



9th Annual ECU Health Quality Improvement Symposium

Eastern AHEC and Virtual Live Webinar

January 29, 2025

The symposium is a showcase of initiatives happening throughout East Carolina University's[®] Health Sciences Campus and ECU Health related to quality improvement, patient safety, population health, and interprofessional practice. The goal of the symposium is to provide academic and community physicians, health professionals, health care teams, residents, fellows, and students the opportunity to present their work in systems improvement and practice redesign to an audience of peers and health system leaders.

REGISTRATION

Advanced registration is required. Registration will close at noon the day before the program on Tuesday January 28th. Registration is online only at <https://www.easternahec.net/courses-and-events/73541> and requires a current MyAHEC account. If you do not have a MyAHEC account, you will create one during the registration process. There is no fee for registration. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact BSOM CME at cme@ecu.edu.

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES

At the end of this symposium, participants will be able to:

1. Explain the quality improvement process as illustrated through inpatient, acute care, ambulatory practice and interprofessional improvement projects.
2. Describe how the quality improvement process can impact clinical care and system's based practice.
3. Provide a platform for participants to describe how they would change rules, habits, policies, or procedures to improve care delivery.

AGENDA

- 8:00-8:30 **Check-in at Eastern AHEC for in-person attendees – or – Sign-in to Zoom for virtual attendees**
Eastern AHEC Lobby
Coffee and light refreshments provided
- 8:30-8:40 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Conference Room A & B

Jennifer Sutter, MD, Clinical Professor, Pediatric Endocrinology

Michael Waldrum, MD, MSc, MBA, Dean, Brody School of Medicine, CEO, ECU Health
- 8:40-9:45 **Podium Session— IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LIVE WEBINAR**
Conference Room A & B
Moderator: Teresa Anderson, PhD, RN, NE-BC, Senior Vice President of Quality, ECU Health

Evaluation of MRSA Decolonization Protocol Impact on Cost and Clinical MRSA Cultures
Jacob Pierce, MD, MPH, Infection Prevention and Control, ECU Health Medical Center

Standardization of Skin Antisepsis for Hip Replacement Surgery

Michelle Ball, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CIC, Infection Prevention, ECU Health Medical Center

ECU Health No Pass Zone: Every Team Member, Every Call Light, Every Alarm, Every Day! A Multidisciplinary Approach to Achieving Excellence in Patient Care

Harold Puerto, BSN, RN, Manager, Patient Care Services, 2 East Medicine, ECU Health Medical Center

Increasing Parenting Activities in the NICU by Parents with Very Preterm Neonates

Nusiebeh Redpath, MD, MSPH, Perinatal-Neonatal Medicine, ECU Health Medical Center

Heart Failure and Palliative Care – Interdisciplinary Rounding

Margaret Clifton, DO, Palliative Care, ECU Health Medical Center

9:45-9:55

Break

9:55-11:15

Quick Shot Podium Session—IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LIVE WEBINAR

Conference Room A & B

Moderator: Herbert Garrison, MD, MPH, Professor of Emergency Medicine Emeritus, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University, Senior Officer, ECU Health Foundation

Enhancing Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Screening Rates among Female Teens: A Pediatric Outpatient Clinic Initiative

David Oakley, MS4, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Increasing Pulmonary Hypertension Screening via Echocardiography in Neonates with Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia

Nathan Barefoot, MS3, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Timely Extubation in Low-Birth Weight Preterm Infants Using a Standardized Protocol

Pankti Sheth, MS4 LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Collaborative Deep Dive: Analyzing CLABSI and CAUTI Through Drilldowns

Jamie Hall, MSN, RN, CIC, Infection Prevention, ECU Health Medical Center

Improving Patient Throughput at the ECU Health Pediatric Specialty Clinic

Alissa Meyerhoffer, MS2, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Implementation of a Hydrocortisone Discontinuation Protocol for Septic Shock in ICU Patients

Elizabeth Davidson, MPH, MS4, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Using Safety Reporting to Drive Process Improvement and Safety Culture ICU Transition of Care Project

Greeshma Sheri, MD, Department of Internal Medicine, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Improving Inpatient Sleep Quality

Saba Ijaz, MS2, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Standardizing Inpatient Pediatric Medicine Handoffs to Improve Early Morning Discharges and Enhance Floor Efficiency

Michael Wright, MS3, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

11:15-12:00 **Poster Session IN-PERSON ONLY**

Atrium & Conference Room D

Session presenters listed below

*Further opportunity for symposium attendees to view the quality improvement work that is being conducted throughout ECU's Health Science Campus and ECU Health System. We encourage you to visit with the poster presenters and engage in learning about their projects. *****No CME credit for this session******

12:00-12:30 **Break and Pick up Lunch**

Meeting Room 1

12:30-1:30 **Lunch and Keynote Session—Rooted in Rural: Enhancing Patient Care and Quality Improvement by Valuing the Rural Context**

Conference Room A & B

Speaker: David Tillman, PhD, Chair, Department of Public Health, Campbell University, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

This presentation focuses on the critical role of community context in improving patient care and driving effective Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives in rural areas. Participants—including health science students and faculty from medicine, nursing, public health, dentistry, and other disciplines, as well as healthcare providers from local clinical care systems—will explore how deep engagement with rural communities provides essential insights for effective and empathetic healthcare. We will discuss methods for educators and practitioners to understand the unique social, cultural, and environmental factors that shape health outcomes in rural settings. By integrating these insights, attendees can enhance the quality of patient care and QI efforts within their respective fields and communities.

1:30-1:45 **Awards IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LIVE WEBINAR**

Conference Room A & B

Moderator: Niti Armistead, MD, Chief Medical Officer, ECU Health Podium, Quick Shot Podium, and Poster Session awards announced

*******No CME credit for this session*******

1:45-1:55 **BREAK**

1:55-2:55 **Concurrent Education Sessions**

I. Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills for Medical Providers

Conference Room A

IN-PERSON ONLY

Presenters: Erika Taylor, MS, LMFT, BC-TMH, Clinical Instructor, ECU Department of Family Medicine and Patricia Huerta, PhD, LMFT, Clinical Assistant Professor, ECU Department of Family Medicine

The purpose of this session is to provide participants with information about and opportunities to engage in a variety of coping skills to support their mental health and the mental health of their patients. During this session, participants will be introduced to Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) and various coping skills presented in this model. More specifically, this experiential training will offer participants the chance to learn about and practice DBT distress tolerance and emotion regulation skills in a novel way, aiding them in

identifying skills that they personally find effective during moments of distress and ways to effectually communicate the skills to their patients. At the end of the session, participants will be encouraged to consider how they can utilize these skills in their personal lives and in their interactions with patients.

II. Leading Change: Two Success Factors

Conference Room B & C

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LIVE WEBINAR

Presenter: Randy Cobb, DSL, ACC, CPCC, Director of Talent Development, ECU Health

Successfully and efficiently leading change requires an intentional focus on both people and process dimensions. In this session participants explore the importance of leading people through change using the works of William Bridges and Elisabeth Kübler-Ross, and the importance of leading a proven process for change through John Kotter's 8-step model. Participants craft and prepare to implement a change plan through this interactive experience.

2:55

Adjourn

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Untangle Those Lines!

Elizabeth Sasser, RN, BSN, CIC, ECU Health Edgecombe Hospital

Targeted Interventions for CAUTI Prevention: A Success Story in Reducing Infection Rates in the NSICU

Aimee Dunn, BSN, RN, CCRN, SCRN, Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit, ECU Health Medical Center

QI Project: Improving Patient Handbook Utilization on an Inpatient Unit in a Rural Hospital

Samantha Willard, MSN, RN, ECU Health Beaufort Hospital

"Heavy" Kits Can Prevent Harm One Less Fall at a Time

April Meeks, MSN, RN, PCCN, Palliative Care, ECU Health Medical Center

Stopping Infections One CAUTI at a Time

Kathy Gilbert, BSN, RN-BC, Surgical Oncology, ECU Health Medical Center

Enhancing HIV PrEP Prescription Adherence through Physician Education and Assessment

Mariam Tariq Awana, MD, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Implementation of Extubation Readiness Trials in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit

Caitlin King, MD, Department of Pediatrics, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Improvement of Developmental Delay, Autism, and Seizure Disorders Before and After Exome Screening

Lance Tiu, MS4, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

CAUTI Reduction in the Inpatient Setting

Courtney Hale, BSN, RN, Medical Surgical and Intensive Care Unit Manager, ECU Health Chowan Hospital

The Importance of Smoking Cessation During Cancer Treatment

Diane Hurtado, BSN, RN, AG-CNS Program, School of Nursing, East Carolina University

Optimizing Code Blue Outcomes in a Rural Acute Care Hospital

Heather Radford, MSN, RN, ECU Health Beaufort Hospital

Communication Between Hospital Allied Health and Primary Care Practitioners: A Collaborative Approach to Improving Hospital Discharge Summaries

Missy Barrow, MA, LSSGB, Internal Medicine Community, ECU Health Medical Center

WORKS IN PROGRESS POSTER PRESENTATIONS

General Internal Medicine Lifestyle Hypertension Clinic: A Year in Review

Emma Roberts, Med Serve Fellow, ECU Health Medical Center

Utilizing Technology to Decrease Laboratory Identified Clostridioides difficile Events

Jacci Thomas, MHA, MLS. CIC, Infection Prevention and Control, ECU Health Medical Center

Quality Shine Academy

Amy Campbell, PhD, RN, CPHQ, LSSBB, Quality, ECU Health Medical Center

Flag-Based Communication: Enhancing Efficiency and Provider Satisfaction at ECU Family Medicine

Dana Shefet, BSPH, MS4, SLDT Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Integrating Behavioral Health Services into an Existing Interdisciplinary Care Model at a Homeless Shelter

Esha Thakkar, PharmD, MS2, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Ambulatory Care: Establishing an ECU Family Medicine Equipment

Allison Connelly, MD, PT, Department of Family Medicine/Geriatrics, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Preventing Postpartum Hemorrhage: Strategies for Optimizing Maternal Outcomes

Crystal Gomez, MSN, RNC-OB, AG-CNS Program, College of Nursing, East Carolina University

Implementing Ramp Recommendations in Inpatient Rehab Consults to Shorten Inpatient Rehab Length of Stays

Cole Carter, DO, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Improving Bone Density Screening Order Rates at the ECU Adult and Pediatric Health Care Clinic

Taha Lodhi, MS4, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Reducing Motion Artifact in Neuroimaging in the ECU Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Chance Rector, MS3, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Optimizing Documentation for Golden Hour Interventions in Neonatal Care

Jessica Scheller, MSN, RNC-NIC, ACCNS-N, Women's and Children's Services, ECU Health Medical Center

Follow the Yellow Brick Road: Improving the Urine Sample Collection Process in ECU Health Medical Center Emergency Department

Manaya Perry, Office of Quality, ECU Health Medical Center

Reducing PEG Placements in Head and Neck Cancer Patients through a Student-Led Prophylactic Swallow Therapy Program

Dana Gribble, MS, CCC-SLP, Department of Speech-Language Pathology, ECU Health Medical Center

Evaluating the Opportunity to Utilize Caprini Score Recommendations for VTE Prophylaxis in Surgical Patients

Grant Brown, MS2, LINC Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Exploring the Barriers: A Survey Analysis on Declined Breast Reconstruction Among Breast Cancer Patients

Maria Kalogeromitros, MS2, RDT Scholar, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Surveying Barriers to Depression Screening in Oncology Clinics in Rural Eastern North Carolina

Munizay Paracha, MD, Department of Hematology/Oncology, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Improving Healthcare Worker Cultural Competence in Caring for the LGBTQ+ Population: A Rural Emergency Department Pilot Program

Jessica Rispoli, DNP, APRN, NP-C, CFRN, CMTE, CEN, ECU Health Bertie Emergency Medicine

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Physicians, professionals, health system leaders, fellows, residents, and students

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

This free event requires online registration. Registration is online only at

<https://www.easternahec.net/courses-and-events/71058> and requires a current MyAHEC account. If you do not have a MyAHEC account, you will create one during the registration process. Registration will close the day before the program on 1/30/24 at noon. If you have any questions regarding registration, please contact BSOM CME at cme@ecu.edu.

ACCREDITATION:

This live activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University and ECU Health Quality Office. The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CREDIT:

Physicians will receive *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™]. The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Physician Assistants will receive CME for Physician Assistants: AAPA accepts certificate of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™] from organizations accredited by ACCME or a recognized state medical society. Physician Assistants may receive a maximum of 4.25 hours of Category 1 credit for completing this program.

All other health care providers will receive Eastern AHEC Contact Hours: 4.25

Certificates will reflect 4.25 contact hours. This live activity is designated for 4.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™].

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

NC AHEC Photo Policy:

Attendance at this activity grants permission for Eastern AHEC to use any photographs, audio, video, or other images from this activity for promotional or educational purposes. Please notify an AHEC staff member if you have concerns.

Evaluations & Certificates:

Evaluations will be emailed within 7 business days after the program. Once the evaluation has been completed, your certificate will be available.

Americans with Disabilities Act:

Individuals requesting accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) should contact the ADA coordinator at least five days prior to the event at 252-737-1018 / ada-coordinator@ecu.edu.

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For more information or to view the slides and posters presentations visit <https://medicine.ecu.edu/medicaleducation/reach-qi-symposium/> or scan the QR code.



KEYNOTE AND CONCURRENT SESSION SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY:



David Tillman, PhD, Chair, Department of Public Health, Campbell University, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Since August 2015, Dr. Tillman has served as Chair of the Department of Public Health at Campbell University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences. Dr. Tillman teaches courses in rural health, community health assessment, and the ethics of public health, as well as leading study abroad in Guatemala & Haiti.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Tillman served as a staff epidemiologist for the Emergency Operations Center in Raleigh, NC. He also managed the contact tracing operations for Campbell University for two years. As an expert in public health, Dr. Tillman was interviewed for print, broadcast, and online media—including WRAL-TV, Cardinal & Pine, PBS-NC, and several podcasts.

Dr. Tillman’s work responding to the overdose crisis began in 2013 with local involvement in Project Lazarus and substantial efforts to reduce stigma as well to increase access to naloxone. In 2019, he orchestrated the

Recovering Hope Conference, which brought together pastors and church leaders to explore “faith-driven responses to the opioid epidemic.” In Fall 2022, Dr. Tillman began leading a comprehensive strategic response

to the overdose crisis for Harnett County alongside key leaders from a wide range of sectors in the county. In addition, Dr. Tillman coordinated the county's inclusion in the Reaching Rural initiative from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the CDC, in which Harnett County was selected as one of only eight counties across the nation to receive coaching and technical assistance in the development of evidence-based overdose and harmful substance use prevention programs for justice-involved individuals.

Alongside his work at Campbell, Dr. Tillman consults with health care systems, local health departments, and state governments regarding strategies for improving health—especially in rural contexts. In our state, he has served as a member of several statewide committees—including the North Carolina Opioid and Prescription Drug Abuse Advisory Committee (OPDAAC), North Carolina Committee on Dental Health, and the North Carolina Institute of Medicine Healthy NC 2030 Social & Economic Factors Expert Panel.



Randy Cobb, DSL, ACC, CPCC, joined ECU Health in 2011 and serves as the Director of Organization and Leadership Development. He is noted for his contribution in strategy design for enterprise leadership development, facilitation in team mobilization and renewal events, and mid-level and executive leadership coaching and development.

Randy earned a Doctorate of Strategic Leadership from Regent University and holds certifications as an Associate Certified Coach with the International Coaching Federation and is a Certified Professional Co-Active Coach with the Co-Active Training Institute. He has also earned certification in Leadership Architect through Korn Ferry International and as a Leadership Development and Succession Strategist with the Human Capital Institute.



Patricia Huerta, PhD, LMFT, is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine in the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. She has been a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in NC for over 5 years and has experience providing services to clients with various presenting problems in a variety of clinical settings. She has pursued multiple sources of training and specialized education to further inform her clinical, research, and teaching practices. More specifically, she has completed the required courses to become an Emotionally Focused Therapy (EFT) therapist, the Sexual Health Certificate Program (SHCP) at the University of Michigan - Sex Therapist and Sexuality Educator certification tracks, the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) through the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), the DBT Foundational and DBT Skills for Adolescents and Families trainings, and trainings on

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Attachment-Based Family Therapy (ABFT), and other evidence-based interventions.



Erika Taylor is a clinical faculty member and instructor in the Division of Behavioral Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine at East Carolina University (ECU) Brody School of Medicine. She serves as adjunct instructor in the Department of Human Development and Family Science. She is a clinical member of AAMFT and an AAMFT Approved Supervisor. Erika possesses advanced training in perinatal mental health, tele-mental health, and trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy. She serves as a behavioral telehealth provider on two federally funded telehealth grant projects, both aimed at increasing access to quality mental health services in historically underserved mental health professional shortage areas (MHPSA). Her work in integrating school-based behavioral telehealth services in rural school districts has been presented at the regional, state, and national level.

Additionally, Erika is involved in medical residency and behavioral health training and education efforts, including the provision of clinical supervision of multidisciplinary behavioral health learners working within primary care, emergency medicine and K-12 educational settings.

Education:

- MS, Marriage and Family Therapy (East Carolina University)
- BA, Psychology (The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)