

Activity Overview

2025 MDA Clinical & Scientific Conference

Target Audience

This activity is designed for an audience of nurses, nurse Practitioners, pharmacists, physician associates, physicians, and social workers.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the educational activity, participants should be able to:

Allied Health Workshop

- Distinguish care needs for ambulatory vs non-ambulatory patients with NMD
- Improve ability to assess and communicate the need for assistive devices
- Build connections with peers in similar disciplines to support future learning
- Identify and leverage resources to guide clinical decision-making and provide patient support

Allied Health

Session title: The Latest in Pulmonary and Cardiac Management in Neuromuscular Disease

- Identify cardiac surveillance and management needs for neuromuscular patients
- Anticipate relevant cardiac and pulmonary emergencies that can arise for the NMD patient
- Integrate critical factors when building a cardiopulmonary care team for the NMD patient
- Identify ways that pulmonary trajectory affects major pulmonary decision points in NMDs

Session title: Optimizing Nutrition and Physical Therapy in Neuromuscular Disease: Practical Applications for Patient Care

- Adapt the Nutrition Focused Physical Exam (NFPE) to assess nutritional status in individuals with neuromuscular diseases.
- Evaluate medication options for weight management in patients with neuromuscular diseases.
- Recognize the pathophysiology of constipation in neuromuscular diseases and develop effective management strategies.
- Explore the role of physical therapy interventions in improving bowel function and quality of life for individuals with constipation secondary to neuromuscular diseases.

Track: Care Management

Session title: Learning Across Disciplines: Applying Proven Models to Neuromuscular Care

- Translatable Concepts: Identify specific models or frameworks from other medical fields (such as congenital heart disease, cystic fibrosis, etc.) that can be effectively applied to our field of neuromuscular.
- Framework for Learning: Offer a framework or set of guidelines for approaching learning from other fields, including what to look for and how to implement these lessons.
- Future Perspectives: Speculate on future trends arising from interdisciplinary learning and how to stay ahead by modeling these insights.

Session title: Developing a Sustainable Multidisciplinary Team Model

- Identify key stakeholders within the institution to secure support for a multidisciplinary team approach, emphasizing the importance of collaboration among providers.
- Develop strategies to recognize and integrate less “billable” roles, such as therapists, into the team model, ensuring their contributions are valued and supported.
- Design and implement team-building activities that enhance communication, trust, and collaboration among team members from different disciplines.

Session title: Navigating Transition: Strategies for Care Across Settings and Life Stages

- Reviewing key elements facing the pediatric health care provider during transitioning patient out of the clinic.
- Discussing expectations of adult health care providers receiving newly transitioned neuromuscular patients and how they can collaborate with pediatric physicians in doing so.
- Listening to perspectives of two young adults with Duchenne muscular dystrophy and their experiences making a successful transition to the adult world.
- Understanding the social and life barriers facing patients in transitioning from pediatric to adult clinics.

Session title: Building Bridges: Community Partnerships for Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Care

- Identify various care models to improve access to patients living outside of an urban setting.
- Describe the use of telehealth to enhance care delivery.
- Describe partnerships between MDA care centers to meet the needs of patients

Session title: Preparing for Tomorrow's Leaders & Fostering Diversity Among Providers

- Recognize the challenges faced by practitioners with the changing landscape of medicine
- Identify what roles leaders will play in the changing landscape
- Identify how to develop leaders and the importance of diversity in our leadership
- Recognize the impact on patient outcomes and community engagement

Session title: Changing Policies and Pushing Boundaries

- Discuss how to partner with hospital administration to provide care to our patients.
- Explore what hospital administrators would like from us as neuromuscular physicians so they can advocate for our programs.
- Discuss what steps can be taken with an insurance denial.
- Learn about examples of power behind collaborations of health care providers to push policy at the state level.
- Explore what can be done at a national level in terms of advocacy.

Track: Diagnostic Rolodex

Session title: Myasthenia Gravis: Presentation and Diagnosis; Current Therapies; and Current & Future Research

- Review the general history, physical exam findings, and pathophysiology of myasthenia gravis.
- Recognize the current therapies that are used to treat myasthenia gravis, particularly those that are new to the market.
- Explore the current research landscape including review of new clinical trials and novel therapies for treatment of myasthenia gravis.

Session title: Myositis: Best Practices & Updates

- Identify IIM subtypes according to the revised classification system
- Leverage muscle pathology to guide IIM diagnosis
- Characterize the role of myositis autoantibodies in IIM diagnosis and prognosis
- Identify advances in understanding IIM pathophysiology

Track: Genetic Medicine

Session title: Gene Therapy Updates - Where are we Today?

- Examine the landscape of gene therapy in the clinic in 2024
- Anticipate emerging therapies, the research pipeline, and the potential for two gene therapies for the same disease
- Recognize the special considerations in treating an adult with gene therapy

Session title: Experiences in DMD

- Develop a better understanding of the current and future landscape for DMD gene therapy.
- Describe the considerations for different age groups.
- Identify the limitations for access and insurance authorization.
- Describe the safety concerns with DMD gene therapy.

Session title: New Genetic Technologies in Diagnosis and Treatment of Neuromuscular Disease

- Summarize the pros and cons of new and emerging genetic technologies in neuromuscular disease diagnostic process.
- Apply knowledge regarding new and emerging genetic technologies to identify the most appropriate tests for patients
- Interpret results and/or identify resources for interpretation assistance of complex genetic testing results

Session title: Gene Therapy for Intermediate/Experienced Sites

- Review and discuss challenges in execution of gene transfer therapy for neuromuscular diseases
- Outline strategies for overcoming barriers in administration of gene therapies
- Provide opportunity for conversation and collaboration among experienced sites related to challenges of gene therapies

Session title: Gene Therapy Funding Strategies: Workshop for MDA Care Centers

- Discuss challenges in Gene therapy
- Discuss reimbursement and maneuvering authorization for gene therapy
- Offer guidance for gene therapy preparation

Track 5: Pompe Disease

Session title: Pompe Disease: Mechanisms, Therapeutic Advances, Advocacy, and Integrated Care Approaches

- Summarize the advancement of Pompe disease understanding, diagnosis, and management
- Determine criteria for transitioning patients to approved and emerging therapies (e.g., ERT, gene therapy, substrate reduction therapy)
- Discuss how patient experiences, advocacy, and quality-of-life considerations inform effective multidisciplinary Pompe disease management

Criteria for Success

There is a fee to participate in this activity. Statements of credit will be awarded based on the participant's attendance. A statement of credit will be available upon completion of an online evaluation/claim credit form available at:

<https://www.akhcme.com/2025-md-a-clinical-scientific-conference/>

Please claim your credit by May 16, 2025

If you have questions about this CE activity, please contact AKH Inc at wendi@akhcme.com



CE credit provided by AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare.



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare and MDA. AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.



This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 18 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credit for learning and change.

Physicians

AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare designates this live activity for a maximum of 18 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses

Credit being awarded: 18 ANCC contact hours

Pharmacists

AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare designates this continuing education activity for 18 contact hours.

Physician Associate



AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare has been authorized by the American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 18 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Nurse Practitioners



This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Accreditation Standards of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) through the joint providership of AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare and

MDA. AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare is accredited by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners as an approved provider of nurse practitioner continuing education. Provider number: 030803. This activity is approved for 18 contact hour(s) (which includes 6 hour(s) of pharmacology)

Social Workers



As a Jointly Accredited Organization, AKH Inc., Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine

whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. AKH Inc. Advancing Knowledge in Healthcare maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive 18 continuing education credits.

Commercial Support

There is no commercial support for this activity.

DISCLOSURES		
Name	Relationship	Commercial Interest
Hoda Abdel-Hamid, MD	Consultant	Sarepta Therapeutics, Catalyst, ITF
Yaacov Anziska, MD	N/A	Nothing to disclose
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		Alexion, Astellas, AveXis/Novartis, Biogen, Biohaven, CSL Behring, Fibrogen, Genentech/Roche, Janssen, Pfizer, PTC Therapeutics, Sarepta, Scholar Rock
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MDA Staff and Planners	N/A	Nothing to disclose
All of the relevant financial relationships listed for these individuals have been mitigated.		

Disclosures

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