

Medical Surgical Nursing Conference 2026

Thursday, October 29, 2026
8:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. (CST)
Zoom / Virtual Conference

The purpose of this conference is to optimize the care of medical-surgical patients by providing advance knowledge and innovative care strategies impacting medical-surgical nurses and patients in a variety of settings.

Intended Audience: Licensed nurses who provide care for medical-surgical patients.

Registration Information

Registration Link: <https://uiowa.cloud-cme.com/course/courseoverview?P=0&EID=82149>

Registration Fees:

- Non-UI Health Care Attendees = \$50
 - Increase to \$70 after 10/13/2026
- UI Health Care Employees = \$40
- Registration closes on 10/21/2026



Refund: Full refund (minus \$10 cancellation fee) if notification received on or before 10/21/2026.

The Zoom link and any additional conference details will be provided via email the week prior to the conference.

Questions? Contact Nursing Clinical Education Center at nursingcontinuinged@uiowa.edu or call (319) 356-1238.



Agenda

- 7:30 Login to Zoom Meeting
- 8:00 Welcome
- 8:10 **Life or Limb: Field Amputation to Rescue Trapped Patient** | Patrick McGonagill, MD, FACS, Clinical Associate Professor
- Discuss indications and process for field amputation.
- 9:10 Break
- 9:25 **Hospital-Acquired Pressure Injury (HAPI) Prevention** | Ellie Spilman, BSN, RN, CWOCN, Nurse Clinician
- Discuss nursing interventions for pressure injury prevention.
- 10:25 **Workplace Safety and the Threat Assessment Team: On Verbal De-Escalation** | Josh Hall, MPA, Support Services Director; Alex Ulrich, Program Coordinator; Swarnima Chaudhary, MPH, CTM, Behavioral Health Manager; Peter Berkson, BA, CTM, Behavior Assessment Manager
- Discuss the impact of active listening and techniques aimed at preventing and de-escalating emotional and behavioral escalation of people.
- 11:25 Lunch
- 11:55 **Infection Prevention in Focus: What You Need to Know about Clostridioides Difficile and Candida Auris** | Oluchi Abosi, MBChB, MPH, CIC, Infection Preventionist
- Discuss an overview of practices to prevent the transmission of C. difficile and Candida auris.
- 12:55 **Fall Prevention** | Erica LoVan, MSN, RN, CHES, Nursing Practice Leader; Olivia Wulf, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNL, Nursing Practice Leader
- Discuss the impact of inpatient falls on patient safety, outcomes, and healthcare quality.
- 1:40 Break
- 1:55 **What's a Death Doula and a Death Café?** | Kelly Poch, BSN, RN, MBA, CCRN, Nursing Practice Leader; Mary Kay Kusner, MA, CDD, Pastor, Certified Death Doula, Speaker
- Explore how participation in a death café can enhance patient care.
- 2:40 **Pancreatitis and Liver Cirrhosis** | Courtney Reinsmoen, MSN, RN, FNP-C, Nurse Practitioner
- Identify the assessment findings and nursing priorities for patients with liver cirrhosis and acute pancreatitis. Describe the pathophysiology, complications and nursing management. Apply evidence-based nursing interventions to the care of patients.
- 3:40 **GLP1 Receptor Agonists: A Practical Guide for Medical-Surgical Nurses** | Katie Robinson, MD, PhD, ABOM, Assistant Professor
- Describe the mechanism of action, clinical indications, and common adverse effects of GLP-1 receptor agonists. Identify key inpatient nursing considerations and potential pitfalls associated with GLP-1 receptor agonist therapy.
- 4:10 Evaluation
- 4:15 Adjourn

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Schedule and speakers are subject to change. Faculty are staff at UI Health Care and/or University of Iowa Colleges unless otherwise indicated.



General Information



Education Credits: in support of improving patient care, the University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine 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 health care team.

Nurse: The University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine designates this activity for a maximum of 7.0 ANCC contact hours.

Other Health Care Providers: A certificate of participation will be available after successful completion of the course. (It is the responsibility of licensees to determine if this continuing education activity meets the requirements of their professional licensure board.)

Planning Committee Members:

Gabrielle Berns, BSN, RN; Kaetlin Carter, BSN, RN; Rebecca Cetta, MSN, RN; Karina Copeland, BA, RN, CMSRN; Shiovahn Koenen, MBA, BSN, RN, CMSRN; Jessica McDaniel, MBA, BSN, RN, CCRN; Amber Senior, MSN, RN, CMSRN

The UI Health Care Department of Nursing Services and Patient Care's continuing education programs are developed under the supervision of Christina Woline, DNP, RN, NPD-BC, Associate Chief Nursing Officer – Professional Practice.

Everyone in a position to control the content of this educational activity will disclose to the accredited provider all financial relationships with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients. All relevant financial relationships will be mitigated.

For more information on upcoming CE offerings:

Visit our website for program information and brochures: <https://uihc.org/nursing-continuing-education-schedule>

Questions concerning CE programs may be directed to the Nursing Clinical Education Center at 319-356-1238 or email nursingcontinuinged@uiowa.edu

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Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the Department of Nursing in advance at (319) 356-1238.