Thursday, March 28

6:00pm – 8:00pm Registration Opens
6:00pm – 7:00pm Welcome Reception

Friday, March 29

6:30am to 8:00am Breakfast Satellite Symposium
6:45am to 7:45am Government Affairs Open Committee Meeting
Quality, Safety and Accountability Open Committee Meeting
7:00am to 8:00am Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
8:00am to 10:00am General Session I
8:00am to 8:05am Welcome
8:05am to 8:25am RPA Year in Review
Michael Shapiro, MD, MBA, FACP, CPE
8:25am to 8:55am RPA Advocacy Agenda
Robert Blaser
8:55am to 9:00am Q&A
9:00am - 9:45am Redefining Nephrology’s Scope of Practice
Healthcare is actively changing at a remarkable pace including health system consolidation, wearable technology, personal data gathering and major disruptive approaches to healthcare delivery. Nephrology practitioners will inevitably be swept up in many of these forces by their role in chronic kidney disease management. Find out how to position your practice to adapt to the changing tide.
Keith Bellovich, DO
9:45am - 9:50am Q & A
9:50am to 10:00am Presentation of Award-Distinguished Nephrologist
10:00am to 10:30am Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall
10:30am to 12:30pm General Session II
10:30am to 10:35 am Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
10:35am to 11:05am Utilizing Data to Improve Practice Performance
The results of the RPA Benchmarking Survey will be explained and learn how they can be used in a physician practice.
Jennifer Huneycutt, CMPE
11:05am to 11:10am Q & A
Renal Physicians Association
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Friday, March 29 continued

11:10am to 11:40am  The Value of a Qualified Clinical Data Registry
Learn how to use the registry beyond reporting.
Adam Weinstein, MD

11:40am to 11:50am  Q & A

11:50am to 12:20pm  Using Registry Data for Transparency and Value Based Contracting
Find out what payors/health plans want from the data collected in the QCDR.
Rajesh Davda, MD

12:20pm to 12:30pm  Q & A

12:30pm - 2:30pm  Lunch on Your Own - Exhibit Hall Open
12:30pm - 2:30pm  Lunch Satellite Symposium
12:30pm – 2:30pm  Practice Administrator Lunch

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Understanding the Finances of Dialysis Facilities
No money, no mission. The dialysis bundle payment structure leaves little room
for waste. Understand all the fixed costs and how to control variable expenses
for a cost-effective dialysis facility.
Julie Williams

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Business Primer for Nephrologists
In an era of volatile payment plans, nephrologists must have a powerful grasp of
methods to maximize practice sustainability and use staff in creative ways to
maintain income.
George Hart, MD

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Creating and Maximizing Your Practice Brand
Healthcare is ultra-competitive today. Practices need a strong, consistent brand
to sustain them and set them apart from the competition. Understand what a
brand is, how to live it day in and day out to connect with patients and to attract
new ones. Learn how to create a brand identity, marketing tips and practical tips
to maximize and sustain your brand.
Travis Heimbuch, MBA
Friday, March 29 continued

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Women in Leadership Master Class: Moving the Needle Toward a Changed Culture
Looking back on what you wish you had known... What lessons will be helpful to impart to a future generation of emerging leaders... Let’s talk about it! Connect with other women in leadership, to empower and embrace each other as we embark on moving the needle forward to change culture. This lively discussion will deal with gender neglect, unconscious bias, recognizing your value and promoting yourself, how to navigate your practice environment to develop your career and more importantly developing relationships through mentoring.

Moderator: Rebecca Schmidt, DO
Panelists: Jennifer Joe, MD, Katherine Kwon, MD, Lisa Simonton, Kareen Simpson, MD

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Business Management Track
Effective Utilization of Advanced Practitioners across Nephrology Practice Settings
The AP role in nephrology is growing across the country at a fast pace. Incorporation of APs into the nephrology model has become essential in practice success with the shortage of nephrologists around the country. Successful integration of APs into nephrology practices can be financially productive. This timely discussion will include models for efficient dialysis rounding structures, development/use of APs in CKD clinics and overall AP program structure.
Leah Smith, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, CNN-NP, FNKF

3:30pm to 4:00pm  Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Understanding the Finances of Dialysis Facilities (repeated)
4:00pm to 5:00pm  Business Primer for Nephrologists (repeated)
4:00pm to 5:00pm  Creating and Maximizing Your Practice Brand (repeated)
4:00pm to 5:00pm  Business Management Track
Effective Utilization of Advanced Practitioners across Nephrology Practice Settings (repeated)

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Concurrent Business Management Track
The Coins in the Couch – Missed Revenue Opportunities in Nephrology
This session will focus on the low-lying fruit that nephrologists miss out on in everyday practice….the services they routinely perform but don’t capture or bill for.
Sandy Dixon, CPC

5:00pm  Meeting Adjourns
Saturday, March 30

6:30am to 8:00am  Breakfast Satellite Symposium

6:45am to 7:45am  Health Care Payment Open Committee Meeting
Clinical Practice Committee Open Committee Meeting

8:00am to 10:00am  General Session III

8:00am to 8:05am  Opening Remarks

8:05am to 8:10am  Presentation of Award: Exemplary Practice

8:10am to 8:40am  Avoiding Physician Burnout
*Understand the drivers of physician burnout and how to increase career satisfaction.*
Robert Seligson, MBA, MA

8:40am to 8:50am  Q & A

8:50am to 9:15am  Diversity in Practice Composition
*Diversity is more than just a buzz word and beyond race and gender. It includes skill set, abilities and culture. Understand the relevance of diversity in physician practices, how to achieve it and why it's important.*
Moderator: Dale Singer, MHA
Panelists: David Fisher, Ashish Soni, MD and Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH, MACP

9:15am to 9:20am  Q & A

9:20am to 9:50am  Ensuring Your Practice's Future
*Hear from early career physicians on what they look for in a nephrology practice.*
Moderator: David Arrieta, MBA
Panelists: Hunter Huston, MD, Samaya Anumudu, MD

9:50am to 10:00am  Q & A

10:00am to 10:30am  Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

10:30am to 12:30pm  General Session IV

10:30am to 10:35am  Opening Remarks

10:35am to 11:05am  Louis Diamond Lecture: Future of Medicine
*Dr. Madara will share AMA’s long term strategic plan consisting of three strategic arcs, each critical to the future of health care: i) education and lifelong learning for the physicians of the 21st century, ii) dealing more effectively with the disease burden of chronic disease, and iii) diminishing the dysfunction in our current health care “system.”*
James Madara, MD
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Saturday, March 30 continued

11:05am to 11:15am  Q & A

11:15am to 11:50am  The Patient Experience of Care
Understand the patient perspective on their medical care and how nephrology practitioners can make their treatment more patient focused.
Moderator: Michael Germain, MD
Panelists: Vanessa Grubbs, MD, Mary Ennis (patient), Robert Phillips (patient)

11:50am to 11:55am  Q & A

11:55am to 12:25pm  Social Determinants of Healthcare Outcomes
Disparities in access to care as well as diagnosis and treatment of kidney disease are determined by socioeconomic, cultural and political factors. In order to improve individual outcomes as well as the health of a population, we need to address these social determinants.
Deidra Crews, MD, ScM

12:25pm to 12:30pm  Q & A

12:30pm to 2:30pm  Lunch on Your Own – Exhibit Hall Open
12:30pm - 2:30pm  Lunch Satellite Symposium
12:30pm – 2:30pm  SIP Appreciation Lunch (invitation only)

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Easing Delivery of the “Bad News” of Imminent Dialysis
Telling patients that they need to choose a dialysis modality is a difficult conversation that you may consider one of the worst parts of your job. In this session, you will learn about the development and testing of a new, free, 15-minute tool to help match dialysis options to patients’ values and lifestyle, which gives them hope for a good quality of life—and makes a challenging task easier.
Dori Schatell, MS

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Managing a Crisis
Develop a strategy to manage a crisis from natural and man-made disasters.
Chris Brown, Robert Kenney, MD and Donald Molony, MD

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Pain Management
In the era of the opioid crisis how are physicians changing how they address pain management including patients on dialysis.
Holly Koncicki, MD
Saturday, March 30 continued

2:30pm to 3:30pm  Business Management Track
     How to Develop Your Practice Succession Plan
     A Practice’s ability to transition existing leadership and physician talent into retirement, and to groom its next generation of physicians to assume leadership and continued partnership roles, can set a Practice on a trajectory of either growth or decline. This panel will help attendees understand the core components of a comprehensive physician succession, wind down and retirement plan, and the benefits of creating such a plan.
     Jason Greis, Mark Mazak and Ronald Bloom, MD

2:30pm to 3:30pm Concurrent Business Management Track
     An In-Depth Look at Immigration Options for Hiring and Retaining Foreign Medical Graduates
     Today, almost 30% of all currently practicing physicians in the United States were born and educated outside the United States and nearly two-thirds of nephrology fellows in the United States are foreign medical graduates. We will take a closer look at the types of issues typically seen when recruiting foreign medical graduates as well as the requirements to retain foreign medical graduates on both a non-immigrant visa (temporary) and immigrant visa (permanent) basis.
     Lindsay Ramsey

3:30pm to 4:00pm  Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall

CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Easing Delivery of the “Bad News” of Imminent Dialysis (repeated)

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Managing a Crisis (repeated)

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Pain Management (repeated)

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Business Management Track
     How to Develop Your Practice Succession Plan (repeated)

4:00pm to 5:00pm  Concurrent Business Management Track
     An In-Depth Look at Immigration Options for Hiring and Retaining Foreign Medical Graduates (repeated)

5:00pm  Meeting Adjourns
Sunday, March 31

8:00am to 11:00am General Session V (MOC Credit available)
8:00am to 8:05am Opening Remarks

Sunday, March 31 continued

8:05am to 8:40am Treatment and Practice Plan for Hypertension
Understand the changing guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of HTN and the rationale.
George Bakris, MD

8:40am to 8:45am Q & A

8:45am to 9:20am Interventional Techniques for Hypertension
This session will focus on the evolving understanding of individualized treatment based on the studies of hemodynamics profiles of HRN patients and how physicians can use new technologies for treatment.
Michael Germain, MD

9:20am to 9:25am Q & A

9:25am to 10:00am Volume Management in Hypertension
Understand the hemodynamic changes that occur during dialysis and how there are hemodynamic differences in individual patients during dialysis and how physicians can individualize treatment.
John Daugirdas, MD

10:00am to 10:05am Q & A

10:05am to 10:50am Nephrology Literature Review
Join this rapid-fire presentation to learn the latest news about clinical advances in nephrology. Be sure to stay for this final session so you can head home with essential clinical knowledge you can implement in your practice.
Rachell Fissell, MD

10:50am to 10:55am Q & A

10:55am to 11:00am Closing Remarks

CONCURRENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TRACK

8:00am to 8:05am Opening Remarks
8:05am to 8:10am Introduction of speaker
Sunday, March 31 continued

8:10am to 8:55am  The Nuts and Bolts of a Compliance Plan
Get a "nuts and bolts/101" refresher on physician office compliance plans. One size does not fit all. Learn how to review, organize, define and construct a working compliance plan for your renal office.
Sarah Reed

8:55am to 9:00am  Q&A

9:00am to 9:05am  Introduction of next speaker

9:05am to 9:50am  Beyond the Benchmarks – Leading Through Metrics That Matter
What does it mean for an employee to win at work? A physician? An advanced practitioner? The medical assistant, the patient service coordinator, the business office specialist? What does it mean for you to win at work? Defining, measuring and providing time-appropriate feedback can improve employee engagement and retention as well as boost practice performance where everyone wins.
Jennifer Huneycutt, CMPE

9:50am to 9:55am  Q&A

9:55am to 10:00am  Introduction of next speaker

10:00am to 10:45am  Collaboration Between Physicians and Practice Administrators
The relationship between a practice administrator and the physician leadership can make or break a practice. While the exact same model may not work for each practice, there are common successful strategies that any group can apply. Join us for discussion and Q&A on this vital piece of the modern nephrology practice.
David Arrieta, MBA, Charlotte Dixon and Carrie El-Halawani

10:45am to 10:50am  Q&A

10:50am to 11:00am  Closing remarks

11:00am  Meeting Adjourns