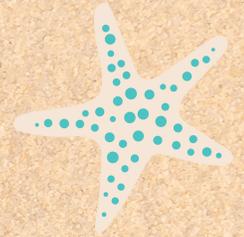


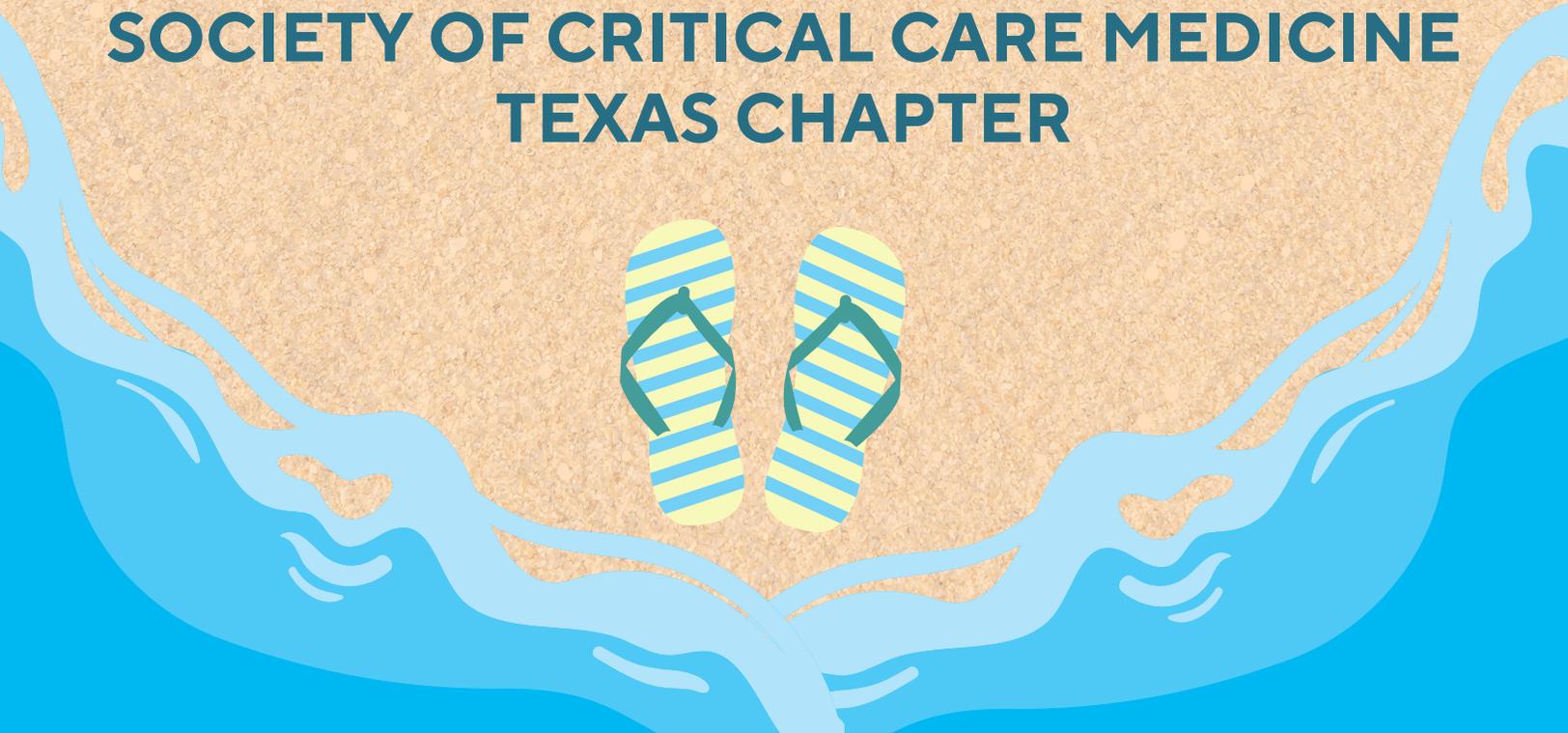
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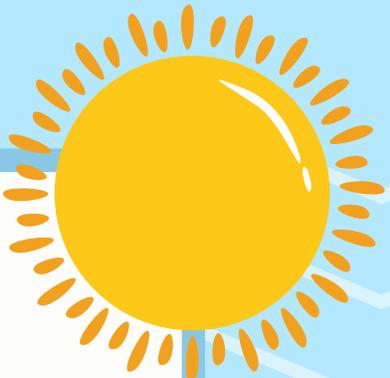
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**JUNE 2025**



**SOCIETY OF CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE  
TEXAS CHAPTER**

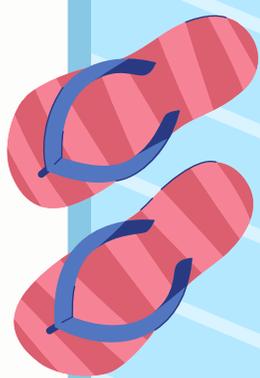




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# President's Corner

Hello SCCM Texas Chapter!

Congratulations on making it through early summer in Texas, forecasters are anticipating a summer that is hotter and drier than usual while also anticipating a highly active hurricane year. Here is a helpful link to the Texas Hospital Association's tips for [Extreme Heat Safety](#) and the SCCM's [Guideline for the Treatment of Heat Stroke](#) Stay safe everyone! Meanwhile, the SCCM Texas Chapter has been busy with plans for more!



**Rebecca McClay, DNP, MS, ACNPC-AG, NPD-BC, CCRN-CMC-CSC**

The **14th annual Symposium** "One Team, One Mission: Elevating Outcomes with Evidence-Based Critical Care" will be held **September 19th-20th** at Doubletree Love Field Airport (Dallas, TX). The Symposium Committee with Chair **Sree Cheruku** and Co-Chair **Beth Teegarden** has been working with fabulous members to create an event with education, networking, presentation opportunities, and cool prizes! More information, including registration and abstract submission, is available on the Chapter website. **Registration opens July 1st** – so be sure to register early and take advantage of the early bird price!

In the meantime, find out more about our collaboration on the **"ICU Design Symposium"** happening **August 1st, 2025** in Houston. More information is available on our Texas Chapter website under "Events". Our Programs Committee has been busy with educational programming in multiple regions and looking to expand to our Austin region again with the new regional coordinator **Michael Mileski**. And the Nominations Committee has been busy with 17 FCCM candidates paired with mentors and 5 having submitted their FCCM application for 2025. The chapter plans to submit nominations for at least two national awards this summer.

A huge welcome to our new social media coordinator **Greg Pon** and be sure to check out our Instagram, Facebook, and Bluesky accounts for updates. We welcome your feedback and ideas for how the chapter can best serve you, so feel free to reach out or catch any of the team at a meeting or program event!

Best wishes for a cool breeze this summer,

Rebecca McClay

# Symposium Committee



## 14th Annual Symposium

Sreekanth Cheruku, MD, MPH



**Save the Date: September 19<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup>**  
Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Dallas - Love Field

**Keynote Speaker: Cherylee W.J. Chang, MD, FACP, FCCM**  
SCCM 2025 President Elect

**Registration opens Tuesday, July 1st**  
Abstract Submission Portal opens Tuesday, July 1st

<https://www.sccmtexaschapter.org/annual-symposium/>



**Ada Jutba, PharmD, BCCCP**

# Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is responsible for the dissemination of information between our chapter and its members.

Follow us for more information and to stay up to date on chapter activities:

**Facebook:** SCCM Texas Chapter

**Instagram:** @sccmtxchapter

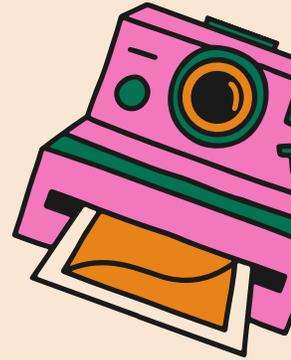
**Bluesky:** @sccmtxchapter.bsky.social

We're looking for members to be featured on **#MemberMonday**. Please reach out to us at [communications@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:communications@sccmtexaschapter.org) to be featured!

I would like to welcome two new members to the communications committee!

**Webmaster:** Charnette Darrington Zaskoda, BSRC, MSRC, CRT, RRT is a respiratory therapist at Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital The Vintage.

**Social Media Coordinator:** Gregory Pon, PharmD, BCCCP is a critical care clinical pharmacy specialist at Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital.





**Emily Highsmith,  
PharmD, BCCCP**

# Research Committee

The Research Committee is excited to announce that we will soon be accepting abstract submissions for research snapshots during our Annual Symposium! This is a great opportunity for our membership to showcase their work and an opportunity to gain experience giving platform presentations. Members can submit abstracts for case reports or research that is either completed or in-progress. Accepted abstracts will be invited for a 5-minute podium presentation at our Annual Symposium, taking place this **September 19th – 20th** in Dallas. Furthermore, the highest quality abstracts will be eligible to win the **Jeffrey J. Bruno Symposium Award**, which allows for free symposium registration as well as a monetary award. The 1st place winner will receive \$1000 and the 2nd place abstract will receive \$500 – these funds can be utilized towards SCCM or SCCM Texas Chapter activities over the next 2 years. The submission portal will be open from **July 1st – July 26th**. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.sccmtexaschapter.org/abstracts/> or contact [abstracts@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:abstracts@sccmtexaschapter.org).

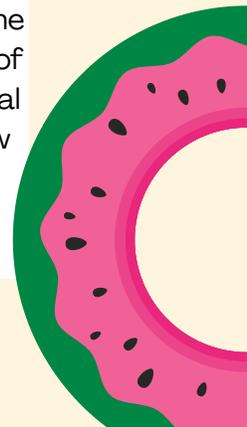
We would also like to highly encourage all members to start considering research they would like to perform and plan to submit for the chapter's **Joseph L. Nates Grant**.

This is an annual research grant which is intended to support clinical research designed to enhance the care and outcomes of critically ill patients. The application portal will be opening later this summer with a deadline in late December. Additionally, later this fall we will be accepting applications for our **Alan I. Field's award**. This award is for SCCM members who have had their abstracts accepted to SCCM Congress 2026 and has a monetary award of \$1500 for first place and \$1000 for second place.

We are also in the process of updating both of these sections on our website to reflect the correct deadlines, but check back later this summer!

We want to hear more about the great research work our members do! The research committee has developed a short survey where members can submit their recent research publications, accepted abstracts, and grant awards. We will then give you a shoutout in future newsletters and on social media! Fill out the survey [here](#).

Lastly, in an ongoing effort to increase the outreach of the research committee in the coming year we would love for you to join our committee! We are in particular need of nurses, nurse practitioners, respiratory therapists, dieticians, physical or occupational therapists, physician's assistants and other allied health professionals. Please review the information on the SCCM-Texas Chapter website Research tab or contact [research@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:research@sccmtexaschapter.org) for more information on joining the research committee.





Kyllie Ryan-Hummel,  
PharmD, BCCCP

# Nominations Committee

## Call for SCCM national award nominations!

Texas Chapter of SCCM is looking for nominees to support in nomination to **National Awards** from SCCM! Criteria for the awards can be found on SCCM's website and nominations are due ASAP. Questions? Want to nominate someone? Please email nominations at [nominations@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:nominations@sccmtexaschapter.org)!

We are always looking for volunteers to serve as mentors for our FCCM mentorship program and would love to hear from you. Be on the lookout for quarterly development sessions; reach out if you would like to get involved!

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](mailto:nominations@sccmtexaschapter.org).



Linda Abad, PA

# Programs Committee

Here are the most recent and upcoming programs by region including date, topic, sponsor, and location.

Please join us for networking and education!

## SCCM Texas Chapter Programming

### DFW:

May 28	Landiolol: A short acting, IV Beta-1 Blocker for SVT	Syneos	Calabrese
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### Houston:

May 14	The latest trends in CRE prevalence, subtypes and testing	AbbVie	Perry's
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May 28	Contemporary Evidence Supporting the appropriate role of a treatment option for HABP/VABP	Merck	Kiran's
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July 9	Using Procalcitonin to Understand Bacterial Burden and Revolutionize How we Safely Manage Antibiotic Use	ThermoFisher	Sixty Vines
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August	SCCM Houston Social		TBD
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### San Antonio:

May 7	Stroke Month Program- Advances in the treatment of Acute Ischemic Stroke	Penumbra	J- Prime
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June 17	2024 Combo- An effective, Broad spectrum Antibiotic for the treatment of ABSSSI & CABP in Adults	Paratek	Eddie V
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# Membership Committee

**Ngoc Vu, PharmD, BCCCP**

The Texas Chapter currently has 560 active members. We would like to encourage you to renew your membership and continue to spread the word about joining our chapter to your colleagues and friends. Membership grants access to ongoing educational programming, networking opportunities and other resources for an annual fee of \$45 dollars per year.

What are other fun perks of being an SCCM Texas Chapter member?

## Giveaways!

The membership committee is currently working on a lunch giveaway for you and your colleagues/unit (who doesn't like free food??). Be on the lookout for communication on the lunch giveaway in the next few weeks and how to enter and enjoy a lunch for you and your colleagues!

If you would like to get more involved in volunteering for the membership committee or have questions about membership or renewals, please reach out at

**[membership@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:membership@sccmtexaschapter.org)**



**Frances Okpaluba,  
APRN**

# Awards Committee

The Awards Committee is an important committee for the chapter. Its most essential and fun function is recognizing members' work in their respective disciplines and academic, professional, and community contributions.

## The primary functions of the committee are:

- Acknowledge chapter leaders and members for accomplishments and contributions to the chapters and to critically ill and injured patients over the past year
- Develop and update the online nomination process
- Annually receive and review nominations
- Select and present the award recipients to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.
- On an annual basis, review and revise the standing operating procedure.

## The chapter has established the following annual awards for the members:

- Outstanding Member Award
- Excellence Awards
- Professional Development Awards

For more information about the awards and being part of a fun committee, contact **Frances Okpaluba, MS, AGACNP-BC, CCRN**, Chair, and **Olga C. Rodriguez, DNP, COL, MSN, RN, CPHQ**, Co-chair.



**Anne Rain Brown,  
PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM**



# Community Engagement Committee

The Community Engagement Committee has been diligently planning an exciting summer. We are pleased to announce our support for a **RESCUE** event in Houston at a local swim club, where we will educate the community on bystander CPR and water safety. We invite you to join the Community Engagement Committee at the pool. If you are available and interested in assisting us in educating the public, please contact Anne Rain Brown.

Additionally, please watch for a survey sent to our members regarding **Fundamentals in Critical Care Support (FCCS)** course offerings. We value your input on what would be most beneficial or desired from your chapter.

Do you have a great volunteer opportunity or need additional support for your current volunteer efforts? Let us know how the chapter can assist you in your endeavors. Please reach out to Anne Rain Brown at [communityengagement@sccmtexaschapter.org](mailto:communityengagement@sccmtexaschapter.org) with any ideas or suggestions.





# SCCM

Society of Critical Care Medicine - Texas Chapter

<https://sccmtexaschapter.org>

# RESCUE

**RESPONDING TO  
EMERGENCIES AND  
SIMPLE  
CPR  
UNDERSTANDING FOR  
EVERYONE**

## COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION



**SATURDAY  
JUNE 28TH, 2025  
3:30 PM - 5 PM**

- Stop by the pool for free education on swim safety and bystander CPR
- Prizes for all those who stop by to learn

### COMPRESSIONS



2 Steps to Save a Life

### WATER SAFETY



### PEDIATRIC CHOKING

**SWIM CLUB @ LODGE 88  
1435 Beall Street**



# INTENSIVE CARE UNIT DESIGN GUIDELINES SYMPOSIUM



## PRESENTERS:

**Kirk Hamilton**, PhD, FCCM, Emeritus FAIA

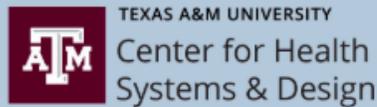
**Jodie Gary**, PhD, RN

**Charles Cadenhead**, FAIA, FCCM

Approved for:  
**3 AIA HSW CES**

# August 1, 2025

Location: **Houston Methodist  
Research Institute**  
6670 Bertner Ave, Houston, TX 77030



In Collaboration with:

Houston Methodist  
Center for Critical Care

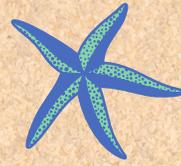
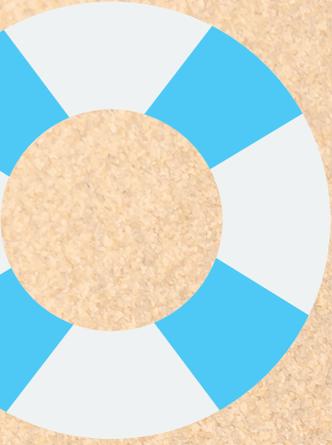


## Symposium Registration

Professionals: \$75

Students: \$25

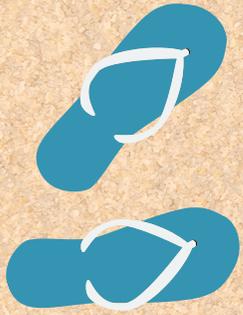
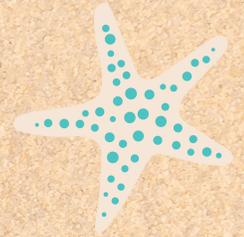




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