



**INTERNAL MEDICINE FOR PRIMARY CARE:  
CARDIOLOGY/EAR, NOSE & THROAT/  
GYNECOLOGY/TOXICOLOGY**

**Costa Rica - Four Seasons Resort Costa Rica at Peninsula Papagayo  
December 13 - 16, 2025**

**Saturday, December 13, 2025**

**7:00 am**

**Check-In**

**7:30 am - 8:30 am - Cardiology**

**Workup For The Patient with Chest Pain**

Diagnosis and initial evaluation in the primary care setting, urgent care clinic and emergency department; Initial workup, treatment, and follow-up; Diagnosing and treating ST segment elevation and non-ST segment elevation MIs; The role of drug therapy--primary vs adjunctive to PCI; Follow up after acute coronary syndromome

**8:30 am - 9:30 am - Cardiology**

**Prevention of Cardiometabolic Diseases**

Definitions; AHA/ACC and other lipid guidelines updates; HDL Cholesterol: The good cholesterol?; Metabolic syndrome and/or obesity; Who needs treatment and how much; The role of lifestyle changes, exercise and cardiac rehabilitation; Drug therapy updates; Risk calculation; Role of pooled equations for risk estimates

**9:30 am - 9:40 am**

**Coffee Break**

**9:40 am - 10:40 am - Cardiology**

**Hypertension**

The 2025 AHA/ACC Hypertension Guidelines; The 2024 ESC Guidelines for hypertension; Approaches to treatment thresholds and goals; Choices for initial and combination therapy; Resistant hypertension; Treating special populations: diabetics, the elderly, patients with renal failure; Risk factors by new pooled equations

**10:40 am - 11:40 am - Toxicology**

**An Office-Based Toxicology Overview**

Introduction to the workup of the toxic patient; Obtaining an adequate history and physical exam prior to calling poison control; Review of the classic five toxidromes including: cholinergic, anticholinergic, opiate, hypnosedative, and sympathomimetic; The more common toxic ingestions seen in the ED

**11:40 am - 12:40 pm - Toxicology**

**Cocaine and Heroin Abuse from an ER Provider's Perspective**

The basics of cocaine and heroin intoxication in the acute care setting; The mechanisms of action and signs and symptoms of acute intoxication; The acute phenomena of cocaine induced chest pain, hypertensive emergency, aortic dissection, pneumonitis and placental abruption; Review of the history of heroin abuse in the US, the cutting agents and adulterants being added to heroin and some of the more esoteric sequelae of chronic opiate abuse

**12:40 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

**7:00 am**

**Arrival**

**7:30 am - 8:30 am - Toxicology**

**The Danger of "Legal Highs" in Both Adolescents and Adults**

Inhalant abuse and legal highs and drugs of abuse not yet scheduled by the DEA; Intoxicating inhalants that are ubiquitous in many households and easily accessed by adolescents; Dextromethorphan abuse and the unique psychoactive plants salvia divinorum, kratom, morning glory (LSA) and Jimsonweed; Mechanisms of action, signs and symptoms of intoxication and treatment

**8:30 am - 9:30 am - Toxicology**

**Primary Care Update on Synthetic Drugs**

History of synthetic drugs of abuse in the US and EU; Synthetic drugs that mimic the effects of marijuana, stimulants, opiates, and hallucinogens; Synthetic cannabinoids (K2-Spice), novel stimulants (Bath Salts, Flakka), and novel hallucinogens (Molly, Benzofury)

**9:30 am - 9:40 am**

**Coffee Break**

**9:40 am - 10:40 am - Cardiology**

**Heart Failure**

Etiologies and stages of heart failure; ACC/AHA Heart Failure guidelines; Heart failure with reduced EF (LVrEF) and heart failure with preserved EF (HFpEF); Determining patients for referral using biomarkers; Treatment options: ACE inhibitors, ARBs, beta blockers, mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists; The role of devices in treatment and Anticoagulation and antiplatelet drugs; Issues related to the hospitalized patient with acute decompensated heart failure

**10:40 am - 11:40 am - ENT**

**Evaluation of the Neck Mass**

Patients presenting with masses in the neck are challenging and worrisome. The diagnostic and therapeutic process is described. A method for evaluating the mass, guidance on when imaging studies are indicated, and when immediate or routine referral to ENT becomes appropriate is discussed.

**11:40 am - 12:40 pm - ENT**

**Antimicrobial Therapy in Treating Sinusitis**

Symptoms, signs and examination findings helpful in diagnosing sinusitis are outlined. When to use systemic and topical agents as well as emerging resistance to these agents is discussed. Imaging studies and proper referral to specialists is described with clarity.

**12:40 pm**

**Session Adjourns**

**Monday, December 15, 2025**

**7:00 am**

**Arrival**

**7:30 am - 8:30 am - ENT**

**Allergic Rhinitis**

The lecture will focus on a review of the basic allergic pathways that affect the body. Special emphasis will be given to the nasal and sinus regions, with discussion to include diagnostic testing and modes of treatment, including avoidance, pharmacotherapy and immunotherapy

**8:30 am - 9:30 am - ENT**

**A Primary Care Approach to Sudden Hearing Loss**

When a patient presents with sudden hearing loss, accurate differentiation of sensorineural versus conductive loss is essential. Techniques to make that differentiation, testing and treatment strategies will be discussed; Urgent treatment and when to refer for audiometric testing and ENT referral will be outlined

**9:30 am - 9:40 am**

**Coffee Break**

**9:40 am - 10:40 am - Gynecology**

**Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Overview for Primary Care**

Discussion of the normal balance of hormones (estrogen, progesterone and androgens) in the ovaries; Treatment of cysts and the regulation of menstrual cycles; Acne and hair growth; Treatment options and referral guidelines

**10:40 am - 11:40 am - Gynecology**

**Abnormal Uterine Bleeding**

Overview of normal/abnormal menstrual physiology/profile; Menstrual disturbances; Ovulatory and anovulatory uterine bleeding; Other menstrual abnormalities; Diagnosis and appropriate treatment options

**11:40 am**

**Session Adjourns**

**Tuesday, December 16, 2025**

**7:00 am**

**Arrival**

**7:30 am - 8:30 am - Gynecology**

**Menopause Transition and Hormone Replacement Therapy**

Symptoms of menopause, including hot flashes, night sweats, and atrophy; Menopause syndromes, including osteoporosis, breast cancer, cardiac disease, and colon cancer; Estrogen analogs; Counseling patients in options and alternatives to hormone therapy; Designer estrogens; SERMs; HRTs; Discussion of risks and benefits, especially in breast cancer and CHD

**8:30 am - 9:30 am - Gynecology**

**Diagnosis and Management of Ectopic Pregnancy and Pregnancy of Unknown Location (PUL)**

Definition and diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy and PUL; Common presentations; Active and expectant management options; Outcomes; Appropriate counseling

**9:30 am**

**Conference Adjourns**

### Target Audience

This program is targeted to office-based primary care providers and other health professionals with updates in primary care medicine

### Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this program, participants should be better able to:

- Describe current diagnostic approaches and the role of drug therapy to the patient with acute chest pain
- Implement lifestyle changes as well as lipid and cholesterol guidelines for the prevention of CAD
- Explain current concepts in the diagnosis and treatment of hypertension
- Implement treatment strategies reflective of recent guidelines and current evidence based medicine for heart failure
- List the classic 5 toxidromes and describe how to approach the poisoned patient
- Describe presentations of cocaine and heroin abuse
- List non-regulated agents of abuse in adolescents and adults and discuss their consequences
- Identify the key characteristics and effects of synthetic drugs, most notably synthetic cannabinoids and synthetic cathinones
- Identify when imaging and/or referral to an ENT is necessary for patients presenting with a neck mass
- Recommend appropriate systemic and/or topical antimicrobial agents for the treatment of sinusitis
- Review the basic allergic pathways that affect the body, with particular emphasis on the nasal and sinus regions
- Accurately differentiate between sensorineural and conductive hearing loss
- Describe the current diagnostic criteria for PCOS in adolescents
- Assess and manage abnormal uterine bleeding
- Discuss menopausal transition and the risks/benefits of treatment options
- Recognize common presentations of an ectopic pregnancy

### **Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships**

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## Accreditation Statements

### Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education



In support of improving patient care, Medical Education Resources 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 16 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

### Physician Credit Designation

#### AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 16 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### American Board of Internal Medicine MOC Recognition (ABIM)



Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 16 (part II) MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. Participants will earn MOC points equivalent to the amount of CME credits claimed for the activity. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.

### American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)

AAFP has reviewed Internal Medicine for Primary Care: Cardio/ENT/Gyn/Tox and deemed it acceptable for up to 16.00 Live AAFP Prescribed credit(s). Term of approval is from 12/13/2025 to 12/16/2025. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### American Osteopathic Association (AOA)

These programs are approved for 16 hours in Category 2-A by the American Osteopathic Association.

### American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP)

This program is approved by the American College of Emergency Physicians for a maximum of 16 hours of ACEP Category I credit.

### Canadian Physicians

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) have a bilateral reciprocal certification agreement whereby: CME/CPD activities held across the Canada - U.S. border are certified according to the nationality of the primary target audiences regardless of where the providers are located. The activities will be reviewed according to the criteria of the certifying organization.



### **Nursing Credit Designation**

#### **American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)**

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 16 ANCC nursing contact hours. Nurses will be awarded contact hours upon successful completion of the activity.

This activity is designated for 6.0 ANCC pharmacotherapeutic contact hours.

#### **American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)**

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) Certification Board recognizes and accepts continuing education (CE) contact hours from activities approved by AMA, ACCME, ANCC, AANP, AAFP and AACN.

#### **California Board of Registered Nursing**

Medical Education Resources is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 12299, for 16 contact hours.

### **Physician Associates Credit Designation**

#### **American Academy of Physician Associates (AAPA)**



Medical Education Resources has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 16 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

### **Pharmacy Accreditation**

#### **Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)**



Medical Education Resources (MER) designates this live continuing education activity for 16 contact hours (1.6 CEUs) of the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education.

Universal Program Number: JA0003680-0000-25-235-L01-P

Participants will be required to sign in at the start of the program and/or complete a program evaluation.

Credits will be uploaded into CPE Monitor within 60 days of the activity.

This activity is certified as Knowledge-based CPE.