

CRITICAL CARE CORNER

DECEMBER 2020



SCCM

Society of Critical Care Medicine - Texas Chapter

CONTENTS

1

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Darrell Alley, MD, MBA, FACS, FCCM

2

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Utpal Bhalala, MD, FAAP, FCCM

3

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Annette Lista, PharmD, BCCCP

4

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Michelle Horng, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

5

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Dana Foster, PharmD, BCCCP

6

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Laura Blackburn, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

7

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Maggie Ma, PharmD, BCPS

8

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Ashley Selby, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

9

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Vicky Fan, PA-C

Editor: Matt McKenzie, PharmD, BCCCP



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Howdy Texas Members!

Well, 2020 has been an unprecedented year full of positive and negatives. I hope we can appreciate the positives and learn from the negative circumstances. Let's remember the legacies of colleagues, friends, family and loved ones we lost. Remember Texas is resilient and we will overcome the hurdles in front of us.

As you know, the 2020 pandemic affected the chapter and our goals for the year. Despite the adversity, we were able to have several in-person programming opportunities as well as, virtual programming throughout the year. Membership numbers held steady throughout the year. I trust 2021 will bring continued involvement and recruitment of new eager colleagues ready to carry on the goals of the Chapter.

We are at the time of year we would like to recognize the members for the work they have put in improving the chapter and advancing the field of critical care. Submit your nominations for your colleagues or yourself. Also be aware the elections for new chapter leadership is ongoing. Please refer to the website for a complete list of awards and criteria.

Our largest and most popular educational activity, the 9th Annual SCCM Texas Chapter Symposium was a big success. We went virtual this year using the Zoom platform. We had multidisciplinary speakers present information on a wide variety of topics, including the rapidly changing COVID-19 data. We were treated to some excellent research snapshot presentations that allowed members to highlight their research studies. We also had the pleasure of having keynote addresses from both the SCCM President, **Lewis Kaplan, MD**, and the SCCM Texas Chapter Immediate Past President, **Anne Rain Tanner Brown, PharmD**. Please contact our symposium chair Dr. Utpal Bhalala at symposium@sccmtexaschapter.org to get involved with the planning process for the 2021 symposium.

This will be my last opportunity to address to you in this format as your president. I want to thank a few individuals and groups who have assisted not only me but the Chapter tremendously throughout the year. Thank you to the Board of Directors for your input, support, and commitment to continuing chapter success. I want to thank all of the Committee Chairs including **Laura Blackburn** (Programs), **Annette Lista** (Communications), **Utpal Bhalala** (Symposium), **Michelle Horng** (Research), **Ashley Selby** (Awards), **Maggie Ma** (Membership), **Vicky Fox** (Community Engagement) and **Dana Foster** (Nominations) for all of their hard work, dedication and leadership in engaging our members in this challenging climate across the state. Last but not least, I want to thank **Reagan Collins** for her thoughtful and resourceful control of the Chapter finances. Thanks to **Teresa Allison** for being my sounding board and serving as the Chapter Secretary. Special thanks to **Anne Rain Tanner Brown** for her insightful input and to our 2021 President **Daniel Arellano** with his thoughtful input, hard-working in all activities; the chapter will be in great hands and poised with continued success. Lastly, I want to thank the membership, despite the challenges and uncertainty of 2020, you have continued to be professional and leaders in critical care. It is because of all the individuals mentioned above that allows the Texas Chapter to be a continued success!

Season Greetings!

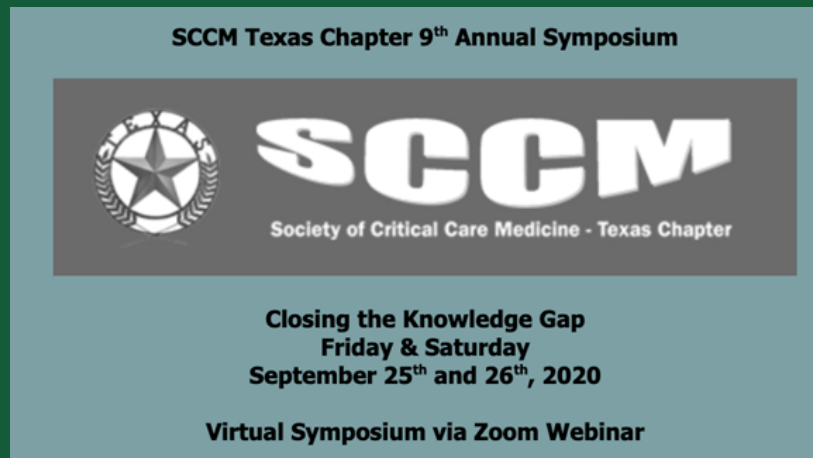
Stay safe and take time to enjoy your loved ones during the holidays (from a safe distance)

Darrell E. R. Alley, MD, MBA, FACS, FCCP, FCCM

2020 President Society of Critical Care Medicine Texas Chapter

Symposium Committee

UTPAL BHALALA, MD, FAAP, FCCM



On September 25th and 26th, 2020 the Texas Chapter of Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) held its 19th annual symposium, with the theme of **"closing the knowledge gap"**. The Symposium highlighted scholarly work being conducted within the critical care community in Texas and forming networks with other academic institutions in and around Texas. The event was co-chaired by **Dr. Utpal Bhalala, MD**; Medical Director at the Voelcker Clinical Research Center and Assistant Professor of Pediatric Critical Care, The Children's Hospital of San Antonio (CHofSA), Baylor College of Medicine (BCM); and **Dr. Dana Foster, PharmD, BCCCP**; Critical Care Residency Program Coordinator, and Clinical Pharmacist, Surgical Trauma Intensive Care Unit at University Health, San Antonio, Texas.

This year's symposium was virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and despite the new challenges of conducting scholarly work during the pandemic, our call for abstracts yielded a good number of submissions, which included translational science projects, clinical studies, pharmacology studies, and quality improvement initiatives, with the projects helmed by medical students, residents, and fellows.

The day began with Opening and Welcome by **Dr. Utpal S Bhalala** followed by invited Keynote speaker **Dr. Lewis J Kaplan** – current SCCM President from University of Pennsylvania. He discussed key influencers of career paths, methods of evaluating leadership styles, and contributions of external guidance and internal motivation on success.

During the session on COVID-19 pandemic, we witnessed a heightened level of active audience engagement, especially participation during panel discussion. The rest of the symposium highlighted some of the hot topics in critical care aimed at **"closing the knowledge gap"**. The sessions focused on newer guidelines such as stroke management guidelines, sepsis guidelines, and novel therapies such as management strategies in pediatric status epilepticus, and innovations in blood product management. The biggest highlight of the symposium was the inaugural, virtual jeopardy (The Texas Cup 2020) organized by The CHofSA/BCM team (**M. Ramu Annamalai, DO; Nga Tang, MD and Utpal Bhalala, MD, FAAP, FCCM**). The 3 big city teams from Texas participated with a lot of exciting moments with a final tie between San Antonio and Houston teams.

The research snapshot presentations by trainees and faculty represented diverse, high-quality research from different disciplines. The symposium ended with a closing address by **Dr. Anne Rain Tanner Brown, PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM** – past president of the chapter, who discussed teamwork and triage during crisis. The symposium committee extended their sincere thanks to those contributed to the success of the symposium, all the presenters, participants and the industry sponsors. The symposium committee is getting ready for another successful symposium of the chapter for 2021 and soliciting interested volunteers to participate in the committee. Come and join our committee and work with us!

If you are interested in joining the symposium planning committee or have any questions, please contact the Symposium Committee Chair, Utpal Bhalala (utpal.bhalala@bcm.edu).

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

ANNETTE LISTA, PHARMD, BCCCP

The Communications Committee is responsible for the dissemination of information between our chapter and its members. With that being said, we have created an Instagram account (@SCCMTXChapter) in addition to our other social media platforms. Please follow to see our latest pictures of our events, membership, and any special announcements. Did you stop by our recent community engagement event? Have you attended the SCCM Texas Chapter Symposium? Did you enjoy the most recent evening educational programming in your area? We love to share what our members are doing across the state of Texas. So, tag us in your pictures! You can tag us on Instagram by using the hashtag #SCCMTexasChapter.

Since most of the volunteers on the Communications Committee work behind the scenes, I'd like to introduce **Jana Sigmon**, our new website coordinator. Jana is a Clinical Pharmacy Specialist in the Neurosurgical ICU at Harris Health System Ben Taub Hospital in Houston, TX. She recently moved to Houston from Durham, NC this past summer. Jana continues to remain an active member of the Carolinas-Virginias Chapter as the current Communications Committee Chair and is looking forward to becoming more involved within the Texas Chapter as well! As a new Texas resident, Jana is very excited for all of the networking and educational opportunities this chapter has to offer!

We are also looking for an **El Paso Communications Coordinator**.

Please email: communications@sccmtexaschapter.org if you are interested in the following volunteer opportunity.

- El Paso Communication Coordinator Duties:
 - Send communications for El Paso programming
 - Work with the Programming Committee to collect RSVPs and prepare sign in sheet for El Paso Programming
 - Average time commitment: 2-3 hours/month



RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Michelle Horng, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP

It has been a busy time for the Research Committee and we have a lot to share with you!

The first virtual SCCM Texas Chapter Annual Symposium was a success, and we were able to highlight 10 research studies and 1 case report during the Research Snapshot Theatre Presentations.

The **Jeffrey J. Bruno Symposium Abstract Award** was awarded to:



1st place: **Christina T. Nguyen MS**, Joshua T. Kuehne BS, Sona Saravanan BS, Lydia Sumbel MBBS, Pranali Awadhare MBBS, Charleston H. West MS, Harinder R. Singh MD, Utpal S. Bhalala MD for their study on **"AUTONOMIC DYSFUNCTION AND HEART RATE VARIABILITY PRIOR TO CARDIAC ARREST IN HOSPITALIZED CHILDREN."**



2nd place: **Ashley E. Lock PharmD**, Amanda L. Fowler PharmD, Ellen E. Robinson PharmD, Reed Hall PharmD, Lillian Liao MD for their study on **"EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF TRANEXAMIC ACID IN CIVILIAN PEDIATRIC TRAUMA PATIENTS RECEIVING TRANSFUSION."**

We would also like to congratulate **Dr. Anne Rain Tanner Brown** as the winner of this year's **Alan I. Fields award**. Please join us at the annual business/awards meeting March 2021 for the platform presentation:

Anne Rain Tanner Brown, PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM; Prabalini Rajendram, MD; Megan M Herr PhD; Brian Hill, Yi Lin, Abhijit Duggal, Heather P May, Amer Beitinjaneh, Alice Gallo de Moraes, Ananda C. Dharshan, Alejandro S Arias, Stephen Pastores, Monalisa Ghosh, Matthew Hensley, Elena Mead, Lei Feng, Jason Westin, Joseph L Nates, CAR-ICU Initiative Workgroup, Cristina Gutierrez for the study on **"CHIMERIC ANTIGEN RECEPTOR (CAR) CELL PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE ICU: THE CAR-ICU INITIATIVE EXPERIENCE."**

We encourage all members to submit for the Joseph L. Nates Research Grant of \$4000. This annual research grant is intended for clinical research designed to enhance the care and outcomes of critically ill patients. The application portal should open in March 2021, with a deadline in early May 2021. Be on the lookout for detailed information to come!

Lastly, we would like to announce the new chair of the Research Committee who will be taking over in March 2021. **Jennifer Gass, PharmD, MS, BCPS, BCCCP** has been an active member of the research committee and has served as a reviewer for the Alan I. Fields and Symposium abstract awards, and helped develop and lead the Joseph L. Nates Research Grant. We have no doubt that she will be an excellent chair and are excited that she will be taking on this role! Please send her any ideas for committee activities in the upcoming year at research@sccmtexaschapter.org

Lastly, the research committee is currently in need of **reviewers** who are advanced practice nurses, physician assistants, respiratory therapists, or other allied health professions. We would love to have you as part of the team. Please review the information on the SCCM-Texas Chapter website Research tab or contact research@sccmtexaschapter.org for more information on the research committee.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Dana Foster, PharmD, BCCCP

Nominations for the The Society of Critical Care Medicine Texas Chapter Leadership positions are now **closed**. The ballot is being finalized by the Nominations Committee, Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Chapter wide voting will be completed for the following positions:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. President-elect (3-year progressive term for president-elect, president, immediate past president)
2. Secretary (2-year term)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

1. Physician seat (1 position)
2. Nurse seat (1 position)

*3 year terms

Please look out for online voting in January 2021! The elected members for each position will be announced in early 2021.

If you have any questions about the nominations process, FCCM Mentorship Program, or would like to get involved with the committee please email us at nominations@sccmtexaschapter.org



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

LAURA BLACKBURN, PHARMD, BCPS, BCCCP

I hope everyone is able to have a safe and enjoyable holiday season. With continuing discussions about event format and the safety of our members, I am happy to report the Programs Committee has coordinated educational opportunities with the generous support of our sponsors over the past few months utilizing a hybrid virtual and in-person format. Thank you to all who have participated in this new virtual environment!

November

- **Topic:** Empiric Decision Making in Complicated Intra-abdominal Infections
 - Speaker: **Joseph Gathe, MD**
 - Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2020
 - Time: 7pm presentation
 - Location: Perry's Steakhouse - Houston, Texas + chapter-wide virtual event
 - Sponsor: La Jolla
 - Attendance: 15 in-person / 5 virtual

October

- **Topic:** Community-acquired and hospital-acquired/ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia
 - Speaker: **Christian Sandrock, MD**
 - Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2020
 - Time: 7pm presentation
 - Location: Chapter-wide virtual event
 - Sponsor: Allergan
 - Attendance: 3
- **Topic:** Fetroja® (cefiderocol): A Unique Siderophore Cephalosporin for the Treatment of Complicated Urinary Tract Infections Due to Susceptible Gram-negative Pathogens
 - Speaker: **Joshua Rosenberg, MD**
 - Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2020
 - Time: 7pm
 - Location: Chapter-wide virtual event
 - Sponsor: Shionogi
 - Attendance: 6

As we monitor the situation, the plans for programming in the coming months are uncertain, but we are committed to providing educational opportunities that interest our members. If you have ideas, please reach out to your local programming coordinator. Below are the fabulous individuals who make your local events possible:

- Austin: Robert Huff, RN, CCRN
- Dallas and Fort Worth: Michael Mandapat, RN
- El Paso: Susan McLean, MD and Jennifer Hartman, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP
- Houston: Laura Blackburn, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP
- San Antonio: Patrick Cullinan, DO, FACOEP, FACOI, FCCM and Andro Herrera-Mendoza, DBA, RRT-NPS, RPFT, FACHE

I encourage all members to take advantage of the free educational and networking opportunities that are offered as a benefit of your continued support to the Texas Chapter. We are eager to see you again in person soon. In the meantime, stay safe and thank you for the excellent care you continue to provide to our critically ill community!



Membership Committee

MAGGIE MA, PHARM.D., BCPS

This year has proven to be one of the most difficult years to come together as a chapter, but that didn't stop the Texas Chapter from continuing to find alternative ways to engage with our membership. The chapter currently has approximately **520 members** and are grateful and thankful for our membership's commitment, service, and dedication to your colleagues and community. Thank you for everything you do every single day.

The Texas Chapter would like to introduce a new '**Member Spotlight**' section that will appear in upcoming newsletters. This will provide an opportunity for some of our members to showcase themselves (or their colleagues) and the great work they're doing. Please send an email to the membership chair at membership@sccmtexaschapter.org for more details.

As the year ends, please make sure to **submit your new membership referrals for a chance to earn a free 1-year chapter membership**. You only need to refer 3 new members (if you are an SCCM member), and 4 new members (if you are not an SCCM member) to earn a free membership. Referrals need to be emailed to the membership chair. If you believe you have referred the appropriate number of new members, please email Maggie Ma to verify. As always, please send any membership questions or concerns to Maggie Ma (Membership Chair) at membership@sccmtexaschapter.org.



AWARDS COMMITTEE

ASHLEY SELBY, PHARMD, BCPS, BCCCP

Awards:

1. Outstanding Member Award
2. Excellence in Service Award
 - Education
 - Clinical Practice
 - Research/Quality Improvement activities
3. Professional Development Award

As a reminder, nominations are now being accepted for the SCCM Texas Chapter Annual Awards and Professional Development Award. This is a great opportunity to recognize your colleagues for their hard work and dedication during a stressful and unique year! If you have not already done so, please consider submitting nominations to recognize those who have gone above and beyond over the last year.

The Awards Committee
would like to welcome its
new Chair,



All nominations must be submitted on-line by Friday, January 14, 2021 11:59:59 PM CST.

Please email awards@sccmtexaschapter.org if you have any questions.

Please see next page for
award descriptions

Outstanding Member Award:

This recognition will be awarded to one member from each of the Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, El Paso and "Other Texas Area" areas for their contributions to the chapter. All nominees must be members of The Society of Critical Care Medicine AND the Texas Chapter. Individuals on the Board of Directors or Executive Committee as well as Committee Chairs and Co-chairs are not eligible.

Nominees for the Outstanding Member Award must demonstrate the following:

- Active participation in chapter activities (committees, symposium planning, speaker participation, networking events, etc.)
- Active attendance at chapter meetings
- Active attempts to recruit new members

To submit your nominations for the Annual Chapter Awards, please click [HERE](#).

Excellence in Service Award (3 categories):

This recognition will be awarded to chapter members for their contributions to critically ill and injured patients. All nominees must be members of The Society of Critical Care Medicine AND the Texas Chapter. Nominees must have recent involvement in Chapter activities (i.e. meeting attendance, networking, committee involvement, and/or speaker participation). One award will be distributed in each of the following three areas (an individual may only be nominated for one category):

- Education
- Clinical Practice
- Research/Quality Improvement activities

To submit your nominations for the Annual Chapter Awards, please click [HERE](#).

Professional Development Award:

The SCCM Texas Chapter promotes the professional development of members through provision of an award supporting the registration for, travel to, and attendance at SCCM Annual Congress or another SCCM training program (i.e. Self-Directed Critical Care Ultrasound: Adult Course). The award is meant to address gaps in knowledge, assist in achieving personal learning goals, and provide benefit to the Texas Chapter as a whole. Members of the Executive Committee are not eligible for this award; however, members of the Board of Directors as well as Committee Chairs are eligible. The award winners will be decided by the Awards Committee based on the following criteria:

- Current member of SCCM
- Current member of SCCM Texas Chapter
- Submission of application
- Submission of CV

Recipients of the Professional Development Award will receive up to \$1000 to be utilized for attending the SCCM National Congress or to support completion of an alternative SCCM training program. This is intended to offset the expenses of registration, travel, food, and/or lodging. Costs for leisurely activities and alcohol will not be reimbursed. In order for recipients to be reimbursed, all original receipts must be submitted to the Treasurer of SCCM Texas Chapter within 30 days of the last day of the conference. Awardees will be reimbursed only upon submission of itemized receipts.

To submit your nominations for the Professional Development Award, please click [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Vicky Fan, PA-C

The committee is still looking for short informational videos on topics like adult/child CPR, choking, stopping the bleed, etc. If you are interested in presenting on a topic, please reach out to communityengagement@sccmtexaschapter.org

The committee is also looking for a new chair. The Community Engagement Committee Chair is responsible for facilitating education and outreach within the community of Texas.

Duties:

- Plan multiple community engagement events throughout the year.
- Coordinate and plan a community engagement event that coincides with annual chapter symposium.
- Attend executive committee meetings monthly to provide updates on committee events.

Average Time Commitment: 2-4 hrs/month

Please email
president@sccmtexaschapter.org if
you are interested in this exciting
volunteer opportunity



Society of
Critical Care
Medicine
Texas Chapter



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