

# AMGA 2026 Annual Conference Las Vegas

April 15–18, 2026

Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, NV

[amga.org/AC26](https://amga.org/AC26)

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM



**AMGA**™

*Thank you to our  
Presenting Sponsor*



**Lightbeam**  
Health Solutions

# AMGA'S 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

When high-level strategy and headline speakers aren't enough to solve the realities you face every day, AMGA's Annual Conference (AC26) delivers what matters most: a community and curriculum built specifically for executives who are directly accountable for performance, outcomes, and financial sustainability. Rather than being one voice in a massive crowd, you'll join an engaged network of leaders who are developing concrete solutions to the challenges of our increasingly volatile environment.

Gain actionable insights to strengthen organizational resilience and elevate patient care through proven strategies in process improvement, integration, value transformation, culture, and leadership. These are the conversations that move organizations forward, so you return home with practical playbooks you can put to work immediately—not just inspirational ideas.

## AC26 is designed to address these challenges through:

- **Three Concurrent Learning Tracks:** Engage in tailored content for your specific organization type: Health System, Independent Group, and Academic/Faculty Practices.
- **Breakout Sessions:** Gain insights on leading practices from top-performing member organizations and corporate partners.
- **Council Meetings:** Network and engage in peer-to-peer learning by exchanging ideas, discussing strategies, and sharing solutions with those in similar roles.
- **Expert Keynote Speakers:** Hear from nationally recognized leaders who navigate disruption, challenge the status quo, and lead transformative change.
- **The Hub:** Experience our highly interactive networking space, designed to connect you to solutions provided by our sponsors and exhibitors.
- **And much more, including deep dive sessions, focus points, immersion sessions, and poster presentations.**

### Thank You to AMGA's Member Conference Content Planning Committee

Andrea Anderson, **MBA, MHA**, VP of Population Health and Quality, Millennium Healthcare  
Dan Duncanson, **MD**, Chief Executive Officer, SIMEDHealth  
Heidi Gibbs, **CPA, MBA**, Vice President, Chief Practice Officer, IU Health Medical Group  
Jeremy Cauwels, **MD**, Chief Medical Officer, Sanford Health  
Jennifer Rucci, **MD**, President of Clinical Strategy and Innovation, Eventus WholeHealth  
Kristi Sink, **FACHE**, Vice President, Ambulatory Service Line, Centra Medical Group  
Megan Lecas, **MBA**, Senior Vice President, Service Lines, WellSpan Health  
Rae Vagg, **MPH, MS**, Chief Operating Officer, Columbia University Irving Medical Center  
Joe Vance, **MHA**, Chief Operating Officer, University HealthCare Alliance - Stanford HealthCare  
Monica Bejarano, **MHA**, Vice President and COO, Banner Health  
John Barrett, **MD**, Chair, Department of Family & Preventative Medicine, University of Utah Health

### Important Registration and Housing Dates

**Friday, February 20, 2026**

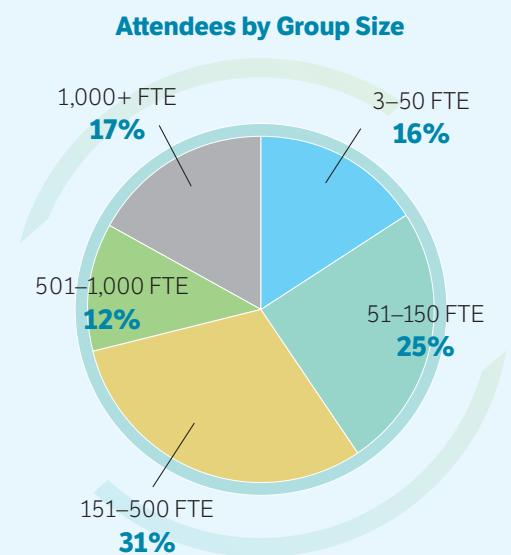
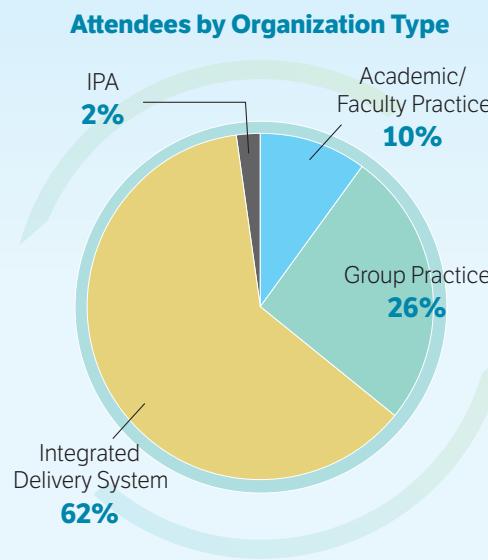
Last day to register at the Early Bird Rate

**Thursday, March 19, 2026**

Last day to guarantee a hotel reservation at the group rate

## About AMGA

AMGA is a trade association leading the transformation of healthcare in America. Representing multispecialty medical groups and integrated systems of care, we advocate, educate, innovate, and empower our members to deliver the next level of high performance health. AMGA is the national voice promoting awareness of our members' recognized excellence in the delivery of coordinated, high-quality, high-value care. More than 183,000 physicians practice in our member organizations, delivering care to over one in three Americans.



## Who Attends the Annual Conference?

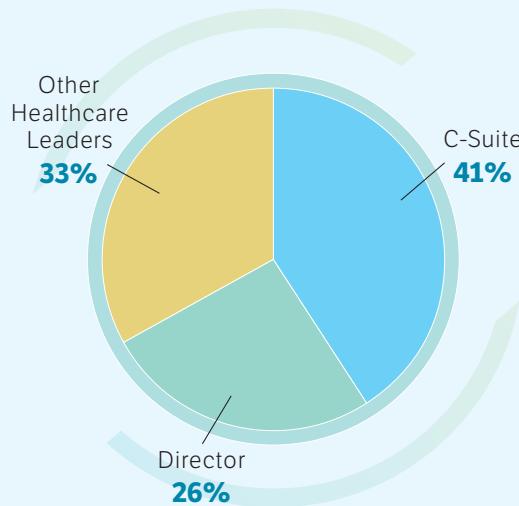
### Healthcare Leaders:

- CEO, President, Board Chair
- CAO, COO, Administrator, Executive Director
- Chief Physician Executive, CMO, Medical Director, Chief Clinical Officer
- Population Health Executives
- CFO, Finance Director
- Chief HR Officer
- Chief Innovation/Transformation Officer
- CNO, Nursing Director
- CQO, Quality Director
- Accountable Care Officer
- Department Director
- CIO/CMIO
- Physician Shareholder
- Advanced Practice Provider Leadership

### From Healthcare Delivery Organizations:

- Health Systems/Integrated Delivery Systems
- Medical Groups
- Academic/Faculty Practices
- Accountable Care Organizations
- Hospitals/Health Systems
- Clinically Integrated Networks
- Management Service Organizations
- Independent Physician Associations
- Physician Practice Management Companies

### Attendees by Functional Area



# AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Subject to Change

## Wednesday, April 15, 2026

8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Women in Leadership Meeting with Lunch ( <b>C,\$</b> )
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Leadership Council Meetings ( <b>C,\$</b> )
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Joint Leadership Council Happy Hour ( <b>C,\$</b> )
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Past Board Chairs Reception (invitation only)
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	AMGA Distinguished Leaders Dinner (invitation only)

## Thursday, April 16, 2026

7:00 am – 12:00 pm	Joint Council General Session and Leadership Council Meetings ( <b>C,\$</b> )
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	AMGA Spotlight: Where New Voices Join the Conversation (invitation only)
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>Immersion Session: Compensation &amp; Operations Semi-Annual Meeting (\$)</b>
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>Immersion Session: More Than Medicine: Integrating Culture, Compassion, and Equity in Chronic Care (\$)</b>
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>CEO Forum</b> (invitation only)
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>Poster Pathways: Innovations in Health System Improvement</b>
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Registration Area Welcome Mixer: Viva Las Connections!
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	The Hub Opening Reception: High Stakes, Real Connections with Hub Chats
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	CEO Forum Networking Dinner (invitation only)

## Friday, April 17, 2026

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast in The Hub
8:30 am – 10:00 am	<b>Opening General Session – Exponential Technologies Causing Disruptive Innovation</b> The Dr. Scott Hayworth and the Honorable Dr. Nan Hayworth Lecture <i>Peter Diamandis, Chairman and CEO of the XPRIZE Foundation</i>
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Refreshment Break in The Hub

## Friday, April 17, 2026 (continued)

10:30 am – 11:30 am	<b>Peer-to-Peer Breakout Sessions Round 1</b>
10:30 am – 11:30 am	<b>Focus Point Presentations</b>
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	<b>Poster Pathways: Innovations in Health System Improvement</b>
11:30 am – 2:00 pm	Networking Lunch in The Hub with Hub Chats
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	AMGA Past Board Leaders Highlights Luncheon (invitation only)
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	<b>Peer-to-Peer Breakout Sessions Round 2</b>
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	<b>Focus Point Presentations</b>
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<b>Industry Partner Breakout Sessions (MG,\$)</b>
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm	The Hub Farewell Celebration: Cheers to Connections with Hub Chats
7:00 pm	AMGA Foundation Celebration (invitation only)

## Saturday, April 18, 2026

7:30 am – 8:30 am	Networking Breakfast by Organizational Type and Size
8:30 am – 10:00 am	<b>General Session: Leading Through Change: A Roadmap for Energized and Resilient Leadership</b> <i>Dethra Giles, Executive Leadership &amp; HR Strategist</i>
10:30 am – 11:30 am	<b>Peer-to-Peer Breakout Sessions Round 3</b>
10:30 am – 11:30 am	<b>Focus Point Presentations</b>
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Networking Luncheon by Region
1:45 pm – 3:45 pm	<b>Deep Dives</b>
1:45 pm – 3:45 pm	<b>Chronic Care Roundtable (MG,\$)</b>
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Cocktail Hour
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Gala Dinner
7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	<b>The Final Act with Penn &amp; Teller</b>
8:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Dessert Reception and Afterglow

**C** = Council Members Only

**S** = Participating Sponsors Only

**MG** = Member Medical Groups Only

**\$** = Additional Fee Required

# SPRING LEADERSHIP COUNCILS

## Leadership Councils & Women in Leadership: Your Seat at the Table Starts Here

### Eligible for Continuing Education Credit

Attend a Leadership Council meeting with other executives in similar roles to crowdsource ideas, discuss strategies, and share solutions. Attendance is limited to member medical groups only.

### Women in Leadership Council (C,S,\$)

Wednesday, April 15 | 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | \$150

Whether you're just starting your leadership journey or shaping strategy at the executive level, this session offers a space for connection, mentorship, and meaningful dialogue around advancing women in healthcare leadership. Your registration fee includes breakfast, refreshments, and lunch. For more information specific to the Women in Leadership Council, please contact Erin Phillips, program manager, councils, at 703.838.0033 ext. 388 or [ephillips@amga.org](mailto:ephillips@amga.org).

#### Agenda at a Glance

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Networking Breakfast
8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Women in Leadership Spring Meeting
12:00 pm	Networking and Box Lunch



### Leadership Council Meetings (C,\$)

Wednesday, April 15, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Thursday, April 16, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm | \$350

A specific title is not required to attend a Council meeting, however, your role and responsibilities should align with the meeting you are attending. Your registration fee includes breakfast and lunch on Thursday and the Council welcome reception. **Space is limited—reserve your seat early.** To learn more about the Councils, please contact Joe DeLisle, director of council relations, at 703.838.0033 ext. 355 or [jdelisle@amga.org](mailto:jdelisle@amga.org).

#### Leadership Councils meeting at the conference:

- Advanced Practice Providers/Clinicians
- Chief Administrative Officers/COOs
- Chief Executive Officers/Presidents / Board Chairs
- Chief Financial Officers/Finance Directors
- Chief Human Resources Officers/HR Directors
- Chief Medical Officers/Medical Directors
- Chief Nursing Officers/Nursing Directors
- Quality Leaders



### 2026 Spring Council Keynote

**AMGA Inside Washington, DC** – Chet Speed, JD, LLM, Chief Policy Officer, AMGA

Council members will have a front row seat to Washington, DC, policy updates from AMGA Chief Policy Officer Chet Speed. The impact of the 2024 Election and 2026 midterm elections is keeping healthcare issues at the top of mind for AMGA members, and this presentation will provide you with what you need to become a more engaged and influential healthcare leader.

Learn about key AMGA issues, the District Advocacy Program, and the benefits of attending AMGA's Capitol Hill Day to advocate for your patients and providers.

- C = Council Members Only
- S = Participating Sponsors Only
- \$ = Additional Fee Required

# IMMERSION SESSIONS

## Advanced Tracks for Healthcare Change-Makers (\$)

Thursday, April 16, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Our preconference immersion sessions are for senior leaders seeking deeper engagement on mission-critical topics.

### **Eligible for Continuing Education Credit**

For more details, including full session descriptions and agenda, please visit [www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/immersion-sessions](http://www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/immersion-sessions).

### **Compensation & Operations Semi-Annual Meeting (\$)**

Designed for executive leaders committed to elevating enterprise-wide success, AMGA Consulting's semi-annual meeting focuses on achieving high performance in the physician enterprise by diving into the evolving landscape of compensation design, operational efficiency, and performance-driven culture.

*Note: This session is closed to consulting firms.*

### **More than Medicine: Integrating Culture, Compassion, and Equity in Chronic Care (\$)**

Chronic care isn't one-size-fits-all. The most effective solutions go beyond the medicine by blending clinical excellence with cultural understanding, compassion, and equity. This session shares how leading health systems are reimagining care to improve outcomes and build lasting trust in the communities they serve.

### **AMGA CEO Forum (invitation only) (\$)**

The CEO Forum, a curated, half-day executive event designed for forward-looking executives, blends thought leadership with experiential learning and unparalleled networking. Please email Bill Baron at [wbaron@amga.org](mailto:wbaron@amga.org) to request a seat, and for additional information on the Forum, visit [www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/amga-ceo-forum](http://www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/amga-ceo-forum).



**\$** = Additional Fee Required



*“It’s difficult to find a conference that attracts other leaders who are facing issues similar to ours in scale and complexity. With time out of the office being so constrained, it is critical to be able to make those connections and come away with numerous ideas we can use back at home. AMGA’s Annual Conference delivers on all points.”*

— **Brian Harte, MD, MHM**

*President, Cleveland Clinic Akron General*

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

## Visionary voices. Real-world relevance. And a little bit of magic.

Our keynote sessions are the cornerstone of the conference, featuring nationally recognized leaders who are navigating disruption, challenging the status quo, and leading transformative change. These dynamic presentations will inspire new thinking and equip you with strategies to lead with clarity and courage in a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape.

*Eligible for Continuing Education Credit.*



Friday, April 17, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

### **Exponential Technologies Causing Disruptive Innovation**

The Dr. Scott Hayworth and the Honorable Dr. Nan Hayworth Lecture

**Peter Diamandis**, *Chairman and CEO of the XPRIZE Foundation*

The pace of change is no longer linear—it's exponential. Discover how rapidly advancing technologies like AI, robotics, genomics, and digital platforms are rewriting the rules of competition, care delivery, and leadership. Opening keynote speaker Peter Diamandis will explore how disruption is already reshaping the landscape and what leaders must do now to remain relevant, resilient, and bold in the face of constant transformation. He will also examine how a range of exponential technologies are catalyzing disruption across healthcare, from diagnostics and operations to workforce models and consumer expectations.



Saturday, April 18, 8:30 am – 10:00 am

### **Leading Through Change: A Roadmap for Energized and Resilient Leadership**

**Dethra Giles**, *Executive Leadership & HR Strategist*

In today's high-pressure healthcare environment, leaders must deliver results, adapt rapidly, and keep teams engaged, all while navigating constant change. In this energizing session, leadership strategist Dethra Giles presents a practical framework for building trust, energizing teams, and leading with resilience in complex, high-stakes settings, using communication as a leader's most powerful tool. Participants will explore how strategic communication and intentional leadership can foster cohesion, unlock innovation, and turn evolving priorities into opportunities for progress. Through real-world insights and actionable takeaways, leaders will gain tools to unify teams, sustain morale, and lead with clarity, confidence, and purpose—even in times of disruption.

## **The Final Act: Dinner, Deception & Dessert with Penn & Teller**

Saturday, April 18, 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Step behind the velvet curtain for a spectacular send-off as the Annual Conference ends on a truly magical note. Join your fellow attendees for an unforgettable Closing Dinner Celebration, featuring world-famous illusionists Penn & Teller, live on stage in their hometown. Enjoy a final cocktail hour and gourmet dinner, and stay for our sweet "After-Glow" dessert lounge following the show.

You've spent the week shaping the future of healthcare—now it's time to sit back, relax, and let the magic happen. **Exclusively for AMGA Annual Conference attendees and their registered guests.** **Limited seating available, audience must be 18 or older.**





## Peer-to-Peer Breakout Sessions

*Eligible for Continuing Education Credit*

### Health System Track: Strategic Insights for Systemwide Impact

Complete session details available at [www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/health-systems-track](http://www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/health-systems-track)

Designed specifically for leaders of health systems/integrated delivery systems and medical groups affiliated with health systems, this track tackles the complex challenges facing today's health systems. Dive into peer-led case studies, system-level strategy sessions, and forward-looking conversations that equip you to lead through disruption and drive lasting transformation.

**Friday, April 17 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

#### **Physician & Provider Unionization: Lessons from the Frontlines**

*Chuck Bruce, MBA, Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Legacy Medical Group, Legacy Health; and Mark Haas, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer, Cambridge Health Alliance Physicians Organization*

Hear from two health systems that have experienced physician and provider unionization firsthand: Cambridge Health Alliance's shift to a partially unionized workforce during a financial turnaround, and Legacy Health's rapid leap from zero to 70% unionized providers in just two years.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, operational efficiency, finance, leadership

#### **Collaborative Value Alignment – The Art and Science of Aligning Incentives and Driving Outcomes**

*Ryan Nicholas MD, FAFP, Chief Quality Officer, Mercy Medical Group, Sacramento, CommonSpirit Health*

Through guided discussion, real-world examples, and audience collaboration, attendees will leave with practical strategies for metric selection, incentive design, and overcoming common obstacles to engagement—tailored to their organization's stage in the value journey.

**Topic focus areas:** High-value care, workforce, operational efficiency, compensation, finance

#### **“Ana” in Action: Scaling Patient Access with AI-Powered Outreach**

*Mark Kandrysawtz, MBA, Senior Vice President and Chief Innovation Officer, and David Vega, MD, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, WellSpan Health*

In collaboration with Hippocratic AI, WellSpan has introduced “Ana,” a conversational AI agent that conducts empathetic, multilingual phone conversations with patients to enhance access to care and close critical health gaps. Ana is already performing to the equivalent of approximately 50 full-time customer service staff. Gain insights into the operational, ethical, and technological considerations of deploying AI in patient communications.

**Topic focus areas:** Access, AI, workforce, care process, health equity & SDOH



## Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions (continued)

---

**Friday, April 17, 2026 | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

### **Celebrating Excellence: AMGA Acclaim Award Recipient**

The 2026 recipient of AMGA's prestigious Acclaim Award will share their organization's journey toward delivering high-value care through innovation, comprehensive performance improvements, and a steadfast commitment to health equity.

### **Cracking the Code on Avoidable ED Use: Ochsner Virtual Emergency Room (OvED)**

*Lisa Fort, MD, MPH, Associate Chief Medical Information Officer, and Philip M. Oravetz, MD, MPH, MBA, Chief Population Health Officer, Ochsner Health*

The Ochsner Virtual ED (OvED) program is connecting patients with an emergency physician before they arrive at the ED, guiding them to the most appropriate care setting. Embedded directly within Epic, OvED leverages referrals from nurse on-call programs, primary care, and urgent care clinics to assess patient needs in real time. As a result, 70% of referrals are successfully directed to care outside of the emergency department.

**Topic focus areas:** AI, access, high-value care, operational efficiency

### **One Hospital, Many Doors: AI-Driven Capacity & Care Optimization in a Rural Health System**

*Brian N. Bartlett, MD, MBA, MPH, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Chair, Mayo Clinic Health System Hospital Practice; Kelly N. Buchholtz, MSN, MBA/HCM, RN, Instructor in Nursing, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Regional Chief Nursing Officer; F. Kenneth Ackerman, MHA, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Administrative Chair; and Sarah B. Harper, MA, MBA, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration, Manager, AI, Analytics, Automation, Mayo Clinic Health System*

Rural and dispersed health systems face growing pressures from aging populations, complex chronic care, and financial headwinds. Mayo Clinic Health System's 17-hospital network has tackled this challenge by combining AI-powered predictive analytics with a tiered staffing and "pull to full" admission strategy. Early results show sharp reductions in out-of-region patient transfers, a 10–20% rise in Critical Access Hospital occupancy, sustained Prospective Payment System hospital occupancy of ~80%, and a >50% drop in staffed bed blocks, even during intermittent unit closures.

**Topic focus areas:** Access, AI, workforce, high-value care, patient experience



**Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions | Friday, April 17 | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm** (continued)

### **From Long Lines to Logins: The “Clicks and Mortar” Makeover to Improve Access and Reduce Costs**

*Brent Steineckert, MPH, PMP, Chief Administrative Officer, and Keith Fischer, MD, Medical Director Contact Center/Patient Navigation, Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Group*

Discover how one multispecialty medical group successfully built a digital-centric culture that blends self-service tools—such as online scheduling, automated intake, and virtual care access—with modernized backend operations. This “Clicks and Mortar” strategy led to measurable improvements, including over \$2 million in annual cost avoidance through self-scheduling, a 92%+ patient portal activation rate, 17% of all appointments scheduled online across all specialties, and 31% of patients using electronic check-in, among others.

**Topic focus areas:** AI, workforce, access, high-value care

### **Rethinking Access to Care: Strategies for 2026 and Beyond**

*JP Valin, MD, MHA, FACP, Chief Clinical Officer, Intermountain Health*

Examine the opportunities and challenges to expanding access to care across a health system, from engaging physicians and APPs and integrating technologies, to strategies that address prevention, early intervention, and coordinated care, leading to better health trajectories.

**Topic focus areas:** Access, AI, care coordination, operational efficiency, workforce

### **Value-Based Inpatient Care: Esse Health’s Journey to Smarter,**

#### **Safer Hospital Medicine**

*Sean McLaughlin MD, Chairman of the Board, Esse Health, and Bob Pendleton, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, SSM Health*

Explore how Esse Health reimagined inpatient care by integrating primary care teams with hospital medicine, leveraging technology and data, aligning incentives, and adopting a “home-first” philosophy.

**Topic focus areas:** High-value care, workforce, access, care coordination, health equity & SDOH, finance

**Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

### **Navigating the Policy Landscape for Health Systems and Medical Groups**

*Darryl M. Drevna, MA, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs; James J. Miller, MBA, Senior Director, Government Relations; and Lauren Lattany, MPS, Director, Government Relations, AMGA*

AMGA’s public policy experts will unpack the legislative and regulatory priorities emerging from Washington, DC, and what they mean for health systems and medical groups nationwide.



**Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions | Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 pm (continued)**

### **Virtual Checkout: A Patient-Centered Solution to Drive Care Continuity**

*Scott Guttridge, Vice President, Ambulatory Operations; Ryan Patterson, Senior Director, Ambulatory Operations; and Celeste Gagliardi, Senior Director, Enterprise Central Scheduling, Jefferson Health*

Jefferson Health's Virtual Checkout program transforms patient discharge by leveraging telehealth to schedule follow-up appointments, provide instructions, and answer questions—all from the exam room. Jefferson has completed over 100,000 virtual checkouts completed (700 per day) and is seeing a reduction in referral scheduling lag from 18 days to 5.5 days, among other improvements in care coordination metrics.

**Topic focus areas:** Access, operational efficiency, workforce, care coordination, patient experience

### **Eliminating Care Gaps: Northwell Health's Scalable Model for Advancing Preventive Care**

*Ramsey Abdallah, DHA, MBA, FACHE, Assistant Vice President, Quality & Performance Improvement, and Nancy Beran, MD, MHCDS, FACP, CPE, Vice President, Chief Quality Officer for Ambulatory, Northwell Health*

Northwell Health's Ambulatory Quality Improvement Collaborative (AQIC) Framework provides a proven, scalable strategy to standardize preventive care, integrate digital tools, and engage care teams in measurable improvement initiatives. The framework has led to a 29% improvement in depression screening, a 9% improvement in hypertension control rates, and a 9% improvement on colorectal cancer screening rates year over year.

**Topic focus areas:** AI, finance, high-value care, care coordination, health equity & SDOH, population health

### **Creating a Triad: The Value of an Advanced Practice Leadership Structure**

*Britney Broyhill, ACNP, DNP, FAANP, Chief Advanced Practice Executive, and Esita Patel, PhD, RN, Advanced Practice Data Scientist, Atrium Health*

This session walks through one large health system's journey from a simple Advanced Practice Provider (APP) committee to a five-level APP leadership structure, including a Center for Advanced Practice supporting academic and operational initiatives. This presentation will show how APP leadership will result in increased engagement, production, and revenue, with decreased turnover as compared to organizations lacking APP leadership.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, high-value care, finance, operational efficiency, APP, leadership





**Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions | Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 pm (continued)**

### **Integration of a Medical Group: From Concept to High-Performing Reality**

*Matt Walsh, MHA, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Rush University System for Health, and Luis Garcia, MD, FACS, MBA, FACHE, President Rush Medical Group; Professor of Surgery, Rush University*

Through real-world examples and strategic frameworks, this session demonstrates why high-performing integrated medical groups are central to sustainable healthcare delivery, value-based care, and long-term organizational success.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, high-value care, operational efficiency, finance

## **Independent Medical Group Track: Thriving on Agility, Resilience and Autonomy**

Complete session details available at [www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/independent-track](http://www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/independent-track)

This track is designed for leaders of independent medical groups navigating today's challenging and ultra-competitive value-driven landscape. Sessions focus on preserving autonomy while scaling innovation, optimizing performance, and competing in evolving markets. Learn from peers who are leading growth, advancing care delivery, and building strong, sustainable organizations

**Friday, April 17 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

### **Unrealized Promises of Value-Based Care**

*Stephen Nuckolls, Chief Executive Officer, Coastal Carolina Health Care*

This session goes beyond theory, offering actionable strategies that healthcare leaders can apply to accelerate meaningful value-based care outcomes in their own organizations.

**Topic focus areas:** High-value care, workforce, operational efficiency

### **Value-Based Inpatient Care: Esse Health's Journey to Smarter, Safer Hospital Medicine**

*Sean McLaughlin MD, Chairman of the Board, Esse Health, and Bob Pendleton, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, SSM Health*

Explore how Esse Health reimagined inpatient care by integrating primary care teams with hospital medicine, leveraging technology and data, aligning incentives, and adopting a "home-first" philosophy. Initial results include a cost savings of better than \$100 per member per month.

**Topic focus areas:** High-value care, workforce, access, care coordination, health equity & SDOH, finance



**Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions | Friday, April 17 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am (continued)**

### **Leading Through Financial Turbulence: CEO & CFO Partnerships**

*Ed Curtis, Chief Executive Officer, Summit Medical Group, PLLC*

Hear how organizations leverage the CEO/CFO partnership to guide an organization through volatility while preserving independence and positioning for long-term sustainability.

**Topic focus areas:** *Finance, operational efficiency, workforce*

**Friday, April 17 | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

### **The Power of Partnership: Driving High-Performing Emergency Care**

*Stephen Behnke, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Lexington Clinic; and Anthony Houston, EdD, FACHE, President of CommonSpirit Health's Arizona Market, CommonSpirit*

Lexington Clinic's innovative People+ Model transformed emergency medicine operations across seven EDs by combining provider ownership, culture change, operational redesign, and leadership support. Learn how this independent group successfully partnered with CommonSpirit Kentucky to improve patient flow, reduce wait times, enhance patient experience, and optimize key performance metrics—all while prioritizing provider engagement and work-life balance.

**Topic focus areas:** *Workforce, access, care coordination, operational efficiency, patient experience*



*“AMGA’s annual conference is where we find practical solutions to our biggest challenges, from improving access and navigating AI to addressing provider shortages. Connecting with peers who are successfully maintaining independence in a consolidating market is invaluable. The combination of forward-thinking content and real-world insights from other leaders makes it an essential investment for our organization.”*

**— Charlotte Flood, MHA**

*Chief Executive Officer, Northwest Primary Care*



## Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions (continued)

**Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

### **Navigating the Policy Landscape for Health Systems and Medical Groups**

*Darryl M. Drevna, MA, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs; James J. Miller, MBA, Senior Director, Government Relations; and Lauren Lattany, MPS, Director, Government Relations, AMGA*

AMGA's public policy experts will unpack the legislative and regulatory priorities emerging from Washington, DC, and what they mean for health systems and medical groups nationwide.

### **CCM or APCM? The Strategic Shift That Could Unlock \$1M per Care Manager**

*Trisha Ballard, Director of Operations, and Tracie Jefferson, PA-C, Clinical Director of Quality, Sound Family Medicine*

Learn how one independent group transitioned from a 2,700-patient Chronic Care Management (CCM) program to Advanced Primary Care Management (APCM), enrolling 50% of eligible Medicare patients while driving clinical outcomes and financial sustainability.

**Topic focus areas:** High-value care, operational efficiency, workforce, finance, care coordination

## **Academic Medical Group Track: Where Academic Mission Meets Operational Excellence**

Complete session details available at [www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/academic-track](http://www.amga.org/2026-annual-conference/agenda-at-a-glance/academic-track).

Tailored for leaders in academic medical groups, this track explores the unique challenges and opportunities at the intersection of education, research, and patient care. Connect with peers who understand the complexities of leading in an academic environment.

**Friday, April 17 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

### **Performance Under Pressure: Sustaining Accountability During Academic Medical Center Growth**

*Eugene Hong, MD, Chief Physician Executive, MUSC Health, MUSC Physicians; and Anthony Powell, Managing Director, Knowledge Capital Group*

This session examines a real-world case of an Academic Medical Center (AMC) acquiring four community-based, for-profit hospitals, highlighting strategies to implement shared governance, performance monitoring, and accountability frameworks from day one. Results include increased case complexity and access to rural areas, 10 point improvement in engagement scores, and approximately a 5% improvement in average length of stay.

**Topic focus areas:** Finance, operational efficiency, governance, workforce



## Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions (continued)

**Friday, April 17 | 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

### **AI Agents in Action: Redefining Patient Access and Operational Efficiency**

*Phillip Quick, Chief System Access Operations Officer, University of Chicago Medicine; and Jafar Hasan, MD, Chief Innovation & Clinical Integration Officer, Cook County Health*

*Facilitated by Jason M. Raidbard, MPA, FACMPE, Executive Administrator, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Chicago Medicine and Biological Sciences*

This session will examine their implementation of Salesforce's Agentforce for Health, which enables 24/7 patient self-service for tasks like appointment scheduling, prescription refills, insurance verification, and even real-time logistical support like parking guidance. By automating high-volume, routine tasks, UChicago Medicine is reducing administrative burden on staff, freeing them to focus on higher-value interactions—and, critically, preparing their organization to scale digital-first care delivery.

**Topic focus areas:** Finance, operational efficiency, care coordination, high-value care, access, AI

**Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

### **Navigating the Policy Landscape for Health Systems and Medical Groups**

*Darryl M. Drevna, MA, Senior Director, Regulatory Affairs; James J. Miller, MBA, Senior Director, Government Relations; and Lauren Lattany, MPS, Director, Government Relations, AMGA*

AMGA's public policy experts will unpack the legislative and regulatory priorities emerging from Washington, DC, and what they mean for health systems and medical groups nationwide.



*“For academic health systems, it’s invaluable to learn how other large, complex organizations are balancing teaching and research missions with the operational demands of modern healthcare. The peer insights and actionable strategies our team brings back make this a must-attend event every year!”*

**— John Barrett, MD**

*Department Chair, George D. Gross, MD & Esther M. Gross MD, Presidential Endowed Chair, Department of Family & Preventative Medicine, University of Utah Community Clinics*



**Peer-to Peer Breakout Sessions | Saturday, April 18 | 10:30 am – 11:30 am (continued)**

### **Aligning the Physician Enterprise: Strategic Approaches Amid Economic Headwinds**

*Jeff Kubisch, MBA, Chief Operating Officer, Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin, Froedtert ThedaCare*

In an era of persistent economic pressure, rising clinical costs, workforce shortages, and evolving patient expectations, health systems must innovate how they align physician enterprise strategy with organizational resilience and long-term value creation. This session will explore how an integrated academic health system and a community-focused health network are navigating these challenges together to expand access and strengthen care continuity across Wisconsin.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, high-value care, operational efficiency, finance

### **Integration of a Medical Group: From Concept to High-Performing Reality**

*Matt Walsh, MHA, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Rush University System for Health, and Luis Garcia, MD, FACS, MBA, FACHE, President, Rush Medical Group, and Professor of Surgery, Rush University*

Through real-world examples and strategic frameworks, this session demonstrates why high-performing integrated medical groups are central to sustainable healthcare delivery, value-based care, and long-term organizational success.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, high-value care, operational efficiency, finance

### **Focus Points and Hub Chats: Fast insights. Big takeaways. Pure peer-to-peer learning.**

These 20-minute, TED-style sessions are designed to deliver concentrated insights on today's most pressing challenges, from leadership to care delivery to operational strategy. Presented by your peers, Focus Points cut through the noise with real-world ideas you can take home and put to work. Built into the main agenda—no registration required; just show up ready to think differently. For more information, visit our website!





## DEEP DIVES

### ***Interactive. Intensive. Immediately Applicable.***

*Eligible for Continuing Education Credit*

**Saturday, April 18, 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm**

Get hands-on with the challenges that matter most. Deep Dives are immersive, two-hour workshop-style sessions designed for leaders who want to go beyond surface-level insights. Led by experienced leaders and subject matter experts, each session dives into one high-impact topic with time for practical tools, peer learning, and group problem-solving. Come ready to engage, reflect, and leave with a plan you can act on.

#### **Driving Financial Sustainability: Innovative Revenue Models for Physician-Owned Practices**

*Jeffry James, Chief Executive Officer, Wilmington Health; and Anas Deghastani, MD, President & CEO, Austin Regional Clinic*

Independent medical groups face mounting pressures from payer shifts, rising costs, and workforce challenges. This session explores creative, actionable strategies to diversify revenue streams while maintaining clinical excellence and independence. Leaders will share real-world approaches—including partnerships, value-based arrangements, ancillary service expansion, and other innovative models that have successfully strengthened financial performance.

**Topic focus areas:** Finance, operational efficiency, high-value care, workforce

#### **Building High-Performing Service Lines: Lessons from Leading Health Systems**

*Ashok Rai, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Prevea Health; and F. Kenneth Ackerman, MHA, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science and Administrative Chair, Mayo Clinic Health System  
Moderated by Frederick T. Horton, MHA, CMPE, President, AMGA Consulting*

This session brings together leaders to share proven strategies for designing, optimizing, and expanding high-impact service lines. Participants will explore methods to align clinical operations, workforce planning, and data-driven decision making while improving outcomes, patient experience, and organizational efficiency.

**Topic focus areas:** AI, workforce, patient experience, care coordination, governance, finance, operational efficiency

#### **After the Big Beautiful Bill: Evolving Health System Strategies Amid Medicaid Cuts**

*Scott Rathgaber, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Emplify Health; and Susanna Fox, MD, FACOG, Chief Physician Executive, Advocate Health*

The passage of the “Big Beautiful Bill” has reshaped the Medicaid landscape, introducing significant funding cuts and stricter eligibility requirements. Health systems now face mounting pressure to maintain access, financial viability, and support for their Medicaid populations. Senior leaders from diverse health systems will share how they’re proactively adjusting to these changes, addressing innovative approaches to sustaining rural care, managing coverage disruptions, and building infrastructure to help Medicaid patients navigate compliance hurdles.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, patient experience, care coordination, finance, operational efficiency



## DEEP DIVES (continued)

**Saturday, April 18, 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm**

### **Optimizing Advanced Practice: Aligning APPs for Performance and Patient Care**

*Janeen Wills Duckworth, MSN, APRN, Vice President of Advanced Practice Provider, Jefferson Health; Lara West, MHS, PA-C, AVP, Advanced Clinical Providers, Northwell Health; and Rhonda Hoyer, RN, MSN, APNP, ANP-C, Chief Advanced Practice Officer, AAMG, Advocate Health Midwest Region*

*Facilitator: Anne Wright, PA-C, Vice President of Advanced Practice Ambulatory Care Operations, CommonSpirit Health*  
Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) are a cornerstone of scalable, high-quality care delivery—but many organizations struggle to fully leverage their capabilities. This session examines how leading groups are structuring APP roles, leadership, and workflows to improve access, quality, and operational efficiency.

**Topic focus areas:** Workforce, patient experience, care coordination, operational efficiency

### **Leading Through Complexity: Lessons from Top Health System CEOs**

#### **Master Class on Leadership**

*Robert Riney, President and CEO, Henry Ford Health; Andrea Walsh, President and CEO, HealthPartners; and Baligh Yehia, MD, President, Jefferson Health*

*Moderated by Jerry Penso, MD, MBA, President and CEO, AMGA*

This interactive masterclass brings together the CEOs of leading health systems to share candid insights and lessons learned from leading large, complex healthcare organizations. Attendees will gain a front-row perspective on how to navigate strategic growth, financial pressures, workforce challenges, and operational transformation while maintaining mission and culture. The session emphasizes practical leadership frameworks, decision making in uncertainty, and strategies to align teams across diverse clinical and operational landscapes.

**Topic focus areas:** AI, workforce, high-value care, finance, operational efficiency, leadership



---

***“If you’re serious about building a leadership team that can navigate complexity, invest in bringing them to AMGA.”***

**— Steven N. Kalkanis, MD**

*CEO, Henry Ford Medical Group and CEO, Henry Ford Hospital  
Executive Vice President, Henry Ford Health  
Henry Ford II Chair and Professor of Neurosurgery*

# POSTER PATHWAYS

## *Real-world strategies. Proven impact. Peer-driven insights.*

Eligible for Continuing Education Credit

Discover how medical groups and health systems are advancing coordinated care, improving quality, and addressing community health—one initiative at a time. AC26 Poster Pathways showcases innovative, data-informed initiatives from AMGA members, highlighting practical approaches that are making a measurable difference.

Join the poster presenters during the following days/times:

**Thursday, April 16, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Friday, April 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm**

Engage at your own pace or take part in guided poster walks to hear directly from presenters. **Continuing education credit will be offered on Friday, April 17, 11:30–1:30 only**



### **TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE: AI, INNOVATION, IT**

#### **Developing and Applying the BE-FAIR Equity Framework to a Population Health Predictive Model**

Reshma Gupta, MD, MSHPM, Chief of Population Health and Accountable Care, and Mayu Sasaki, MPH, PMP, Population Health Specialist Supervisor, UC Davis Health

#### **EHR Interventions to Improve Patient Engagement and Drive Results**

Christopher J. Russo MD, MBA, CPE, FAAP, Director of Pediatrics, Women and Children Services and Medical Director for Quality and Innovation, WellSpan Health

#### **Hello World Event Text to Room**

Mary Jordan, Coordinator, Clinic Operations; Lloyd Speer, Manager, Clinic Operations; and Amy Van Gundy, Operations Administrator, Clinic Operations, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

#### **How Health Systems Can Deliver Concierge-Level Primary Care at Scale**

Eve Cunningham, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Cadence Health, and Chris Frost, MD, Chief Medical Officer and Chief Quality Officer, LifePoint Health

#### **Improving Care and Operational Efficiency Through Multilingual AI Outreach**

David Vega, MD, MBA, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, and Mark Kandrysawtz, Senior Vice President and Chief Innovation Officer, WellSpan Health

#### **Leveraging Technology & Innovation to Improve the Patient Journey and Access to Care**

Erica Simon, MBA, CMSC, Director of System Access and Specialty Scheduling, and Kola Ogunrinde, MHA, Director of System Access & Capacity Management, Referral Management Center, Houston Methodist

#### **Leveraging Technology to Improve Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates**

Monica Abel, MBA, CCMP, FACHDM, Director of Quality Management & PI, and Lori Appedu, LPN, Manager Quality Management & PI, Northwell Health Physician Partners

#### **Transforming Cardiology Staffing and Scheduling Through AI-Enabled Scheduling Tools**

Jessica Cruz, MBA, Clinical Innovation Director, and Sue Graff, MBA, Manager, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

### **HIGH-VALUE CARE, FINANCE & OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY**

#### **Aligning Quality Incentives with Insights**

Matthew Safern, Senior Director, JMG Clinical Practice Analytics, and Patrick Cockey, Senior Vice President, Operations, Jefferson Health

#### **From Barriers to Breakthroughs: Strategic Innovation in Complex Discharge Management**

Tamara Buechler, MD, MHA, Associate Medical Director, Mayo Clinic Experience; Corinna Nelson, MS, Manager, Hospital Operations, Discharge, Patient Flow and Care Management; and Riddhi Parikh, MBBS, Associate Medical Director, Rochester Hospital Operations Command Center, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

# POSTER PATHWAYS

(continued)

Thursday, April 16, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Friday, April 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

## Make Room for Growth: Optimize Your Clinic Space with Patient Flow Simulation Modeling

Patrick Cockey, Senior Vice President, Operations; Ryan Patterson, Senior Director, Ambulatory Operations; and Kaitlyn Hunt, Operations Manager, Jefferson Health

## Procedural Traffic Control: A Medical Group Approach to Patient-Centered Surgical Access

Lisa Rice, MD, FACOG, Associate Chief Medical Officer; Bart Caldwell, MBA, Associate Chief Medical Officer; Elisa Bledsoe, MHA, Director of Specialty Care; and Pam White, MBA, Director of Specialty Care, Salem Health Hospital and Clinics

## Procedural Traffic Control: Organizational Journey to Patient-Centered Surgical Access

Lisa Rice, MD, FACOG, Associate Chief Medical Officer; Bart Caldwell, MBA, Associate Chief Medical Officer; Elisa Bledsoe, MHA, Director of Specialty Care; and Pam White, MBA, Director of Specialty Care, Salem Health Hospital and Clinics

## How Can Health Systems Maximize Value in Outpatient Joint Replacement?

Charles S. Day, MD, MBA, System Medical Director, Value Specialty Care, Henry Ford Health System, and Vice Chair of Academics and Value Integration and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Henry Ford Health; and Hadi Elmenini, BS, MD Candidate, Wayne State University

## Optimizing Value in Orthopedic Care: A Cost-Outcome Comparison of Robotic and Conventional Total Hip Arthroplasty

Charles S. Day, MD, MBA, System Medical Director, Value Specialty Care, Henry Ford Health System, and Vice Chair of Academics and Value Integration and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Henry Ford Health; and Kyrillos Ayoub, BA, MD Candidate, Wayne State University

## The Future of Specialty Care: Operationalizing the Value Formula

Charles S. Day, MD, MBA, System Medical Director, Value Specialty Care, Henry Ford Health System, and Vice Chair of Academics and Value Integration and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Henry Ford Health; and Michelle Yi, BA, MD Candidate, Wayne State University

## POPULATION HEALTH AND PATIENT EXPERIENCE

### Balancing Cost and Outcomes in Liver Transplantation: A Value-Based Case Study of TransMedics Organ Preservation

Charles S. Day, MD, MBA, System Medical Director, Value Specialty Care, Henry Ford Health System, and Vice Chair of Academics and Value Integration and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Henry Ford Health; and Kyrillos Ayoub, BA, MD Candidate, Wayne State University

### Deep Dive Comparison of Cost-Effectiveness Between Knee Osteoarthritis Injections

Charles S. Day, MD, MBA, System Medical Director, Value Specialty Care, Henry Ford Health System, and Vice Chair of Academics and Value Integration and Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Henry Ford Health; and Sanjana Kumar, MD Candidate, Wayne State University

### Advancing Health Equity: Bridging the Telehealth Divide

Denise White-Perkins, PhD, Chair, Department of Family Medicine, Director, Healthcare Equity Initiatives; Alexandra Hunter, MPH, Virtual Care Consultant; and Thor Person, MA, MSW, MPH, Research Project Manager; Henry Ford Health

### Beyond Medical Care: Enhancing Patient Experience Through Innovative Concierge Services

Simone Sursely, MS, Manager, and Jay Masters, Supervisor, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

### Collaborate to Innovate: Peer Approaches to Lung Cancer Screening Quality Improvement

Elizabeth Ruvalcaba, MSPH, Senior Research Project Lead; Jennifer Obenrader, PharmD, Clinical Senior Research Project Lead; Elizabeth Ciemins, PhD, MPH, MA, Senior Vice President, Research & Analytics; and Meghana Tallam, MPH, Population Health Research Analyst, AMGA

### Creating a Systemwide Approach to Advance Care Planning within an Academic Health System

Brittany Chatterton, MD, MAS, Medical Director, Population Health System Learning, Evaluation, and Dissemination, Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, and Reshma Gupta, MD, MSHPM, Chief of Population Health and Accountable Care, Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, UC Davis Health

# POSTER PATHWAYS

(continued)

Thursday, April 16, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Friday, April 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

## **Deliver to Practice: A Scalable Framework for Operationalizing Radiology AI**

Holly Marie Meyer, MS, Artificial Intelligence Manager, Radiology; Eric Ernest Williamson, MD, Chief Medical Information Officer; and Eric Burton Reeve, Administrator, Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## **Driving Outcomes Through Panel Management and High-Risk Huddle: A Population Health Approach to Improved Outcomes in Value-Based Care**

Rupen Amin, MD, Regional Chief Medical Officer, HarmonyCares Medical Group

## **Empowering Diabetes Management Patient-Centered Technology That Saves Lives and Money**

Aoife Egan, MB, BCh, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Consultant in the Division of Endocrinology; Brent Helgren, MA, Operations Manager, Endocrinology; and Ryan Meloche, MBA, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## **Evidence-Based Practice: Translating Clinical Guidelines to Expected Practice**

Johanna Warren, MD, Senior Associate Chief Medical Officer, Ambulatory, Oregon Health & Science University

## **Eye-Opening Care: Henry Ford Medical Group's Remote Diabetic Eye Exam Journey**

Steven Fried, MD, Medical Director, Primary Care Quality and Resource Stewardship, and Laurie Paoletti-Kortas, RN, Director of Quality and Safety, Primary Care, Henry Ford Health



## **From Silos to Solutions: A Unified Effort to Enhance Colorectal Cancer Screening**

Benjamin Blackburn, MBA, Senior Operations Project Manager, and Emily Carlson, MHA, LSSGB, Senior Quality Manager, Division of Family and Community Medicine, University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics

## **Integrating Medical and Psychiatric Care: Effective Management in Med-Psych Units**

Louai Bilal, MD, MSc, Medical Director, Inpatient Med-Psych Unit, and Eric Cain, MD, MBA, Physician-in-Chief and Chief of Staff, The Permanente Medical Group

## **Mind Matters: Elevating Brain Health in Primary Care**

Jennifer Obenrader, PharmD, Clinical Senior Research Project Lead; Elizabeth Ruvalcaba, MSPH, Senior Research Project Lead; Ann Von Holle, PhD, Senior Population Health Analyst; Elizabeth Ciemins, PhD, MPH, MA, Senior Vice President, Research & Analytics, AMGA; Jennifer Rucci, MD, President of The Eventus Institute for Strategic Thought and Innovation, Eventus WholeHealth and Stephen Combs, MD, Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, Ballad Health

## **Navigating the Changing Landscape of Obesity Care: Insights from a Retrospective Observational Study**

Meghana Tallam, MPH, Population Health Research Analyst; Ann Von Holle, PhD, Senior Population Health Research Analyst; and Elizabeth Ciemins, PhD, MPH, MA, Senior Vice President, Research & Analytics, AMGA

## **Overcoming Health Disparities Through Community Paramedicine**

Emily Schuh, MSW, LCSW, Care Management Social Services Program Manager, and Mandy Young, BS, RRT, Manager of Care Coordination, Community Paramedicine Project Coordinator, St. Elizabeth Physicians

## **Primary Medication Adherence to Medications for the Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder**

Ann Von Holle, PhD, Senior Research Population Health Research Analyst, and Elizabeth Ciemins, PhD, MPH, MA, Senior Vice President, Research & Analytics, AMGA

## **Prioritizing Adult Vaccination During Uncertain Times: A Health System's Journey to Protect Patients from Vaccine-Preventable Diseases**

Stephen Shields, MPH, Senior Population Health Research Analyst, AMGA; Nkem Akinsoto, MSc, Assistant Director, Population Health, UW Physicians

# POSTER PATHWAYS

(continued)

Thursday, April 16, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm and Friday, April 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

## Reducing Specimen Rejections in Ambulatory Care Clinics to Improve Patient Safety and Efficiency

Kamillia Dela Paz, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, Clinical Operations Supervisor – Lab Support Services, and Quyen Hurlburt, MSN, RN, CCTC, Director, Nursing and Clinical Operations, Cedars-Sinai Medical Network

## Sticking to the Script: Health System Innovations for Anticoagulant Adherence

Brandi Anderson, MSN, Cardiovascular Quality Program Coordinator, Baylor Scott & White (invited); Elizabeth Ruvalcaba, MSPH, Senior Research Project Lead; Jennifer Obenrader, PharmD, Clinical Senior Research Project Lead; and Elizabeth Ciemins, PhD, MPH, MA, Senior Vice President, Research & Analytics, AMGA

## Strategies to Bridge Gaps in Obesity Diagnosis and Care Management within Learning Health System: A Provider-Based Quality Improvement Initiative at Henry Ford Health

Suki Singh, MD, DABOM, System Medical Director for Weight Management and Obesity Medicine Clinics, and Denise White Perkins, MD, PhD, Chair, Department of Family Medicine, Henry Ford Health

## Streamlining the Process for Instrument Sterilization Compliance to Improve Patient Safety and Efficiency

Kelly Lopez, BSN, RN, PHN, CIC, Infection Prevention Nurse, and Quyen Hurlburt, MSN, RN, CCTC, Director, Nursing and Clinical Operations, Cedars-Sinai Medical Network

## The Impact on a Pharmacist-Led Chronic Care Management Program on Medication Adherence Measures

Zia Khan, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Privia Medical Group; and Jessica Gustin, PharmD, Chief Operating Officer, SynerGrx

## Transforming Access: A Templing Strategy for High-Demand Imaging Services

Stacy Pronga, MA, RDCS, Supervisor, Echocardiography Lab, and Brynn Howard, MHA, Administrator, Department of Cardiology, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## WORKFORCE STRATEGY: ENGAGING CLINICIANS & EMPLOYEES

### Compassionate Leadership Through Employee Termination

Emily Hamilton, MA, Senior Director, and Amy Van Gundy, MHA, Operations Administrator, Mayo Clinic - Rochester



## From Burned-Out to Optimized: A Centralized Support Solution for Increased Efficiency and Staff Satisfaction

Lindsay Parson, MBA, Clinic Operations Coordinator, and Andrea Christensen, MBA, Manager, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## From Insight to Impact: Driving Growth Through Lessons Learned and Care Team Role Optimization

Carrie Deetz, Clinic Operations Manager, and Robby Naatz, Clinic Operations Coordinator, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## Raising the Bar: Collaborative Training and Standardized Competencies in Primary Care

Carrie Deetz, Clinic Operations Manager, and Robby Naatz, Clinic Operations Coordinator, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## Improving Productivity and Employee Relationships in Clinical Work Through Remote Work Opportunities

Michelle Norland, Manager, Project Management & Value Creation, and Eric Burton Reeve, MBA, CAHME, Administrator, Department of Radiology, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## Stop the Bleed: Keeping APPs Engaged and On-Board

Morgan McDowell, DNP, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC, Director of APP Education, and Robbie Price, FNP-BC, MSN, MBA, Director of APP Operations, Centra Medical Group

## Leading Change: Building Change Competency in Nurse Leadership Teams

Sonia Martindale Mather, MBA, MHA, Principal Business Analyst; Karen Reinschmidt, MS, Principal Business Analyst; and Jennifer Walter, MS, FACHE, Vice Chair, Administration Operations, Mayo Clinic - Rochester

## Industry Insights That Move Healthcare Forward: Learn from the Innovators Shaping Tomorrow's Healthcare

### Industry Partner Breakout Sessions

Enhance your educational experience by joining AMGA Corporate Partners and industry stakeholders for special content sessions during the conference. These 60-minute concurrent sessions will take place on **Friday, April 17, at 3:30 pm.**



### Hub Chats: Big Ideas. Bite-Sized. Brought to You by Industry Innovators.

Located in The Hub, running throughout published hours, these fast-paced, 20-minute sessions will deliver fresh perspectives and actionable insights from leading solution providers.



# ADDITIONAL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES AND NETWORKING

AMGA's networking events aren't just meet-and-greets—they're curated experiences designed to build trusted relationships, foster collaboration, and create actionable connections that empower leaders to solve today's toughest healthcare challenges together. Registration fee, council membership, or invitation could apply.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

- **Leadership Council Welcome Reception**  
(5:00 pm – 6:00 pm)  
Unwind and build connections with fellow council members in a relaxed setting.
- **Past Board Chairs Reception** (5:00 pm – 6:00 pm)  
(invitation only)  
Reconnect with influential leaders and alumni of AMGA's governance community.
- **Distinguished Leaders Dinner** (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)  
(invitation only)  
An exclusive networking dinner with AMGA Board of Directors, past board chairs and leaders, council chairs, and other distinguished guests.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 16

- **AMGA Spotlight: Where New Voices Join the Conversation** (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm)  
Meet and connect with emerging leaders and first-time conference attendees across the health system landscape in this welcome-to-the-network gathering.
- **Welcome Mixer: Viva Las Connections!**  
(3:00 pm – 5:00 pm)  
A lively kickoff event with music and light refreshments in the registration area to foster community and energy.
- **High Stakes, Real Connections – The Hub Opening Reception** (5:00 pm – 7:00 pm)  
Mix and mingle with solution providers and peers in the exhibit hall's interactive Hub space, designed for bold conversations and new partnerships.
- **CEO Forum Networking Dinner** (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)  
(invitation only)  
An intimate gathering for CEOs to build high-level relationships.



## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

- **Breakfast in The Hub** (7:00 am – 8:00 am)  
Start your day with casual networking among peers while enjoying breakfast and morning energy.
- **Networking Lunch in The Hub** (11:30 am – 2:00 pm)  
Recharge while connecting with peers, visiting exhibitors, and enjoying TED-style Hub Chats.
- **Cheers to Connections: The Hub Farewell Celebration**  
(4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)  
Celebrate new relationships and shared purpose with global flavors and interactive experiences to close the day.
- **AMGA Foundation Celebration** (7:00 pm) (invitation only)  
During this event, AMGA Foundation celebrates our impact and honors our collaborators, partners, supporters, program participants, sponsors, and donors.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

- **Networking Breakfast: Connect by Organization Size and Type** (7:30 am – 8:30 am)  
Structured by organizational size and type to ensure relevant peer conversations, this breakfast includes guided discussion topics for meaningful exchanges.
- **Regional Networking Lunch** (11:30 am – 1:30 pm)  
Join peers from your geographic region to discuss shared market dynamics, policy trends, and collaborative opportunities.



## SPOUSE & GUEST ACTIVITIES

AMGA conference participants are invited to bring a spouse or guest to enjoy select social events, including the welcome receptions and closing dinner, **at no additional charge**.

Optional daytime excursions are also available for a **\$100 per person** registration fee. Each experience includes **refreshments, transportation, admission tickets, and a group lunch**. Come explore Las Vegas and its stunning surroundings with AMGA!

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

#### Trail + Tranquility

Discover the natural beauty of Calico Basin on a guided walk through striking red rock formations and serene desert landscapes. Led by an experienced guide, this gentle hike is suitable for all fitness levels and offers a rejuvenating break from the city—boosting heart health, strength, and mental wellbeing.

**Approximate timeline:** Depart hotel at 10:00 am, return around 1:30 pm

**Includes lunch – \$100 per person**

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

#### Built to Last: The Hoover Dam Experience

Journey 30 miles east to Boulder City for an unforgettable visit to the Hoover Dam. Along the way, your guide will share fascinating stories of the dam's construction and its impact on the region. Upon arrival, enjoy a self-guided tour at your own pace—taking in breathtaking views and remarkable engineering.

**Approximate timeline:** Depart hotel at 9:00 am, return around 1:00 pm

**Includes lunch – \$100 per person**

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

#### When the Mob Ran Vegas

Step into the shadowy past of Las Vegas at The Mob Museum, where the story of organized crime comes alive through immersive exhibits and captivating artifacts. Test your knowledge in a mobster trivia challenge and uncover the gritty history that shaped the city we know today.

**Approximate timeline:** Depart hotel at 10:15 am, return around 12:45 pm

**Includes lunch – \$100 per person**

# PLAN YOUR STAY IN LAS VEGAS!

## Accommodations

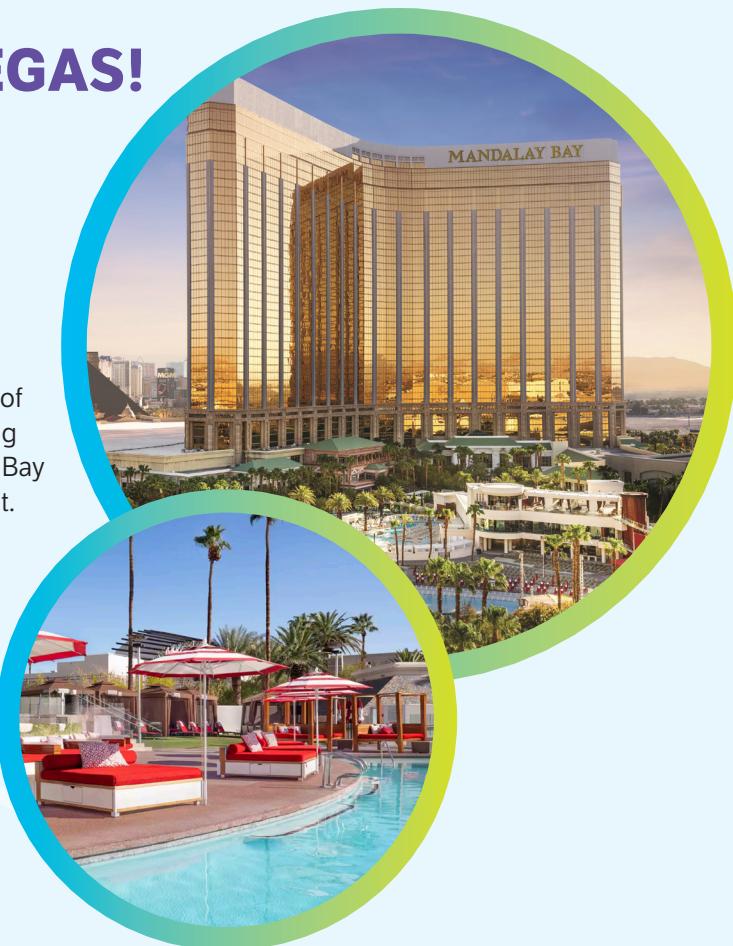
### Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino

3950 S Las Vegas Blvd  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino offers an unforgettable Las Vegas experience, blending modern luxury with vibrant energy at the heart of the Strip. From its iconic tropical pool paradise and world-class dining to premium accommodations and endless entertainment, Mandalay Bay delivers the perfect escape for relaxation, inspiration, and excitement.

Your conference registration confirmation email will contain a dedicated hotel reservation link to the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. You must use this link to receive the special AMGA conference rate of **\$260 per night** (includes resort fee). Room reservations must be completed by **Thursday, March 19, 2026**, to receive the discounted room rate. After this date, rates and availability of rooms cannot be guaranteed.

Sending a large group and need assistance with booking your rooms? Contact Adam Powers at [registrations@amga.org](mailto:registrations@amga.org) with your confirmed registrations no later than **Friday, January 30, 2026**, for assistance with reserving a sub-block of rooms.



### Special Upgraded Room Experience

(limited inventory)

### W Hotel Las Vegas

3940 S Las Vegas Blvd  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Room rate: **\$290 per night**, plus state and local taxes. Hotel deadline: **Thursday, March 19, 2026**. The discounted rate and availability cannot be guaranteed after this date.



### Beware Housing Scams and Protect Your Reservation

AMGA has not contracted with any outside companies to contact you directly by email or telephone to help book your room reservations. These solicitations from third parties identifying themselves as an official AMGA housing representative are unauthorized. Please delete these messages and ignore further requests. AMGA encourages you to only reserve your room through the dedicated reservation link provided in your conference registration email.

# CONFERENCE INFORMATION

## Three Ways to Register

1. Online at [amga.org/AC26](http://amga.org/AC26)
2. Print the form included in this brochure, scan, and email your registration form with payment included to [registrations@amga.org](mailto:registrations@amga.org)
3. Print the form included in this brochure and mail the registration form and check (payable to AMGA) or credit card payment to:

Conference Registrar  
AMGA  
One Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3318

Registration forms not accompanied by check or credit card payment will not be processed until payment is secured.

**You must complete your registration to gain access to the hotel room block.**

## Important Registration and Housing Dates

**Friday, Feb. 20, 2026**

Last day to register at the Early Bird Rate

**Thursday, March 19, 2026**

Last day to guarantee a hotel reservation at group rate

## Discounts and Team Registration Packages

Register by early bird deadline to take advantage of the lowest available rate. AMGA members and corporate partners save the most to attend the conference. If you are interested in attending and would like to become a member of AMGA to obtain the member rates, or you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Jessica Prior, senior director, membership development, 703.838.0033, ext. 392, [jprior@amga.org](mailto:jprior@amga.org).

Group Discount for AMGA member medical groups and corporate partners: Four or more paid registrations from the same organization will receive a \$100 discount per general conference registration.

**Teams sending 10+ leaders unlock a free registration for their CEO to attend the CEO Council, a complimentary pass to attend the conference, and a reserved seat the CEO Forum for a full CEO Experience (valued at \$3,500) !**

### Benefits of team registrations:

- VIP reserved seating at the general sessions
- Team photo
- Group transportation information
- Group dining options
- Access to private meeting space for team meetings/strategic planning during the conference.

**The top 3 largest teams will be provided a complimentary hospitality room in the meeting space.**

# OUR POLICIES



**Code of Conduct:** Our Code of Conduct applies at all AMGA meetings, conferences, forums, and meeting-related events, including those sponsored by organizations other than AMGA but held in conjunction with AMGA events in which they participate. Attendees should familiarize themselves with our Code of Conduct, which can be found on the conference website.

**Use of Attendee Contact Info Policy:** AMGA's conferences and events are supported by exhibitors and sponsors. Benefits provided to these supporting organizations include postal mailing lists of our registered participants. All participants are "Opt-In" upon registering for the conference. AMGA **does not** provide or distribute email addresses to the supporters. Participants are encouraged to interact with our sponsors and exhibitors throughout the conference and can personally provide their email and phone contact details through the supporter's lead retrieval system by having a badge scanned.

**AMGA's Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** AMGA is committed to making each of its educational activities accessible to all participants. **If you have special physical, dietary, or communication needs** that require auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact us at [amgaevents@amga.org](mailto:amgaevents@amga.org) so we may work with you to accommodate reasonable requests.

**Pets and Animal Policy:** To ensure the safety, comfort, and accessibility of all attendees, animals are not permitted at any AMGA meeting, conference, or event with the exception of service animals as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Service animals are welcome and permitted in all conference areas. Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog (or in some cases, a miniature horse) that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The following are not considered service animals under this policy: emotional support animals, therapy animals, companion animals, and/or pets of any kind.

**Photo/Video Policy:** AMGA will take photos and videos of conference participants throughout the event. These media are for AMGA use only and may appear on the AMGA website, conference brochures, social media outlets, or other future AMGA promotional material. This also includes photos uploaded using the AMGA conference app or uploaded to social media by participants. By virtue of your attendance, you agree to usage of your likeness in such media.

**Cancellation Policy:** Unable to travel to Las Vegas after you've sent in your registration? A cancellation request can be sent to AMGA in writing by Friday, March 20, 2026, for a refund less a \$100 processing fee. Cancellations between March 20 and April 3, 2026, will receive a letter of credit for a future AMGA activity. After April 3, 2026, AMGA will review cancellation requests on a case-by-case basis. Substitutions are welcome if you are unable to attend.



## Continuing Education Credit

AMGA's 2026 Annual Conference is a great way to maintain your credentials and earn Continuing Education credit. Attendees of the 2026 Annual Conference can earn CME, CPE, and ACHE Qualified Education credit hours by participating in Preconference Immersion Sessions, General Sessions, Peer-to-Peer Breakouts, Focus Points, Deep Dives, and Poster Session Presentations. For full session descriptions including learning objectives, visit [amga.org/AC26](https://amga.org/AC26).

**Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, and Physician Assistants (CME Credit):** AMGA is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide Continuing Medical Education (CME) for physicians. AMGA designates this live educational activity for AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for a maximum of 21 CME credit hours. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity. For the purpose of recertification, the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) accept AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ issued by organizations accredited by the ACCME. With respect to individual states' requirements for continuing education, State Boards have final authority of the acceptance.

**American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE Qualified Education Credit):** By attending this AMGA program, participants may earn American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Qualified Education credit hours toward initial certification or recertification of the Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE) designation. Participants of this program who wish to have their attendance considered for ACHE Qualified Education credit hours should list it when they apply to the ACHE for advancement or recertification. Participants are responsible for maintaining a record of their ACHE Qualified Education hours. This conference provides up to a maximum of 21 credit hours.

**CPAs (CPE Credit):** This group live activity is designated to provide a maximum of 25.2 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits in the field of "specialized knowledge." No prerequisite requirements are necessary for this event. By attending this program, participants may earn up to 25.2 CPE credits. In accordance with the standards of the National Registry of CPE Sponsors, CPE credits are granted based on a 50-minute hour. AMGA is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. (NASBA Sponsor ID: 112939)



# Registration Form



## AMGA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 15-18, 2026 | Mandalay Bay | Las Vegas, NV

Please print or type all information. One individual per form please.  
This form may be photocopied for additional registrants.

### Registration Information

Full Name (w/degree if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name/Nickname (to appear on badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant's Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name and Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

I agree, by registering to attend the AMGA 2026 Annual Conference, I will abide by the policies for the conference, including the Code of Conduct.

I require ADA accommodations, please contact me.

How did you hear about AMGA's conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first AMGA Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

### General Conference Registration (April 15-18)

	Early Through 2/20/26	Advance 2/21/26-4/3/26
AMGA Member/Corporate Partner	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,095	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,295
AMGA Nonmember	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,495	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,895

**Please note:** Your conference fee includes the welcome reception on April 16 and activities on April 17 and 18. The above rate does not include Leadership Council meetings or immersion sessions. Attendees must pay a separate fee for each preconference activity.

**Total for Conference Registration \$** \_\_\_\_\_

### Return the completed form to:

Conference Registrar / AMGA  
One Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3318

### Payment information

Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my:  Visa  MasterCard  American Express

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Preconference Activities

#### Spring Council Meetings (April 15-16)

(AMGA Medical Group Members Only)  \$350

Write in below which Council you are attending:

#### Women in Leadership Council (April 15)

(AMGA Medical Group Members Only)  \$150

#### Immersion Sessions (April 16)

AMGA Member/Corporate Partner  \$495

Early Bird (Through 2/20/26)  \$695

AMGA Nonmember  \$695

Early Bird (Through 2/20/26)  \$695

#### Indicate choice of session below:

**Compensation & Operations  
Semi-Annual Meeting**

**More Than Medicine: Integrating Culture,  
Compassion, and Equity in Chronic Care**

### Spouse/Guest Registration

Guest registration includes access to evening receptions on April 16-18. Breakfasts and lunches are not included.

Spouse/Guest Fee Complimentary

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Indicate choice of optional excursion (\$100 per person, per activity):

Trail & Tranquility

Hoover Dam Experience

When the Mob Ran Las Vegas

### Total for Preconference Activities

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Discounts

Four (4) or more paid general conference registrations from the same healthcare organization or corporate partner will receive a \$100 per registration discount. Attach all registrations from the same organization to receive the discount.

**Conference + Preconference Total (with discounts):** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellation Policy:** Unable to travel to Las Vegas after you've sent in your registration? A cancellation request can be sent to AMGA in writing by **Friday, March 20, 2026**, for a refund less a \$100 processing fee.

Cancellations between March 20 and April 3, 2026, will receive a letter of credit for a future AMGA activity. After April 3, 2026, AMGA will review cancellation requests on a case-by-case basis. Substitutions are welcome.