The SGIM 2024 Annual Meeting includes a full slate of scheduled activities including invited plenary speakers, oral abstracts, clinical vignettes, and award recipients. Below are sessions with a VA HSR affiliation. Note that not all VA-connected sessions or presenters may be included here. All session times are local (EDT). For a complete list of sessions, please visit the SGIM 2024 meeting website.

**Thursday, May 16**

**7:00AM–7:45AM**
Dalton (Sheraton L3)
VA Telehealth Interest Group
*Session Coordinator: Janeen Smith, MD*
San Francisco VA Health Care System

**8:00AM–10:00AM**
Grand & Independence Ballrooms (Sheraton L2)
Opening Plenary Session
Martha S. Gerrity, MD, MPH, PhD
SGIM President
VA Portland Health Care System

**10:15AM–11:45AM**
Commonwealth (Sheraton L3)
VA Partnered Research Program *(Invitation only)*

**1:30PM–2:30PM**
Back Bay A (Sheraton L2)
*Top Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Hospital Medicine*
Post-Discharge Patient Contact and Subsequent Emergency Department Presentations and Hospital Readmissions: A Systematic Review
*Presenter: Joel Boggan, MD, MPH*
Durham VA Medical Center

**VA Special Session**
2:45PM–3:45 PM
Fairfax (Sheraton L3)

**Tackling Primary Care Burnout and Attrition—Regional and National Initiatives to Improve Physician Wellbeing in the Veterans Health Administration**
With national shortages of essential healthcare workers expected to worsen, especially in primary care, creating and sustaining a resilient workforce has become a top priority nationally and for VA. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021 the VA Deputy Under Secretary for Health convened the national VA Reducing Employee Burnout and Optimizing Organizational Thriving (REBOOT) Taskforce with the goal of reviewing the evidence on effective interventions, gathering feedback from the field, and issuing recommendations for organizational strategies across seven priority areas to address burnout and attrition systemwide: implementing the Chief Wellbeing Officer (CWO) program, optimizing meeting practices, optimizing education and training, strengthening mental health support, addressing inefficiencies, maximizing use of HR policies/flexibilities, and strengthening a culture of servant leadership. The presentations in this session will demonstrate VA’s commitment to High Reliability Organization principles, beginning with using data and evidence to identify drivers of burnout and attrition. In addition, panelists will share promising practices for empowering frontline clinician engagement in local solutions, and early results from the national implementation of the CWO program.

*Presenters:*
Eric Apaydin, PhD
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Tanya Olmos-Ochoa, PhD
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Lucinda Leung, MD, PhD, MPH
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Mark Upton, MD
Veterans Health Administration

Susan Stockdale, PhD
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System
Thursday, May 16 (cont’d)

2:45PM–3:45PM  Back Bay A (Sheraton L2)
Top Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Women’s Health
Examining the Impact of Virtual Care for Women on the Clinician-Patient Relationship: A Qualitative Evidence Synthesis
Presenter: Karen Goldstein, MD, MSPH
Durham VA Medical Center

4:00PM–5:00PM  Back Bay B (Sheraton L2)
Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations Lipkin Award Finalists 2
Differences in Experiences with VA Community Care for Veterans with Serious Mental Illness
Presenter: Alessandra Leong, BS, BA*
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
(*Ms. Leong is not affiliated with VA HSR; however, VA HSR investigators were co-authors on this paper.)

VA Special Session

4:00PM–5:00PM  Fairfax (Sheraton L3)
Research and Implementation on Reducing Medicines from the VA Center for Medication Safety in Aging
Deprescribing is the process of medication withdrawal, supervised by a health care professional, to improve medication safety and health outcomes. The VA Center for Medication Safety in Aging aims to 1) promote the development of novel deprescribing interventions and evaluate their impact on outcomes important to Veterans and providers, and 2) facilitate implementation of deprescribing interventions across VA. This session will discuss study findings and practical recommendations for researchers, clinicians, and managers.

Presidents:
Kenneth Boockvar, MD, MS
VA Birmingham Health Care System

Amy Linsky, MD, MSc,
VA Boston Healthcare System

Juliessa Pavon, MD, MHS
Durham VA Health Care System

Kristin Phillips, PharmD
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System

Lisa Zubkoff, PhD, MS
VA Birmingham Health Care System

Friday, May 17

7:00AM–7:45AM  Room 108 (Hynes Convention Center)
Special Interest Group: VA Academic Patient Aligned Care Teams
Session Coordinator: Rebecca Shunk, MD
San Francisco VA Medical Center

10:15AM–11:45AM  Commonwealth (Sheraton L3)
VA Partnered Research Program (Invitation only)

11:30AM–12:30PM  Room 103 (Hynes)
Clinician Investigator Careers Panel
Session Coordinator: Thomas Radomsiki, MD
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

12:30PM–1:30PM  Fairfax (Sheraton L3)
Lunch with VA Leaders
Grab your boxed lunch and join VA leadership for an informal discussion. (Note: Food provided as part of your meeting registration.)

7:00AM–7:45AM  Room 105 (Hynes)
Workshop: Increasing Clinicians’ Firearm-Specific Cultural Competency to Enhance Lethal Means Safety Counseling

Presenters:
Frances Aunon, PhD
VA Connecticut Healthcare System

Steven Dobscha, MD
VA Portland Health Care System

Joseph Simonetti, MD
VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System
1:30PM–2:30PM
Constitution A (Sheraton L2)
Updates in Addiction Medicine for the General Internist
Session Coordinator: Stefan Kertesz, MD
VA Birmingham Health Care System

Back Bay B (Sheraton L2)
Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Health Care Services and Policy Research
Unfavorable Primary Care Experiences are Associated with High Emergency Department Use Among Homeless Veterans
Kevin Riggs, MD*
VA Birmingham Health Care System
(*Dr. Riggs is not affiliated with VA HSR; however, VA HSR investigators were co-authors on this paper.)

2:45PM–3:45PM
Back Bay B (Sheraton L2)
Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Use
Adapting Depression Collaborative Care Models to Increase Uptake of Computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial in VA Los Angeles
Lucinda Leung, MD, PhD, MPH
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Switching to e-Cigarettes as Harm Reduction Among Individuals with Chronic Disease who Currently Smoke: Results of a Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial
Scott Sherman, MD, MPH
VA New York Harbor Healthcare System

Back Bay A (Sheraton L2)
Top Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Geriatrics
Dementia Identification with Claims vs. Minimum Data Set Measures in Residents of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Medicare Nursing Homes
Carolyn Thorpe, PhD, MPH
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

Factors Associated with Documentation of Life-Sustaining Treatment Preferences in a National Cohort of Veteran Decedents
David Lazris, MD*
University of Pittsburgh Medical School
(*Dr. Lazris is not affiliated with VA HSR; however, several VA HSR investigators were co-authors on this paper.)

Room 102 (Hynes)
Workshop: Climbing the Hill—Empowering Physicians to Participate in Legislative Advocacy
Session Coordinator: Caroline Sloan, MD
Durham VA Medical Center

VA Special Session
2:45PM–3:45PM
Commonwealth (Sheraton L3)
Examining the Clinical Implementation and Impact of a Health Promotion Group Designed to Address the Unique Needs of LGBTQIA+ Individuals
This session will provide an overview of the PRIDE program, including rationale for development of the program, a summary of the program content, and a description of the evaluation of the program’s effectiveness and implementation approaches to date. Participants will learn how to partner with healthcare administration and leadership and apply mixed methods approaches (e.g., survey data, qualitative data, and structured data) to support clinical implementation and evaluation of a health promotion program for LGBTQIA+ individuals.
Participants will also have the opportunity to take part in group discussions whereby they can brainstorm about how to apply the methods learned in this session to support clinical implementation and evaluation of health promotion programs for LGBTQIA+ individuals within their healthcare systems/organizations.

Presenters:
Robert Hall
VA Boston Healthcare System
Michelle Hilgeman, PhD
VA Medical Center Tuscaloosa

Lucinda Leung, MD, PhD, MPH
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System

Michelle Wilcox, LCSW
LGBT+ Care Coordinator
VA Salt Lake City Health Care System

Guneet Jasuja, PhD
VA Bedford Healthcare System

4:00PM–5:00PM
Back Bay B (Sheraton L2)
Scientific Abstract Oral Presentations in Ambulatory Medicine
Estimating out-of-Pocket Medication Costs During Clinic Visits: A Qualitative Study of the Primary Care Experience
Caroline Sloan, MD
Durham VA Medical Center

Primary Care Clinician Knowledge, Perceptions and Use of Integrative Treatment Options for Chronic Pain Management
Meera Ronfeldt, DO, MS*
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System
(*Dr. Ronfeldt is not affiliated with VA HSR; however, VA HSR investigators were co-authors on this paper.)
Implementing Syringe Services in the VHA: Tackling Barriers with Interdisciplinary and Scientific Strategies

SSPs are historically community-based programs that offer comprehensive services to people who inject drugs (PWID), including syringes, naloxone, drug test strips, screenings, and treatment linkages. Despite their effectiveness, SSPs have primarily existed in the community with limited integration into healthcare settings, including the largest healthcare system in the United States, the Veterans Health Administration (VA). This major gap was addressed by SSP pioneers at VA facilities in Danville, Orlando, and San Francisco. At the national level, two VA program offices—HIV, Hepatitis, and Related Conditions and Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention—applied lessons learned from VA SSP pioneers and VA’s award-winning Opioid Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) harm reduction program to inform national SSP efforts. This session will discuss the VA model as a model for healthcare-based SSP implementation; lessons learned from both frontline pioneers; and VA’s national leadership in harm reduction implementation. An effective educational initiative that improved staff understanding and comfort levels related to injection drug use in the Orlando VA will also be shared.

Presenters:

Minh Ho, DO
Orlando VA Healthcare System

Beth Dinges, PharmD
VA Illiana Health Care System

Tessa Rife-Pennington, PharmD
San Francisco VA Health Care System

Elizabeth Oliva, PhD
VA Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

Karine Rozenberg-Ben-Dror, PharmD
VA Great Lakes Health Care System