



# 2026 Acute Care Nursing Conference



Informative, Innovative, Impactful

**Thursday, October 15, 2026**

7:00am - 4:00pm



- **In-Person Conference**

Concordia Spectrum Campus  
16355 Laguna Canyon Road  
Irvine, CA 92618

- **Contact us at**

[nursing.education@hoag.org](mailto:nursing.education@hoag.org)

- **Register At**

[hoag.cloud-cme.com/Acute](https://hoag.cloud-cme.com/Acute)

- **Contact Hours**

7.0

Conference

# Overview

This accredited nursing conference is designed to provide registered nurses with current healthcare trends in patient care as well as innovative and informative updates specific to nursing care in the hospital setting. During this one-day in-person conference, attendees will benefit from an intimate learning environment in which Hoag faculty and guest speakers will present the latest in patient care and provide practical strategies and tools to improve nursing practice and patient outcomes.

## Venue

This one-day in-person conference will be hosted at

**Concordia Spectrum Campus**  
**16355 Laguna Canyon Road**  
**Irvine, CA 92618**

The Concordia Spectrum Campus is a short walk from Hoag's Irvine Campus.

Program

## Description

This one-day in-person conference is designed to provide registered nurses with:

- Current healthcare trends in patient care
- Innovative and informative updates specific to nursing care in the hospital setting

## CEU Accreditation

This conference has been approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, with provider number 17163, for a total of 7 Contact Hours of continuing education credit for registered nurses.



# Program

# Speakers



**Kyle Murkey, BS**  
**Hoag**  
Executive Director, IT Applications



**Howie Tran, MD, FACC, FHFA**  
**Hoag**  
Director, Advanced Heart Failure



**Jacob Turmell, DNP, APRN, NP-C, ACNS-BC**  
**Phillips**  
Chief Clinical Officer



**Kyle Karajankovich MS, RN, NI-BC, CEN, CPHQ**  
**Phillips**  
Clinical Strategy Lead



**Justin Vechayiem, RN, BSN, SCRN**  
**Hoag**  
Stroke Nurse Navigator



**Brianne Ortiz, MS, CPXP**  
**Hoag**  
Experience Specialist



**Solomon S. Liao, MD**  
**Hoag**  
Palliative Care Physician



# Key Note Speaker



## **Anusha Wijeyakumar MA, CPC, E-RYT**

### **HOAG WELLNESS CONSULTANT**

Anusha is the Wellness Consultant for Hoag Hospital, one of the top-rated hospitals in the USA where she leads on integrative medicine and implementing mindfulness and meditation practices for maternal mental health programs, early risk assessment for breast & ovarian cancer prevention programs, breast cancer survivorship programs and behavioral sleep medicine.

Anusha is very passionate about her work in STEM and is one of the first people to create a meditation program to be used in clinical breast cancer research at Hoag Hospital.

Anusha is also an Adjunct Professor and Inclusive Excellence Faculty Fellow at San Diego State University, where she teaches on the intersection of wellness, politics, and social justice. Anusha is the recipient of the 2024 Darlene Shiley Honors Faculty Fellowship Award which recognizes her outstanding teaching at the Weber Honors College at SDSU.

Anusha is an official SXSW 2024 and 2025 speaker and sought-after motivational speaker around the world on the science of mindfulness and meditation and the intersection of wellness and social justice. Intersectionality and addressing health and gender inequities is at the heart of all that Anusha is involved with. Anusha is on the Medical Advisory Board of the national nonprofit Living Beyond Breast Cancer and an Ambassador with the Food + Wellness Equity Collective. Anusha's first book *Meditation with Intention: Quick & Easy Ways to Create Lasting Peace* was released in January 2021 by [Llewellyn Worldwide](#).

Program

# Objectives

Identify at least one practical application use of AI in acute Care nursing workflows that reduces documentation burden and improves clinical efficiency.

**Presented by Kyle Murkey, BS**

Describe the basic function of an LVAD and recognize key nursing priorities for managing patients with an LVAD.

**Presented by Howie Tran, MD, FACC, FHSA**

Describe how telemetry alarm management strategies, combined with clinical decision support solutions, can reduce non-actionable alarms, support timely clinical response, and improve patient safety.

**Presented by Jacob Turmell, DNP, APRN, NP-C, ACNS-BC &  
Kyle Karajankovich, MS, RN, NI-BC, CEN, CPHQ**

Differentiate between healthcare operations and patient experience and apply insights from a patient's lived hospital experience to enhance the way care is delivered at the bedside.

**Presented by Justin Vechayiem, RN, BSN, SCRNP &  
Brianna Ortiz, MS, CPXP**

Recognize the role of Ketamine in pain management.

**Presented by Solomon S. Liao, MD**

Explore the role of nature exposure and gratitude practices in reducing stress, improving mental well-being, and enhancing overall resilience.

**Presented by Anusha Wijeyakumr, MA, CPC, E-RYT**



# Conference Agenda



- 7:00 – 8:00am **Registration & Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 8:05am **Welcome**
- 8:05 – 9:05am **AI in Acute Care Nursing**  
Kyle Murkey, BS
- 9:05 – 10:05am **LVAD Therapy for Advanced Heart Failure**  
Howie Tran, MD, FACC, FHFSA
- 10:05 – 10:15am **Break**
- 10:15 – 11:15am **Alarm Management and Clinical Decision Support Solutions to Reduce Alarm Fatigue and Increase Patient Safety**  
Jacob Turmell, DNP, APRN, NP-C, ACNS-BC  
Kyle Karajankovich, MS, RN, NI-BC, CEN, CPHQ
- 11:15 – 12:15pm **Lunch & Exhibits**  
Lunch will be provided to all registrants
- 12:15 – 1:45pm **When Clinicians Become Patients: Lessons in Experience and Care**  
Justin Vechayiem, RN, BSN, SCRNP & Brianne Ortiz, MS, CPXP  
Brianne Ortiz, MS, CPXP
- 1:45 – 2:45pm **Ketamine for Pain**  
Solomon S. Liao, MD
- 2:45 – 2:55pm **Break**
- 2:55 – 3:55pm **Healing in Nature and the Practice of Gratitude**  
Anusha Wijeyakumar, MA, CPC, E-RYT
- 3:55 – 4:00pm **Closing Remarks**



# Registration Information

**Acute Care Nursing Conference**  
**Thursday • October 15, 2026**  
**7:00am - 4:00pm**  
7 Contact Hours

**VENUE**  
Concordia Spectrum Campus  
16355 Laguna Canyon Road  
Irvine, CA 92618

## **REGISTRATION**

Register online at [hoag.cloud-cme.com/Acute](https://hoag.cloud-cme.com/Acute). Registration includes light breakfast, lunch, and refreshments.

- RNs and Students - \$85
- Hoag RNs - Complementary with Discount Code provided by Nursing Education. Hoag staff **MUST** use their Hoag credential sign-in information to register.

## **HOST**

Please contact Nursing Education for all general questions regarding this conference by email: [Nursing.Education@hoag.org](mailto:Nursing.Education@hoag.org)

## **WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

This conference is intended for Registered Nurses with an interest in recent advances in the care of acute patients. Students enrolled in a registered nursing program who have interest in acute care are invited to attend this program.

## **FAMILY/GUEST ATTENDANCE POLICY**

All conference activities are exclusively reserved for registered conference attendees only.

## **DRESS CODE POLICY**

Please come dressed in business casual with closed toed shoes.

## **CANCELLATIONS**

3% administrative fee will apply to all cancellations. Written cancellations will be accepted until October 7, 2026. No refunds will be given for cancellations received after October 7, 2026. Refunds will not be honored for no-shows.

