

Carolinas/Virginias Chapter of the Society of Critical Care Medicine

MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER- FALL 2020 VOL 4. ISSUE 3



Joining CVCSM

Benefits of CVCSM membership include networking with multidisciplinary critical care professionals across the region, live education, platforms for research presentations, communication through newsletters and social media, Twitter Journal Clubs, outreach opportunities both locally and abroad, scholarship, multidisciplinary research, and professional mentorship!

Annual fees are only \$45 per year and you do not need to be a member of SCCM to join. Join at: <https://www.sccm.org/Member-Center/Chapters/Carolinas-Virginias>

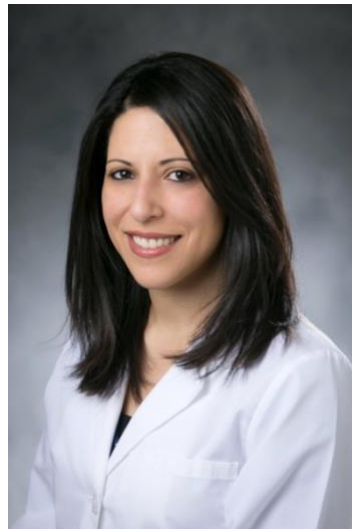
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GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

New section in our Chapter Newsletter!

Each newsletter will feature 2-3 members of our Board of Directors



Amy Alger, MD

Job Title: Trauma and Critical Care Surgeon; Assistant Professor of Surgery, Duke University School of Medicine; Program Director, Surgical Critical Care Fellowship; Co-Director, Surgical Intensive Care Unit.

Hospital: Duke University Medical Center

CVC SCCM Chapter Member: 3 years

Committee Involvement: Membership

What do you enjoy most about being a CVC SCCM Member? I've really enjoyed meeting the members of CVC SCCM. I was really looking forward to seeing everyone at the conference (prior to COVID).

Hobbies/Interests: I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling and mountain biking. Though these days, I really look forward to taking a nap (I have a 14 month old).

Christopher Hogan, MD

Job Title: Associate Professor, Departments of Emergency Medicine, Surgery/Critical Care

Hospital: VCU Medical Center

CVC SCCM Chapter Member: 7 years

Committee Involvement: Research and Education

What do you enjoy most about being a CVC SCCM Member? Interacting with colleagues across the mid-Atlantic region

Hobbies/Interests: Hockey, hiking

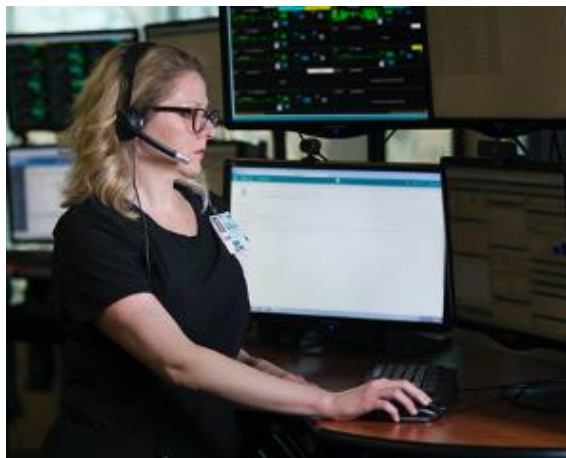


Highlighting Virtual Critical Care During COVID-19 at Atrium Health

Authors: Sandy Arneson, MSN, RN, CCRN-E,
Sara J. Tucker, MBA, BSN, RN, CCRN-E, CNIII

Critical care clinicians are resilient. However, their resiliency is being tested during the current COVID-19 pandemic. Issues pertaining to staffing, keeping clinicians safe and sustaining a high level of care through this intense situation is causing the need for innovative problem solving. One such method includes leveraging the skills and accessibility a tele-ICU provides.

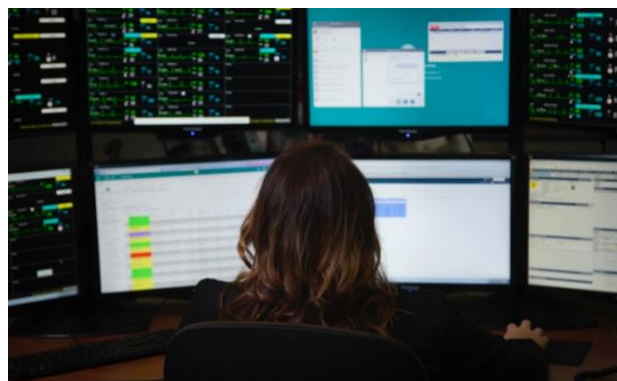
Atrium Health (AH) is a large, not-for-profit healthcare system headquartered in Charlotte, NC, with over 55,000 employees serving nearly 40 hospitals in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Included in this hospital system is a tele-ICU, called Virtual Critical Care (VCC) that has been providing supportive clinical services in 10 hospitals and 16 intensive care units (ICU) for more than seven years. The VCC is comprised of 39 nurses, all of which are CCRN certified; 3 virtual respiratory therapists; 3 ePharmacists board certified in critical care; 82 board certified intensivists and 10 unit coordinators. Their operations staff consists of an operations director, nurse manager, 2 program coordinators, 2 staff assistants and dedicated information and analytics services. Through the use of real-time, high-definition 2-way audio and video communication, the highly experienced clinicians that work at the VCC provide additional care to the more than 335 critical care beds in the healthcare system.



While continuing the high-quality, outcome-focused patient care the VCC is known to provide, they shifted some of their attention to provide much needed clinician-focused support. VCC nursing and virtual respiratory therapy workflows were modified to include additional virtual rounding of COVID-19 positive patients. During this rounding, VCC teammates are able to assess the patient and provide real-time feedback as they look at everything from intravenous sites and infusions to ventilator and equipment settings.

Using technology, the VCC teammates lessen the amount of time bedside clinicians spend in the patient's room, thus reducing exposure and conserving valuable personal protection equipment (PPE).

To reduce the risk of exposure or quarantine of VCC clinicians, home workstations were provided to about 82% of the team thus ensuring robust VCC support would always be available. And for high-risk bedside teammates, 10 nurses and respiratory therapists were welcomed to the VCC to bolster staff while continuing to use their clinical expertise. The VCC pharmacists obtained temporary licensure in Georgia to provide physician support during rapid implementation of VCC services at 3 rural facilities. They also collaborated with other critical care pharmacists across the system to leverage an emergency protocol to optimize medication therapy and expand hours of coverage.



At the bedside, VCC technology was used to allow more than 300 clinicians access to patients remotely which reduced exposure to the virus while leveraging the physician pool to cover more patients throughout the healthcare system. Nearly 75 mobile carts were added to critical care units throughout the system, allowing for the expansion of VCC coverage to newly opened surge units, ensuring continuous support in the event of equipment failure and protecting members of the IAS team from potential exposure with repair of faulty equipment.

Preparing for a crisis management scenario, VCC demonstrated versatility in the delivery of quality patient care. As the community continues to manage peaks in COVID-19 patients and monitors for surges in patients during the fall, the adaptability of the VCC and its clinicians continues to support the bedside's overall patient care strategy.

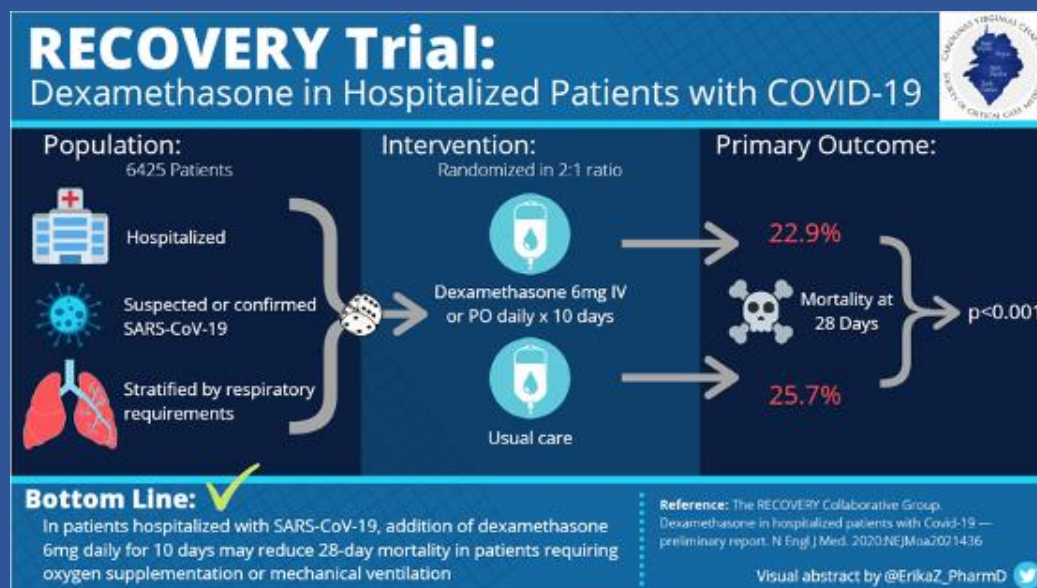
Committee Spotlight

Communications Committee

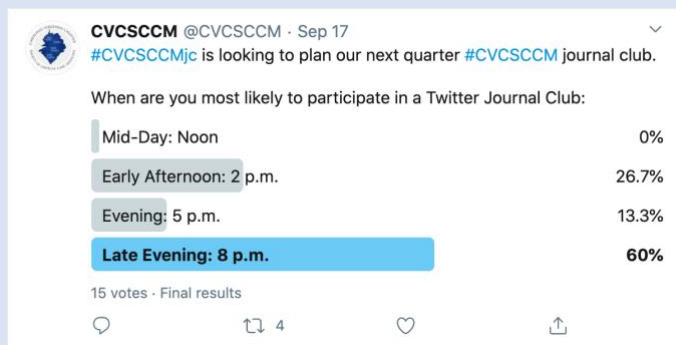
The role of the CVCSCCM Communications Committee is to provide timely communications to the Carolina/Virginias Chapter of SCCM membership regarding chapter activities and to foster collaboration within the membership.

The Communications Committee provides updates to the membership via email and the semi-annual newsletter. We also coordinate all activity on social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter) and host the quarterly Twitter Journal Club.

Our last Twitter Journal Club was hosted by Erika Zarfoss, PharmD, a PGY2 Critical Care Pharmacy Resident at WVU Medicine. She led an engaging discussion on the Recovery trial. (Abstract below)



The Communications Committee recently posted a Twitter Poll to assess what time would be best to host the Twitter Journal Clubs. Based on the feedback, we will continue to host the journal clubs from 8 – 9 pm EST.



Please contact cvcscm@gmail.com if you or a trainee are interested in hosting a future Twitter Journal Club! Don't forget to check out our website (www.cvcscm.org), and follow us Facebook and Twitter (@CVCSCCM) for updates, announcements, and general organizational communications!

Chapter Leadership

Executive Committee

- **President:** Carrie Griffiths, PharmD, BCCCP, FCCM
- **Vice President:** C. Todd Borchers, MSN, APRN, ACNP-BC
- **Secretary:** Audis Bethea, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP
- **Treasurer:** Kristie Hertel, RN, MSN, CCRN, ACNP-BC, FCCM
- **Past-President:** Kwame Akuamoah-Boateng, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, FCCM

Board of Directors

- Amy Alger, MD (NC)
- Bryan Collier, DO (VA)
- Christopher Hogan, MD, FACEP (VA)
- Lesly Jurado, PharmD, BCPS, BCCCP (NC)
- Sameer Kamath, MD (NC)
- George Kasotakis, MD (NC)
- Andrew Miller, RT (NC)
- Benjamin Moses, MD (VA)
- Ankit Sakhuja, MD (WV)
- Paul McCarthy, MD (WV)
- Carolyn Magee, PharmD (SC)
- Taylor O'Neal, RN (SC)



Carrie's Corner

Updates from the
President of
CVCSCCM

Hello CVCSCCM members!

I cannot believe we are three quarters of the way through 2020. I know some of us wish this nightmare of a year would be over soon, but there is a silver lining in all of this and it is our job to find it. With the nice cool evenings and crisp mornings, I'm reminded to take one day at a time and to enjoy the nature around me, especially since there is some beautiful scenery with the leaves changing.

As you all know, SCCM Congress will be held virtually this year over a 2-week span and it's the 50th Anniversary! This is exciting and gives members more opportunities to network. I'm sure there will be many special opportunities with this being the 50th Anniversary, so be on the lookout for them. The Chapter will be conducting a business meeting during this time; date and time are being finalized. Registration is now open for all levels of membership at www.sccm.org. I look forward to seeing our members present their research and speak in various sessions.

Our Diversity & Inclusion work group, headed by Todd Borchers, is working with our committees to determine ways of promoting more of this within our chapter. More information to come regarding how you can be involved!

You all continue to do great things at your institutions and continue to inspire those around you. Keep up the excellent work!

Stay safe and be well!

Carrie

Additional Committees

Contact cvcscm@gmail.com with interest in joining or check out www.cvcscm.org to learn more about each committee!

- Education: organizes the Annual Symposium and Pharmacology Pre-Conference
- Mentorship: promotes member development with a new mentor/mentee program
- Nominations: solicits nominations for the board of directors
- Research: supports, advances, and promotes the conduct and dissemination of high quality research in critical care

We want to celebrate you!

Future newsletters will highlight accomplishments of chapter members and chapter institutions. This includes new board certifications, publications, awards and accolades, or institution accreditations. Send all submissions to CVCSCCM@gmail.com. We can also highlight local or regional educational events.