



**Converging Roads Conference: Catholic Social Doctrine in Medicine**  
**St John Paul II Foundation**  
**March 1, 2025**  
**Ft Myers, FL**



**Accreditation** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education ([ACCME](#)) through the joint providership of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations (CMDA) and St John Paul II Foundation. Christian Medical & Dental Associations is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

**Physician Credit** The Christian Medical & Dental Associations designates this educational activity for a maximum of 6 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Physician Assistant**

AAPA accepts certificates of participation for educational activities certified for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup> by an organization accredited by the ACCME or a recognized state medical society. **Physician assistants may receive up to 6 credits for completing this activity.**

**Nurse Practitioner**

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program (AANPCP) accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup> from organizations accredited by the ACCME. Individuals are responsible for checking with the AANPCP for further guidelines. **Nurse practitioners may receive up to 6 credits for completing this activity.**

**Nursing**

This activity has been submitted to Georgia Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours. Georgia Nurses Association is an accredited approver of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. **Determination of credit is pending.**

**Objectives:**

- Describe the origins of transhumanism and its impact on advancements in science and medicine.
- Identify criteria to guide scientists and clinicians in the ethical use of transhumanist technologies.
- Assess how human enhancement technologies undermine the full flourishing of the human person and the practice of ethical medicine.
- Distinguish between living will and medical power of attorney and describe the ethical concerns arising from their use or lack thereof.
- Indicate how DNR and POLST impacts the course of treatment and care offered to patients.
- Discuss the principle of free and informed consent and its relevance to advance planning documents
- Discuss the basic principles of social doctrine for the Church.
- Explain how greater focus on the dignity of the human person, care for the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity affects health care.
- Discuss how patient care is improved by the commitment to the principles of Catholic social doctrine and the works of mercy and how such care will be distinctive in clinical practice.
- Define the unique understanding of human dignity that influences a Catholic approach to health care .
- Differentiate between the anthropology that undergirds a Catholic approach to end of life care in contrast with implications of a secular anthropology.

- Discuss the present challenges to preserving the dignity of the human person at the end of life in terms of culture, developments in healthcare, and public policy.
- Describe IVF and the foundational rationale for why IVF is a fundamental life issue.
- Identify the ethical and health concerns related to IVF.
- Identify medically successful alternatives to IVF.
- Discuss the causes and factors that have led to the development of the mental health crisis for children and teenagers in the United States.
- Appraise the adverse effect of the use of technology and how social media has worsened the mental health crisis.
- Assess varying strategies for health care professionals in collaboration with families and schools to address the causes of stressors that have increased the struggles with suicide ideation, hopelessness, anxiety, and depression.

**CE Agenda**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>TOPIC TITLE</b>	<b>FACULTY NAME</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CREDITS</b>
9:25 – 10:25 AM	The Implications of Catholic Social Doctrine for Health Care	Rev. Peter Fonseca, MA, MS, MDiv	1.0 hour
10:35 – 11:35 AM	The Origins, Challenges, and Ethics of Transhumanism	Deacon Michael J. Deem, PhD	1.0 hour
11:45 AM – 12:45 PM	Human Dignity at the End of Life	Andrew Kubick, PhD	1.0 hour
1:15 – 2:15 PM	Advance Directives: How Should a Catholic Prepare?	DiAnn Ecret, PhD, MSN, RN, MA; Rev. Peter Fonseca, MA, MS, MDiv; and Brian Scarnecchia, MDiv, JD	1.0 hour
2:40 – 3:40 PM	The Mental Health Crisis for Children and Adolescents	Sister Maria Amata Rossi, RSM	1.0 hour
3:50 – 4:50 PM	The Science and Ethics of In Vitro Fertilization	Daniel Kuebler, PhD	1.0 hour
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>6 hours</b>

**Disclosures**

Disclosures for all those in control of the content of this activity. The names of the ineligible companies (within the last 24 months) and the nature of the financial relationship(s). There is no minimum financial threshold. Disclosure of all financial relationships with ineligible companies regardless of the potential relevance of each relationship to the education.

**Activity Planners, Faculty and CMDA CE Review Committee**

No relevant financial relationships were identified for any individuals with the ability to control the content of this activity.

**ALL RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS WERE MITIGATED.**

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