGH	*Dennis Rivenburgh, MS, ATC, PA-C, DFAAPA*	• *Recognize the origin(s) and types of pain as they relate to pain management and opioid use disorder (OUD).* • *Fully assess persons experiencing pain, including risk for OUD.* • *Develop safe and effective pain management plans using nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic (non-opioid or opioid) options.* • *Partner with patients to reduce risks when taking opioid therapy.*
10:15 am - 10:35 am		**Refreshment Break**				Prefunction		
10:35 am - 11:30 am	Session 24	The Fundamentals of Wound Care	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Blakely Sproles*	• *Describe the phases of normal wound healing and identify key factors that can impair or delay the healing process.* • *Perform a systematic wound assessment using an evidence-based framework (e.g., the TIME principle) to accurately document wound characteristics and guide treatment planning.* • *Select appropriate wound management interventions including dressing types, debridement methods, and infection control strategies based on wound etiology, tissue type, and exudate level.*
11:30 am - 12:25 pm	Session 25	Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: Updates and Standard of Care	1 CME			Salon EFGH	*Kirby Lee*	• *Review the diagnostic and treatment criteria for the inpatient management of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus, including DKA and HHS* • *Identify and apply updated 2026 diagnostic and treatment recommendations for type 2 diabetes mellitus, including DKA and HHS.* • *Explain the role of insulin therapy, fluids, and potassium supplements in patients diagnosed with DKA and HHS, incorporating current guideline-directed therapy into clinical-decision making.*
12:25 - 12:30 pm		**Closing Remarks/Door Prizes**				Salon EFGH	*Jennifer Coker*	