

22ND ANNUAL

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE



## Agenda

*August 27 & 28, 2026*



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

August 27 & 28, 2026

*Care That Fits the Person, "What Matters Most"*  
*Shared and Ethical Decision-Making in Health Care*

## Day 1:

8:00am-8:30am Registration and Light Breakfast

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8:40am-9:15am Welcome and Opening Remarks  
**What Truly Matters? Redefining Patient-Centered Geriatric Care**  
Dan Matlock, MD, MPH

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9:00am-10:15am When the Stakes Are High: Navigating Serious Illness, Dementia & Family Priorities

**Dementia and/or Hospice**

Channing Tate, PhD

**Caregiver Support in Heart Failure**

Colleen McIlvennan, PhD, RN

**Social Determinants and Supporting Discharge**

Andrea Wallace, PhD, RN

**Long-Term Care Decision Making**

Kenny Lam, MD

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10:15am-10:30am Refreshment Break

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10:30am-11:45am Heart Decisions: Personalizing Cardiovascular Care for Older Adults

**Implanted Cardiac Devices**

Amneet Sandhu, MD

**Atrial Fibrillation**

Ben Steinberg, MD

**Venous Thromboembolism**

Anna Parks, MD

**Personalized decision making in Coronary Artery Disease (CAD)**

Dan Nguyen, MD

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11:45am-12:15pm Lunch

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

**12:15pm-1pm**      Lunchtime Keynote: Truth, Trust & Tradeoffs: Helping Patients Make Sense of Risk and Evidence

**Helping Older Adults Understand Risk and Evidence**

Angie Fagerlin, PhD

**Misinformation: How Do I Know What Evidence Is Good?**

Laura Scherer, PhD

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**1pm-1:15pm**      Refreshment Break

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**1:15pm-2:15pm**      Concurrent Breakout Sessions

*Session #1*      *Independence at Risk: Safety, Function & Everyday Decision-Making*

**Driving Safety** – Emmy Betz, MD

**Patient Generated Health Data...At Home Safety** – Jorie Butler, PhD

**Firearms and Dementia Decision Making** – Chris Knoepke, PhD

*Session #2*      *Surgery & Self: Rethinking Surgical Decisions in Aging*

**Parkinson's - Deep Brain Stimulation** – Michelle Fullard, MD

**Rehab Care** – Jenn Stevens-Lapsley, PhD

**Geriatric Surgery** – Dan Adams, PA-C

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**2:15pm-2:30pm**      Refreshment Break

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**2:30pm-3:45pm**      Real Talk: Navigating Tough Healthcare Decisions Together | What Matters Most: Lessons Across the Lifespan – Patient Panel Discussion

**Deliberative Engagement As A Tool** – Sarah Knight, PhD (Utah VA)

Moderated By: Dan Matlock, MD, MPH

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**3:45pm-4:00pm**      Closing Remarks & Community Conference Conclusion

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*\*\*Sessions are subject to change without notice*



# ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

**Day 2:** Research-Focused Shared Decision-Making Workshop

**8:00am-8:30am** Registration and Coffee

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**8:30am-8:45am** Welcome and Opening Reflection  
**Catalyzing Collaboration: From Research Ideas to Actionable Partnerships**

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**8:45am-12pm**

**Session Description:**

Looking to spark meaningful research collaborations but not sure where to start—or who to connect with? This high-energy, interactive session is designed to move beyond introductions and into action.

Part 1: Rapid Research Pitches

Participants will hear short, dynamic pitches from researchers answering a critical question:

**“What am I looking for in collaborators—and what research ideas am I ready to explore?”**

These focused pitches will surface emerging priorities, shared interests, and opportunities for alignment across disciplines.

Part 2: Small-Team Collaboration Labs

Participants will break into facilitated small groups to turn inspiration into action. Together, groups will:

- Identify **who they want to collaborate with**
- Define **priority research themes or questions**
- Develop **concrete next steps and deliverables** (e.g., concept papers, grant ideas, follow-up meetings)

Key Workshop Outcomes:

- New cross-disciplinary research connections
- Clearly defined collaboration teams
- Action-oriented plans to advance shared research goals

This session is ideal for anyone ready to move from networking to **building real research partnerships with momentum.**