

22ND ANNUAL

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE



Agenda

August 27 & 28, 2026

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GERIATRICS COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

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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

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

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

10:15am-10:30am Refreshment Break

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

11:45am-12:15pm Lunch

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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

1pm-1:15pm Refreshment Break

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

2:15pm-2:30pm Refreshment Break

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

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

***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

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

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.**

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