



**For Immediate Release**

September 11, 2015

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FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine

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## ***A Conversation with Our National Leaders at BCP 2015***

*- National Leaders from AMDA, AAHPM, and AAHCM will speak during Forum*

**West Palm Beach, Fla.** - FMDA – The Florida Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine announces an outstanding national leader’s panel including representation from AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine (AMDA), the American Academy of Hospice & Palliative Medicine (AAHPM), and the American Academy of Home Care Medicine (AAHCM). The highly anticipated session, “A Conversation with Our National Leaders” focuses on future directions in post-acute and long-term care that affect all health care practitioners and LTC organizations. It will be held during Best Care Practices in the Geriatrics Continuum 2015, FMDA’s 24<sup>th</sup> annual conference at Disney’s *Yacht & Beach Club Resort*, October 22-25 in Lake Buena Vista.

On hand to represent AMDA will be president, Dr. Naushira Pandya. Dr. Pandya is a FMDA board member and long-time supporter of the association. Aside from her role as AMDA president, she is the current Chair of the Department of Geriatrics at Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Also, speaking as a panelist is Dr. Christine Ritchie, president of AAHPM. Dr. Ritchie is the Harris Fishbon Distinguished Professor in Clinical Translational Research and Aging at University of California San Francisco (UCSF). She is a board certified geriatrician and palliative care physician with long-standing experience in clinical care delivery and advanced illness research. At UCSF, Dr. Ritchie serves as medical director of Clinical Programs in the Office of Population Health.

The third member of this distinguished panel is Dr. Thomas Cornwell, president of AAHCM. Dr. Cornwell is the latest addition to the panel, and offers expertise in the areas of home care medicine, Medicare and Medicaid issues, and health care reform. Dr. Thomas Cornwell is the Founder of HomeCare Physicians at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital. He is also Chairman and Chief Medical Officer of the Home Centered Care Institute.

The main objective of the session is for each leader to offer an insightful perspective into their respective organizations and upcoming challenges that practitioners face while working in post-acute, long-term care and geriatrics setting. There is an extensive question and answer component and leaders will spend a majority of their time answering difficult questions from the audience on the most pressing issues, while FMDA President, Dr. Robert Kaplan serves as moderator.

Dr. Kaplan and FMDA feel honored to have these prominent leaders speak at the conference. "It is extremely important that the physicians, nurse practitioners, and consultant pharmacists keep the lines of communication open between our respective fields, as well as with the frontline caregivers so that we can continue to provide the highest quality of care to our patients."

"FMDA is very proud of the success that the Best Care Practices conference has enjoyed and the part it plays in the long-term care and post-acute industry," he added.

BCP 2015 features an outstanding line-up of top-notch educational programming and faculty designed to facilitate best care practices in the care and delivery of post-acute and long-term care medicine. This nationally-recognized conference is intended for health care practitioners who have an interest in geriatrics. The underlying theme for this year's conference is Roadmap to Quality: Ahead of the Curve. With the healthcare landscape evolving so rapidly, especially post-acute and long-term care medicine, practitioners must do what they can to stay ahead of the curve.

*Disney's Yacht & Beach Club* Resort is the official hotel for the conference and is located within minutes from many Disney attractions. If you have not done so already, please make your hotel reservation by either visiting [www.bestcarepractices.org](http://www.bestcarepractices.org), or by calling (407) 939-4686. Also, make sure to mention that you are part of the Best Care Practices or FMDA room block.

If you would like further information on the conference itself, or about making reservations at the hotel, you may contact Matt Reese, Sr. Manager of Association Services at (561) 689-6321 or [mattr@fmda.org](mailto:mattr@fmda.org).

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**FMDA - The Florida Society for Post-Acute & Long-Term Care Medicine:** FMDA represents nearly 300 medical directors, attending physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurses in Florida's post-acute and long-term care continuum including sub-acute care, hospice, skilled nursing, and assisted living facilities, as well as in continuing care retirement communities. The mission of FMDA is to promote the highest quality care as patients' transition through the post-acute and long-term care continuum. FMDA is dedicated to providing leadership, professional education and advocacy for the inter-professional team.

FMDA is the official state chapter of AMDA and a Specialty Society of the Florida Medical Association. It is based in West Palm Beach, Florida.