INTERNAL MEDICINE FOR PRIMARY CARE: ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY/EAR, NOSE & THROAT/GERIATRICS/RHEUMATOLOGY

San Juan, Puerto Rico - The Royal Sonesta San Juan
March 11 - 14, 2027

Thursday, March 11, 2027

7:00 am

Check-In and Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:30 am - Rheumatology
Evaluating the Patient with Joint Pain
Differentiating between inflammatory and non-inflammatory joint pain; The utility of joint aspiration and lab work-up with interpretation of synovial fluid analysis; Differential diagnosis of joint pain and inflammatory arthritis

8:30 am - 9:30 am - Rheumatology
Update in Pharmacology for Arthritis
Review risks and benefits of traditional NSAIDs and cox-2 inhibitors; Analgesics (narcotics and tramadol), acetaminophen, conventional-synthetic DMARDs, and bDMARDs

9:30 am - 9:40 am

Coffee Break

9:40 am - 10:40 am - Rheumatology
Crystal Disease: Gout & Pseudogout
Properly diagnosing and treating crystal diseases such as gout and pseudogout

10:40 am - 11:40 am - ENT
Evaluation of the Neck Mass
Patients presenting with masses in the neck are challenging and worrisome. The diagnostic and therapeutic process is described. A method for evaluating the mass, guidance on when imaging studies are indicated, and when immediate or routine referral to ENT becomes appropriate is discussed.

11:40 am - 12:40 pm - ENT
Antimicrobial Therapy in Treating Sinusitis
Symptoms, signs and examination findings helpful in diagnosing sinusitis are outlined. When to use systemic and topical agents as well as emerging resistance to these agents is discussed. Imaging studies and proper referral to specialists is described with clarity.

12:40 pm

Session Adjourns

Friday, March 12, 2027

7:00 am

Arrival and Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:30 am - ENT

Allergic Rhinitis

The lecture will focus on a review of the basic allergic pathways that affect the body. Special emphasis will be given to the nasal and sinus regions, with discussion to include diagnostic testing and modes of treatment, including avoidance, pharmacotherapy and immunotherapy

8:30 am - 9:30 am - ENT

A Primary Care Approach to Sudden Hearing Loss

When a patient presents with sudden hearing loss, accurate differentiation of sensorineural versus conductive loss is essential. Techniques to make that differentiation, testing and treatment strategies will be discussed; Urgent treatment and when to render for audiometric testing and ENT referral will be outlined

9:30 am - 9:40 am

Coffee Break

9:40 am - 10:40 am - Rheumatology

Fibromyalgia

Differential diagnosis and treatment of this difficult-to-manage pain syndrome; Treatment options of anti-epileptics and SNRI's

10:40 am - 11:40 am - Geriatrics

Approach to the Geriatric Patient

The demographics of aging and the physiologic changes in the elderly patient; Medication use in the elderly including changes in age-related pharmacokinetics and pharmacodymamics and medication adherence; Review of risky medications often used in elderly patients

11:40 am - 12:40 pm - Geriatrics

Urological Disorders in the Older Adult

Review common lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) in older adults that may progress to incontinence; Practical approaches to differential diagnoses and management of Stress Incontinence, Overflow Incontinence, and Overactive Bladder (OAB), leading to Urge Incontinence

12:40 pm

Session Adjourns

Saturday, March 13, 2027

7:00 am

Arrival and Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:30 am - Geriatrics

Alzheimer's & Other Dementias

Review of normal age-related changes in cognitive function as well as disorders of memory and cognition as part of dementing illness; Mental status exams, including their limitations in evaluating memory; Various types of dementia and the importance of an accurate diagnosis; Current treatment options for various kinds of dementia; Potentially reversible dementias; The responsibilities of healthcare providers in managing patients with dementia

8:30 am - 9:30 am - Geriatrics

Managing Behavior Problems in Dementia Patients

Review of common behavior disorders often seen in patients with dementia; Behavioral techniques which have shown to be effective in managing some of the behavior disorders in patients with Alzheimer's and other dementias, focusing on the management of these patients without the use of psychotropic medications; Examples of behavior disturbances along with the behavior management technique which was effective in managing the patient with the behavior problem; Review of the potential adverse effects of the psychotropic medications usually used to manage behavior

9:30 am - 9:40 am

Coffee Break

9:40 am - 10:40 am - Allergy & Immuno

Primary Care Management of Asthma

This presentation will review the diagnostic features of asthma; discuss the management of comorbid complicating conditions; review guideline-driven therapy including the utility of biologics for the management of patients with severe asthma

10:40 am - 11:40 am - Allergy & Immuno

Food Allergies and Hymenoptera Allergies

Primary care focused discussion of food and venom allergies including gaining a working knowledge of how to efficiently and cost effectively manage patients with hymenoptera hypersensitivity

11:40 am

Session Adjourns

Sunday, March 14, 2027

7:00 am

Arrival and Breakfast

7:30 am - 8:30 am - **Allergy & Immuno**

Urticaria and Angioedema Updates for Primary Care

This presentation will discuss the pathogenesis and epidemiology of urticaria and angioedema; review the causes of urticaria and angioedema; and discuss the treatment of urticaria and angioedema

8:30 am - 9:30 am - **Allergy & Immuno**

Drug Allergies for Primary Care

Allergic reactions account for up to 10% of all adverse drug reactions; Discussion will include an office-based approach to rashes, hives, difficulty breathing and other immune responses to medication

9:30 am

Conference Adjourns

Target Audience

This program is targeted to office-based primary care providers and other health professionals with updates in primary care medicine

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants should be better able to:

- Compare and contrast inflammatory & non-inflammatory joint pain and their differential diagnoses
- Review the risks and benefits of the treatment options for arthritis (non-selective NSAIDs, cox-2 inhibitors, DMARDs, narcotics and tramadol)
- Diagnose and treat gout and pseudogout
- Compare the benefits and side effect profiles of pharmacologic treatment options for fibromyalgia
- Identify when imaging and/or referral to an ENT is necessary for patients presenting with a neck mass
- Recommend appropriate systemic and/or topical antimicrobial agents for the treatment of sinusitis
- Review the basic allergic pathways that affect the body, with particular emphasis on the nasal and sinus regions
- Accurately differentiation between sensorineural and conductive hearing loss
- Utilize a comprehensive geriatric assessment to identify potential issues in the elderly patient
- Review common lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) that may progress to urinary incontinence, and initiate treatment options
- Diagnose and treat cognitive impairment, dementias, and Alzheimer's disease
- Discuss strategies for the management of difficult behaviors in patients with dementia without the use of psychotropic medications
- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of available asthma therapies
- Outline the management of anaphylactic reactions and indications for immunotherapy
- Develop an initial treatment plan for a patient with acute urticaria and/or angioedema
- Identify common adverse drug reactions to specific high incidence medications

Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships

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Accreditation Statements

Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education

In support of improving patient care, Medical Education Resources is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 16 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

Physician Credit Designation

AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 16 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

American Board of Internal Medicine MOC Recognition (ABIM)

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 16 (part II) MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. Participants will earn MOC points equivalent to the amount of CME credits claimed for the activity. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.

American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

AAFP has reviewed Internal Medicine for Primary Care: Allergy & Immuno/ENT/Geri/Rheum and deemed it acceptable for up to 16.00 Live AAFP Prescribed credit(s). Term of approval is from 3/11/2027 to 3/14/2027. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of the their participation in the activity.

American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

These programs are approved for 16 hours in Category 2-A by the American Osteopathic Association.

American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)

This program is approved by the American College of Emergency Physicians for a maximum of 16 hours of ACEP Category I credit.

Canadian Physicians

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) have a bilateral reciprocal certification agreement whereby: CME/CPD activities held across the Canada - U.S. border are certified according to the nationality of the primary target audiences regardless of where the providers are located. The activities will be reviewed according to the criteria of the certifying organization.

Nursing Credit Designation

American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 16 ANCC nursing contact hours. Nurses will be awarded contact hours upon successful completion of the activity.

This activity is designated for 7.5 ANCC pharmacotherapeutic contact hours.

American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Certification Board recognizes and accepts continuing education (CE) contact hours from activities approved by AMA, ACCME, ANCC, AANP, AAFP and AACN.

California Board of Registered Nursing

Medical Education Resources is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 12299, for 16 contact hours.

Physician Associates Credit Designation

American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA)

Medical Education Resources has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 16 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Pharmacy Accreditation

Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)

Medical Education Resources (MER) designates this live continuing education activity for 16 contact hours (1.6 CEUs) of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

Universal Program Number: JA0003680-0000-21-XXX-L01-P

Participants will be required to sign in at the start of the program and/or complete a program evaluation.

Credits will be uploaded into CPE Monitor within 60 days of the activity.

This activity is certified as Knowledge-based CPE.