



**Stroke Survivors and
Caregivers Conference**

Friday, October 6, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Hilton Garden Inn San Antonio

Live Oak Conference Center

8101 Pat Booker Rd

Live Oak, Texas, 78233

- 9:00 - 9:10 a.m. **Welcome**
Scott Wayman
City Manager, City of Live Oak
- 9:10 - 9:35 a.m. **Keynote Address**
Ronald M Stewart, MD
Chair, Department of Surgery
The University of Texas Health Science Center of San Antonio
- 9:35 - 10:35 a.m. **Telespeech Therapy**
Shilpa Shamapant, MS, MA, CCC-SLP
President, Co-founder, Speech Therapist
Austin Speech Labs
- 10:35 - 10:45 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45 - 11:30 a.m. **The Tell Tale Signs of Caregiver Stress**
Tina Smith, MA
Caregiver Specialist
WellMed Charitable Foundation
- 11:30 - 12:20 p.m. **Lunch**
- (Break-Out Sessions: Stroke Survivor and Caregiver Tracks)**
- 12:20 - 1:05 p.m. **Stroke Survivor Track:**
International Dysphagia Diet Standardization Initiative
Nancy Yezzi, RDN, LD
Regional Sales Manager
Simply Thick, LLC





- 12:20 - 1:05 p.m. **Caregiver Track:**
Navigating Medicare Post Stroke
Janet Hunter
Education Specialist
Novitas Solutions
- 1:05 - 1:15 p.m. **Break**
- 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. ***Stroke Survivors and Caregivers Panel***
Moderator: Maricela Gonzalez Wilson, BSN, RN
Coordinator, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Community Outreach,
Seton Family of Hospitals
- 2:15 - 2:30 p.m. ***National Stroke Association***
Anna Taylor, MS
Director of Programs and Services
National Stroke Association
- 2:30 - 2:45 p.m. **Question & Answer Session**
- 2:45 - 3:00 p.m. ***Closing Remarks***
Suzanne Hildebrand
Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke

Speakers

Ronald M. Stewart, MD

Ronald Stewart, MD is the Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Dr. Stewart is a tenured Professor of Surgery and Anesthesia, and since 2008, he has served as the Chair of the Department of Surgery, holding the Dr. Witten B. Russ Endowed Chair in Surgery. He received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, where he also completed his surgical residency. He completed a Trauma and Surgical Critical Care Fellowship at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, TN.

Dr. Stewart has led the development of an integrated civilian-military trauma system that serves all of South Texas. He has received numerous awards for his service to the State of Texas, the University of Texas Health Science Center and the University Health System's trauma center.





Governor George W. Bush appointed Dr. Stewart to the Governor's Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Advisory Council where he served for 15 years. Dr. Stewart is a founding member and the first Chair of the National Trauma Institute. He has served on the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT), where he currently serves as the national Chair of the ACS COT. In his tenure as the ACS COT, he has worked to lead an approach to firearm injury prevention that has encouraged a collegial, friendly and substantive dialogue from surgeons from all points of view.

In 2013, Dr. Stewart was the recipient of the National Safety Council's Surgeons Award for Service to Safety, and the American College of Surgeon's Arthur Ellenberger Award for Excellence in State Advocacy. He is a member of the American Surgical Association, the Southern Surgical Association, the Western Surgical Association, the immediate past President of the Southwestern Surgical Congress and the President-elect of the Texas Surgical Society.

Shilpa Shamapant, MS, MA, CCC-SLP

Shilpa Shamapant, MS, MA, CCC-SLP, is the President and Co-Founder of Austin Speech Labs in Austin, TX. Ms. Shamapant has a master's degree in both computer engineering and speech language pathology. She holds her Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language Hearing Association. Ms. Shamapant has published articles in Brain and Language, and Aphasia journals. Her research interests are in language disorders related to aphasia, auditory processing and focuses on developing an efficient treatment to improve speech, language and cognitive skills for stroke survivors. In 2015, Governor Greg Abbott appointed Ms. Shamapant to the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke.

Tina Smith, MA

Tina Smith, MA, is the Caregiver Specialist with the Caregivers SOS Program at WellMed Charitable Foundation. Ms. Smith works directly with caregivers providing information and support through one-on-one counseling and group settings. She has worked in long-term care settings where she provided direct services to residents and their caregivers. Ms. Smith has spent 10 years at the Bexar Area Agency on Aging in the Ombudsman program as an advocate for residents of long-term care facilities and their family members. She has also supervised several programs that served senior citizens and their caregivers.

Nancy Yezzi, RDN, LD

Nancy Yezzi, RDN, LD, is the Regional Sales Manager for the Greater Houston area for Simply Thick, LLC. Ms. Yezzi received a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition degree from State University College at Buffalo, New York. She has over 25 years in healthcare management, where she served as director for various food services departments including Memorial Hermann Hospital





locations in Houston, TX. Ms. Yezzi provided direct oversight and management of employees, clinical dietitians, budget, expansion projects, and process improvement. She has 10 years of experience providing direct patient and family education to improve healthcare outcomes and disease management.

Janet Hunter

Janet Hunter is the Education Specialist for Jurisdiction H providers with Novitas Solutions. Ms. Hunter has 34 years of Medicare experience. She has developed curriculum and trained several Medicare carriers transitioning to the current claims processing system. She has conducted several large national Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) sponsored seminars and workshops. Ms. Hunter has also shared her knowledge of the International Standardization for Organizations (ISO) system in numerous classes and performed several ISO audits. Ms. Hunter has served as a supervisor in the Provider Outreach and Education areas responsible for scheduling and conducting provider workshops and onsite trainings. She has also served as supervisor of the Quality Assurance and Internal Training departments responsible for training call center representatives and conducting internal quality audits utilizing CMS criteria.

Maricela “Marcie” Gonzalez Wilson, RN, BSN

Maricela “Marcie” Gonzalez Wilson, RN, BSN is the Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Community Outreach Coordinator for Seton Family of Hospitals. Ms. Wilson received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX. She educates communities on the importance of recognizing the signs and symptoms of a heart attack and stroke, risk factors, prevention and early detection. Ms. Wilson serves on various committees including the American Heart Association (AHA), and the American Stroke Association. She is the past chair of the AHA South West Affiliate and the Texas Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Partnership. In August 2015, Governor Greg Abbott appointed Ms. Wilson to the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke. Marcie has received numerous local, state and national service awards and recognitions for her contribution to underserved minority communities.

Anna Taylor, MS

Anna Taylor is the Director of Programs at the National Stroke Association. She joined her current team 5 years ago and has spent nearly 20 years in community health education field, including direct patient education in clinical setting, research, program development, implementation and evaluation, both in public health and non-profit space. Her expertise lies in operational management and strategic alignment of programs to assure continuum of education and services across the different audience: general public, patients, caregivers, families and healthcare professionals. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology and a Master of Science degree in Community Health Education.

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