



Critical Care



Corner



September 2025

**Society of Critical Care Medicine
Texas Chapter**



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Editor: Jonathan Patterson, PharmD, BCCCP

President's Corner

Hello SCCM Texas Chapter!

As we welcome a new quarter, I am excited to share the latest updates, accomplishments, and opportunities within our organization. This season brings not only fresh initiatives and upcoming events, but also a chance to celebrate the dedication and collaboration that define our community. Each of you plays an important role in shaping the care we provide and the professional connections we build, and this newsletter is one way to celebrate that collective effort. From upcoming events to inspiring accomplishments, we hope these updates keep you informed, encouraged, and connected with the great work happening throughout our organization.



**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" is right around the corner on **September 19th-20th at the Doubletree Love Field Airport (Dallas, TX)**. I am very excited about our topics, multidisciplinary presenters, and the great information we will be sharing, including some inspiring research abstracts. And **Genesys Women's Shelter** has been chosen as recipient of donations this year and will be present to discuss their work and support opportunities during the Symposium. More information, including registration and speaker highlights, is available on the Chapter website. Early bird registration has closed, but registration is still available. Don't miss this chance to meet up with colleagues from different areas and get some great information for clinical integration!

This summer **Laura Blackburn** served as our Chapter Liaison for Houston's very successful "**ICU Design Symposium**" in August. **Anne Rain Tanner Brown** facilitated 2 water safety community volunteer events in June. The **Nominations Committee** has been busy pairing and supporting FCCM candidates with mentors and has submitted a nomination of **Mohammad Salameh, MD** for the Shubin-Weil Master Clinician/Teacher: Excellence in Bedside Teaching Award.

Be sure to check out our Instagram, Facebook, and Bluesky accounts for updates. And be sure to share updates with your friends and colleagues – and get them involved in Chapter activities. 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!

I am so excited to see many of you at our Symposium!

Rebecca McClay



Symposium Committee



14th Annual Symposium

Sreekanth Cheruku, MD, MPH



See you September 19th and September 20th!

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Dallas - Love Field

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

Registration Still Open!

<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:

Website: www.sccmtexaschapter.org

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 to be featured!

Research Committee



Emily Highsmith,
PharmD, BCCCP

Thank you to everyone who submitted research or case report abstracts for presentation for this year's SCCM Texas Chapter Annual Symposium! The following 2 abstracts were selected to receive this year's **Jeffrey J. Bruno Symposium Award**:

Mobility and Complications after Cardiac Surgery: Secondary Outcomes from the FIT ICU Trials – Esha Khanna, BS

Sustained Early Mobility Gains in an Oncology ICU: An 18-Month Interdisciplinary Study – Christina Watkins, OTR, MOT

Please join us in congratulating these outstanding research contributors! We look forward to hearing all of the wonderful presentations at Symposium.

- The research committee is also pleased to announce that the application window for the **Joseph L. Nates Grant** of \$4000 will open at Symposium! We would like to encourage all members to apply for this annual research grant which is intended to support clinical research designed to enhance the care and outcomes of critically ill patients. The deadline for grant applications will be **December 19th** – please visit the Society of Critical Care Medicine Texas Chapter home page or <http://www.sccmtexaschapter.org/research-grant/> for more information on eligibility, expectations, and the application process.

Also, stay tuned as applications for the annual **Alan I. Fields** award will be opening in early October. This award provides financial support for researchers to present their work at the national SCCM meeting taking place in Chicago this March.

Finally, we are always looking for members who are interested in research to join our team. We are in particular need of nurses, nurse practitioners, respiratory therapists, dietitians, physical or occupational therapists, physician assistants and other allied health professionals. Please review the information on the SCCM Texas Chapter website Research tab or contact research@sccmtexaschapter.org for more information on joining the research committee.



Kyllie Ryan-Hummel,
PharmD, BCCCP

Nominations Committee



The next election cycle for leadership positions in the SCCM Texas Chapter will begin soon! Nominations will open **December 1, 2025**, and are accepted until **January 9, 2026**.

Positions open for the 2025 election are:

Executive committee:

- **President elect** (3-year progressive term)
- **Treasurer** (2-year term)

Board of Directors (3-year term):

- **Physician** (1 position)
 - All chapter members shall be eligible (MD)
- **At-large** (2 positions)
 - All chapter members shall be eligible

Officer responsibilities and required qualification information can be found on the SCCM Texas Chapter website under the Nominations (Chapter Leadership Nominations) tab. Be on the lookout for information regarding the opening of nominations to submit online (self-nominations are accepted). We look forward to your nominations and continued involvement in the chapter!

Call for volunteers!

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





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 Newsletter Update: 9/2025

DFW:

Sep 19-20th 14th Annual SCCM TX Chapter Symposium: One Team, One Mission: Elevating Outcomes with Evidence-Based Critical Care

Houston:

September 10	Gohibic (vilobelimab) for critically ill COVID patients	InflaRx	Eddie V's
September 24	TBD	Abbvie	TBD
October 8	TBD	Amgen	TBD
October 22	TBD	Mallinckrodt	TBD

San Antonio:

August 19	At the heart of reducing CV risk in Adult patients with CKD and TD2-KER-US-2529-3	Kerendia	Blu Prime Steakhouse
September 10	Piramal- Clinical Best Practices: Intrathecal Baclofen Therapy	Piramal	J-Prime Steakhouse



Membership Committee

Ngoc Vu, PharmD, BCCCP

The Texas Chapter currently has 587 active members. A big warm welcome to our new members! We hope that you find ways to get involved - whether it is joining a committee, engaging in our various programs throughout Texas or following us on our social media websites.

We would like to encourage you to 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.

We recently completed a **Lunch Giveaway** in July. Special congratulations to our winner - **Ada Jutba** and her team at **Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center**! Be on the lookout for other giveaways in the future!

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.





Frances Okpaluba, APRN

Awards Committee

The mission of the awards committee is to acknowledge SCCM Texas Chapter members for their accomplishments and contributions to the care of critically ill patients throughout the previous year.

SCCM Texas Chapter Awards

We are excited to share upcoming opportunities to recognize excellence within our Texas Chapter. Mark your calendars and submit nominations before the deadlines.

Awards Grading Rubrics

Professional Development Award

The Professional Development Award rubric evaluates member growth and active participation in SCCM. It rewards longevity of membership in the Texas Chapter, increasing committee involvement at both state and national levels, and the establishment of clear learning goals tied to the SCCM Congress. Additional points are given for realistic post-Congress plans to share or implement learning, with higher scores for multiple activities.

Excellence in Service Award

The three Excellence in Service rubrics collectively assess clinical practice, education, and research as key dimensions of professional achievement. Clinical Practice emphasizes expertise through advanced training, critical care experience, safety initiatives, and committee involvement, while Education values teaching, faculty roles, curriculum development, and mentorship. Research and QI highlight scholarly productivity through publications, grants, and presentations, with all rubrics applying a structured point system to ensure fairness and transparency in evaluating contributions.

Outstanding Member

The Outstanding Member Award rubric recognizes exceptional service and engagement within the SCCM Texas Chapter. Points are awarded for committee involvement, with leadership roles scoring highest, as well as active participation in symposium planning. Additional criteria include community engagement, regular attendance at chapter meetings, and participation in both the SCCM Texas Symposium and SCCM Congress.

Awards Timeline

Professional Development Award

Open Nomination: last day of Symposium
Application Deadline: November 30, 2025
Winner Announcement: December 17, 2025

Outstanding Member & Excellence in Service Award

Open Nomination: Last day of Symposium
Application Deadline: January 3, 2026
Winner Announcement: February 14, 2026

Do not miss the chance to celebrate the remarkable contributions of our members!

If you are looking to become more involved with the SCCM Texas Chapter, I encourage you to consider the awards committee. If interested, please reach out to awards@sccmtexaschapter.org.



Anne Rain Brown,
PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM

Community Engagement Committee



The Community Engagement Committee successfully planned and executed a **RESCUE** event in Houston at a local swim club, where we were able to educate the community on bystander CPR and water safety. Lifeguards and families joined in on the fun! Special thanks to all of volunteers including **Daniel Arellano, Elaine Fu, Emily Highsmith, Dr. Steven Hsu.**

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 with any ideas or suggestions



INTENSIVE CARE UNIT DESIGN GUIDELINES SYMPOSIUM



Speakers

Kirk Hamilton, PhD, FCCM, Emeritus FAIA

Charles Cadenhead, FAIA, FCCM

Jodie Gary, PhD, RN

The Houston Methodist Research Institute hosted the ICU Design Symposium which included sessions on the ICU Design Guidelines and guided tours of past, present, and future ICU design





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