AAPACN 2024 CONFERENCE

April 10 - 13, 2024 | Hollywood, FL

AAPACN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
POST-ACUTE CARE NURSING

AAPACN
25TH
EST 1999
ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

2024 is a big year for AAPACN – it's our 25th Anniversary! From defining the role of the NAC to developing standard-setting certification programs to being the voice of post-acute care clinical professionals on regulatory issues, AAPACN and its legacy organizations have transformed post-acute care. Join us at the AAPACN 2024 Conference as we reflect on the association's remarkable achievements and envision the possibilities for the next quarter century.

Learn
Get the latest information and best practices from your peers and leading nurse experts. Choose from **28 breakout sessions** offered in three tracks – **DNS, NAC, and Advanced Topic.** Find inspiration from opening keynote speaker, **Mark Parkinson**, AHCA/NCAL president and CEO, and catalyst session speakers, **Jack York** and **Linda Shell.** Finally, don't miss the annual **CMS Update** from invited CMS representatives.

Connect
Enjoy the ocean air as you connect with old friends and new during the opening **reception on the patio.** Explore new solutions with AAPACN business partners and solution providers in **Solution Central** and during **Learning Labs** and **Product Theaters.** Congratulate the certification **Class of 2023,** the **AAPACN Award winners,** and the AAPACN Education Foundation **Scholarship recipients.**

Energize
Take advantage of the AAPACN-exclusive room rate at The Diplomat Beach Resort. Meet your new friends and colleagues during the fun **lunch and evening networking events.**

Register today and celebrate AAPACN's Silver Anniversary in Florida!

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Schedule subject to change. All times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time.

**Wednesday,
April 10, 2024**

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

3 – 3:45 pm
Optional Event: **First-Timer Meet and Greet**

4 – 5:45 pm
Welcome, AAPACN Awards Presentation, and Opening Catalyst Session

6 – 8 pm
Opening Reception on South Palm Patio

**Thursday,
April 11, 2024**

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

8 – 9:30 am
Product Theater Breakfast

9:45 – 11:15 am
General Catalyst Session

11:30 am – 12:45 pm
Breakout Sessions

1 – 2:30 pm
Lunch in Solution Central

2:45 – 4 pm
Breakout Sessions

4:15 – 5:15 pm
Breakout Sessions

6 – 8 pm
Evening Reception in Solution Central

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Schedule subject to change. All times are listed in Eastern Daylight Time.

**Friday,
April 12, 2024**

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

7 – 8 am
Sunrise Stretch on the Beach

8 – 9:30 am
Wake Up Continental Breakfast

9:45 – 11 am
Breakout Sessions

11:15 am – 12:30 pm
Breakout Sessions

12:45 – 2:15 pm
Product Theater Lunch

2:30 – 4:30 pm
AAPACN Education Foundation Scholarships Presentation and Closing General Catalyst Session

4:45 – 6 pm
Tachy Talk Happy Hour

**Saturday,
April 13, 2024**

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

8 – 8:30 am
Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 9:45 am
Breakout Sessions

10 – 11 am
Breakout Sessions

![AAPACN Education Foundation logo] **AAPACN Education Foundation**

Dedicated to supporting the growth and development of the LTPAC workforce.

The AAPACN Education Foundation works to build and sustain a strong post-acute care workforce. As AAPACN's philanthropic arm, the AAPACN Education Foundation is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization (tax ID 47-1713648) that funds and promotes the continued growth and development of nurses and of academic evidence-based research to advance the work of the nursing profession.

When you give, you give back!

You can help by participating in this year's fundraising activities – both at the AAPACN 2024 Conference and virtually throughout the year. Your support, and the support from your organization, can make a real, lasting impact on the professional lives of post-acute care nurses and help to preserve the posterity of the profession for years to come.

Participate in the 2024 Dollar Campaign

During the conference, stop by the AAPACN Education Foundation table to learn more and make a personal tax-deductible contribution. Help us reach our campaign goal of $4,000 at this year's event. The money raised will fund one full scholarship! Attendees who donate $25 or more will receive a limited edition AAPACN Education Foundation t-shirt.

AAPACN Education Foundation Featured Events

Friday, April 12 | 7 – 8 am
Sunrise Stretch on the Beach

Start your day with a sunrise stretch while supporting a good cause. Registration is $25 per person and all tax-deductible proceeds directly support AAPACN Education Foundation scholarships. You can register for Sunrise Stretch when you register for the conference, or you can register on-site. Not a morning person? Choose the "Sleep in" option and donate $25 to the AAPACN Education Foundation.

Friday, April 12 | 2:30 – 4:30 pm
2024 Scholarships Presentation

Before the Closing Catalyst Session, we'll honor the recipients of the following 2024 AAPACN Education Foundation Scholarships, including: Advancing Nurse Leadership in Post-Acute Care Scholarship, Elevating Post-Acute Care Nursing Scholarship, Lighting the Way for Post-Acute Care Nursing Scholarship, and Frontline Heroes in Post-Acute Care Scholarship.

Donate from your phone!

Scan the QR code or text NURSESCHOLARSHIP to 707070 to donate now.

![AAPACN Education Foundation logo]

AAPACN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

ICON KEY
—
Breakout Session Type

NAC Topic

DNS Topic

Advanced Topics*

General Session

The Advanced Topics sessions will focus on complex management and leadership topics facing seasoned post-acute professionals including CNOs, VPs, consultants, and corporate support staff.

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

3 – 3:45 pm
Optional Event: **First-Timer Meet and Greet**

Mingle with other first-time conference attendees in a fun and casual atmosphere. This is a great opportunity to connect with other members to begin networking and making new friends. The First-Timer Meet and Greet also gives you the chance to talk with AAPACN experts, board members, and staff.

4 – 5:45 pm
Welcome, AAPACN Awards Presentation, and Opening Catalyst Session
Mark Parkinson, CEO, American Health Care Association

Celebrate the 2024 AAPACN Award Winners

Just before the Opening Catalyst Session, AAPACN will present the 2024 Awards for outstanding members who embody the vision and values of AAPACN in the following categories:

- Organizational Excellence
- Clinical Leader of the Year
- Impact Award
- LTPAC Shining Star
- Clinical Assessment Professional of the Year
- LTPAC Lifetime Impact Award

Wednesday,
April 10, 2024

6 – 8 pm
Opening Reception on South Palm Patio
Following the Opening Catalyst Session, gather on the South Palm Patio for a beach side party with food, drinks, and prizes. Join other attendees and Conference Solution Providers in this fun environment designed to help kickstart your conference networking.

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

8 – 9:30 am
Product Theater Breakfast
Start the first full day of the conference enjoying breakfast with colleagues and other conference attendees while learning about new research findings or a product or service that could help create efficiencies in your job.

9:45 – 11:15 am
General Catalyst Session
2024 Update from CMS *(*Invited)*
Join representatives from CMS as they share valuable information about the current national initiatives that impact the everyday care of nursing home residents and the staff that care for them. CMS will cover topics such as MDS assessment, Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM), Five-Star Quality Rating System, the Quality Reporting Program, and the federal survey process. Don't miss this much-anticipated annual conference highlight.

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

11:30 am – 12:45 pm
Breakout Sessions

1.1		The Person Behind the Number

Carol Hill, MSN, RN, NHA, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, CPC, Hill Educational Services Inc.

Countless hours are spent analyzing quality measure (QM) data. How much of that time is spent focusing on the person behind the number? During this session, you'll take a person-centered approach to quality improvement by not only understanding how the MDS-based measures are calculated, but more importantly, who makes up that measure. Utilizing the five whys, you will focus on identifying why the person is included in the measure to target improvement efforts that focus on the resident rather than the numbers. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify the criteria for inclusion in the numerator and denominator for MDS-based measures found on the facility QM report

- List covariates and exclusions used in the calculation of the MDS-based measures found on the facility QM report

- Recall how to conduct root cause analysis using the five whys to identify areas for improvement in the care of residents triggering for quality measures

- Develop a plan for person-centered interventions based on quality measure analysis

1.2		Practical Strategies for Managing Behavioral Health Needs of Nursing Home Residents

Jacob Berelowitz, LNHA, LMSW, CPHQ, CCM, Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities

Residents with serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders continue to be admitted to nursing homes, yet staff often lack skills and confidence in meeting their needs. Facility staff are focused on appropriate reductions in antipsychotics and psychotropic medications but are also concerned about managing residents' symptoms after dose reduction. The speaker will focus on practical nonpharmacological approaches to meeting the behavioral health needs of residents. Additionally, the speaker will provide an overview of the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities (COE-NF), a federally funded center that provides training, resources, and technical assistance to nursing facility staff to build capacity for meeting the needs of residents with behavioral health conditions. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify three strategies for management of behavioral health conditions
- Recognize available resources to assist with planning effective nonpharmacological interventions
- Describe the COE-NF purpose, audience, types of services, and how to access them

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

11:30 am – 12:45 pm
Breakout Sessions

1.3		Health Literacy: It's More Than a Yes or No Question

Rebecca Slocum, PT, DPT, RAC-CTA, CDP, Powerback Rehabilitation

Health literacy has been a focus in healthcare for many years, but with its addition to the MDS this year, it is now likely to be a part of your survey process and is taking new focus in the long-term care setting. The speaker will identify the key areas that should be addressed in your systems and approach to care, including documents and education that can be modified to meet your resident's needs for improved health, increased discharge success, and improved resident satisfaction. Discussion will also highlight ways that your rehab team can assist your interdisciplinary team with education and training needs, care planning for health literacy, and survey preparation. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- List three questions to ask if a resident admits to a lack of health literacy
- Identify three documents that should be considered for modification
- Utilize alternate methods of teaching to achieve successful learning for all residents
- Describe care plans and modification of education to surveyors with confidence

1.4		The Importance of Medication Management and Best Practices in Transitions of Care

Alan Obringer, RPh, CPh, CGP, and Michael Samarkos, PharmD, CPh, both of Guardian Pharmacy of Orlando

During this session, the speakers will review the background and purpose of transitions of care (TOC), as well as why transitions are important. Discussions will highlight the differences in how meds are managed in the inpatient setting and outpatient settings, identify some of the most common medication discrepancies seen during care transitions, as well as review best practices to consider for building support around care transitions with your interdisciplinary team. You will also learn to recognize common barriers to care transitions and explore opportunities to develop TOC programs and medication management and reconciliation. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Describe the background and purpose of TOC
- Discuss differences in medication management in the inpatient and long-term care setting
- Investigate possible medication discrepancies during the TOC process
- Review best practices of TOC for the interprofessional healthcare team

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

1 – 2:30 pm

Lunch in Solution Central

Take a break between sessions to enjoy lunch and engaging conversation with Conference Solution Providers. Continue discussions you started the night before or make new connections. Use this as an opportunity to share the challenges you face as post-acute care professionals.

2:45 – 4 pm

Breakout Sessions

2.1		**Ten of the Most Confusing MDS Coding Questions**

Carol Maher, RN-BC, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, CPC, Hansen Hunter & Co

CMS requires accurate MDS coding, but there are some MDS items that are frequently misunderstood. Some MDS items have complicated or confusing instructions. The speaker will focus on the 10 most frequently asked complicated coding questions as identified from the AAPACN MDS community and from the speaker's own email inbox. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify three commonly misunderstood MDS coding item instructions
- Accurately code the MDS items from the provided case study
- State the best resource to use for accurate MDS coding instructions

2.2		**Taking the Surprise Out of Survey Results: How to Prepare Staff for Survey**

Denise Winzeler, BSN, RN, LNHA, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, AAPACN

While reading through the facility's most recent 2567, the director of nursing services (DNS) may discover some unexpected statements made by staff. The DNS may wonder, why would staff say that? Often, residents and documentation are the focus of survey preparation. However, staff education and preparation are also key to mitigating poor survey outcomes. During this session, you will discuss best practices regarding staff education to prepare for and take some of the surprise out of survey results. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand how the tasks associated with the standard survey process can help facility staff prepare for survey
- Assess educational needs related to the survey process
- Determine appropriate ways to educate staff regarding survey questions and how to answer them

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

2:45 – 4 pm
Breakout Sessions

2.3		**VBP, QRP, QM, MDS, OMG!**

Melanie Tribe-Scott, RN, BSN, DNS-CT, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, QCP, Zimmet Healthcare, AAPACN Education Foundation board member

Oh my goodness! There are so many quality initiatives, updates, quality measures moving to different programs, freezing and unfreezing; it is difficult to keep track. The speaker will provide you with a better understanding of the ever-changing quality initiatives including the Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing (SNF VBP) program, Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program (SNF QRP), and MDS-based Quality Measures. The speaker will also discuss how these programs impact reimbursement and quality incentives. You will learn strategies and best practices to improve Quality Measures and outcomes, so instead of saying "OMG," you and your team can say "oh yes" to these quality initiatives. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify quality initiatives including SNF VBP program and SNF QRP

- Discuss updates to the SNF VBP, SNF QRP, and MDS-based Quality Measures

- Review how these quality initiatives can impact reimbursement

- Utilize strategies and best practices to improve your quality measures and quality outcomes

2.4		**New Rules for Managed Care: How to Hold MCOs Accountable**

Maureen McCarthy, RN, BS, RAC-MT, QCP-MT, DNS-MT, RAC-MTA, Celtic Consulting, AAPACN board member

Significant progress to address and correct widespread managed care denials for coverage and payment was included in the FY 2024 Medicare Advantage final rule, which was fully implemented on Jan. 1, 2024. Changes require Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to follow traditional Medicare coverage guidelines when making medical necessity determinations, limit prior authorization policies, and include the treating provider's recommendation for medical necessity determination. During this session, you will learn how to hold managed care insurers accountable to these new rules. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the new requirements for MCOs published in the Medicare Advantage final rule

- Utilize best practices for addressing denied care and how to cite new requirements

- Recognize the current state, including real-world successes and challenges providers
  have encountered

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

3.1		**Significant Change in Status: Quality Measures/Staffing Without Section G**

Joel VanEaton, BSN, RN, RAC-CTA, MT, Broad River Rehab, AAPACN Education Foundation board member

With the removal of section G from MDS 3.0 v1.18.11, the residual implications are far reaching. CMS memo QSO-23-21-NH describes these significant changes. Along with this memo, CMS released updated versions of the *Five-Star Users' Guide* and the *Quality Measures User's Manual* detailing the specific technical specifications to the quality measures and staffing star calculations. The speaker will break these revisions apart so you will walk away with a better understanding of what to expect as these changes take effect. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the removal of the 672 survey form

- Ascertain the updates to Quality Measure specifications

- Recognize the staffing calculation revisions

- Comprehend the effect on Five-Star ratings

3.2		**Facility Assessment – Make it Your Facility GPS**

Barbara Bates, MSN, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, Independent Consulting, MDS Consultants, and MedNet Compliance, and Linda Winston, RN, MSN, BS, RAC-CT, RAC-CTA, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, Independent Nurse Consultant and Educator

The Facility Assessment is not a new requirement and has been around since the State Operations Manual Appendix PP update in 2017. CMS expects this assessment to capture the operation of a facility and function as a guide for the type of services rendered based on resident need. A list of components of the Facility Assessment includes identifying types of residents, staff training needs, and resources for care delivery including emergencies. This document is more than a paper exercise and should have a process of revision as the culture, resident population, staffing, and practices in your facility change. During this session, the speakers will help you create the Facility Assessment as the roadmap to your destination in quality care. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the federal regulations and the purpose of the Facility Assessment

- Describe the key components of the Facility Assessment

- Identify team members involved in development and revision of the assessment

- Develop a process to implement, utilize, and revise the Facility Assessment on a routine basis based on operational and resident population changes

Thursday,
April 11, 2024

4:15 – 5:15 pm
Breakout Sessions

3.3		Better Audit Outcomes Start with Solid Documentation

Leslie Chambers, RN, Ahava Healthcare

Recent audit trends show an increased risk of revenue loss due to lack of documentation. With more staffing challenges than ever, good documentation practices are becoming more and more difficult to implement. In this session, you will learn tips for implementing documentation processes to lessen the risk of recoupment. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Increase staff education on the various audits — Additional Documentation Request (ADR), Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC), Recovery Audit Contractor (RAC), and Medicaid audits
- Recognize the most frequent clinical items targeted by the audits
- Understand how to capture the documentation needed to avoid recoupments

3.4		Compliance Strategies to Avoid Legal Challenges

Michelle Synakowski, RN, LNHA, RAC-CT, RAC-CTA, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, ProSynk Healthcare Compliance Services

We currently live in a world where lawsuits have become more and more prevalent. Healthcare providers receive record requests and probes for potential liability claims and audits on a regular basis. The speaker will explore vulnerabilities and common pitfalls that lead to thousands of dollars in settlements, fines, and penalties. You will discuss strategies to employ that will help avoid lawsuits and fraudulent claims, as well as assist in constructing systems to minimize legal activity and the need to keep your lawyer on speed-dial. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Recognize the most frequent issues that lead to legal activity and settlements
- Utilize strategies to avoid legal cases and penalties that affect healthcare providers
- Understand how to build a compliance and ethics program to minimize fraud and liability claims
- Identify components of documentation systems that defend allegations of neglect

6 – 8 pm
Evening Reception in Solution Central

Continuing the fun of the opening night reception, join other attendees in Solution Central for food and drinks with our Conference Solution Providers. Build upon connections made the night before and dig in to learn more about the products and services they offer that can help you do your job more efficiently and effectively.

Friday,
April 12, 2024

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

7 – 8 am
Sunrise Stretch on the Beach

Wake up, get moving, and support nurse education! Start your day with a sunrise stretch while supporting a good cause. Join colleagues and new friends for a beach side stretch session before you settle in for another day of learning. Registration is $25 per person and all tax-deductible proceeds directly fund [AAPACN Education Foundation](#) scholarships. Support the future of post-acute care nursing by helping colleagues achieve their education dreams. You can register for Sunrise Stretch when you register for the conference, or you can register on-site. Not a morning person? Choose the "Sleep in" option and donate $25 to the AAPACN Education Foundation.

8 – 9:30 am
Wake Up Continental Breakfast

Friday,
April 12, 2024

4.1		**PDPM (Lost?) Opportunities - Looking Back, Looking Forward**

Beckie Dow, RN, RAC-MT, CHC, CPC-A, Maine Veterans' Homes

The Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM) was implemented shortly before a world-wide public health emergency. Are you missing opportunities in PDPM? Accurate documentation fosters accurate payment that can be proven in the medical record. During this session, the speaker will outline some past pitfalls of PDPM and look forward to provide insight and tips for PDPM accuracy and success. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify the components of the PDPM HIPPS code
- Calculate a Functional Score
- Apply new knowledge of PDPM clinical qualifiers to current documentation practices

4.2		**Don't Let Your Infection Control Program Live in Isolation**

Laurie Laxton, RN, BSN, CCFA, CMAS, RAC-CT, IP-BC, QCP, Inovalon

With the focus on staffing challenges and the new MDS the past several months, along with all the programs that have been affected, staff may not have had time to keep up with all the government-updated regulations around infection prevention and control (IPC) and antibiotic stewardship. Infection preventionists cannot function in isolation; it takes the entire team. Join this session to explore a comprehensive overview of the latest updates, guidelines, and regulations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). Discussion will also cover the latest data around infection control in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and how it has impacted elderly residents. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify three of the latest CDC infection-related guidelines from the past year
- Recognize how social determinants of health can affect an IPC program
- State two objectives of an antimicrobial stewardship program
- Name two infections prominent in SNFs that have seen a surge since the pandemic

Friday,
April 12, 2024

9:45 – 11 am
Breakout Sessions

4.3		**Stay Ahead of Evolving SNF QRP Requirements Through Data Analytics**

Michelle Self, MA, CCC SLP, CMAC, Real Time Medical Systems, and Jennifer Roberts, RN, RAC-CTA, Aperion Care

The Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program (SNF QRP) continues to evolve and affect reimbursement. During this session, the speakers will explore how live data analytics helps post-acute care facilities better manage patient care and outcomes while ensuring compliance with the QRP measures. Using a real-world example, learn how early adoption and proper utilization of data-driven technologies can help facilities identify trends, such as clinical system breakdowns or MDS coding opportunities, and track and manage clinical trends and insights that allow for appropriate assessment and reimbursement. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand key documentation changes to the QRP including new data reporting standards and penalties
- Recognize how live data analytics helps drive patient care and improves outcomes
- Ensure facility compliance in meeting specified measures by integrating live data into the workflow

4.4		**Be a Data Defender: A Successful Response to Litigation**

Steven Littlehale, MS, Gerontological Nursing, BS, Professional Nursing, Zimmet Healthcare

You've heard the expression "what you say can and will be used against you," but what about the voluminous data that you produce? Plaintiff attorneys and other external stakeholders could be using your publicly available data in an uninformed way. What lies beyond the typical risk management advice to document everything? To effectively respond to litigation, you must create a defensible data-driven response. The speaker will discuss real-world nursing home legal cases and advanced data analytics defense strategies. Additionally, the speaker will offer practical suggestions that can be implemented at the facility to increase trust and transparency and create a defensible data story. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify the various data, metrics, and measures that are often used and misunderstood by external stakeholders
- Recall case studies where data was weaponized to support allegations and the effective data-driven response
- Establish risk mitigation strategies using your publicly available data story

Friday,
April 12, 2024

11:15 am – 12:30 pm
Breakout Sessions

5.1		**Understanding the Process for Beneficiary Notices and Physician Certifications**

Scott Heichel, RN, RAC-MT, RAC-CTA, DNS-CT, IPCO, QCP, ICC, LeaderStat, AAPACN board member

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regulations require residents receiving Medicare Part A or Part B services be given notices in writing when these services are discontinuing. Another CMS regulation requires the signing of the Physician Certification to support the skilled need of the resident under Medicare and also allows the nursing home to get paid for that skilled service. The scenarios for giving the beneficiary notices can be confusing and an error in the process can have a significant impact on the nursing home. Meanwhile, an error in completing the Physician Certification can also have a damaging financial impact on the nursing home. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- State which beneficiary notices are used for Part A and which are used for Part B
- Understand the scenarios that require a notice to be given
- Follow the timing requirements for each notice
- Recognize the required components and timing of the Physician Certification

5.2		**Empowering Post-Acute Care Nurses: A Comprehensive Approach to Substance Use Disorder Programs in Nursing Homes**

Peter Donato, DNP, MSN, RN, Apple Rehab

Substance use disorders among elderly residents in nursing homes are an emerging healthcare concern. The speaker will introduce a comprehensive Substance Use Disorder (SUD) program tailored specifically for nursing home settings. You will gain insights into the program's development, implementation, outcomes, and the critical role post-acute care nurses play in its success. You will examine real-world case studies, best practices, and practical strategies for addressing SUD within the unique context of nursing homes. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Recognize the prevalence and unique challenges of SUDs in nursing home settings
- Discern the components of a comprehensive SUD program tailored for nursing homes
- Understand the crucial role post-acute care nurses play in addressing SUDs
- Apply insights from real-world case studies and best practices to enhance care delivery

Friday,
April 12, 2024

5.3			An Effective QAPI Program – How Do You Know?

Barbara Bates, MSN, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, Independent Consulting, MDS Consultants, and MedNet Compliance, and Linda Winston, RN, MSN, BS, RAC-CT, RAC-CTA, DNS-MT, QCP-MT, Independent Nurse Consultant and Educator

How do you know your Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) program is effective? When was the last time your QAPI team evaluated the program? Are you identifying high-risk needs and/or areas in need of improvement? During this session, the speakers will review the QAPI program requirements and explore methods to determine if your program is working. You will discuss developing performance improvement projects, strategies to make the process team-focused, and how to engage all levels of staff. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Define high-risk, high-volume, and problem-prone areas that may need improvement
- Review CMS's QAPI Self-Assessment Tool and how to utilize it to evaluate your QAPI program
- Understand performance improvement projects and when to implement them
- Implement methods to engage facility staff and residents in the QAPI program and improve outcomes

5.4		Conducting PDPM Audits

Robin Hillier, CPA, LNHA, RAC-MT, RAC-CTA, RLH Consulting, AAPACN board member

The recent 5-Claim TPE process highlights the importance of auditing Medicare assessments before finalizing and submitting them to avoid potential adverse findings during a subsequent review. During this session, the speaker will explain how to interpret the HIPPS code for each assessment, how to use it to audit for appropriate documentation for coded MDS items, and how to look for missed reimbursement opportunities before submitting the assessment and Medicare claim. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify the HIPPS code positions
- Explain the five case-mix-adjusted components of the Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM) rate
- Describe common PDPM-related MDS coding errors

Friday, April 12, 2024

12:45 – 2:15 pm
Product Theater Lunch
Enjoy lunch with colleagues and other conference attendees while learning about new research findings or a product or service that could help create efficiencies in your job.

2:30 – 4:30 pm
AAPACN Education Foundation Scholarships Presentation and Closing General Catalyst Session
Jack York, Founder and Chief Storyteller, TaleGate, LLC., and Linda Shell, DNP, MA, BSN, RN, DNS-CT, Lindashell.com, AAPACN Education Foundation board president

Congratulations 2024 AAPACN Education Foundation Scholarship Recipients
Before the Closing Catalyst Session, we'll honor the recipients of the 2024 AAPACN Education Foundation Scholarships, including: Advancing Nurse Leadership in Post-Acute Care Scholarship, Elevating Post-Acute Care Nursing Scholarship, Lighting the Way for Post-Acute Care Nursing Scholarship, and Frontline Heroes in Post-Acute Care Scholarship. Learn more about the AAPACN Education Foundation scholarships.

4:45 – 6 pm
Tachy Talk Happy Hour
After a full day of learning, unwind with your friends and colleagues during this fun happy hour event featuring five-minute rapid-fire presentations that will both enlighten and entertain.

Saturday,
April 13, 2024

TBD
Registration and Information Desk Open

8 – 8:30 am
Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 9:45 am
Breakout Sessions

6.1		**The Ugly Truth About Care Area Assessments**

Jessie McGill, RN, BSN, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, AAPACN

Nurse assessment coordinators (NACs) often loathe care areas assessments (CAAs)—they are time consuming, complex, and worst of all, require a lot of thought. NACs often voice frustration with the CAA process and question why completing them is required if no one else ever reads them. While NACs may have some valid points about CAAs and their frustration, there is much more to understand. During this session, the speaker will expose the ugly truth about just how important the CAAs are to meeting the unique needs of residents and achieving desired outcomes. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the *RAI User's Manual* requirements for CAA completion
- Discern how CAAs align with the nursing process and evidence-based practice
- Be aware of the risk for using artificial intelligence to complete CAAs
- Utilize appropriate tools and resources to complete the assessment of each triggered care area
- Recognize how CAA summary notes may impact audits, care plan development, and survey citations

6.2		**From Crew to Captain: How to Build a Leader**

Stacy Grondel, BSN, RN, RAC-MT, CMAC, QCP, and Megan Ussery, RN, RAC-CT, both of Quality Rehab Management

Having one leader in the facility is no longer enough to achieve optimal outcomes. Our industry demands multiple levels of engaged and dynamic leaders. During the session, you will learn the difference between a manager and a leader, the importance of accountability and responsibility, effective communication strategies, and how to help your team find its passion. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Identify leaders within your interdisciplinary team
- Utilize strategies to develop a team of effective, accountable, and responsible leaders
- Understand the importance of communicating clarity while developing a united purpose within the team

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8:45 – 9:45 am
Breakout Sessions

6.3		**How to Succeed ADRs and TPE**

Jennifer Rowe, BSN, RN, RAC-CTA, DNS-CT, QCP, C-NE, Trio Healthcare

The number of additional documentation requests (ADRs) received by the skilled nursing facility is continuing to increase. However, document checklists for medical record audits like ADRs and Targeted Probe and Educate (TPE) audits can be confusing to navigate and not specific enough. How do you know if you've pulled all the necessary documents to adequately support the MDS? What exactly are auditors looking for? The speaker will demonstrate how to double check your medical record submission by examining the HIPPS code. Following this session, you'll be
able to:

- Understand insurance auditor focus areas for ADRs and identify appropriate supporting documentation
- Assemble a complete ADR packet that supports all the components of the specific MDS/HIPPS code
- Apply ADR awareness to enhance quality documentation for improved ADR readiness and MDS completion

6.4		**Taking the Pain Out of the Plan of Correction**

Jennifer Goodpaster, BS, RN, DNS-CT, QCP, RAC-CT, CPHQ, AAPACN

State surveyors have exited the building citing several deficiencies, and now systemic changes must be implemented through a plan of correction. This can be a challenging process if facility leadership doesn't know where to start. Join this session to discuss best practices regarding how to take the pain out of the process and start drafting a sustainable plan of correction. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand how to respond to and prioritize deficiencies identified during survey
- Identify actions to alter the process or system failure to prevent an adverse outcome from occurring or recurring
- Develop a systematic approach to sustain improved performance and ensure compliance

Saturday,
April 13, 2024

7.1		ICD-10-CM Coding Basics

Carol Maher, RN-BC, RAC-MTA, RAC-MT, CPC, Hansen Hunter & Co

ICD-10-CM coding accuracy is required for billing under the Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM), MDS coding, accurate billing, and to correctly enter diagnoses in resident records at the highest degree of specificity documented by the resident's physician/extender. One of the important functions of the MDS assessment is to generate an updated, accurate picture of the resident's current health status, which includes accurate ICD-10-CM coding. Nurses do not learn ICD-10-CM coding during formal nursing training but are required to identify active diagnoses for the residents. The speaker will provide basics of ICD-10-CM and identify how diagnosis codes impact PDPM, billing, Quality Measures, and MDS accuracy. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- State the correct process for determining the ICD-10 code from the physician's documented diagnoses

- Identify which practitioners can diagnose

- Explain the process for identifying the main term for diagnoses to assist clinicians to locate the basic code in the alphabetic index

- Describe the difference between Excludes 1 and Excludes 2 notes

7.2		Creating a Winning Recruitment and Retention Strategy

Lisa Thomson, BA, LNHA, HSE, CIMT, Pathway Health, AAPACN Education Foundation board member

Facing the challenges of recruiting and retaining qualified staff in the ever-changing workforce is a top priority of healthcare leaders today. Staff turnover affects clinical, quality, operational, and financial outcomes. During this engaging session, the speaker will provide keen insights on recruitment strategies for today's candidate-driven world, outline creative retention tactics utilized in organizations, as well as discuss strategies to engage a diverse and multigenerational workforce. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Recognize the quality and operational implications of staff turnover

- Implement key recruitment strategies in today's candidate-driven workforce based upon current research

- Apply key leadership strategies to motivate a diverse and multigenerational workforce

Saturday,
April 13, 2024

7.3		Running with SNF VBP: Do You Have the Right Gear?

Joel VanEaton, BSN, RN, RAC-CTA, MT, Broad River Rehab, AAPACN Education Foundation board member

The Skilled Nursing Facility Value-Based Purchasing (SNF VBP) program has expanded since its initial measurement metric of rehospitalizations. CMS has approved eight measures that, when fully implemented in 2027, will have a significant effect on payment. If providers expect to retain any amount of the 2% withhold, they must embrace value-based purchasing principles, including health equity. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Recognize the principles driving SNF value-based purchasing

- Identify the eight SNF VBP Quality Measures

- Understand the health equity component

- Explain the SNF VBP scoring methodology

7.4		Navigating the Medicare Part A Abyss: Diving into Deep Coverage Waters

Jennifer LaBay, RN, RAC-MT, RAC-MTA, QCP, CRC, AAPACN

Feeling like you are underwater trying to understand all the Medicare Part A requirements? During this session, the speaker will dive into the depths of Medicare Part A coverage requirements. You will navigate the tides of Administrative Presumption and chart a course through the undercurrents of the 30-Day Transfer Rule intricacies. Ride the waves of Indirect Skilled Nursing with real-world scenarios and case studies and discover the hidden treasures of the Medical Appropriateness Exception. Tailored for nurse assessment coordinators, nursing leadership, administrators, and consultants, this advanced session will equip you with tools needed to confidently explore the oceanic depths of Medicare coverage. Following this session, you'll be able to:

- Understand the importance of the Social Security Act when decoding Medicare regulations

- Apply the Administrative Level of Care Presumption

- Explain the requirements of the 30-Day Transfer Rule

- Understand how and when to use the Medical Appropriateness Exception

- Differentiate the indirect skilled nursing services

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The AAPACN 2024 Conference is eligible for up to 12.75 CEs.

The American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing (AAPACN) is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

AAPACN works in conjunction with the National Association of Long-Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) to provide nursing home administrators continuing education. Official NAB approval is pending.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration
Please register online at AAPACN.org.

Your conference registration includes
All educational sessions, conference materials, Wednesday's opening reception, lunch on Thursday and breakfast on Friday and Saturday, all refreshment breaks, and online access to the AAPACN Conference Community. *Note: Sunrise Stretch on the Beach requires an additional registration fee.*

Important Dates

March 10, 2024
Discounted hotel rate is available through this date; however, rooms at this rate are at a first-come, first-served basis. Please book early to ensure your spot.

March 17, 2024
Early-bird discount ends at 11:59 pm MT.

March 31, 2024
Pre-registration deadline. All registrations after this date must be handled on-site and higher fees will apply.

Payment Information
AAPACN accepts Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. If a check payment is accompanying your form, please make the check out to AAPACN. We are unable to process registration forms received without payment. Please mail your registration form with payment to:
400 S Colorado Blvd, Ste 500, Denver, CO 80246

Cancellation and Transfers
All conference cancellations and/or attendee substitutions must be submitted in writing to the AAPACN office via email to memberexperience@AAPACN.org. All cancellations received by March 31, 2024, will be refunded in full, less a $50 cancellation fee. After March 31, 2024, no refunds will be issued except in case of emergency or a visit from State Surveyors. Registration fees cannot be transferred to other AAPACN programs.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Commercial Support/Relevant Financial Relationship

Commercial support provided to AAPACN by exhibitors and/or sponsors has in no way influenced or biased the content of the educational activities and conference sessions. AAPACN does not endorse or promote commercial products or services within its educational programs that are awarded continuing nursing education.

AAPACN does a thorough evaluation when developing and implementing an educational activity to ensure that Planning Committee members, speakers, and presenters do not have relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies; if a relevant financial relationship is identified, it is resolved and disclosed to all participants prior to the beginning of the activity.

Membership

You must be an AAPACN member at the time of registration to qualify for the member rate. Individual membership is non-transferable; it is based on the individual and not the organization unless your organization is part of AAPACN's organizational membership program. Any attendee substitutions must also be AAPACN members at the time of the registration, or the non-member rate will be assessed. You may join AAPACN at the time of your registration by adding a membership option. Full payment for registration and membership must accompany your registration.

Educational Session Changes

The agenda disclosed is preliminary. The final agenda and educational offerings may be subject to change. Please consult the conference mobile app for final session schedules or visit AAPACN.org for updates to the schedule. All planning committee members, speakers, and presenters do not have any relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose. Click here for further information on ANCC accreditation.

TRAVEL AND HOTEL INFORMATION

Host Hotel Information

The Diplomat Beach Resort
3555 S. Ocean Drive
Hollywood, FL 33019

Make your hotel and travel plans early. All conference events will be held on-site at The Diplomat Beach Resort. AAPACN has secured a block of rooms at a discounted rate. AAPACN Conference attendees can reserve a room at the rate of $269 per night plus associated state and local taxes. In addition to the room rate, there is a mandatory resort fee of $29 per night plus associated local taxes. The resort fee includes Wi-Fi access in guestrooms and meeting rooms, one (1) fitness class per day in the on-site Core Fitness Training Facility, four (4) beach lounges, 10% off cabana rentals, one-hour non-motorized water sports, and one-hour bike rental. Room rates are based on double occupancy.

You can book directly into the discounted room block by clicking here or by calling the hotel's reservation line at 855-689-2911 and mentioning the AAPACN 2024 Conference Discounted Room Rate. Check-in time at the hotel is 3 pm and check-out time is 11 am.

*AAPACN's discounted room rate will only be available through **Sunday, March 10** and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Please book early to ensure your spot in the discounted room block.*

Getting to Hollywood, FL

Flying

The Diplomat Beach Resort is conveniently located approximately 10 miles from the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (airport code: FLL) and approximately 22 miles from the Miami International Airport (airport code: MIA).

Parking

Valet and self-parking are both available for guests of The Diplomat Beach Resort for a daily fee. The valet rate is $52 plus tax per day and the self-parking rate is $41 plus tax per day.
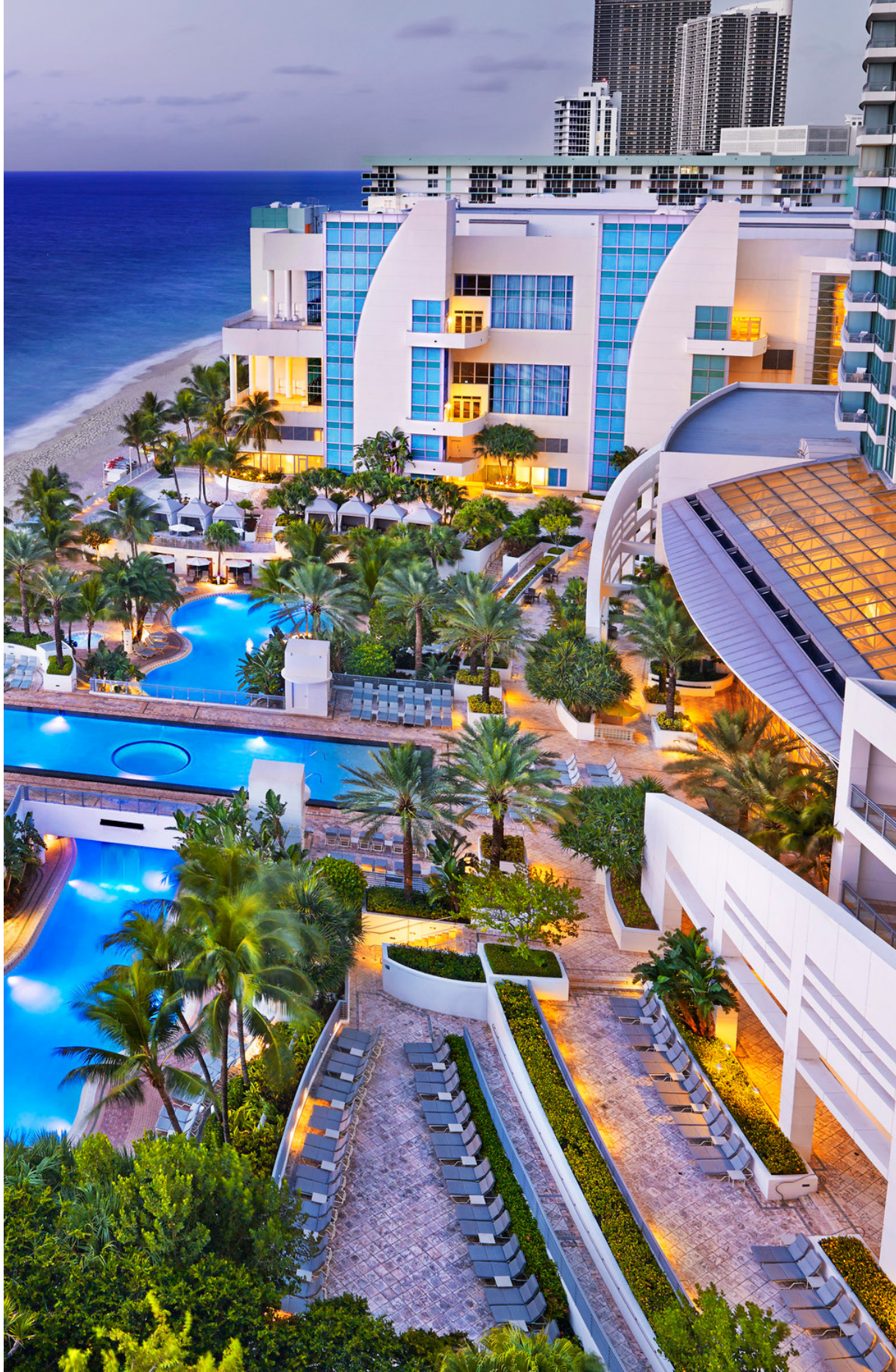
AAPACN 2024 **CONFERENCE**
April 10 - 13, 2024 | Hollywood, FL

AAPACN
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
POST-ACUTE CARE NURSING
25th ANNIVERSARY

AAPACN 2024 CONFERENCE

April 10 - 13, 2024 | Hollywood, FL

Registration Form

_____   _____
Full Name   **Credentials**

_____   _____   _____   _____
Job Title   **Organization**   **Telephone**   **Email Address**

_____   _____   _____   _____
Address Home Work   **City**   **State**   **Zip**

I am a current member. My member number is _____

Will there need to be any special accommodations made for you to fully participate in any conference sessions?

Do you have any special dietary requirements (kosher, vegan, gluten-free, allergies, etc.)?

***Required: Who should we contact in case of an emergency? Please provide first name, last name, and telephone number.**

***Required:** Would you like to receive information from companies exhibiting or sponsoring this year's conference?   Yes   No
By selecting yes, you are giving your consent for these companies to email you.

How did you hear about the conference? Please check all that apply.   Email   Ad in Nursing Publication   Direct Mail

Online Ad   Facebook/Social Media   AAPACN Website   Friend or Co-worker   Other

REGISTRATION FEES

AAPACN CONFERENCE		MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Early-Bird	Register by March 17, 2024	$599	$935
Standard	Register between March 18 - 31, 2024	$699	$935
Late	Register after March 31, 2024	$799	$985
OPTIONAL EVENTS			
Sunrise Stretch on the Beach		_I'm Stretching_ $25	_I'm Sleeping In_ $25
	Conference Total		

AAPACN MEMBERSHIP		
One-Year AAPACN Membership		$163
Two-Year AAPACN Membership		$295
One-Year Full-Time Student Membership		$52
AAPACN Member Number		
	Membership Total	

Conference Total	
Membership Total	
Total Payment	

BREAKOUT SESSION SCHEDULE

Please select which breakout sessions and events you plan on attending by checking the box next to each session.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024

3 – 3:45 pm

Optional Event: **First-Timer Meet and Greet**

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

11:30 am – 12:45 pm | Breakout Sessions

1.1 **The Person Behind the Number**

1.2 **Practical Strategies for Managing Behavioral Health Needs of Nursing Home Residents**

1.3 **Health Literacy: It's More Than a Yes or No Question**

1.4 **The Importance of Medication Management and Best Practices in Transitions of Care**

2:45 – 4 pm | Breakout Sessions

2.1 **Ten of the Most Confusing MDS Coding Questions**

2.2 **Taking the Surprise Out of Survey Results: How to Prepare Staff for Survey**

2.3 **VBP, QRP, QM, MDS, OMG!**

2.4 **New Rules for Managed Care: How to Hold MCOs Accountable**

4:15 – 5:15 pm | Breakout Sessions

3.1 **Significant Change in Status: Quality Measures/Staffing Without Section G**

3.2 **Facility Assessment – Make it Your Facility GPS**

3.3 **Better Audit Outcomes Start with Solid Documentation**

3.4 **Compliance Strategies to Avoid Legal Challenges**

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024

9:45 – 11 am | Breakout Sessions

4.1 **PDPM (Lost?) Opportunities - Looking Back, Looking Forward**

4.2 **Don't Let Your Infection Control Program Live in Isolation**

4.3 **Stay Ahead of Evolving SNF QRP Requirements Through Data Analytics**

4.4 **Be a Data Defender: A Successful Response to Litigation**

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2024 (*CONTINUED*)

11:15 am – 12:30 pm | Breakout Sessions

5.1 **Understanding the Process for Beneficiary Notices and Physician Certifications**

5.2 **Empowering Post-Acute Care Nurses: A Comprehensive Approach to Substance Use Disorder Programs in Nursing Homes**

5.3 **An Effective QAPI Program – How Do You Know?**

5.4 **Conducting PDPM Audits**

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

8:45 – 9:45 am | Breakout Sessions

6.1 **The Ugly Truth About Care Area Assessments**

6.2 **From Crew to Captain: How to Build a Leader**

6.3 **How to Succeed ADRs and TPE**

6.4 **Taking the Pain Out of the Plan of Correction**

10 - 11 am | Breakout Sessions

7.1 **ICD-10-CM Coding Basics**

7.2 **Creating a Winning Recruitment and Retention Strategy**

7.3 **Running with SNF VBP: Do You Have the Right Gear?**

7.4 **Navigating the Medicare Part A Abyss: Diving into Deep Coverage Waters**

PAYMENT METHOD

Registration forms received without payment cannot be processed.

Check Enclosed

Payable to AAPACN, postmarked by March 31, 2024

Credit Card
Visa
Mastercard
Amex

Card Number _____

Name on Card _____

Expiration Date _____

Security Code _____

Billing Address _____ City _____ State ___ Zip ___

Signature _____

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER

1. Online at **AAPACN.org**
2. Fax to **303.758.3588**
3. Mail form with payment to **AAPACN: 400 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 500, Denver, CO 80246**