

# MEMBER GROUPS NEWSLETTER



*Andrew Watson, MD, MLitt,  
FACS*

## *From the President-Elect, Chair of the Member Groups*

I enjoyed meeting this group of leaders at the annual meeting in Orlando, and the ATA sincerely appreciates their support. The Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and member groups at large, play a key role in the organization. Guiding policy, managing specific ATA topics, and feeding ATA leadership are all roles these leaders support and drive and for this we *thank you*.

A number of Board of Directors (Board) members worked to develop a strategic plan that was eventually reviewed and approved by the Board and CEO. I was part of that process. In that exercise, the Board captured the future direction of ATA and currently staff are

developing the tactical priorities to meet those long-range goals.

At the Orlando meeting we discussed how the SIGs and other member groups will review and then leverage our Strategic Plan to develop priorities for each of their specific areas for the coming year. The Board asks that they focus their efforts and planning in this regard. This

will be the thrust of our efforts moving forward.

I look forward to ongoing discussions with these leaders.



*Deborah Randall, Chair*

## [Home Telehealth and Remote Monitoring](#)

The HTRM SIG participated in the ATA Annual Meeting through its annual business meeting (at a briskly early morning hour) and a lively 'Hot Topics' session, which was very well attended.

The SIG is currently reviewing and considering how best to support and address the various Strategic Plan areas announced by the ATA Board at the Annual Meeting and distributed to membership. Our SIG participated in Executive Committee and Leadership calls to initiate this process, and to that end, it is our

### **Board of Directors (Officers)**

*Peter Yellowlees, MD, MBBS, President  
Andrew Watson, MD, MLitt, FACS, President-Elect  
Kristi Henderson, DNP, NP-BC, FAEN, Vice President  
Alexis Gilroy, JD, Treasurer  
John Glaser, PhD, Secretary  
LTG (Ret.), James Peake, MD, Immediate Past President*

### **At-Large Board Members**

*Grant Chamberlain  
Bart Demaerschalk, MD, MsC  
Naomi Fried, PhD  
Randall S. Moore, MD, MBA  
Christopher Northam, DNP, NP-BC, FAEN  
Laurie Poole, RN  
Robert Wah, MD*

### **ATA Special Interest Groups (SIGS)**

[Business and Finance](#)  
[Home Telehealth & Remote Monitoring](#)  
[Human Factors](#)  
[mHealth, Technology, & Distance Learning](#)  
[Ocular Telehealth](#)  
[Pediatric Telehealth](#)  
[Teledermatology](#)  
[Telehealth Nursing](#)  
[TeleICU and Acute Care](#)  
[Telemental Health](#)  
[Telerehabilitation](#)

initial reaction that HTRM's annual goals - adopted before we knew any details of the new Strategic Plan - are a natural first step.

We reviewed and adopted 2017-2018 goals at the April 24<sup>th</sup> business meeting and proposed to ATA. Once the goals have been finalized, we will share with SIG members.

The new Chair of the HTRM SIG is Deborah (Debby) Randall. A recently elected Vice Chair resigned in May, due to a career change taking him outside of telehealth/telemedicine. A search for a new Vice Chair is underway.

**ATA Regional Chapters and Discussion Groups**

[Latin-American & Caribbean Chapter](#)  
[Pacific Islands Chapter](#)

[Canadian Discussion Group](#)  
[Interstate Telehealth Discussion Group](#)



*Kristine Erps, Chair*

[Interstate Telehealth Discussion Group](#)

More than just the Compact – the Interstate Telehealth Discussion Group (ITDG) sets their goals for the upcoming year!

ITDG kicked off the New Year in Orlando at the ATA's annual meeting. Kris Erps and Vanessa McLaughlin are the new Chair and Vice Chair (respectfully). Dr. Dale Alverson, who created the ITDG, and completed his 2 year-term as Chair will continue on as a member of the Executive Group along with: Reza Ghadimi (continuing as secretary); Jan Ground; Denny Lordan; and Traci Bean. We surveyed our 111 members to find out their expectations of the group and to help established our goals. We opened the survey prior to the annual meeting and reported the results then, but we left it open to encourage more engagement from the members.

ITDG leadership is very interested in understanding our growing memberships needs for interstate telehealth activities. Of 20 survey respondents, over 60% are members, 5% prospective members, 6% organizational leadership, and approximately 27% are interested ATA members. Respondents are very interested in learning about Interstate Telehealth

101; medical compacts (including specialties and ancillary services); and state, regional and national efforts in remotely connecting patients to providers.

The Executive Group has identified goals for 2017-18 and has proposed those goals to ATA. Once finalized, the goals will be shared with ITDG members. We will continue to work to become a SIG.

Thanks to all who participated in the survey.

Please join us as we move this discussion forward on our monthly calls. We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month via Zoom at 1:00pm PDT; 2:00pm MDT; 3:00pm Central; and 4:00pm EST.



*Humberto Alves, Chair*

[Latin American Caribbean Chapter \(ATALACC\)](#)

ATALACC had a robust, interactive business meeting at the ATA annual conference in Orlando, where we presented our new

Executive Committee:  
Humberto Alves, Chair; Jose Florez, Vice Chair; and Carolina Nelson, Secretary.

The Executive Committee has bi-weekly business calls to discuss agenda items for the chapter and how we can collaborate with other ATA member groups on projects that will be resources for all ATA members. We are currently working on a webinar series that focuses on Latin Americans' interests, telehealth, and health informatics. The first webinar in this series will be held on [Zoom](#) July 14th, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm EST and is open to all ATA members. This webinar is limited to 100 participants. Plans for other webinars and educational content is underway and will engage ATALACC members.

We have reviewed ATA's Strategic Plan and have established goals for ATALACC in alignment with the Strategic Plan. We have submitted these goals to ATA and will post the finalized goals in the ATALACC community when finalized.

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*Christopher Brady, Chair*

### [Ocular Telehealth](#)

The Ocular Telehealth SIG invites input from current or interested members regarding webinar content, activities, and goals for the upcoming year. Those interested in serving on our Executive Committee are invited to apply via the brief [online form](#).

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*James McElligott, Chair*

### [Pediatric Telehealth SIG](#)

FY2017 was a great year for the Pediatric Special Interest Group (SIG).

On behalf of the SIG, Dr. Kathleen Webster, former Chair, received the ATA SIG/Chapter Achievement Award. This award is presented annually to the

member group determined by a vote of peers to have accomplished the most advanced goals of the ATA during the previous year. The completion and acceptance of the *Pediatric Telemedicine Practice Guidelines* (Guidelines) was another achievement of the SIG, which the committee was led by Dr. David McSwain, Pediatric Intensivist and Telemedicine Medical Director the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Not only were the Guidelines accepted by ATA, they were also endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). While these are not the only two accomplishments of the SIG, they are certainly high on the list.

Also high on the list was the creation of SPROUT (*Standardized Pediatric Research on Outcomes and Utilization of Telehealth*). SPROUT is not only supported by this SIG, it is also supported by the AAP's Section on Telehealth Care through Dr. McSwain. Although telemedicine research is plentiful, the vast majority of studies have focused on adults. The objectives of SPROUT are to: identify best practices for implementing pediatric telehealth; determine the

impact of telehealth on pediatric health care quality; and to establish a network of institutions for collaborative pediatric telehealth research.

Due to South Carolina's legislative investment, the state has become a leader in telemedicine, making Dr. McSwain's home state an ideal place to SPROUT! It would however, be remiss to not mention Dr. John Chuo, Neonatologist and Medical Director of Telemedicine for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), who is officially leading the Pediatric SIG's SPROUT collaborative.

The SIG also supports an extremely dedicated voice for legislative change; Brooke Yeager, MSc, RRT, Government Relations and Clinical Outreach Coordinator for MUSC, advocates both at the state and national levels for evidenced-based pediatric telemedicine expansion.

To top off the SIG's amazing year, our very own Julie Hall-Barrow, EdD, former Chair, VP of Virtual Health and Innovation for Dallas

Children's Medical Center, was chosen to represent female leaders transforming the telehealth industry in an interactive exhibit and women's executive panel at the spring telehealth 2.0 conference.

The FY2018 Ped's SIG leadership inherits a record of accomplishments that will be hard to match!



*Karen McKoy, Chair*

### [Teledermatology SIG](#)

The SIG's manuscript, *Impact of Direct to Consumer Store-and-Forward Teledermatology on Access to Care, Satisfaction, Utilization, and Costs in a Commercial Health Plan Population*, was accepted for publication in the Journal of Telemedicine and E-Health (Volume 24, Issue 2, February 2018) and will be available online in the next few months. This pilot study was a joint collaboration between Iagnosis (developers of

DermatologistOnCall.com), Aetna, and SIG members.

MDLIVE now offers dermatology specialty care to its members through the DermatologistOnCall Network of Dermatologists. Click [here](#) for the June 14th press release.



*Iris Berman, Chair*

### [TeleICU and Acute Care SIG](#)

The TeleICU SIG has become the TeleICU and Acute Care SIG. This has happened, in part, to increase participation and to follow trends in the acute care space. Many of us who may have started our endeavor into Telemedicine in the ICU space now find we have demands to provide this type of care across the continuum of acute care and beyond.

We hope this name change signifies the ability to network with a variety of levels of expertise and exposure, to discuss challenges and successes, to

#### **ATA Councils**

[Industry Council](#) (Platinum & Corporate Gold Members)

[Institutional Council](#) (Platinum & Gold Institutional Members)

commiserate with our fellow innovators and to provide guidance through the ATA to other providers, institutions and agencies.

Our first webinar meeting was held on Friday, June 16th, with over 30 attendees. The topic, *Tele-ICU Nursing: No Longer a New Frontier*, presented by Teresa Rincon. WE hope to have many more informative and well attended webinars where our fellow members present and share experiences and continue open discussions. In addition, we have several members working on a charter for our newly named SIG.

Please join us for our next meeting which will be focused on this charter and MVV for this group in alignment with the new ATA vision on July 21st.



Tammy Richmond, Chair

### Telerehabilitation SIG

The Telerehabilitation SIG (TR SIG) had a very successful conference in Orlando back in April. Our *Leadership Outreach Day*

brought together over 12 professional leaders from the Florida and East US region to discuss telehealth policy, education, practice use, and emerging business models. There were several well-attended educational sessions that featured telerehabilitation, covering value-based services in total joint replacement and speech language pathology.

This year also highlighted a new TR SIG Round Table, led by Tammy Richmond Chair, and Chris Peterson, Vice Chair, and featured telerehabilitation FAQs. This Round Table generated great discussion on telerehab reimbursement, case use business models, needs assessment, and evaluation approaches. We had attendees from China, Canada, Australia and Switzerland, which inspired us to create new initiatives for 2017-18 to ensure engagement from our global colleagues when developing TR SIG activities for the

*Interested in writing an article for the next newsletter publication? Contact [René Malone](#) for details.*

year. Lastly, the SIG's official document originally titled, Blueprints Guidelines for Telerehabilitation, was revised and approved by ATA with a new title,

### [Principles for Delivering Telerehabilitation Services.](#)

The SIG held a webinar on June 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss proposed 2017-18 initiatives and activities, which have been submitted to ATA. Once finalized, they will be posted in the SIG's online - community.

ATA's [Volunteer Program](#) is a great way to engage with ATA's Board of directors, staff, and peers on executing objectives of the Strategic Plan. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Meet us in Washington, DC October 3-4 for [EDGE 2017](#): ATA's Fall Forum. This is a unique opportunity to network and learn from telemedicine's greatest minds in a thought-provoking and intimate environment!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am -12:00 pm EST

[Webinar: Market Study and Strategic for Telehealth in Latin-America: the Venezuelan Case](#)

July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST

[Telemedicine in 2017: State Legislative and Regulatory Update](#)

September 13, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm EST

[TCC Capitol Hill](#)