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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9		
PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS		
MON-PRE-1.1 Dysphagia 201: Beyond the Basics Steven Asofsky, MD	Abstract: The purpose of this presentation is to educate the participants on signs and symptoms of swallowing disorders concomitant to their diagnostics and treatments. The information provided will be inclusive of but not limited to the anatomy and physiology pertaining to the stages of the swallow, diagnostic procedures, and diet consistency variants to provide safe and efficient nutritional support.	
MON-PRE-1.2 Reducing Stigma to Reduce Harm Heather Mattison	Abstract: This presentation addresses the language and stigma associated with harm reduction as a pathway of recovery as well as enhancing relationships to create meaningful connections with people who use drugs. The presentation will include a training on how to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose along with providing a discussion around language and stigma associated with harm reduction to create meaningful connections with people who use drugs. This presentation allows for an opportunity for discussion.	
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION		
MON- GEN -1 / KEYNOTE The Secret SauceThriving in Times of Change Meg Soper, RN	Abstract: This uplifting presentation will celebrate the accomplishments of the members of NYS ID/DD Nurses Association in rising to the challenges of the past few years. The presenter will also share strategies for bolstering our resilience, so we can continue to be at our best – personally and professionally. Using experiences from her career as an O.R. nurse, the presenter will share perspectives on how to find balance and maintain a positive mindset so that we can adapt and thrive no matter the challenges we face!	
CONCURRENT SESSIONS - MON-2		
MON-2.1 The Evolving Science of Food Allergy S. Shahzad Mustafa, MD	Abstract: Food allergy affects 3-6% of the US population, and management is quickly changing, with newly available tests to make an accurate diagnosis and emerging therapies. This session will cover important highlights for all providers, including skin testing, specific IgE testing, component testing, and oral food challenges. The presentation will also describe oral immunotherapy and monoclonal antibodies, management of anaphylaxis, and optimal use of antihistamines.	
MON-2.2 Identifying, Treating, and Preventing UTI & Urosepsis in ID/DD Anne Campbell, RN, BSN, MSN-Ed, FNP-BC	Abstract: This presentation will provide in depth exploration of what common conditions in ID/DD can lead to the development of urinary tract infection in both male and female patients, including how to recognize common signs of emerging urinary tract infection as well as identifying what constitutes a simple or complicated UTI. We will discuss appropriate treatment measures, including what and when to treat, current practice guidelines, as well as when to screen and when not to screen. We will wrap up the presentation exploring measures that can be used to prevent recurrence, and finish with a case-studies designed to promote critical thinking and problem solving among ID/DD nurses and teams to promote better health outcomes for the people we support.	

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MON-2.3

NYS Justice Center Mortality Reviews-The Anatomy of a Death Assessment: An Overview for Nurses

Tara Kenney, RN and Sara Del Marter, MS Abstract: This presentation will focus on the role of an ID/DD RN in the review of deaths and what you should know about the death investigation process. We will discuss natural deaths within a framework of expected/anticipated vs. sudden/unexpected and we will breakdown the "symptom/response timeline" approach to conducting a mortality review, giving Nurses methods to support their own agencies in identifying areas in need of improvement. Case examples will highlight provider and Justice Center collaboration to identify cases without concerns, cases with areas benefitting from improvement, and cases where reportable incidents were discovered. Trends of most frequently made recommendations and most frequently identified reportable incidents will also be discussed within the context of nursing practices.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS - MON-3

MON-3.1

Environmental Allergies, Asthma, and Atopic Dermatitis: Relationships and Therapeutic Considerations

Allison Ramsey, MD

Abstract: In this session, the relationship between environmental allergies, asthma, and eczema will be reviewed. Diagnostic approaches and considerations for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities will be discussed. Therapeutic considerations in this population will also be reviewed.

MON-3.2

Safe Practice in ID/DD Nursing: What a Prudent Nurse Would Do

Fred Wetzel, RN, PhD, LNC, NCC

Abstract: This session will discuss professional practice and regulatory requirements of which nurses in the ID/DD field should be aware. Topics include: OPWDD requirements by type of facility, standards of nursing practice in ID/DD nursing, supervision of unlicensed staff, documentation (i.e., what are the expectations), and legal aspects of ID/DD nursing (practicing safely within boundaries, avoiding negligence/malpractice risks).

MON-3.3

Utilizing Palliative & Hospice Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Agency Settings

Ashley Keagle, LMSW

Abstract: As people continue to live longer, we are challenged with the adaptation of service delivery as it pertains to aging in place and supporting through to the end of life. Utilizing community supports to develop relationships on how best to serve within one's own expertise can drastically benefit outcome for the quality of life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and support circles. This presentation will explore how the connections create opportunity, growth and understanding to enhance service delivery to its fullest potential.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

GENERAL SESSION

TUE-GEN-2

OPWDD Update

Susan Prendergast, RN, MS and George Shaw, RN, BSN

Abstract: In this session, Susan Prendergast, Deputy Director, State Operations Clinical Services, Division of State Operations and George Shaw, BSN RN, Director of Nursing and Health Services, Division of Statewide Services, NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities will discuss current guidance documents that are essential for nurses working in the ID/DD field, provide updates on the work being done by OPWDD, and address hot topics. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions.

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CONCURRENT SESSIONS – TUE-4		
TUE-4.1 Wound Prevention, Assessment, and Care in the ID/DD Population Karis Davis, MSN	Abstract: This presentation discusses wound prevention and wound care in the DD population. The anatomy and structure of wound and wound healing. Various wounds and wound care products will also be presented.	
TUE-4.2 Treating Common Mental Health Challenges in ID/DD in Primary Care Anne Campbell, RN, BSN, MSN-Ed, FNP-BC	Abstract: In the ever-changing field of ID/DD support, there is an ever increasing need to assist in managing common mental health conditions in combination with primary care, as there are very few mental health providers available to treat these conditions. Even if one can find a provider to take Medicare and/or Medicaid, the wait list is long and this translates into needless suffering, delay in care, and mental health compromise for the individuals we support. The focus of this presentation is to highlight common mental health conditions that the individuals we support are challenged with and how a targeted approach to holistic care can be applied to treat both common mental health conditions such as anxiety, depression, and bipolar disorder AND common comorbidities such as diabetic neuropathy, HTN, obesity, and many others. Case studies will be used to promote critical thinking, and problem solving among teams to promote a consolidated approach to holistic care.	
Advanced Care Directives with I/DD: NYS MOLST Process Ashley Keagle, LMSW	Abstract: One of the most challenging conversations we can be plagued with is the topic of advanced care directives, and how to do so successfully. In working with people with I/DD, there is an additional legal process in place that serves as a protective measure and requires considerable attention to the person's current medical condition that lends to instituting advanced care directives. Due to the complexity of the process, it is pertinent for those in support positions to understand the general process, and where to find important resources. This presentation will explore the intricate step-by-step process of how to initiate, request and validate advanced care directives for people with I/DD, as well as how to explore and discuss with person served, families and support circles.	
CONCURRENT SESSIONS – TUE-5		
TUE-5.1 Big Red Rash Judith Mysliborski, MD	Abstract: A generalized erythematous eruption (the' Big Red Rash') is often due to drug reactions or a viral infection. Recognizing the cause and understanding its timeline of evolution and resolution is important to the management of the patient. More importantly recognizing evolution into a "serious" illness is critical to minimizing morbidity and mortality.	
TUE-5.2 IDD Tailored Health Care Steven Merahn, MD	Abstract: In 2023, the NIH designated people with disabilities as a "health disparities population", recognizing common patterns of risk and conditions that are not seen in the non-disabled population. People with IDD are at particular risk, and unfortunately the "standards of care" for the non-disabled population are one of the reasons for these disparities. This talk reviews evidence and best practices for the care of people with IDD and shares some clinical guidance to help improve their quality of health.	
TUE-5.3 Prevention Toolkit: Responding to Medical Emergencies Tracey Sosa, MA & Brandi Young, MA	Abstract: This presentation will provide an overview of the Justice Center's Spotlight on Prevention toolkit, Responding to Medical Emergencies. This toolkit provides information about how to recognize medical emergencies and what to do about them. This toolkit was created to provide information and resources to support the safety of people who may not be able to communicate about the signs of a medical emergency. This toolkit will include a discussion on recognizing medical	

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	emergencies, staff actions, and preparing for medical emergencies. We will discuss lessons learned from cases involving medical emergencies via case studies.
CONCURRENT SESSIONS – TUE-	6
TUE-6.1 Review of GI medications in Patients with IDD Harsh Kothari, Pharm D	Abstract: This presentation explores the management of gastrointestinal (GI) disorders in individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). It discusses common conditions like dysphagia and GERD, their treatments, and concerns related to long-term use of proton pump inhibitors (PPIs), such as increased risks of aspiration pneumonia and osteoporosis. The impact of these treatments on the gut microbiome and emerging concerns about medication safety and efficacy will also be addressed.
TUE-6.2 Behavioral vs. Medical: If we don't play together, patients lose! Stacey Tripani-Barber, Psy.D.	Abstract: This session will review the functions of "challenging" behavior, the importance of a comprehensive functional assessment and the imperative need for behavior specialists and nurses to work collaboratively using a trauma sensitive lens.
TUE-6.3 OPWDD Division of Quality Improvement Findings, Regulatory Expectations and Best Practices Mary Jane Vogel, RN, and Brian O'Donnell, BS	Abstract: This presentation will include where regulations and guidance can be found; the nurse's role in ensuring regulatory compliance in the ID/DD setting; discussion of the difference between best practices vs minimal standards; and a review of common deficiencies and associated regulatory expectations related the health and safety of OPWDD individuals.
	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
GENERAL SESSIONS	
WED-GEN-3 Why Nursing Education and Empowerment May Be the Solution to the Polypharmacy Crisis in People with Developmental Disabilities Michael Cummings, MD	Abstract: Individuals with developmental disabilities and behavioral health needs are at risk for inappropriate polypharmacy and its effects. This session will provide an overview of polypharmacy with emphasis on strategies to minimize inappropriate polypharmacy and discuss the pivotal role that nurses play in this process.
WED-GEN-4 Diabetes: What it is, Types, Causes, Symptoms & Treatments Jennifer Grant, BS	Abstract: This presentation will cover what the disease Diabetes is, the types of diabetes that there are, what things can lead to being a diabetic, symptoms of the disease, with a heavy emphasis on treatment options. *This session meets the OPWDD requirement for annual diabetes educational update for nurses in the field.
WED-GEN-5 Positive Exposure: Seeing Beyond Diagnosis Rick Guidotti, MFA	Abstract: This lecture will create opportunities to hear from and explore the experiences of people living with a variety of genetic, physical, behavioral, and intellectual differences. The lecture will provide a "lens" into various genetic disorders and give a "voice" to those featured in the photographs and their respective families. Audiences will be able to hear from individuals and their families living with genetic disorders through innovative multimedia tools developed by Positive Exposure.