Annual Hospice Conference | June 13-14, 2019
About the Presenters

Jason Kimbrel, PharmD, BCPS
Dr. Jason Kimbrel is Vice President of Hospice Services for Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services. He graduated with his Doctorate in Pharmacy from Ohio Northern University and completed his American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Pharmacy Practice and Patient/Medication Safety Residency with OhioHealth in Columbus, Ohio. While at OhioHealth, he contributed to practices that won the first ever ASHP Award for Excellence in Medication-Use Safety, as well as, the 2004 Best Practices Award in Health-System Pharmacy. Jason has experience working in the ambulatory care, general inpatient, and hospice and palliative care settings directly with nurses, physicians and patients.

Dr. Kimbrel is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), LeadingAge Ohio, and multiple pharmacy organizations including the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). Dr. Kimbrel currently serves as the NHPCO Pharmacist Steering Committee Leader and member of the Relatedness Committee and is past member of the education committee. He is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy at Ohio Northern University College of Pharmacy, residency and student preceptor for pharmacy students completing their PharmD from Ohio Northern University and Ohio State University.

Sarah Housman, PharmD, BCPS
Dr. Sarah Housman graduated from the University of Florida, College of Pharmacy with her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2010. She then completed an American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) accredited geriatric pharmacy practice residency followed by an ASHP accredited pain management and palliative care residency at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System. Following residency training, she earned her board certification in Pharmacotherapy.

Dr. Housman joined Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services in 2012. In her role as a clinical pharmacist with Optum, she has served on multiple interdisciplinary hospice teams, provides clinical consults on hospice and palliative care patients, and presents educational programs for internal staff and clients. Dr. Housman has also served as a member of the Clinical Quality Improvement team, and is spearheading Optum Hospice Pharmacy Service’s Palliative Care program. She is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO), and numerous pharmacy organizations including the American College of Clinical Pharmacy and the American Society of Health-System’s Pharmacists.

Melissa Hunt, RPh, PharmD
Dr. Melissa Hunt graduated from the St. Louis College of Pharmacy with her Bachelor of Science and Doctorate of Pharmacy degrees and then completed an American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) accredited pediatric pharmacy practice residency at Kosair Children’s Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Dr. Hunt worked as a clinical pharmacy specialist in a pediatric intensive care unit prior to joining Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services, where she now serves as the Pediatric Clinical Pharmacist. In her role with Optum, Dr. Hunt serves on pediatric interdisciplinary teams, provides clinical consults on pediatric patients, and presents educational programs for staff and clients. Dr. Hunt co-authored the Pediatric Palliative Care Consultant. She is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and serves on the Children’s Project on Palliative/Hospice Services (ChiPPS) pediatric advisory council. In addition, she is a member of numerous pharmacy organizations including Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group (PPAG).

Allison Webb, PharmD, BCGP, CDP
Dr. Allison Webb graduated from the Ohio Northern University College of Pharmacy with her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2008. She is a Board Certified Geriatric Pharmacist and a Certified Dementia Practitioner.

Dr. Webb worked in specialty pharmacy prior to joining Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services in 2011 as a clinical pharmacist. In this role, she performs medication therapy reviews and assists hospice clinicians with the management of end of life symptoms. She is involved with training new staff and development of clinical quality improvement processes. She also works closely with leadership of select hospice clients to help manage clinical education and cost and clinically effective medication use from the executive level. Dr. Webb has written and published chapters in pharmacology and palliative care reference books and has presented at numerous state and national level hospice and palliative care conferences. She is a member of various pharmacist and hospice organizations, such as the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO).
Tiffany Kneuss, PharmD
Dr. Tiffany Kneuss graduated from Ohio Northern University, Raabe College of Pharmacy with her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2016.

Dr. Kneuss is currently a Palliative Medicine Clinical Coordinator Pharmacist at the Levine Cancer Institute Center for Supportive Care and Survivorship in Charlotte, North Carolina. She began this role in July 2018 after completing a specialized pharmacy residency in Pain Management & Palliative Care at The Ohio State University and Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services which included a longitudinal experience in the pediatric population. Her primary professional interests include acute and chronic pain management, opioid abuse and diversion prevention strategies, and symptom management in end of life.

Amanda Lovell, PharmD, BCGP
Dr. Amanda Lovell graduated from Ohio Northern University with her Doctorate of Pharmacy degree in 2014. She then completed an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) accredited pharmacy practice residency at Florida Hospital-Celebration Health followed by an ASHP accredited pain management and palliative care residency at Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services and Ohio State University. Following residency training, she earned her board certification in geriatrics pharmacy.

Dr. Lovell joined Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services in 2015. In her role as a clinical pharmacist with Optum, she has served on multiple interdisciplinary hospice teams, provides clinical consults on hospice and palliative care patients, and presents educational programs for internal staff and clients. Dr. Lovell is the coordinator for the student and resident training programs at Optum; she also serves as a member of the Clinical Quality Improvement team. She is a member of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the Society of Pain and Palliative Care Pharmacists (SPPCP); she is a member of the education and research committees for SPPCP. Amanda is also a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

Dianne Gray, BS
Dianne Gray is the Chief Innovation & Advocacy Officer for Acclivity Health Solutions and President of Hospice and Healthcare Communications, an international consulting firm focused on furthering education initiatives and advocacy projects on all aspects of hospice, end-of-life and palliative care. Dianne is an internationally recognized speaker, author, and advocate on topics including national and global palliative care initiatives, communications issues surrounding medical ethical decision making, opioid use in pediatrics, and physician/family communications, as well as her own personal journey of her family’s ten year pediatric hospice/palliative care experience with her son, Austin, who died in February 2005, as a result of a rare, neurodegenerative brain disorder.

She is a catalyst for change who continues to be “at the bedside” with families going through the end of life care journey with their own living and dying children. As well, Dianne speaks on behalf of the Elisabeth Kubler-Ross Foundation, sharing Elisabeth’s messages of living a full life, the importance of honest communication with the dying, and the necessity of accessibility to adequate pain management for all individuals globally, as part of any quality palliative care program.

Joni Brinker, MSN, MHA, RN, WCC
Joni Brinker graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She later returned to school to become a Registered Nurse and completed her Master of Science degree in Nursing and Health Administration in 2014. While in nursing school, her favorite clinical rotation was a local wound clinic, which motivated her to become Wound Care Certified through the Wound Care Education Institute.

Joni joined Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services in 2017. In her role as Clinical Nurse Educator, she provides clinical nursing guidance and presents educational programs to staff and clients. Prior to joining Optum, Joni worked in acute care, long term care, and hospice. Joni co-authored the second edition of Wound Care at End of Life.
Kimberly Martin, RN
Kimberly Martin graduated from East Tennessee State University with an Associate degree in Nursing in 1995 and gained much knowledge and experience throughout her extensive nursing career. Kim began her nursing career in a hospital setting with 14 years specializing in Medical/Surgical and Cardiac Care. Becoming a travel nurse in 2004 served to increase her thirst for knowledge and taught her how to embrace change.

Kim joined Caris Healthcare in 2008 and has moved up the ranks from a case manager to her current role as Internal Auditor for the company. Transitioning to hospice care has allowed her to practice the act of caring nursing and truly encompasses the nursing she envisioned when she first entered the field.

Diane Parker, MSN, CHPN, CHPPN
Diane Parker is the Chief Executive Officer of Palladium Hospice and Palliative Care, a multistate provider. Previously she served as founder and executive director of a statewide interdisciplinary pediatric hospice and palliative care program. She has served in a nurse executive role in hospice and palliative care since 2007. She has 40 years of nursing experience, which includes Nursing Education and Nurse Executive specialties. Her board certifications include Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse, and Hospice and Palliative Care Pediatric Nurse.

Mrs. Parker serves on the NHPCO ChiPPS Advisory Council and the Pediatric Policy Networking Group. She is currently serving on a workgroup with the ChiPPS Advisory Council to develop a resource manual for pediatric program implementation. She has been appointed to represent pediatrics on the 2019 NHPCO Legislative Affairs Committee. She serves as a board member on the Mississippi Center for Medically Fragile Children. Diane has been the catalyst for change in regulatory and legislative landscape of pediatric care and serves as a resource for multiple providers seeking guidance in pediatric hospice and palliative care program development. She is an End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Pediatric and ELNEC-Core trainer and serves as national and international faculty.

Mrs. Parker is an approved educator for the Clinical Review for the Generalist Hospice and Palliative Nurse for the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association. She was a recipient of the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NCBHPN) 2014 CHPPN of the Year in recognition of her patient advocacy and leadership in pediatric palliative and hospice care. She was also recognized as a 2011 ELNEC Award Winner by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing/City of Hope for her contribution to ELNEC training across the state. Diane has published in the ChiPPS newsletter on the topic of Concurrent Care, provided national lectures on pediatric concurrent care and is the nurse editor of Pediatric Palliative Care Consultant (2014 edition). She has presented multiple healthcare topics, including leadership and hospice and palliative care, on a state, national and international level.

Judi Lund Person, MPH, CHC
Judi Lund Person serves as a key contact with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, interfacing with hospice payment policy, Part D, survey and certification, contractor management, and program integrity functions, among others. She also represents hospice and palliative care with the Medicare Administrative Contractors and other federal agencies and many national organizations.

Recent issues include advocating for changes in the Notice of Election filing and payment process, advocating for new guidance regarding Part D and hospice, and ongoing work with the Medicare Administrative Contractors on hospice payment policy issues.

She works daily with hospice providers and state hospice organizations on the ever-increasing array of regulatory and compliance issues and translates complex regulatory language into actionable “plain English” for hospice providers. She works with her team at NHPCO to develop regulatory and compliance tools for hospice providers each year, including hospice payment rates and wage index values, and compliance guides to assist providers in achieving compliance with various federal rules and regulations.

Sharon P. Beall, MD, HMDC
Dr. Sharon Beall is board-certified in Pediatrics and as a Hospice Medical Director. She completed her medical education at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, GA and stayed there to complete her Internship and Residency in Pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital of Georgia (CHOG). After serving an additional year as Chief Resident, she continued on faculty providing direct patient care in a private practice model and teaching residents and medical students.
As medical technologies advanced and children survived with conditions which were once uniformly fatal, she saw the need arise for an additional level of support for patients (and their families and caregivers) who were living with chronic medical conditions which affected their day-to-day functioning. She began working to meet this need locally and established a pediatric inpatient hospice program at CHOG as well as a Pediatric Palliative Care Consultation service. In addition, Dr. Beall developed a home Pediatric Hospice program in conjunction with Affinis Hospice.

Dr. Beall was selected by Governor Nathan Deal to serve on the Georgia Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council. She transitioned out of her private practice after 23 years of experience and joined Hands of Hope in January of 2018 as their Medical Director. She supervises the care for Hands of Hope patients in both the Hospice and Palliative Care service lines - both are home-based and provide comprehensive interdisciplinary care for children with complex medical conditions across the entire state of South Carolina. She loves doing home visits and providing symptom management as well as family and caregiver support. She enjoys being able to share this unique instructional environment with students, residents and fellows who desire further training in Pediatric Palliative Care.

**Mindy Hunter, RN, BS, CHPPN**

Mindy Hunter received her Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Development and Education from the College of Charleston and her Associate Degree in Nursing from Trident Technical College. Mindy began her nursing career over 16 years ago working with patients with spinal cord injuries at a local community hospital. She then completed a nursing internship in the Pediatric Cardiac ICU at the Medical University of South Carolina, where she served in the capacities of staff nurse, charge nurse, nurse mentor and nursing preceptor for 14 years. While working in the Pediatric Cardiac ICU, she also served as a pain resource nurse, heart transplant resource nurse, lactation counsellor, and was an integral part of the unit’s intensive pediatric cardiac education committee.

Mindy is a Certified Hospice and Palliative Pediatric Nurse by the Hospice and Palliative Credential Center. She has worked with Hands of Hope as Pediatric Hospice Case Manager and currently serves as a Pediatric Care Coordinator with Community Health Solutions for the Medically Complex Children's Waiver program. Mindy’s passion lies with teaching and educating families and caregivers to provide the best care possible to children of all ages. She is actively involved in the Mended Little Hearts of South Carolina, The End Well Community, CHD Hearts of the Lowcountry and a supporter of the Pediatric Congenital Heart Association.

**Bridget McCrate Protus, RPh, PharmD, MLIS, BCGP, CDP**

Dr. Bridget McCrate Protus is Director of Drug Information for Optum Hospice Pharmacy Services. She graduated with her Doctorate in Pharmacy from The Ohio State University where she also completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency specializing in hospice and palliative care. She received her Master of Library & Information Science degree from Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Miami University of Ohio and is a Board Certified Geriatric Pharmacist and a Certified Dementia Practitioner.

Dr. Protus is a member of several hospice and pharmacy organizations and serves on the Ohio Pain Initiative Committee and Professional Development Committee of LeadingAge Ohio. She is chair of the Research Committee of the Society of Pain & Palliative Care Pharmacists. In addition, she teaches a course in pain management, palliative care, and geriatrics at The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy.

Dr. Protus has contributed as a lead editor for the Palliative Care Consultant, 4e and co-author for Wound Care at the End of Life and Pediatric Palliative Care Consultant. In addition, she is the editor of the HospiLink™ abstracting newsletter.

**Christina L McDaniel, RN, MSN, CHPPN**

Christina L McDaniel received her Associates Degree in Nursing from Trident Technical College in Charleston, SC, and her Bachelor’s of Science and Master’s Degree in Nursing from Walden University in Minneapolis, MN. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Christina started her nursing career in 2003 at MUSC Children’s Hospital in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. She later transitioned into a staff nursing position floating throughout the Children’s Hospital covering various pediatric units further developing her skills to provide care for pediatric patients experiencing chronic complex health conditions. In 2007, she moved into a clinical coordinator role for the Pediatric Neurosurgery Department within MUSC where she served in the first clinical coordinator role for MUSC Ambulatory Care. In 2013, Christina accepted a position with Hospice Care of South Carolina’s Hands of Hope Pediatric Hospice and Palliative Care program where she served as a Pediatric Resource Nurse, and later as a Pediatric Palliative Care Coordinator. This developed Christina’s passion for furthering hospice and palliative care as a care model while supporting patients and families through terminal and life-limiting illnesses. Through this position, she was also able to obtain her certification as a Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Practitioner.
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Palliative Pediatric Nurse, as well as, serve as pediatric presenter for the End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC). In 2016, she broadened her Hospice and Palliative scope by serving as Regional Director of Operations for a multi-state hospice company where she provided oversight for the operations of multiple offices and the development of a pediatric hospice program in the state of Mississippi.

In 2017, Christina joined MUSC’s College of Nursing as Faculty in the Accelerated Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing program focusing on her expertise in Population/Community Health. Through her work as faculty at MUSC, she helped implement the ELNEC Undergraduate education throughout the ABSN curriculum, while also developing a clinical component to augment the didactic learning.

**Carrie L. Cormack, DNP, APRN, CPNP, CHPPN**

Dr. Carrie Cormack is an Assistant Professor at The Medical University of South Carolina. She is the lead Pediatric faculty in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at the College of Nursing. Dr. Cormack earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire, a Master of Science in Nursing degree and Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree at The Medical University of South Carolina.

Dr. Cormack is certified by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board and the Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center as a Certified Hospice and Palliative Pediatric Nurse. She is also a member of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners. With over 20 years of experience in Pediatric Nursing, Carrie has worked in acute care, Developmental Pediatrics and Pediatric Orthopaedics. She specializes in the care of children with complex chronic conditions and works as a pediatric nurse practitioner with Hands of Hope, a pediatric palliative care organization. Her research interests include evaluating health and quality of life outcomes for children with special health care needs. She continues to mentor and collaborate as part of an interprofessional team working with children and families of children with special health care needs.

**Katie Mollo, DO**

Dr. Katie Mollo graduated from Loyola University in Baltimore with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She took a gap year between graduating college and worked as a substitute teacher in special education before attending Rowan School of Osteopathic Medicine where she earned her Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Mollo completed a pediatric residency at Prisma Health Midlands Children’s Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. She worked as a pediatric community hospitalist for Nemours Children’s Health System and is currently completing her Palliative Care and Hospice Fellowship at Prisma Health Midlands.