

CHECK OUT WHAT'S NEW IN YOUR ASSOCIATION!

TOPICS / APRIL 2023



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Thank you for being a member of MAGIC!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Last month, AMDA held its annual meeting in Tampa, Florida. Many MAGIC members attended and were able to attend diverse sessions on topics that are central to the care of our older adult and facility-based populations. Thank you to the MAGIC members who provided clinical pearls for this edition of TOPICS! We appreciate you bringing back clinical updates and knowledge to those who were not able to attend. This will help us continue to improve our care.

This issue's featured Pearls from AMDA includes summaries from important sessions on behavioral symptoms (or expressions) in dementia, and how they can be best managed in facility care settings. Brandon Verdoorn, a Mayo geriatrician and one of the presenters of the session, summarizes it for us, including the role of medications and an up-to-date review of what studies show (and don't show) regarding effectiveness of medications for managing BPSD. John Mielke brings a special focus on non-pharmaceutical approaches from the session, that highlight an approach using curiosity about the resident's needs and life experiences; collaboration among disciplines as well as family to promote understanding what works and why; and developing a customized, proactive approach designed around promoting each person's well-being. Mary Carlson reviews another talk on dementia and medications – this time success in one facility's Antipsychotic Stewardship program, reducing antipsychotic use through focusing on a correct neurological diagnosis for each person's dementia.

A session on geriatric dysphagia summarized by Terri McCarthy reminds us of the lack of benefit of feeding tubes in end stage dementia, but also details how texture-modified diets and thickened liquids have not been shown to be beneficial in the few studies we have; the session highlights how goals of care need to be considered when thinking about the potential benefits or risks of these modifications. Finally, from the "Year in Review" session, Eric Tangalos gives us the highlights from a 2022 published study that showed a reduction in falls in two care homes after a lighting upgrade, compared to controls that did not have an upgrade.

Please enjoy the Pearls our colleagues brought back from AMDA, and also take a look at our other items: notice of MDH's Antibiotic Stewardship conference taking place April 25-26; an invitation to collaborate from Hennepin County's LTC Infection Prevention Program; and a request for input from the

Minnesota Board on Aging on its next State Plan on Aging and funding plans.

Cathy Luring, APRN, CNP

President



2023 MINNESOTA ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE:

Tuesday, April 25, 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. CDT

Wednesday, April 26, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. CDT

For anyone engaged in antibiotic stewardship across the continuum of care!

- FREE virtual conference with keynote and concurrent sessions
- Two half-day livestreams
- CE credits available

Recommit to Stewardship

The 2023 conference theme centers on a recommitment to stewardship. This theme was selected given the many challenges and competing priorities health care facilities experienced over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic which drew focus and resources away from established programs and initiatives, including antibiotic stewardship programs. While the impact of the pandemic remains great, there is work being done across the health care community to rebuild and strengthen stewardship work and combat antibiotic resistance.

For further information, [click here](#).

[Register Here](#)

HENNEPIN LTC INFECTION PREVENTION PROGRAM:

Calling all medical directors of LTC facilities in Hennepin County, and PALTC/ALF clinicians in Hennepin and surrounding counties!

The Hennepin County Public Health Long-Term Care Infection Prevention (LTC IP) Program was established during the 2020 COVID response to build local health department capacity to support long-term care facilities' (LTCF) infection prevention and control (IPC) programs. We employ three primary capacity building approaches in our work: convening a coalition, conducting IPC program assessments, and cultivating an ethos of continuous quality improvement throughout each.

But we need your help to be successful. "How?" you ask...

To continue reading this article, [click here](#).

MINNESOTA BOARD ON AGING SEEKS CLINICIAN INPUT FOR STATE PLAN ON AGING:

Call for input from MAGIC clinicians on Minnesota's Plan on Aging, and associated funding and programs, by May 3!

The Minnesota Board on Aging is Minnesota's federally designated State Unit on Aging and recipient of federal Older Americans Act dollars. As the State Unit on Aging, the MBA is responsible for the development and implementation of the State Plan on Aging and the Intrastate Funding Formula. The [Older Americans Act of 1965](#) dedicates federal funding to support older adults across the United States. It created the National Aging Network comprising the [Administration on Aging](#) on the federal level, [State Units on Aging](#) at the state level, and [Area Agencies on Aging](#) at the local level. The network provides funding—based primarily on the percentage of a planning and service area's population age 60 and older—for nutrition and supportive home and community-based services, disease prevention/health promotion services, and caregiving services.

To continue reading, [click here](#).

FEATURE ARTICLE: PEARLS FROM AMDA PALTC23:

We have several excellent summaries from clinically focused sessions relevant to our daily practice: “An Interdisciplinary, Primarily Non-Pharmaceutical Approach to Managing Behaviors in Memory Care”; a more in-depth spotlight on the non-pharmaceutical management of dementia behavioral expressions; “New Concepts in Antipsychotic Stewardship”; “Mom is starving: Communicating effectively about dysphagia diet modification and artificial nutrition”; and highlights from one of the “Year in Review” studies, “Impact of Upgraded Lighting on Falls in Care Home Residents.”

Next year’s conference, PALTC24, will take place March 9-12, 2024 in San Antonio, Texas. Mark your calendars!

To read this year's PEARLS, please [click here](#).

JOB POSTINGS:

New Brighton Care Center is hiring! For more information or to apply, see below.

- **Director of MDS - Registered Nurse, RN - [Apply here](#)**
- **Nurse *LPN* - Licensed Practical Nurse - [Apply here](#)**
- **RN - Registered Nurse - [Apply here](#)**

Genevive is hiring! For more information or to apply, see below.

- **Gerontology, Adult, or Family Nurse Practitioner - [Apply here](#)**

If you are interested in posting a job on the MAGIC website or in TOPICS, please note the fee will be \$150 for 30 days. Please reach out to Heidi Holste, Executive Director at MAGIC at info@minnesotageriatrics.org or call 612.708-1982 if you have any questions.

AMDA RESOURCES:

To learn more about AMDA and what they offer, [click here](#).

Visit AMDA's Website

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Membership includes:

- Access to the [members only section](#) of our website
- Subscription to our newsletter [TOPICS](#) which is emailed six times a year
- Discounts on annual meeting registration
- Being part of a vibrant organization providing information and expertise on issues related to geriatric care
- Participation in [MAGIC ACE](#)*

*As a MAGIC member you have the opportunity to participate in the MAGIC Alliance for Clinical Excellence (ACE). Members include anyone who has an interest in geriatric health care and want to actively contribute to or lead collective clinical work. The purpose of MAGIC ACE is to create common, evidence-based approaches to care from our collective wisdom and practice. MAGIC ACE committee meets 3-4 times per year and participation is on a volunteer-base. For information on clinical guidance and output from MAGIC ACE, please visit our [webpage](#).

Let's get social! We encourage you to follow us on our social media pages. Please click each social media icon and it will bring you to our page. Like, share and comment!

Also, we recommend you add 'Minnesota Association of Geriatrics Inspired Clinicians' to your LinkedIn profile if you are a member/board member. This will add to your LinkedIn experience, and it will also bring MAGIC extra presence.

Please reach out if you have any questions or have any social media ideas!

Download our ['Social Media Best Practices'](#) here.



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