

33rd Annual WISDM Leadership Conference

Communication is Key! Unlocking Your Ability to Communicate Well to Various Stakeholders

Friday, April 11, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sponsored by

Central Virginia VA Health Care System & Richmond Institute for Veterans Research; VCU College of Humanities and Sciences; VCU School of Dentistry; VCU School of Medicine; VCU School of Pharmacy; & VCU School of Public Health





Central Virginia VA Health Care System & Richmond Institute for Veterans Research









Conference Agenda

Communication is Key! Unlocking Your Ability to Communicate Well to Various Stakeholders

Friday, April 11, 2025 Jonah L. Larrick Student Center

11:30	Check-in and Registration Visit Exhibits	<u>Pre-Function Hallway</u> Lobby
	 Barnes and Noble @ VCU - Books available for purchase Institute for Women's Health Women in Medicine Student Organization (WIMSO) Women in Science (WIS) Student Organization 	
12:00	Welcome and Announcements Jennifer Koblinski, Ph.D. President & Treasurer, WISDM Faculty Organization Associate Professor, Pathology, VCU School of Medicine	<u>Court End Ballroom</u>
12:15	Lunch with Self-assessment Activity Leading and Communicating with Emotional Intelligence Shana Ryman, MS, Ed., Learning, Development and Culture Specialist and Rodney Steppe, M.Ed., Learning and Development Instructional Design Specialist, VCU Human Resources	<u>Court End Ballroom</u>
	Learning Objectives:	

- Define and differentiate between emotions and emotional intelligence.
- Practice applying emotional intelligence.

1:00	Keynote Address	<u>Court End Ballroom</u>
	Communicating During a Public Health Investigation - A Case Study	
	Laurie Forlano, D.O., MPH, Director, Office of Epidemiology, State	9
	Epidemiologist, Virginia Department of Health	

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the audience clarity and accessibility
- Recognize the role of evidenced-based practices
- Explore how to combat misinformation
- Learn how to leverage media and digital platforms
- Encourage public trust in science

2:00 WISDM Professional Achievement Awards

Court End Ballroom

Moderator: Jennifer Koblinski, Ph.D.

VCU School of Medicine VCU School of Dentistry VCU College of Humanities and Sciences VCU School of Pharmacy

Special Recognition of Support and Sponsorship:

Arturo Saavedra, M.D., Ph.D., Dean, VCU School of Medicine and Executive Vice President Medical Affairs, VCU Health System
Lyndon Cooper, D.D.S., Ph.D., Dean, VCU School of Dentistry
Thomas Murphy, M.D., Interim Chief of Staff, Central Virginia VA Health Care System
Catherine Ingrassia, Ph.D., Dean, VCU College of Humanities and Sciences
Kelechi C. (K.C.) Ogbonna, Pharm.D., MSHA, Dean & Professor, VCU School of Pharmacy
Vanessa B. Sheppard, Ph.D., Interim Founding Dean, VCU School of Public Health

2:30 Coffee/Tea Break

2:45 CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A. Best Practices in Communicating in Different Situations Jackson Ward A

Patricia Sime, M.D., Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine and William Branch Porter Professor of Medicine, VCU School of Medicine with Corey A. Byers Standlick, M.S., APIO, Director of Communications, VCU Department of Internal Medicine

Learning Objectives:

- Review Communication as a 2-way process important to our success and satisfaction
- Understand how to "pitch it correctly"
- Review the different forms of communication and discuss best practices

B. Speaking Up and Standing Strong: Navigating Interruptions <u>Court End Ballroom</u> and Dismissals

Stacey Wahl, Ph.D., Senior Instructional Designer, Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development, Assistant Professor, VCU School of Medicine, MARC Scientific Training Director

Learning Objectives:

- Recognize common patterns of interruption and dismissal and the impact of these behaviors on communication, collaboration, and leadership
- Develop authentic verbal and nonverbal approaches for handling dismissive behavior while maintaining professionalism
- Advocate for inclusive, constructive dialogue in professional settings

2:45 CONCURRENT SESSIONS (Continued)

C. How to Advocate for Your Own Ideas Jackson Ward B

Kellie Carlyle, Ph.D., MPH, MEd, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Health, VCU School of Public Health

Learning Objectives:

- Understand key strategies for self-advocacy Learn how to effectively communicate your ideas, achievements, and contributions to colleagues and leadership within the academic environment
- Build confidence in assertive communication Gain practical tools for practicing assertive, yet respectful communication, allowing you to confidently advocate for yourself and your ideas in meetings, presentations, and everyday academic interactions

3:45 Break

4:00 Spotlight Panel Session

Court End Ballroom

Essential Tips for Powerful Personal and Professional Connections: A Panel Discussion

Moderator: Jennifer Koblinski, Ph.D., President & Treasurer, WISDM Faculty Organization, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director Human and Molecular Genetics, VCU School of Medicine

Panelists:

- Kellie Carlyle, Ph.D., MPH, MEd, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Health, VCU School of Public Health
- Patricia Sime, M.D., Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine and William Branch Porter Professor of Medicine, VCU School of Medicine
- Stacey Wahl, Ph.D., Senior Instructional Designer, Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development, Assistant Professor, VCU School of Medicine, MARC Scientific Training Director

5:00 **Conference Adjourns**

School of Medicine WISDM Professional Achievement Award

Gretchen N. Neigh, Ph.D., M.B.A.



Dr. Gretchen Neigh, a Professor in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) School of Medicine, earned her PhD in Neuroscience from The Ohio State University and held faculty positions at Emory University before joining VCU in 2016. She is an authority in biomedical science, demonstrating excellence in research, mentorship, and leadership, with a focus on advancing women's health and increasing representation in the sciences. As a researcher, Dr. Neigh investigates the biological factors of risk and resilience, particularly the interactions among the endocrine, immune, and nervous systems; she has been foundational in establishing the biological basis of sex-specific stress-induced changes in risk. She has successfully secured continuous extramural funding for the past 21 years, including multiple NIH grants, and her work has been cited more than 5500 times. Dr. Neigh has also effectively disseminated her findings through numerous publications in top-tier journals, such as Neuropsychopharmacology, Brain, Behavior, & Immunity, Frontiers in

Psychoneuroendocrinology. Neuroendocrinology, Neurobiology of Stress. and Her research accomplishments include selection as Chair of the NIH Study Section on Biobehavioral Regulation, Learning, and Ethology (BRLE), over 120 peer-reviewed publications, and numerous presentations at national and international scientific conferences. Additionally, Dr. Neigh published a book on sex differences in physiology, elected as а member the American College was of of Neuropsychopharmacology, and was appointed Director of Translational Research of the VCU Institute of Women's Health. In 2023, she received the VCU National/ International Research Excellence Award (NIRA) and the Rosalind Franklin Society Award in Women's Health for her contributions to the field.

As a mentor, Dr. Neigh demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to nurturing the next generation of scientists, from high school students to junior faculty. As Dr. Pamela Knapp, Professor and Chair of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology at VCU, writes, "Her trainees receive tremendous scientific and grant/publication writing guidance, but few scientists truly flourish using those skills alone. Just as importantly, Dr. Neigh provides lessons in the more practical aspects of career development, including networking, speaking, organizational skills, and understanding interpersonal relationships and power dynamics; how to say 'no,' and how to ask for what you need." This holistic approach to mentorship has empowered nearly 100 individuals to achieve their full potential, which is reflected in their subsequent career achievements.

Dr. Neigh's leadership is equally commendable. Her lab has been described as a place of learning and a "nurturing, open, and inclusive environment." She has effectively managed her research group and has taken on numerous leadership roles at VCU, such as director of research for the VCU BIRCWH. Her ability to connect with colleagues and build collaborative networks has not only enriched her own research but has also facilitated groundbreaking projects across various institutions, including The Ohio State, Emory University, and Johns Hopkins University.

Known for her engaging style and clear communication, as well as her innovative teaching methods and curriculum development, Dr. Neigh is a dedicated and effective educator. She has been instrumental in creating and directing courses that are now essential components of the VCU curriculum, including a grant writing course that is noteworthy for its impact on student's ability to secure funding. It is so popular she cannot accommodate all of the students who want to take it. This course, along with others she has developed, equips students with the skills necessary to thrive in the competitive world of scientific research.

Dr. Jill Bettinger, Professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at VCU, best expresses the overarching praise and respect others have for Dr. Neigh stating, "She truly combines excellent science with a strong ethic to provide positive teaching and mentorship to her students and colleagues. She is a credit to the VCU Community."

Mary A. Baechle, D.D.S.



Dr. Mary A. Baechle has spent the majority of her career at VCU School of Dentistry as Course Director of Preclinical Operative Dentistry (Restorative I) courses for first-year dental students, helping to establish a foundation in the basic knowledge of operative dentistry content and technique, as well as initial psychomotor handskill development. One of Dr. Baechle's goals is to teach students the fundamentals that they will build upon and eventually apply to whatever clinical situation they may encounter. First-year dental students arrive in Dr. Baechle's course essentially without knowing how to place a bur in a dental handpiece, but leave with the ability to accomplish complex preparations on typodonts, and to restore them to anatomic form and function with composite resin.

Having spent much of the past sixteen years as a laboratory instructor in courses her colleagues direct, as a guest lecturer, and also a clinical instructor, Dr. Baechle has a detailed understanding of the VCU School of Dentistry's preclinical curriculum and course flow. As Dr. Baechle's responsibilities and commitments have grown in the preclinical arena, she has refocused her energies on preclinical education, service and research, with the ultimate goal of preparing students for proper and ethical patient care. Correspondingly, Dr. Baechle communicates with her clinical colleagues to ensure alignment between preclinical and clinical instruction.

Dr. Baechle values research and service, having published peer-reviewed articles and abstracts, as well as serving nationally, at the university and school level and in her department. From the time she finished her dental residency, throughout her time in practice, teaching at The Ohio State University College of Dentistry and then at VCU, Dr. Baechle maintains memberships in such organizations as the ADA and later on ADEA, as well as active participation in Region VI (South) Consortium of Operative Dentistry Educators. A Fellow of the International College of Dentists, Dr. Baechle also is a lifelong learner through her attendance of continuing education courses. Dr. Baechle believes that staying engaged with professional organizations leads to growth in one's field and support of each other as colleagues.

Terri Sullivan, Ph.D.



Dr. Terri Sullivan is a researcher, educator, and leader dedicated to advancing the science of youth violence prevention and fostering safer, healthier communities. As a professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University, she has spent her career addressing the profound impact of violence exposure on child and adolescent development and on increasing opportunity structures for positive youth development (e.g., settings, resources, programs, and activities that promote youth skills, positive relationships, and create safe and youth-centric environments), with a particular focus on youth living in low income urban areas.

Dr. Sullivan serves as the Lead Principal Investigator of the VCU Youth Violence Prevention Center (YVPC), one of the CDC-funded National Centers of Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention. Through her leadership, the YVPC employs community-driven, participatory action research to develop innovative strategies that mitigate the effects of violence exposure, particularly among youth in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Her interdisciplinary approach bridges psychology, public health, and education, ensuring that research translates into meaningful, real-world impact.

Throughout her career, Dr. Sullivan has been an advocate for women in science, mentoring numerous female students and early-career researchers, helping them navigate the complexities of academia and research. She is deeply committed to fostering fair-minded teaching practices in education, integrating social justice principles into her mentorship and curriculum design.

With over 110 peer-reviewed publications, eight book chapters, and more than \$30 million in external funding—\$17 million as Principal Investigator—Dr. Sullivan's contributions have significantly shaped the fields of public health, psychology, and violence prevention. As Co-Director of Graduate Studies, she supports over 100 graduate students on their journies through four Ph.D. programs in Psychology. As Director of the VCU Clark-Hill Institute for Positive Youth Development, she supports the work of undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty across 11 research teams representing the School of Education, School of Medicine, School of Social Work, and College of Humanities and Sciences.

Kelly R. Goode, Pharm.D., BCPS, FAPhA, FCCP



Dr. Jean-Venable "Kelly" R. Goode is a Professor at the VCU School of Pharmacy and exemplifies the intent of the WISDM award. She is a woman who is an outstanding role model and mentor, promoting the professional development of women faculty. Dr. Goode's has been a trailblazer for the promotion process for women faculty in the VCU School of Pharmacy as well as other institutions nationwide. In addition, she has inspired numerous women faculty in pursuing academic careers who ultimately also have played critical roles in advancing pharmacist education leadership.

Dr. Goode was an early pioneer in academic community-based pharmacy

practice and is nationally and internationally recognized for her work in this area. Early in her career, she was able to transcend community-based pharmacy practice in a local supermarket chain, Ukrop's Pharmacy, implementing medication and chronic care management, health and wellness services, including the first pharmacy-based immunization program in a chain pharmacy in the Commonwealth. She is the first woman to serve as the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) liaison representative to the National Vaccine Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Dr. Goode expanded her impact in the community by joining Daily Planet Health Services (DPHS), Inc., a Federally-Qualified Healthcare Center for the Homeless in an academic-community partnership. DPHS also received an APhA Foundation Pinnacle Award for the quality of pharmacy services under Dr. Goode's leadership.

Dr. Goode has served as the Director of the PGY-1 Community-based Pharmacy Residency Program for 21 years and has the longest tenure involvement in the country. She has trained more than 100 community-based pharmacy residents recruited from 24 Universities and is now influencing pharmacy practice in 26 states. She has published over 70 peer-reviewed manuscripts, with her paper "Community-Based Pharmacy Practice Innovation and the Role of the Community-Based Pharmacist Practitioner in the United States," published in Pharmacy MDPI, receiving a best paper award.

In addition to her academic accomplishments, Dr. Goode served as the 8th woman President of the American Pharmacists Association, the nation's largest pharmacy organization. She is also a former President of the Virginia Pharmacists Association (VPhA) and the APhA Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management. Further evidence of her impact in the field of pharmcy is her recognition by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Foundation as one of the "Next 10 Women in Pharmacy."

Dr. Goode is a stellar example of the quality of women educators, mentors, servants, and leaders that continue to advance academic pharmacy practice and is highly deserving of this award.

Laurie Forlano, D.O., MPH



Dr. Laurie Forlano joined the Virginia Department of Health in 2011, and currently serves as the State Epidemiologist and Director, Office of Epidemiology at the Virginia Department of Health. She has approximately 20 years' experience in applied epidemiology and governmental public health including varied public health leadership roles at local and state levels. The majority of her experience has focused on programs related to the prevention, surveillance and control of Communicable Diseases. She has provided leadership and guidance during several large-scale, complex public health responses at the state level such as the response to Ebola virus disease, Zika virus disease, the opioid overdose crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic. She received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and her Masters in Public Health from

the University of Massachusetts.

Sponsoring Organizations

VCU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

From our beginnings in 1838 to today, as part of a thriving urban comprehensive academic medical center, the VCU School of Medicine has maintained a reputation for excellence in teaching, research and health care. One hundred and eighty-six (186) new first year students from around the world come to our School to pursue their M.D. and learn from our renowned faculty, many nationally and internationally recognized, who represent more than 200 specialty areas. The School also offers dozens of master's, doctoral and interdisciplinary programs in graduate education as well as graduate certificate programs. These programs currently enroll more than 300 advanced degree students. The School accounts for about half of VCU's sponsored research awards and nearly three-fourths of the University's National Institutes of Health funding. As part of the VCU Health System, our providers take care of patients from across Virginia and neighboring states. Women faculty account for 42% of all full-time faculty and currently serve as chair or interim chair of 6 of our 23 departments. Among medical students, currently 59% are women, and among graduate students more than 67% are women (as of 2025).

VCU SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

The VCU School of Dentistry is a public, urban, research dental school, supported by Virginia to serve the people of the state and the nation. The school's mission is to provide educational programs that prepare graduates who are qualified to provide dental care services; generate new knowledge through research and other scholarly activity; and provide quality oral health care to the public and service to the community. The School is the only dental school in the Commonwealth and has a long history of educating practitioners capable of meeting the oral health care needs of the communities they serve. Since the early 80s, more women have been entering dentistry in Virginia and across the U.S. As of the spring of 2025, 53% of our students were women. Of the 92 full-time dental school faculty, 47% are women. The School is pleased to join as a conference sponsor to promote professional development and career advancement of our faculty, students, and community practitioners.

CENTRAL VIRGINIA VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM (CVHCS, Richmond, Virginia)

CVHCS's WISDM members are committed to advancing the professional aspirations of women in health care. This Veterans Health Affairs (VHA) medical center is proud of the strong representation of women in key leadership positions in the institution, including the Chief of Staff and multiple other departmental, council, and committee chairperson positions. The medical center in Richmond, Virginia, and its five satellite clinics (two in Fredericksburg and one each in Charlottesville, Emporia, and Henrico County) reaches over 200,000 veterans from 52 cities and counties in central and southern Virginia and parts of North Carolina. We are a 400-bed medical center offering primary to tertiary health care in medicine, surgery, neurology, women's health care, psychiatry, rehabilitation medicine, dentistry, skilled long-term nursing care, and palliative medicine. CVHCS houses one of VHA's five Polytrauma Rehabilitation Centers caring for injured veterans and military personnel from conflicts abroad and one of VHA's six Parkinson's Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers (PADRECC) with special expertise in deep brain stimulation techniques. CVHCS also supports the largest of the 23 Spinal Cord Injury & Disorders Centers in VHA and has maintained an active heart transplantation program for almost 40 years. Approximately 1100 trainees in multiple health science disciplines rotate through CVHCS annually. The Richmond Institute for Veterans Research (RIVR), formerly McGuire Research Institute (MRI), an award-winning program for clinical and basic science research at CVHCS, is a proud sponsor of this year's WISDM spring conference.

Sponsoring Organizations

VCU COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES

The College of Humanities and Sciences at Virginia Commonwealth University is a dynamic academic community that encompasses 18 departments, three schools, and multiple centers, institutes and programs. As the intellectual heart of VCU, we serve approximately 12,000 students, representing nearly 50% of all VCU's undergraduates. We are guided by our "Embrace the And" philosophy, and celebrate interdisciplinary learning, offering students extensive opportunities to pursue innovative academic paths. With disciplines in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities, the College of Humanities and Sciences enables students to find their passion, work with terrific researchers, and learn from master teachers.

VCU SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

VCU School of Pharmacy is a Top 20 U.S. News & World Report-ranked pharmacy school in the United States and a Top 25 National Institutes of Health-funded pharmacy school in the nation. Located in the heart of Richmond, our pharmacy school provides students the opportunity to learn from dynamic faculty in a welcoming environment where they regularly engage with individuals and patients from differing perspectives, lived experiences and cultural backgrounds. The VCU School of Pharmacy fosters a community of care through intentional opportunities for connection, collaboration and professional development among our staff, trainees, 75 faculty members and more than 400 students. Women account for 48% of the school's faculty across our three departments and 68% of our student body across our Pharm.D., graduate and undergraduate programs. In serving as a sponsor for this conference, the school appreciates the opportunity to further the career development of our current and future health care providers and scientists.

VCU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The VCU School of Public Health (SOPH) was founded in 2023 and offers graduate degrees in biostatistics, epidemiology, health care policy and research, public health, and social and behavioral sciences. Ranked 34th in the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research among public institutions for 2024, students have the opportunity to engage in a real-world public health education and work with faculty on research that improves the lives of all Virginians. It is one of a few Virginia universities recognized as a minority-serving institution. The School joins a robust health sciences campus, with schools and/or colleges in medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, and health professions. As part of an academic health system with a teaching hospital, a children's hospital, an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center, and a Center for Clinical Translational Science, VCU SOPH is uniquely positioned to impact health outcomes for all.

Presenters & Conference Planning Committee

PRESENTERS

Kelly Carlyle Ph.D., MPH, MEd, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Health, VCU School of Public

Lauire Forlano, D.O., MPH, Director, Office of Epidemiology, State Epidemiologist, Virginia Department of Health

Shana Ryman, M.S., Ed., Learning, Development and Culture Specialist, VCU Human Resources

Patricia Sime, M.D., Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine and William Branch Porter Professor of Medicine, VCU School of Medicine

Corey Byers Standlick, M.S., APIO, Director of Communications, VCU Department of Internal Medicine

Rodney Steppe, M.Ed., Learning and Development Instructional Design Specialist, VCU Human Resources

Stacey Wahl, Ph.D., Senior Instructional Designer and Assistant Professor, VCU School of Medicine

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Gretchen M. Brophy, Pharm.D., BCPS, FCCP, FCCM, FNCS, School of Pharmacy

Pamela Dillon, Pharm.D., Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research

Helena Fetter Filippini, Ph.D., School of Dentistry

Kim Isringhausen, B.S.D.H., R.D.H., MPH, School of Dentistry

Danielle Kirkman, Ph.D., **ACSM CEP**, College of Humanities and Sciences

Jennifer Koblinski, Ph.D., School of Medicine

Jennifer Puetzer, Ph.D., College of Engineering

Kimberly Sanford, M.D., School of Medicine

Rita Shiang, Ph.D., School of Medicine

Maria D. Thomson, Ph.D., M.Sc., School of Population Health

Katarzyna M. Tyc, Ph.D., School of Population Health

Nicole Winklemann, M.D., School of Medicine

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Jody Hedstrom, B.A., School of Medicine, Office of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development

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School of Population Health Maria D. Thomson, Ph.D., M.Sc. Associate Professor of Heath Behavior and Policy

Katarzyna M. Tyc, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Biostatistics

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Women in Science Student Organization (WIS) Associate Professor of Human and Molecular Genetics, School of Medicine

Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, M.D.

Women in Medicine Student Organization (WIMSO) Associate Professor of Family Medicine Associate Dean for Admissions, School of Medicine

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Associate Chief of Staff for Education Central Virginia VA Health Care System Assistant Professor of Neurology, School of Medicine

B. Ellen Byrne, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Professor of Dentistry Senior Associate Dean School of Dentistry

Jean Bailey, Ph.D.

Associate Dean for Faculty Development Associate Professor Office of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development School of Medicine

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Attendance, Evaluation & Certificate Instructions

Follow the instructions below to complete the program evaluation and claim your credits and certificate of participation. You are able to log back into the system to download past participation certificates and/or transcripts as well. Contact VCU Health Continuing Education if you have any problems at (804) 828-3640 or <u>ceinfo@vcuhealth.org</u>.

Submit Attendance

 Record attendance via text message by texting your email address used when registering for the event to (804) 625-4041. You will receive a confirmation message stating that your cell phone number has been updated in your profile. Note: You must have an account setup at <u>https://ce.vcuhealth.org</u> before you can submit attendance.

Thank You Karl Wilkens II, MD, your phone number has been updated to: <u>6154487910</u>

2. Text the course code to the same number (804) 625-4041. The course code for this event is: **34996** You will receive a confirmation text that your attendance has been recorded.

Thank you Karl Wilkens II, MD, we have recorded your attendance for Test Course.

a. NEW TEXT ATTENDANCE TIME FRAME: Unless otherwise instructed, text attendance for live activities must be submitted no more than 30 minutes before the start of the activity and no more than 48 hours after the end of the activity. Text attendance codes expire 48 hours post activity.

Complete Evaluation & Claim Credit

After recording attendance, you must evaluate the activity and claim credit. This can be done on a computer or via the CloudCME App. *Please see separate instructions to download and set up the app.*

In order to receive credit, evaluations must be completed within 30 days of completing a live activity.

Access through the Attendee Portal (computer)

- 1. Go to https://ce.vcuhealth.org and select Sign In from the menu.
- 2. Sign-in using the email address used to register for the event.
- 3. Once signed in, click the "My CME" or "My CE" button
- 4. Click on **Evaluations and Certificates** to view evaluations that need to be completed for activities you have attended. This also allows you to view, print or email certificates for activities you have already completed an evaluation for.

Access through the App (smart phone or tablet)

- 1. Open the CloudCME app on your device (Organization code: VCU)
- 2. Click My Evaluations in the menu
- 3. Click the name of the activity to access and complete the evaluation
- 4. Click My Certificates to view, email or save a copy of the certificate.





33 rd Annual WISDM Leadership Conference Participant List April 26, 2024	Pamela Y Adams-Lewis, MBA, HSA, EdD Sr. GME Coordiantor VCU Health pamela.adams-lewis@vcuhealth.org
Sruthi Allampally, BA Student VCU School of Medicine sruthi.alampally@vcuhealth.org	Ana Andrada, DDS Associate Professor Dentistry VCU SoD Endodontics coutohackcaa@vcu.edu
Fazila Aseem, MD, MPH Physician VCUH Neurology fazila.aseem@vcuhealth.org	Mary Baechle, DDS Doctor Dentistry VCU School of Dentistry General Practice mbaechle@vcu.edu
Jill Bettinger, PhD Professor VCU School of Medicine Pharmacology and Toxicology jill.bettinger@vcuhealth.org	Susan Blyler , BA Administrative Coordinator VCU Health Graduate Medical Education susan.blyler@vcuhealth.org
Molly L Bristol, PhD Assistant Professor VCU SOD, OCMB, Philips Institute for Oral Health Research Massey Cancer Center mlbristol@vcu.edu	Erica Brody , MPH, MSLS Librarian VCU Libraries ebrody@vcu.edu
Gretchen M Brophy , PharmD, BCPS Professor Pharmacist Pharmacotherapy & Outcomes Sciences VCU School of Pharmacy gbrophy@vcu.edu	Emily Buck , MS Graduate Teaching Assistant Student VCU Kinesiology and Health Sciences buckea@vcu.edu
Corey Byers Standlick, MS Director of Communications VCU Internal Medicine corey.byersstandlick@vcuhealth.org	Kellie Carlyle, Ph.D, MPH Professor, Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs VCU School of Population Health kecarlyle@vcu.edu

Jaclyn Dalton, MPAS	Bethany G. David, Ph.D
Physician Assistant	Sr. Clinical Research Assistant
VCUHS Pediatric Orthopedics	VCU Neurology
jaclyn.steinke@vcuhealth.org	bethany.david@vcuhealth.org
Ana F. Diallo, PhD	Pam Dillon, PharmD
Assistant Professor Nurse	Secretary, WISDM Faculty Organization Associate Professor and Research Liaison Pharmacist
VCU Nursing	Virginia Commonwealth University
dialloa@vcu.edu	pmdillon@vcu.edu
Michelle Doll, MD, MPH	Lisa Ellis, MD, MS, MACP
Assistant Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases	Chief Wellness Officer for Providers and Trainees
Physician Physician	and Associate Professor
VCUHS Department of Internal Medicine	Physician VCUHS Internal Medicine
michelle.doll@vcuhealth.org	
	lisa.ellis@vcuhealth.org
Helena Fetter Filippini, PhD	Alyson Fiorillo, PhD
Assistant Professor	Assistant Professor
Dentistry	Virginia Commonweath University Neurology
Virginia Commonwealth University Endodontics	Alyson.Fiorillo@vcuhealth.org
filippinih@vcu.edu	
Susan Fischer Davis, MD	Laurie Forlano, DO, MPH
Chief Deputy Commissioner for Community Health Services	Director
Physician	Physician
Virginia Department of Health	Virginia Department of Health Office of Epidemiology
susan.fischerdavis@vdh.virginia.gov	laurie.forlano@vdh.virginia.gov
Becky Forrest, MD	Laura Frankart (Morgan), PharmD
Physician	Professor and Director of Education and Assessment Pharmacist
VCUHS Internal Medicine	
rebecca.miller@vcuhealth.org	VCU School of Pharmacy Pharmacotherapy & Outcomes Science
	lamorgan@vcu.edu
Shadi Ghadermarzi, MD	Seyed Mohammad Gharavi, MD
Physician	Assistant professor
VCU Internal Medicine	Physician
shadi.ghadermarzi@vcuhealth.org	VCU Radiology
	seyedmohammad.gharavi@vcuhealth.org

Kelly Goode, PharmD Professor and Director, PGY1 Community-Based Pharmacy Residency Program Pharmacist VCU School of Pharmacy Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science irgoode@vcu.edu	Kathleen Gwilliam , PhD VCU Health kathleen.gwilliam@vcuhealth.org
Paul Howell, MS	Molly Hyer, PhD
Research Scientist	Director of Research Development
VCU Health Anatomy & Neurobiology	Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for
paul.howell@vcuhealth.org	Women's Health
	Molly.Hyer@vcuhealth.org
Colleen Jackson-Cook, PhD	Jisu Kim, MS
Professor	Doctoral Student
Virginia Commonwealth University Pathology	Virginia Commonwealth University Kinesiology and Health Sciences
colleen.jackson-cook@vcuhealth.org	kimj71@vcu.edu
Danielle Kirkman, PhD	Jennifer Koblinski, PhD
Assistant Professor, Director, Renal Rehabilitation VCU Kinesiology and Health Sciences	President & Treasurer, WISDM Faculty Organization Associate Professor
danielle.kirkman@vcuhealth.org	VCU School of Medicine Department of Pathology
damono.ikinkinante vounoaitinoig	jennifer.koblinski@vcuhealth.org
Susan G Kornstein, MD	Carmen Lancaster, MHA
Executive Director, Institute for Women's Health	Resident Program Coordinator
Physician	VCU Health Urology
VCU Health System Psychiatry susan.kornstein@vcuhealth.org	carmen.lancaster@vcuhealth.org
Patricia Lange, MD	Stacie Lefeavers, MPH
Professor of Pediatrics and Surgery	Nurse, Student
Physician	VCU SOPH
Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Surgery	lefeaverss@vcu.edu
patricia.lange@vcuhealth.org	
Janina Lewis, PhD	Alexandra Marrero Quinones, BS
Doctor	Doctoral Candidate Student
Dentistry	VCU School of Medicine Human and Molecular
VCU	Genetics
jplewis@vcu.edu	alexandra.marreroquinones@vcuhealth.org

Kendall E Martin, PhD	Melissa McGinn, PhD
LGG Fellow	Associate Professor
VCU Health Pathology	VCU Anatomy & Neurobiology
kendall.martin@vcuhealth.org	melissa.mcginn@vcuhealth.org
Michelle McGregor, RDH, BS, MEd	Lisa Helene Merck, MD
Director, Dental Hygiene Program	Professor
VCU School of Dentistry	Physician
mrmcgregor@vcu.edu	VCU Emergency Medicine
	Lisa.Merck@vcuhealth.org
Lathika Mohanraj, PhD, RN, BMTCN	Kellyn Moody, BA
Nurse	Program Coordinator
VCU lathika.mohanraj@vcuhealth.org	Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health
	kellyn.moody@vcuhealth.org
Allyson Motter, BA	Shillpa Naavaal, BDS, MS, MPH
PhD Student	Assistant Professor
Virginia Commonwealth University Microbiology &	Dentistry
Immunology	VCU School of Dentistry
mottera@vcu.edu	naavaals@vcu.edu
Gretchen Neigh, PhD	Uyen Nguyen , MD
Professor	Student
Department of Anatomy & Neurobiology	VCU Internal Medicine
VCU School of Medicine	uyen.nguyen@vcuhealth.org
gretchen.mccandless@vcuhealth.org	
Natalia O'Brien, MS	Toyin Openibo, MS
Student Outreach Coordinator	Student
VCU School of Medicine	Pharmaceutical Engineering
natalia.obrien@vcuhealth.org	openiboo@vcu.edu
Emily Ortiz Nazario, MD, PhD, MEd, MS,	Roshni Patel, BS
FAAN	Medical Student
Laboratory Technician Technician	VCU School of Medicine
VCU Neurology	patelrm11@vcu.edu
Emily.OrtizNazario@vcuhealth.org	

Carolyn Peel, MD	Emily P Peron, PharmD, BCPS, BCGP
Associate Professor	Pharmacist
Family Physician	VCU
VCU Health Family Medicine	emily.peron1@vcuhealth.org
carolyn.peel@vcuhealth.org	
J ennifer Puetzer , PhD	Elizabeth Ripley, MD
Assistant Professor	Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
VCU College of Engineering	Physician
jlpuetzer@vcu.edu	VCU School of Medicine
	elizabeth.ripley@vcuhealth.org
Julie Russo, MPH	Shana Ryman, MS, Ed.
Student	Learning, Development, and Culture Specialist
Virginia Commonwealth University	VCU HR
julierusso12@gmail.com	sryman@vcu.edu
Kimberly Sanford, MD	Rita Shiang , PhD Immediate Past-President, WISDM Faculty
Associate Professor	Organization Associate Professor
Physician	VCU School of Medicine Human and Molecular
VCU School of Medicine	Genetics
kimberly.sanford@vcuhealth.org	rita.shiang@vcuhealth.org
Bhavna Shroff, DDS	Patricia J Sime, MD, FACP, FRCP
Professor	Professor and Chair
Dentistry	Physician
VCU Orthodontics	VCUHS Internal Medicine
bshroff@vcu.edu	patricia.sime@vcuhealth.org
Pallavi Singh, Doctor of Dental Surgery	India G Sisler, MD
Attending Pediatric Dentist	Associate Professor; Clinical Director, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Stem Cell
Dentistry	Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Stem Cell Physician
VCU School of Dentistry Pediatric Dentistry	Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Pediatrics
pallavi.singh@vcuhealth.org	india.sisler@vcuhealth.org
Rodney Steppe, M.Ed.	Michelle Taylor, BA
Learning and Development Instructional Design	Student
Specialist	VCU
VCU Human Resources	taylormm5@vcu.edu
stepperl@vcu.edu	

Maria Thomson, PhD	Lindsay Tierney, EdD
Associate Professor	Assistant Dean of Student Services
VCU Health Behavior and Policy	VCU School of Dentistry
maria.thomson@vcuhealth.org	farrishlk@vcu.edu
Eser Tufekci, DDS	Stacey Wahl, PhD
Professor	Senior Instructional Designer, Presenter
Dentistry	VCU School of Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University Orthodontics etufekci@vcu.edu	stacey.wahl@vcuhealth.org
Jennifer Weggen, MS	Anne Wilhite, MD
Graduate Research Assistant	Director Pre-Anesthesia Clinic
Student	Physician
Virginia Commonwealth University	McGuire VAMC Anesthesiology
weggenjb@vcu.edu	aowilhite@gmail.com
Nicole Winkelmann, MD	Alice Wong, MD
Physician	Physician
/irginial Commonwealth University Health System	VCU Internal Medicine
nicole.winkelmann@vcuhealth.org	alice.wong@vcuhealth.org
Sarah Woods	Huiping Zhou, PhD
Technician	Professor
Virginia Commonwealth University	Virginia Commonwealth University
sarah.woods1@vcuhealth.org	huiping.zhou@vcuhealth.org
Kindle N Zimmerman, BS	
Sr. GME Program Coordinator	
VCU Health Emergency Medicine	
kindle.walke@vcuhealth.org	