

**Renal Physicians Association  
2019 Annual Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, March 28**

6:00pm – 8:00pm      Registration Opens  
[7<sup>th</sup> Floor Registration Desk](#)

6:00pm – 7:00pm      Welcome Reception  
[Exhibit Hall – Salon I & II](#)

**Friday, March 29**

6:30am to 8:00am      Breakfast Satellite Symposium  
[Avenue Ballroom](#)

6:45am to 7:45am      Government Affairs Open Committee Meeting  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)  
Quality, Safety and Accountability Open Committee Meeting  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)

7:00am to 8:00am      Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall  
[Grand Ballroom Salon I & II](#)

8:00am to 10:00am      **General Session I**  
[Grand Ballroom Salon III](#)

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 Legislative and Regulatory Update  
**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 Distinguished Nephrologist Award

10:00am to 10:30am      Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall  
[Grand Ballroom Salon I & II](#)

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**Friday, March 29 continued**

- 10:30am to 12:30pm    **General Session II**  
[Grand Ballroom Salon III](#)
- 10:30am to 10:35 am    Recognition of Outgoing Board Members
- 10:35am to 11:05am    **Avoiding Physician Burnout**  
*Understand the drivers of physician burnout and how to increase career satisfaction.*  
**Robert Seligson, MBA, MA**
- 11:05am to 11:10am    Q & A
- 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  
[Avenue Ballroom](#)
- 12:30pm – 2:30pm      Practice Administrator Lunch  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)
- CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS**
- 2:30pm to 3:30pm      **Understanding the Finances of Dialysis Facilities**  
*No money, no mission. The dialysis bundled payment structure leaves little room for waste. Understand all the fixed costs and how to control variable expenses to run a cost-effective dialysis facility.*  
**Julie Williams**  
[Northwestern/Ohio](#)
- 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**  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)

**Renal Physicians Association  
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**Friday, March 29 continued**

- 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**  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)
- 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, Karen Simpson, MD**  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)
- 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**  
[Purdue/Wisconsin](#)
- 3:30pm to 4:00pm      Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall  
[Grand Ballroom Salon I & II](#)

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**Friday, March 29 continued**

**CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS**

- 4:00pm to 5:00pm     **Understanding the Finances of Dialysis Facilities** (repeat)  
[Northwestern/Ohio](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm     **Business Primer for Nephrologists** (repeat)  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm     **Creating and Maximizing Your Practice Brand** (repeat)  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm     [Business Management Track](#)  
**Effective Utilization of Advanced Practitioners across Nephrology Practice Settings** (repeat)  
[Purdue/Wisconsin](#)
- 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**  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)
- 5:00pm                 **Meeting Adjourns**
- 5:30pm to 6:30pm     RPA PAC Reception (*invitation only*)  
[Avenue Ballroom](#)
- 6:30pm to 9:00pm     AAKP Medal of Excellence Dinner (*ticket required*)  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)

**Saturday, March 30**

- 6:30am to 8:00am     Breakfast Satellite Symposium  
[Avenue Ballroom](#)
- 6:45am to 7:45am     Health Care Payment Open Committee Meeting  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)  
Clinical Practice Committee Open Committee Meeting  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)
- 8:00am to 10:00am    **General Session III**  
[Grand Ballroom Salon III](#)
- 8:00am to 8:05am     Opening Remarks
- 8:05am to 8:10am     Presentation of Exemplary Practice Award

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**Saturday, March 30 continued**

- 8:10am to 8:40am      **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**
- 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, CMPE, SHRM-SCP**  
**Panelists: Hunter Huston, MD, Samaya Anumudu, MD**
- 9:50am to 10:00am      Q & A
- 10:00am to 10:30am      Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall  
[Grand Ballroom Salon I & II](#)
- 10:30am to 12:30pm      **General Session IV**  
[Grand Ballroom Salon III](#)
- 10:30am to 10:35am      Opening Remarks
- 10:35am to 11:05am      **Louis Diamond Lecture: Future of Medicine**  
*Dr. Madara will share AMA's three strategic arcs, each critical to the future of health care: i) education and life-long 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**
- 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, Robert Phillips**
- 11:50am to 11:55am      Q & A

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**Saturday, March 30 continued**

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  
[Avenue Ballroom](#)

12:30pm – 2:30pm    SIP Appreciation Lunch (*invitation only*)  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)

**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**  
[Northwestern/Ohio](#)

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**  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)

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**  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)

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**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**  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)
- 2:30pm to 3:30pm      **Concurrent Business Management Track**  
**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**  
[Purdue/Wisconsin](#)
- 3:30pm to 4:00pm      Refreshment Break in Exhibit Hall  
[Grand Ballroom Salon I & II](#)
- CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS**
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm      **Easing Delivery of the "Bad News" of Imminent Dialysis (repeat)**  
[Northwestern/Ohio](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm      **Managing a Crisis (repeat)**  
[Great America 1 & 2](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm      **Pain Management (repeat)**  
[Indiana/Iowa](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm      **Business Management Track**  
**How to Develop Your Practice Succession Plan (repeat)**  
[Marriott Ballroom](#)
- 4:00pm to 5:00pm      **Concurrent Business Management Track**  
**Immigration Options for Hiring and Retaining Foreign Medical Graduates (repeat)**  
[Purdue/Wisconsin](#)
- 5:00pm                      **Meeting Adjourns**

**Renal Physicians Association  
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**Saturday, March 30 continued**

5:30pm – 6:30pm      President’s Reception  
Avenue Ballroom

**Sunday, March 31**

8:00am to 11:00am      **General Session V (MOC Credit available)**  
Grand Ballroom Salon III

8:00am to 8:05am      Opening Remarks

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 HTN 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 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**

Grand Ballroom Salon I

8:00am to 8:05am      Opening Remarks



**Renal Physicians Association  
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**Sunday, March 31 continued**

- 8:05am to 8:10am Introduction of speaker
- 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 nephrology practice.*  
**Sarah Reed, BSE, CPC, CPC-I, AAPC Fellow**
- 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 a 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**