

NASL 2021  
Legislative & Regulatory  
Conference



## Agenda

Friday, April 23rd	Conference – Day One
11am – noon	<p>Keynote Presentation</p> <p><i>Micky Tripathi, PhD, MPP, National Coordinator for Health Information Technology and a longtime industry veteran and interoperability pioneer.</i></p> <p>Appointed by President Biden on January 20, 2021, Mr. Tripathi will share ONC's strategic direction for this new decade and the wide-ranging affect the new interoperability rules will have on the healthcare continuum. Interoperability now affects IT and providers – what's ahead for you?</p>
Noon to 1pm	<p>Reflections from the Trenches from CEOs of Leading Long Term Care Companies</p> <p><i>CEO Panelists</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Phil Fogg, Jr., CEO and President of Marquis Companies</i></li> <li>• <i>Chris S. Wright, President and CEO, iCare Health Network</i></li> <li>• <i>Stephen F. Flatt, CEO and Inside Director, National HealthCare Corporation</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderated by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>NASL President and Aegis Therapies President &amp; CEO, Martha Schram</i></li> </ul>

	<p>Top leaders from three of the country's prominent long term care companies discuss the impact on their companies from COVID-19, PDPM, managed care, and the new Administration and Congress.</p>
Lunch Break 1- 2	
2:00 to 2:15pm	<p>NASL 2021 Congressional Leadership Award</p> <p><i>US Senator Ron Wyden, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee</i></p> <p>A message from US Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden, recipient of NASL's 2021 Congressional Leadership Award.</p>
2:15 to 3:00pm	<p>COVID-related Liability; RUGs and PDPM Investigations</p> <p><i>Presented by</i> <i>Sara Lord, Esq., Partner, Arnall Golden Gregory, LLP</i></p> <p>Get the answers to your questions about the liabilities of long-term care facilities and providers during the COVID-19 public health emergency, and government investigations related to RUGs and PDPM.</p>
3:00 to 4:00pm	<p>Information Blocking, Interoperability &amp; the Impact on Patient Care &amp; Practice</p> <p><i>Presented by</i> <i>Mary G. Greene, MD, MPH, MBA, Director of the Office of Burden Reduction &amp; Health Informatics, Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services (CMS)</i></p> <p>What do the new sweeping interoperability rules mean to providers now? What does CMS expect from clinical technology now and in the future? Dr. Mary Greene talks about how interoperability and policy changes at CMS may impact patient care and practice in our sector. Also, learn how CMS' newest office – created a month after the interoperability rules were finalized – is encouraging the use of health IT standards by modernizing and revising Medicare regulations.</p>

<p>4:00 to 5:00</p>	<p>The Government Relations Update on Nursing Facilities and Congress This Year from AHCA's Clif Porter</p> <p><i>Presented by Clifton Porter, II, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, American Health Care Association</i></p> <p>Hear from the top government relations staff for our host industry, AHCA Senior VP of Government Relations Clif Porter. A dynamic speaker and advocacy expert, Clif has devoted his professional career to working in and advocating for the sector. He will provide us with our host industry's view of the new Administration, Members of Congress and the types of issues he and his team are prepared for this Congress. Clif will also detail the joint legislative agenda proposed by AHCA and Leading Age to address long-standing challenges affecting the quality of care provided in America's nursing facilities.</p>
<p>Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>Committee Meetings</p>
<p>Medical Services Committee Meeting 11am- 1pm</p>	<p>NASL's Medical Services Committee Meeting is a mixture of internal Committee business and the following presentations, tailored to the needs of the Committee. A full agenda will be distributed in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Highlights of Therapy Outcomes in Post-Acute Care Settings (TOPS) Study**</p> <p><i>Presented by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Katy Neas and Jason Falvey, American Physical Therapy Association</i></li> <li>• <i>Sharmila Sandhu and Jeremy Furniss, American Occupational Therapy Association</i></li> </ul> <p>An advanced briefing regarding a jointly commissioned study by AOTA and APTA to examine the patterns of Medicare physical and occupational therapy services across post-acute care (PAC) settings. The <i>Therapy Outcomes in PAC Settings (TOPS) Study</i> compares the relationship between therapy intensity and functional status and readmissions in Inpatient Rehabilitation Facilities, Skilled Nursing Facilities, and Home Health Agencies.</p>

Therapy Professional Organization Staff Panel Discussion\*\*

*Panelists*

- *Justin Elliott, APTA*
- *Sharmila Sandhu and Heather Parsons, AOTA*
- *Sarah Warren and Jerry White, ASHA*

Key staff from the three professional therapy associations join an NASL-led panel discussion on top policy issues for 2021. Topics include the Medicare Part B Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) cuts; the Patient-Driven Payment Model (PDPM); COVID-19 impact; Unified PAC PPS; Interstate Compacts; Managed Care; and Telehealth.

Interdisciplinary Team Considerations to Combat the Effects of Isolation\*\*

*Presented by*

- *Peggy Gourgues, MA, CCC-SLP, Chief Operating Officer, Reliant Rehabilitation*
- *Emily Rampmaier, MCD, CCC-SLP, RAC-CT, Vice President of Clinical Services, Reliant Rehabilitation*

Long-term care providers are acutely aware that COVID-19 and the public health emergency have placed those in our care at risk for adverse outcomes. There is a high cost associated with essential quarantine and social distancing for our seniors who already experience higher incidences of loneliness and isolation. Navigating the risk mitigation of these adverse outcomes while ensuring resident safety and streamlined care planning can be a daunting task. Through implementation of at-risk screening, task analysis, and thorough communication along with a foundation of regulatory guidelines, teams can successfully predict and identify care needs. Interdisciplinary team buy-in will produce effective processes for quality care and outcomes - even during a pandemic.

Lunch break 1-2pm	
IT Committee Meeting 2-4pm	<p>NASL's IT Committee will review and discuss ongoing issues in addition to hearing the featured presentation on the social determinants of health (SDOH). A full committee agenda will be distributed in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Social Determinants of Health – A Critical Emerging Standard for LTPAC &amp; Beyond**</p> <p><i>Presented by Evelyn Gallego, CEO and Co-Founder, EMI Advisors, LLC</i></p> <p>Long term and post-acute care providers have long understood that an individual's health, functioning and quality of life are affected by the conditions and environment in which an individual lives, learns, works, plays, worships and ages. Today, these factors comprise the "social determinants of health (SDOH)." A thought leader in the areas of care coordination, SDOH, health IT policy, interoperability and health and human services standards development, Evelyn Gallego will share her insights about the growing influence that social determinants of health are having on emerging payment reforms, federal and state-based policies and information technology initiatives. In addition, we will learn about her work with the Gravity Project, which is building consensus-driven standards to improve how we use and share SDOH information.</p>
Wednesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Conference – Day Two
11am – noon	<p>Do your SNF QRP Scores Tell the Right Story? **</p> <p><i>Presented by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Tracy Fritts, PT, VP of Quality and Outcomes/Leadership Development, Consonus Healthcare</i></li> <li>• <i>Ellen Strunk, PT, MS, GCS, CEEAA, CHC, Owner, Rehab Resources &amp; Consulting, Inc.</i></li> </ul> <p>Many rehabilitation providers feel like they understand the CMS functional outcome measures for the Post-Acute Care setting. Now that the results are public, what do your scores say? Providers all over the country are struggling with making</p>

	<p>sense of the scores they see in their rehab software and what they see on the <i>Care Compare</i> website or in their customers' Quality Measure reports. This session will dive into the measure specifications and explore what actually goes into the measure calculation. Practical strategies will be shared with the audience on how to begin to understand the story behind your scores.</p>
<p>12-1pm</p>	<p>Section GG: What's the Story?</p> <p><i>Presented by Casey Lee, PT, DPT, Director of Quality Improvement &amp; Education, Quality Rehab Management (QRM) Corey Pauley, Director of Product &amp; Software Engineering, SimpleLTC.com</i></p> <p>A review of Section GG data trends illustrates a very real challenge our industry faces – negative outcome reporting in the wake of COVID-19. If these data trends are accurate, we must embrace COVID-related, evidence-based practice solutions to improve functional outcomes. Join us as we dive into evidence-based solutions and interventions to improve function and avoid negative outcome reporting in a post-pandemic world.</p>
<p>Lunch Break 1- 2</p>	
<p>2-2:40pm</p>	<p>NASL Advocacy Overview &amp; 2021 Priorities</p> <p><i>Presented by Cynthia Morton, MPA, Executive Vice President, NASL</i></p> <p>Get the details on NASL's upcoming Virtual Hill Day, along with an overview of advocacy efforts and other top priorities for your association in 2021.</p>
<p>2:40-3:40pm</p>	<p>A Researcher's View on the Impact of COVID-19 &amp; PDPM on the Nursing Facility Sector Now &amp; Into the Future **</p> <p><i>Presented by Dr. Vincent Mor from the Center for Long Term Care Quality and Innovation at Brown University's School of Public Health.</i></p>

	<p>Nationally renowned researcher, Dr. Vince Mor talks about his latest research and his take on COVID-19's impact on long term care, quality of care, and nursing facilities going forward. Don't miss his views on what we've learned, outcome data from vaccines, and what's likely to happen next.</p>
<p>3:40 to 5pm</p>	<p>Legislative &amp; Regulatory Update</p> <p><i>Presented by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cynthia Morton, MPA, Executive Vice President, NASL</i></li> <li>• <i>Michaela Sims, JD, President, Sims Strategies</i></li> </ul> <p>The latest intel on CMS and Congress, along with what healthcare priorities we expect from the new Biden-Harris Administration, including the newly-appointed HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra; soon to be confirmed CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, and the new Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden, as presented by NASL's own "eyes and ears" on Capitol Hill.</p>
<p><b>On-Demand Programming</b> Included with your Conference registration.</p>	
<p>Identifying Post COVID-19 Rehab Needs: Therapy Interventions to Improve Function and Reduce Recidivism</p> <p><i>Presented by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Natalie Phillips, M.A., CCC-SLP, Clinical Support Specialist, Paragon Rehabilitation</i></li> <li>• <i>Kathleen Shepler, MS, CCC-SLP, Clinical Support Specialist, Paragon Rehabilitation</i></li> </ul> <p>Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies continued in skilled nursing/long-term care facilities through the thick of the pandemic. As we begin to ease our way through the effects of COVID-19 and gradually see the rate of illness decline in our communities, the importance of skilled therapy intervention as part of a personal recovery plan for our long-term care residents is paramount. The increased confinement due to sickness and attempts at prevention, isolation from family and community, and restrictions to physical movement and social interactions have greatly impacted the physical and mental wellbeing for so many in our care. This presentation will focus on identifying rehab needs following the effects of COVID-19 and offer suggestions for functional interventions and comprehensive strategies to reduce hospitalization and improve overall function.</p>	

## COVID-19 & Beyond – How to Succeed in Caring for Long Haulers

*Presented by*

- *Beth Reigart, Clinical Outcomes Specialist, Functional Pathways*

While many COVID patients recover in a short period of time, others will continue to have lingering symptoms. This has led to the new industry term “long haulers.” The ability to analyze your PDPM process is critical to maximize success with this type of caseload. Long haulers frequently experience fatigue, but many will have chest pain, cognitive changes, and neuropathies. Post-ICU syndrome can involve physical, mental, and emotional symptoms such as depression, memory issues and PTSD. This presentation will cover PDPM reimbursement and COVID-19 recovery programs developed to meet the needs of these individuals.

\*\*Indicates session is offered for ASHA and AOTA Continuing Education Credit. Physical Therapy Continuing Education Credit is available for select states.