2025 DISCHARGE PLANNING & CAPACITY MANAGEMENT SUMMIT

Optimizing Patient Flow for Operational Excellence and Financial Sustainability

July 14-15, 2025 • JW Marriott • Nashville, TN

SPEAKING FACULTY

Stephen Rees, MD
Medical Director, Post Acute & Transitional Care
OCHSNER HEALTH NETWORK

Candace Kravetz, MSN , RN, CMS-RN, NE-BC
Manager Clinical Administrators/ Capacity & Transfer Management Center
WAKEMED HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

Marcy van Schagen, MSN, RN, CNML
Director System Capacity and Patient Placement
WAKEMED HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

Jodi Beachy, MSN, RN
Director – Logistics and Patient Throughput
SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Cheri Lattimer, RN, BSN
Executive Director
NATIONAL TRANSITIONS OF CARE COALITION

Iqbal Shariff, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
BEST HOME HEALTHCARE NETWORK

Jan Ernest MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Executive Director, Integrated Care Systems
Center for Clinical Excellence
BJC HEALTHCARE

Mary Noli Pilkington, MSN, RN CCM
Senior System Director, Care Coordination and Clinical Social Work
UCLA HEALTH

Adelaide Armstrong, BSN, RN
Discharge Coordinator
ASCENSION SAINT THOMAS HOSPITAL WEST

Jeannie Bennett, MBA, BSN, RN
Throughput Manager
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Benjamin Dangerfield, DO
Medical Director, Arizona Operations Command Center
Consultant, Division of Hospital Internal Medicine
MAYO CLINIC

Carissa J. Tyo, MD, FACEP
Medical Director, Clinical Decision Unit
Medical Director, Care Management and Physician Advisors
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS HOSPITAL & HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM

Jason Cohen, MD
Chief Medical Officer
QVENTUS

Chelsea Zigan, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Director of Nursing, General Medicine, Surgical Oncology and Orthopedics
GRANT MEDICAL CENTER, OHIOHEALTH

Sam Castillo, MSN, RN
Supervisor-Clinical Support-Central Transport, Discharge Lounge, Clinical Informatics, Administrative Assistants
MAYO CLINIC ARIZONA

Charles Peworski, MSN, RN, CNML
Nurse Manager
Clinical Support and Occupational Health
Department of Nursing
MAYO CLINIC ARIZONA

Barbara Farrell, MBA, BSN, RN, CCM
Director, Integrated Case Management
SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Mark Williams
Principal
ARTISTRY CONSULTING

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Navigating Throughput & Post Aute Discharge with Increasing MA Penetration
- Mastering the Art of Bed Management: Strategies for Maximizing Throughput
- People, Process & Technology: Hardwiring Patient Flow - The OhioHealth Experience
- Navigating the Complexities of Post-Acute Care Partnerships
- Optimizing Discharge Planning for Complex Patient Populations
- Streamlining Care Transitions: A Multidisciplinary Approach
- Standardizing Interdisciplinary Rounds: Enhancing Post-Acute Care Transitions
- Optimizing Hospital Throughput: The Impact of a Discharge Lounge on Capacity Metrics
- Data-Driven Decision Making for Capacity Management
- Optimizing Multidisciplinary Care Teams for Enhanced Patient Flow
- Developing a Comprehensive Discharge Planning Strategy for Your Organization

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CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

Developing a Comprehensive Discharge Planning Strategy for Your Organization
- ARTISTRY CONSULTING

Luncheon Sponsor:

Qventus

About the Conference

In today's rapidly evolving healthcare landscape, efficient discharge planning and capacity management are crucial for hospitals and health systems to maintain operational excellence and financial sustainability. The increasing complexity of patient care, coupled with pressure to reduce costs and improve outcomes, has emphasized the need for agile and effective strategies to manage patient flow, reduce length of stay and minimize readmissions.

The Discharge Planning & Capacity Management Summit brings together healthcare executives, administrators and operational leaders to explore innovative approaches to streamline patient transitions, optimize resource allocation and enhance overall system performance. Attendees will gain insights into cutting-edge technologies, data-driven decision-making processes and best practices for creating a seamless continuum of care. The summit will also address the growing importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in discharge planning and explore strategies for integrating social determinants of health into the discharge process.

Hosted by Business Research Intelligence Network, this conference provides a unique platform for networking, knowledge sharing and collaborative problem-solving. Participants will leave equipped with actionable strategies to improve patient outcomes, increase operational efficiency and drive financial performance in their organizations. Through a combination of presentations, panel discussions and a hands-on workshops, attendees will gain practical tools and insights to transform their discharge planning and capacity management processes. The summit also offers unparalleled networking opportunities, allowing participants to connect with peers facing similar challenges and share best practices from across the healthcare industry.

Register Early & Save! Groups of 3 or more can save an additional 10% off the registration fee. To register visit our website at **www.brinetwork.com** or call us at **800-743-8490**!

We look forward to seeing you in Nashville, TN!

Who should attend

From Hospitals/Health Systems/Health Plans:

- CEO's
- CFO's
- VP
- Quality Improvement Director
- Emergency Room Director
- Patient Flow Director
- Discharge Planning
- Case Management Director
- Nursing Director
- Care Coordination
- Utilization Review
- ICU Director
- Admissions Director
- Hospitalists
- Billing
- Operations
- Patient Financial Services
- Medical Directors
- Social Service Director
- Clinical Operations Director
- Patient Transportation
- TeleICU

Also of interest to:

- Vendors/Service Providers

DAY ONE – MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025

7:15am – 8:00am
Conference Registration & Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Opening Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am
Transforming Discharge Planning: Enhancing Patient Flow and Resource Utilization

In today's rapidly evolving healthcare landscape, efficient discharge planning and capacity management are crucial for hospitals and health systems to maintain operational excellence and financial sustainability. The increasing complexity of patient care, coupled with pressure to reduce costs and improve outcomes, has emphasized the need for agile and effective strategies to manage patient flow, reduce length of stay, and minimize readmissions. This presentation will explore innovative approaches to streamline patient transitions, optimize resource allocation, and enhance overall system performance.

Introduction: The Discharge Clinical Team (DCT) at Mayo Clinic Arizona has undergone significant transformation to improve patient flow and resource utilization. This presentation will highlight the progression of the DCT, focusing on the transition from a traditional discharge lounge to a mobile team approach.

Sam Castillo, MSN, RN
Supervisor-Clinical Support-Central Transport, Discharge Lounge, Clinical Informatics, Administrative Assistants
MAYO CLINIC ARIZONA

Charles Peworski, MSN, RN, CNML
Nurse Manager
Clinical Support and Occupational Health
Department of Nursing
MAYO CLINIC ARIZONA

9:00am – 9:45am
Navigating Throughput & Post Aute Discharge with Increasing MA Penetration

Today's healthcare environment is tough. Regulatory burdens continue to increase on both inpatient and post-acute providers, making discharges more difficult. In particular, the increased penetration of Medicare Advantage plans has put a stranglehold on throughput. The downstream effects of this bottleneck increased boarders in the ED, extended length of stays, less than optimal discharges are unsustainable. To combat this, we have instituted a system wide interdisciplinary process of preauthorization reviews to help address these discharge difficulties. These processes will be explained and discussed.

Stephen Rees, MD
Medical Director, Post Acute & Transitional Care
OCHSNER HEALTH NETWORK

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
Mastering the Art of Bed Management: Strategies for Maximizing Throughput

Examine proven techniques for optimizing bed utilization and enhancing patient flow. This session covers innovative approaches to bed assignment, real-time capacity tracking and demand forecasting. Participants will hear about successful patient flow and bed management strategies and their impact on hospital performance metrics.

Candace Kravetz, MSN, RN, CMS-RN, NE-BC
Manager Clinical Administrators/ Capacity & Transfer Management Center
WAKEMED HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

Marcy van Schagen, MSN, RN, CNML
Director System Capacity and Patient Placement
WAKEMED HEALTH AND HOSPITALS

11:00am – 11:45am
Building a Culture of Continuous Improvement in Discharge Planning

Discover how to foster a culture of ongoing innovation and improvement in your organization's discharge planning processes. This session explores change management strategies, staff engagement techniques and performance measurement frameworks. Attendees will learn how to implement and sustain a culture of excellence in patient transitions. The session will also delve into the role of leadership in driving and supporting continuous improvement initiatives across all levels of the organization.

- Strategies for overcoming resistance to change and gaining buy-in from stakeholders
- Techniques for empowering frontline staff to identify and implement process improvements
- Methods for creating a feedback loop that drives ongoing refinement of discharge processes

Jodi Beachy, MSN, RN
Director – Logistics and Patient Throughput
SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

11:45am – 12:15pm
People, Process & Technology: Hardwiring Patient Flow - The OhioHealth Experience

Like many health systems, OhioHealth struggled with prolonged LOS, ED boarding and limited inpatient capacity. Learn how they took a people and process first approach, then used technology to embed patient flow best practice into their existing workflows. Partnering with Qventus - a real-time AI automation platform for hospital operations - they reduced excess days by 17% and decreased ED boarding by 15%, while at the same time reducing manual burden on their teams, increasing patient volumes and improving throughput.

Jason Cohen, MD
Chief Medical Officer
QVENTUS

Chelsea Zigan, MBA, RN, NEA-BC
Director of Nursing, General Medicine, Surgical Oncology and Orthopedics
GRANT MEDICAL CENTER, OHIOHEALTH

12:15pm – 1:15pm
Luncheon

1:15pm – 2:00pm
Streamlining Care Transitions: A Multidisciplinary Approach

Explore strategies for breaking down silos and fostering collaboration across departments to enhance care transitions. This session examines successful models for integrating various healthcare professionals in the discharge planning process, from admission to post-acute care. Discover how a coordinated approach can lead to improved patient outcomes, reduced readmissions and increased operational efficiency.

Cheri Lattimer, RN, BSN
Executive Director
NATIONAL TRANSITIONS OF CARE COALITION

2:00pm – 3:00pm
Panel: Navigating the Complexities of Post-Acute Care Partnerships

Join industry experts as they discuss the challenges and opportunities in developing effective post-acute care partnerships. This panel will explore strategies for:

- Evaluating and selecting post-acute care providers
- Establishing clear communication channels and protocols
- Aligning incentives and goals across the care continuum
- Measuring and improving partnership performance
- Addressing regulatory considerations in post-acute care transitions

PANELISTS:

Jan Ernest MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Executive Director, Integrated Care Systems Center for Clinical Excellence
BJC HEALTHCARE

Stephen Rees, MD
Medical Director, Post Acute & Transitional Care
OCHSNER HEALTH NETWORK

Iqbal Shariff, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
BEST HOME HEALTHCARE NETWORK

3:00pm – 3:30pm
Networking & Refreshments Break

3:30pm – 4:15pm
Standardizing Interdisciplinary Rounds: Enhancing Post-Acute Care Transitions

This session explores the development and implementation of a standardized system for interdisciplinary rounds that improves transitions to post-acute care settings. Drawing from real-world experience, attendees will learn practical strategies for creating consistent communication protocols, defining team member roles and establishing accountability frameworks that bridge hospital and post-acute care environments. Discover how a structured approach to interdisciplinary collaboration can reduce readmissions, improve patient outcomes and increase operational efficiency while addressing common barriers to effective care transitions.

Key takeaways:

- Framework for standardizing interdisciplinary rounds across multiple care settings
- Methods for defining clear role expectations and accountability in the transition process
- Strategies for measuring success and driving continuous improvement in care transitions
- Approaches to overcome common implementation challenges and resistance to change

Jan Ernest MSN, RN, NEA-BC
Executive Director, Integrated Care Systems Center for Clinical Excellence
BJC HEALTHCARE

4:15-5:00pm
Optimizing Discharge Planning for Complex Patient Populations

Delve into the unique challenges and solutions for managing discharges among high-risk patient groups. This session focuses on tailored strategies for populations such as elderly patients, complex medical conditions, and patients with health related social needs. Discover how targeted approaches can improve outcomes and significantly reduce readmissions for these vulnerable populations.

Mary Noli Pilkington, MSN, RN CCM
Senior System Director, Care Coordination and Clinical Social Work
UCLA HEALTH

5:00pm
End of Day One

DAY TWO – TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2025

7:15am – 8:00am
Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am
Optimizing Hospital Throughput: The Impact of a Discharge Lounge on Capacity Metrics

Efficient patient flow is critical to optimizing hospital operations, reducing emergency department overcrowding, and improving patient satisfaction. A discharge lounge serves as a designated space for patients who have been medically cleared for discharge but are awaiting transportation, medical equipment deliveries, or prescriptions. This initiative alleviates bed occupancy constraints, enabling quicker bed turnover and enhancing capacity metrics such as length of stay, emergency department boarding times, and overall hospital throughput. This presentation explores the implementation of a discharge lounge as a strategic solution to improve hospital efficiency. Key discussion points include workflow integration, patient eligibility criteria, staffing considerations, and data-driven outcomes. Real-world applications will demonstrate how discharge lounges enhance operational efficiency, reduce bottlenecks, and contribute to improved patient care delivery. Attendees will gain insights into best practices for implementing a discharge lounge and strategies to maximize its impact on hospital capacity metrics.

Adelaide Armstrong, BSN, RN
Discharge Coordinator
ASCENSION SAINT THOMAS HOSPITAL WEST

Jeannie Bennett, MBA, BSN, RN
Throughput Manager
ASCENSION SAINT THOMAS HOSPITAL WEST

9:00am – 9:45am
Data-Driven Decision Making for Capacity Management

Unlock the potential of your organization's data to drive informed capacity management decisions. This session explores advanced analytics techniques, dashboarding tools and performance metrics essential for optimizing patient flow. Learn how to leverage data insights to predict demand, allocate resources effectively and improve overall operational efficiency.

Benjamin Dangerfield, DO
Medical Director, Arizona Operations Command Center
Consultant, Division of Hospital Internal Medicine
MAYO CLINIC

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
Optimizing Multidisciplinary Care Teams for Enhanced Patient Flow

In this insightful presentation, discover how strategic deployment of specialized care transition teams can dramatically improve hospital throughput when patients face complex discharge barriers. The speaker will share innovative staffing models that break down silos between departments and accelerate care transitions. Learn about structuring their teams, defining key roles and establishing clear accountability frameworks to overcome common discharge challenges.

Carissa J. Tyo, MD, FACEP
Medical Director, Clinical Decision Unit
Medical Director, Care Management and Physician Advisors
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS HOSPITAL & HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM

11:00am – 11:45am
Strengthening the Discharge Planning Process by Utilizing Transition of Care Clinics

Explore how a Transition of Care (TOC) Clinic can transform your discharge planning process to improve patient outcomes and support capacity and throughput. As you're coordinating discharges from a hospital, this session will equip you with strategies on how to target both low and high-risk patient populations.

- How to integrate TOC Clinics into your existing discharge workflows
- Key services offered—like medication reconciliation, social support, and follow-up coordination.
- Real-world outcomes: reduced readmissions, better patient engagement, and timely follow up.

Walk away with a clear understanding of how this model supports safer discharges, stronger community linkages, and better care across the continuum.

Barbara Farrell, MBA, BSN, RN, CCM
Director, Integrated Case Management
SARASOTA MEMORIAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

12:00pm
Conference Concludes

Register by **May 16th, 2025** & Save an Additional **$100 off the Early Bird** – Mention Promo Code **BR100**!

WORKSHOP SESSION

Tuesday, July 14, 2025 • 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Developing a Comprehensive Discharge Planning Strategy for Your Organization

This interactive workshop guides participants through the process of creating a tailored, comprehensive discharge planning strategy. Attendees will engage in hands-on exercises, group discussions, and scenario planning to develop actionable plans for their organizations. The session will cover key aspects of strategy development, implementation challenges, and performance measurement.

Learning objectives:

- Assess your organization's current discharge planning processes and identify areas for improvement.
- Develop a structured approach to aligning discharge planning with overall organizational goals.
- Create a roadmap for implementing new technologies and optimizing existing technologies while optimizing processes to enhance discharge efficiency.
- Design key performance indicators to measure and track the success of your discharge planning strategy that map to your organization's KPIs.

Mark Williams
Principal
ARTISTRY CONSULTING

Luncheon Sponsor

Qventus

Qventus uses AI to intelligently automate operations across care settings to help health systems secure the margins needed to achieve their mission of delivering exceptional care to patients in their communities. Leveraged by over 115 health systems, Qventus' enterprise platform and solution suite reduce the administrative burden, identify potential issues upstream, surface suggested interventions, and actually take action to solve problems for busy healthcare staff—a collective system of action that sits on top of a hospital's enterprise systems of record. Qventus unlocks best-in-industry ROI by driving strategic surgical growth, creates capacity, and reduces costs, all while delivering powerful insights to help solve long standing operational challenges once and for all. 100% of clients say they consider Qventus part of their long term strategy. Learn more at www.qventus.com.

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For Group Discounts of three or more please call us at **800-743-8490** or email us at **info@brinetwork.com**

VENUE:

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Registration

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Register by	**5/23/25**	**5/30/25**	**7/14/25**
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Conference + Workshop	$1395	$1595	$1795

VENDORS/SOLUTION PROVIDERS			
Register by	**5/23/25**	**5/30/25**	**7/14/25**
Conference Only	$1595	$1795	$2095
Conference + Workshop	$1795	$1995	$2295

** All Payments must be received four weeks prior to the event. If you need to cancel four weeks prior to the event there will be a full refund minus a $225 administrative fee.
If you need to register a substitute please contact us or email us at support@brinetwork.com.
All cancellations received under four weeks will be provided a pass to a future event for either yourself or a colleague which will be valid for two years from the date of conference.