

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Middle Tennessee  
Antimicrobial Stewardship  
Symposium**

**Educate - Collaborate - Innovate**



**BELMONT  
UNIVERSITY**

**College of Pharmacy  
& Health Sciences**

**Friday, May 1, 2026**

Thomas F. Frist, Jr., College of Medicine

Belmont University

8:00am-4:00pm

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## Welcome!

Over the past 10 years, the Middle Tennessee Antimicrobial Stewardship Symposium has grown from a small, local gathering to the premiere regional infectious diseases conference in Tennessee and the surrounding areas. We hope that you are as excited as we are about the presenters and the topics we have this year. This is an amazing opportunity to learn from experts, collaborate with your peers, engage with new research ideas, share the exciting things you have been working on, and celebrate our growth and success. To those who have attended this conference in the past, thank you for your continued support, engagement, and participation. And to all attendees, on behalf of the 2026 Planning Committee, welcome to the 10th Annual Middle Tennessee Antimicrobial Stewardship Symposium!

Thank you for attending, and please reach out if you have suggestions or questions ([pharmacyce@belmont.edu](mailto:pharmacyce@belmont.edu)).

Jarett Worden, PharmD, BCIDP  
Symposium Chairperson

### Planning Committee Members

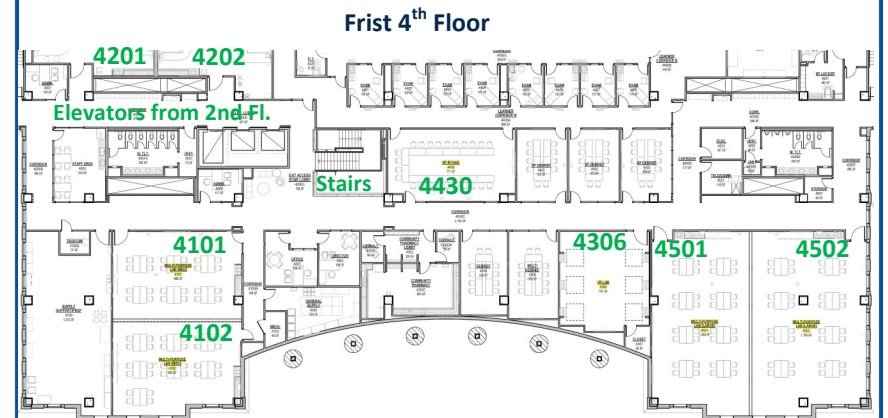
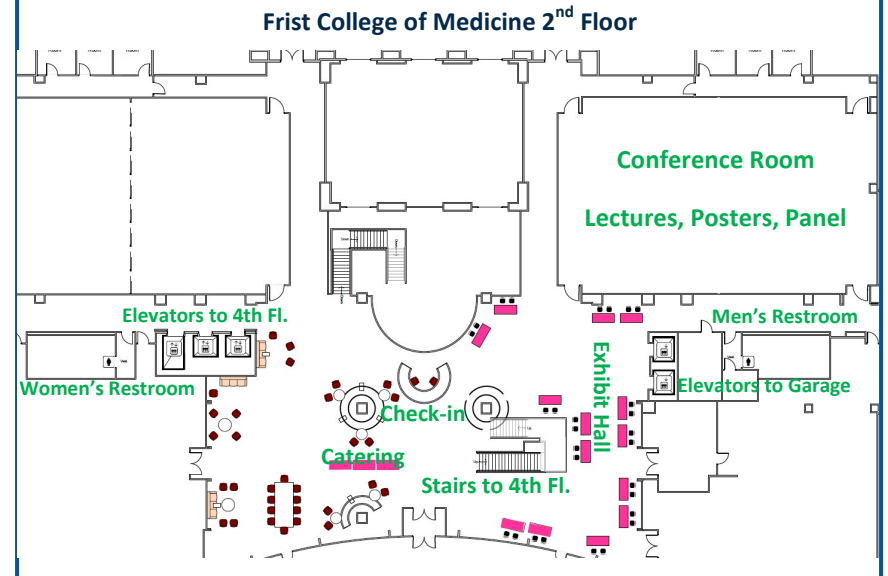
Alaina DeKerlegand, PharmD, BCIDP	Ashlan Kunz Coyne, PharmD, MPH
Athena Hobbs, PharmD, BCIDP	Callyn Wren, PharmD, BCIDP
Caroline Eskind, MD	Josh Stripling, MD
Laura Hyde, MA, PMP	Mary Joyce Wingler, PharmD, BCIDP
Missy Travis, RN, CIC, FAPIC	Quynh Dao, PharmD, BCPS, BCGP
Pratish Patel, PharmD, FIDSA, BCIDP, AAHIVP	

## Symposium Learning Objectives

At the end of this symposium, learners should be able to:

- Promote interdisciplinary and interfacility collaboration, as well as support career advancement of members
- Advance the impact of stewardship in facilities through effective communication and collaboration
- Discuss optimization of antimicrobial therapy for certain infections, with consideration for special populations, based on evidence-based medicine
- Identify resources available to assist in the development, maintenance, and enhancement of antimicrobial stewardship programs

## Map of Conference Center



### Roundtable Topic (Room # on 4th floor)

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Building a Business Plan (4101)       | 5. Pediatric PK/PD (4306)         |
| 2. Antibiotic Safety in Pregnancy (4102) | 6. Steno. maltophilia (4430)      |
| 3. Storytelling in ASP (4201)            | 7. Fever & Leukocytosis (4501)    |
| 4. cUTI Guidelines (4202)                | 8. VPD & Vaccine Hesitancy (4502) |

## Thank You Exhibitors & Supporters!

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### Continuing Education Credits

ACPE & AACME credits: This project is funded under a Grant Contract with the State of Tennessee.

BCIDP credits: Society of Infectious Disease Pharmacists (SIDP)

## WiFi & Access to Materials

**Network:** FCoM

**Password:** No password is needed.

### **Access to Course Materials**

Use your smartphone camera or a QR code reader, scan this QR code to access the [Symposium webpage](#), including lecture slides, roundtable handouts, and FAQs.



## Program Agenda

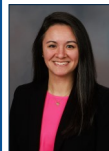
Requirements for successful completion of the CE activities & subsequent awarding of credit can be found on p. 14.

7:15-8:00am **Registration & Exhibitor Engagement**

7:30-8:00 **Breakfast (sponsored by Eolas Medical)**

8:00-8:15 **Welcome**

8:15-8:45



### **Controversies in Candidemia**

(0.5 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-036-L01-P)

**Mary Joyce Wingler, PharmD, BCIDP**, Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, University of Mississippi Medical Center; Jackson, MS  
*Dr. Wingler has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*

### **Learning Objectives**

1. Compare patient outcomes when echinocandins or azole antifungals are used for initial therapy of candidemia
2. Select an appropriate antifungal therapy, including agent and dosing, for various Candida spp.

8:45-9:45



### **Updates in the Treatment of Mycobacterium tuberculosis**

(1.0 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-010-L01-P; 1.0 contact hour of BCIDP credit. See p. 14 for details)

**Megan Klatt, PharmD, BCIDP, DPLA**; Infectious Diseases/ASP Pharmacist, University of Kansas Medical Center; Lawrence, KS  
*Dr. Klatt has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Describe the differences in treatment options for drug-susceptible tuberculosis (TB)
2. Summarize the role of new treatment regimens for drug-resistant TB
3. Identify opportunities and limitations for practical application of the new TB treatment guidelines

9:45-10:05am

**Break (sponsored by AbbVie) & Exhibitor Engagement**

10:05-10:45



### **The Professional Eras Tour**

(0.75 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-017-L99-P)

**Monica V. Mahoney, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP, FCCP, FIDSA, FIDP, FMSHP**; Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Infectious Diseases, Outpatient ID/OPAT Clinics, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Boston, MA

*Dr. Mahoney has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*

## The Professional Eras Tour

### Learning Objectives

1. List steps to advance their career outside their employment
2. Identify opportunities for leadership engagement locally, regionally, and nationally

### 10:45am-12:00pm Raffle Prize Drawing & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



#### Strategies for the Future: Navigating the Rise of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Vaccine Hesitancy

(1.0 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-011-L06-P)

**Mary-Margaret A. Fill, MD, MPH**; Interim State Epidemiologist; Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness, Tennessee Department of Health

*Dr. Fill has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*

### Learning Objectives

1. Summarize recent updates and changes in vaccine policy and policy-making procedures.
2. Recall changes in the epidemiology of vaccine preventable disease outbreaks
3. Integrate strategies for effective engagement with patients around vaccine hesitancy

### 12:00-12:30 Lunch (sponsored by Astellas) & Exhibitor Engagement

### 1:00-1:30 Poster Session (No CE Credit) & Exhibitor Engagement

Poster titles & backgrounds listed on pp. 12-13.

### 1:30-2:30 Panel Discussion: Winning Strategies & Missteps: Lessons Learned in Antimicrobial Stewardship

(1.0 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-012-L04-P)

### Learning Objectives

1. Summarize effective and ineffective antimicrobial stewardship strategies and identify approaches to avoid or manage common implementation pitfalls
2. Identify challenges and evidence-based solutions for managing antimicrobial stewardship across various patient-care settings
3. Describe opportunities to manage antimicrobial stewardship in patients transitioning from one patient-care setting to another

**Moderator: Alaina DeKerlegand, PharmD, BCIDP**, Pharmacy Coordinator - Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Stewardship; PGY2 Internal Medicine Pharmacy Residency Program Coordinator; Methodist University Hospital, Memphis, TN; Assistant Professor, UTHSC, College of Pharmacy

## Program Agenda (continued)

### Panel Discussants

**Monica V. Mahoney, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP, FCCP, FIDSA, FIDP, FMSHP**; Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Infectious Diseases, Outpatient ID/OPAT Clinics, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Boston, MA

**Nina Monroe, RN, BSN**, Director of Quality and Regulatory Affairs, Tennessee Healthcare Association

**Sharon Onguti, MD, MPH, FACP**, Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases; Associate Program Director, Infectious Diseases Fellowship, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

**Bryan P. White, PharmD, FIDSA, BCIDP**, Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist, PGY2 ID Residency Program Director, University of Oklahoma Medical Center; and Clinical Instructor, Internal Medicine, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

*Dr. Mahoney is a consultant for BED Biosciences, Cidara Therapeutics, and CSL Seqirus. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.*

*Dr. White is on the speakers bureau for CorMedix Therapeutics (formerly Melinta). All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.*

*Dr. DeKerlegand, Ms. Monroe, and Dr. Onguti have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*

### 2:30-2:45 Awards Presentation

### 2:45-3:00 Raffle Prize Drawings & Go to Roundtable Rooms (4<sup>th</sup> Floor)

### 23:00-3:30 Roundtable Session 1 (Sessions listed on pp. 9-11)

### 3:30-3:35 Rotate to Next Roundtable Session

### 3:35-4:05 Roundtable Session 2 (Sessions listed on pp. 9-11)

### 4:05-4:10 Return to Main Conference Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

### 4:15 Final Raffle Prize Drawings & Closing Remarks

## Roundtable Sessions

Each learner may attend **two (2)** of the following roundtable topics.

### Session 1 (3:00-3:30pm) & Session 2 (3:35-4:05pm)

- 1. Dialogue & Discussion on the Rise of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Vaccine Hesitancy Room 4502**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-014-H06-P, 0863-9999-26-014-L06-P)  
**Mary-Margaret A. Fill, MD, MPH**, Interim State Epidemiologist; Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness, Tennessee Department of Health  
*Dr. Fill has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives**
  - Recall changes in the epidemiology of vaccine preventable disease outbreaks, particularly in the Southeastern United States (e.g., TN, KY, MS)
  - Identify opportunities to integrate strategies for effective engagement with patients around vaccine hesitancy
- 2. Little Patients, Big Differences: Pediatric PK/PD in Infectious Diseases**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-019-H01-P, 0863-9999-26-019-L01-P) **Room 4201**  
**Katie Olney, PharmD, BCIDP**, Pediatric Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist; Pharmacy Director, Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship Program; Program Director, PGY2 Infectious Diseases (Pediatric) Pharmacy Residency, UK HealthCare and Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy  
*Dr. Olney has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives**
  - Identify the unique pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic variability in pediatric patients
  - Apply pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic principles to optimize antimicrobial regimens while minimizing toxicity
- 3. Rx for You? Rx for Two: Antibiotic Safety in Pregnancy Room 4102**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-021-H05-P, 0863-9999-26-021-L05-P)  
**Kayla R. Stover Hielscher, Pharm.D., BCIDP, BCPS, FCCP, FIDSA**, Assistant Dean-Jackson & Professor and Vice Chair of Pharmacy Practice, University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, and Program Director, PGY2 Infectious Diseases Residency, University of Mississippi Medical Center  
*Dr. Stover has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives**
  - Identify therapy for pregnant persons requiring antibiotic treatment
  - Select alternative therapy in pregnant persons with contraindications to first-line therapy

### Roundtable Session 1 (3:00-3:30pm) & Session 2 (3:35-4:05pm)

- 4. Building a Business Plan for Antimicrobial Stewardship Room 4101**  
(0.5 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-020-H04-P/0863-9999-26-020-L04-P)  
**Bryan P. White, PharmD, FIDSA, BCIDP**, Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist, PGY2 ID Residency Program Director, University of Oklahoma Medical Center; and Clinical Instructor, Internal Medicine, University of Oklahoma College of Medicine  
*Dr. White has no relevant financial relationship to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives for Pharmacists**
  - Outline an effective plan for stewardship expansion.
  - Compose a plan for ASP expansion in a format suitable for the C suite (e.g., SBAR, SWOT,).**Learning Objectives for Physicians & Nurses**
  - Recognize the need for an effective plan for stewardship expansion.
  - Support the pharmacist lead in developing, presenting, and implementing a business plan for ASP expansion
- 5. Clinical Decision-Making in Stenotrophomonas maltophilia Infections: Navigating Evidence and Uncertainty Room 4430**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-024-H01-P, 0863-9999-26-024-L01-P)  
**Ashlan J. Kunz Coyne, PharmD, MPH**, Assistant Professor, Pharmacy Practice and Science, University of Kentucky  
*Dr. Kunz Coyne has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives**
  - Recognize emerging therapies for Stenotrophomonas maltophilia and explain microbiology testing limitations and delays for these therapies
  - Interpret Stenotrophomonas maltophilia culture results in monomicrobial and polymicrobial infections
- 6. Out with the Old, In with the New: Updated IDSA 2025 Complicated UTI Guidelines Room 4202**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-018-H01-P, 0863-9999-26-018-L01-P)  
**Caren Azurin, PharmD, BCPS, BCIDP**, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Antimicrobial Stewardship, Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital West  
*Dr. Azurin is an advisory board member for Invivyd. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated.*  
**Learning Objectives**
  - Identify key changes between 2010 and 2025 guidelines
  - Develop treatment plans for diagnosis and managing complicated urinary tract infections

## Roundtable Session 1 (3:00-3:30pm) & Session 2 (3:35-4:05pm)

7. **Management of Fever and Leukocytosis by the ID Team Room 4501**  
(0.5 Pharmacotherapeutic Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-022-H01-P, 0863-9999-26-022-L01-P)  
**Megan Uehling, MD**; PGY5 Clinical Fellow, Division of Infectious Diseases, Vanderbilt University Medical Center Department of Medicine. **Advisor: Sara Haddad, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
*Neither Dr. Uehling nor Dr. Haddad has relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives for Pharmacists**  
- Assess the role of procalcitonin in determining the need for antibiotics in respiratory infections  
- Identify infectious syndromes where the Staph nasal swab can be used to de-escalate empiric antibiotics |  
- Develop a systematic approach to evaluating noninfectious causes of fever, leukocytosis in the ICU  
**Learning Objectives for Physicians & Nurses**  
(Same as above plus)  
- Analyze the role of blood cultures in the evaluation of fever, leukocytosis, and different infectious syndromes
8. **Storytelling in antimicrobial stewardship: listening better to difficult conversations Room 4306**  
(0.5 Contact Hour; UAN: 0863-9999-26-013-H04-P, 0863-9999-26-013-L04-P)  
**Stephen Staggs, MD, MTS**, Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Thomas F. Frist, Jr., College of Medicine, Belmont University  
*Dr. Staggs has no relevant financial relationships to disclose.*  
**Learning Objectives**  
- Identify whether difficult antimicrobial stewardship conversations are primarily driven by trust, emotion, or reasoning.  
- Apply a structured listening approach to respond more effectively in interprofessional antibiotic stewardship encounters.

## Poster Presentations

1:00-1:30pm No CE Credit Offered

1. **Oral Beta-lactam (BL) Versus Fluoroquinolone (FQ) or Sulfamethoxazole-Trimethoprim (SMX-TMP) in Uncomplicated Gram-Negative Bacteremia (uGNB)**  
**Authors:** Jared Robbins, PharmD; Tyler Baumeister, PharmD, BCIDP; Tracey Bastian, PharmD  
**Institution:** Williamson Medical Center, Franklin, TN  
**Background:** Gram negative bacteremia is associated with significant morbidity and mortality. Historically, uncomplicated gram-negative bacteremia (uGNB) has been treated with highly bioavailable oral options like fluoroquinolones (FQ) or sulfamethoxazole/trimethoprim (SMX-TMP). However, current literature including systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and cohort studies suggest beta-lactams may be an efficacious and safe alternative for uGNB. This study aims to compare the efficacy and safety of BLs versus FQs/SMX-TMP for oral step-down therapy in uGNB in a community hospital setting.
2. **Bugs, Barriers, and Burden: Evaluation of the Correlation Between Antimicrobial Resistance and Social Determinants of Health in Tennessee**  
**Authors:** Caileigh Lavigne, PharmD Candidate; Eleni Tsaras, PharmD Candidate; Amos Abioye, B.Pharm, PhD, MRPharmS, FRSC, FHEA; Yulonda Warren, PharmD, M.Ed; Jarett Worden, PharmD, BCIDP  
**Institution:** Belmont University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, Nashville, TN  
**Background:** Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) continues to pose a significant threat to patient health worldwide, contributing to worsening clinical outcomes, increased mortality, and rising healthcare costs. Resistance patterns often vary by region, which raises a question of what underlying factors may contribute to these differences. Although antimicrobial resistance is largely driven by antibiotic misuse and prescribing practices, social determinants of health (SDOH) may play a role in shaping these differences. This study specifically examined the relative patterns of AMR and SDOH data across counties in Tennessee to evaluate possible associations between the data sets. Understanding the relationship between AMR and SDOH across different regions may help to generate creative initiatives to prevent further spread of AMR and the resulting mortality.
3. **Economic Burden of Unnecessary Outpatient Antibiotic Prescribing in Tennessee, 2022**  
**Authors:** Abdoul Rahamane Bako Bagassa, MD, MPH; Katie A Thure, MD, MPH; Glodi Mutamba, MD, MPH; Callyn Wren, PharmD, BCIDP; Christopher D. Evans, PharmD, MPH  
**Institution:** Tennessee Department of Health Healthcare-Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance Program, Nashville  
**Background:** Inappropriate antibiotic prescribing drives unnecessary healthcare expenditures and antimicrobial resistance. In 2022, the U.S. issued over 200 million outpatient antibiotic prescriptions, with 30% considered unnecessary. Although the clinical effects of overprescribing are well-known, its economic impact at the state

level is less studied. This study estimated the financial burden of unnecessary antibiotic use in Tennessee in 2022 and examined differences based on age, rural or urban settings, and antibiotic class.

#### 4. Statewide Evaluation of CDC Priority Core Elements and NHSN SAAR Performance

**Authors:** Christopher Evans, PharmD; Katie Thure, MD, MPH; Dipen Patel, MBBS, MPH

**Institution:** Tennessee Department of Health, Nashville

**Background:** The National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) Standardized Antimicrobial Administration Ratio (SAAR) is a widely used metric for benchmarking antimicrobial use and supporting antimicrobial stewardship efforts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Priority Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs offer a complementary, framework-based approach to evaluating stewardship infrastructure and practices. Understanding the relationship between implementation of Priority Core Elements and SAAR performance may help clarify how structural stewardship components translate into measurable antimicrobial use outcomes. {Institution} explored the association between NHSN SAARs and Priority Core Elements to better inform stewardship program evaluation and improvement strategies.

#### 5. Safety and feasibility of extended-course oral linezolid therapy in the outpatient setting: five-year experience of a COpAT program

**Authors:** Elly Sherman, PharmD; Kelly Gamble, PharmD, BCIDP;

Christo Cimino, PharmD, BCIDP

**Institution:** Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN

**Background:** Linezolid is an oxazolidinone antibiotic with an extended spectrum of activity against Gram-positive organisms, including methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* species. With its expanded coverage and near 100% oral bioavailability, linezolid is an attractive option for off-label use in the treatment of invasive infections caused by these pathogens. However, linezolid is well known to be associated with hematologic toxicities, particularly thrombocytopenia, with prolonged durations of therapy. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety of prolonged linezolid courses and the feasibility of safety monitoring in a real-world outpatient setting.

## Claiming CE Credit

### PHARMACISTS



Belmont University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education.

These knowledge- & application-based activities provide up to 5.5 contact hours (0.55 CEUs) of live continuing education credit to pharmacists who register to attend the Symposium, attend 100% of an activity per time slot, actively participate in the engagement activities, and complete the online post-test & online activity evaluation for each activity attended.

Upon successful completion of the activity evaluation & post-test of learning assessments for the activity(ies) that pharmacists attended in full, Belmont will submit CE credit to CPE Monitor. It is the responsibility of the pharmacist to notify Belmont if the CE credit hasn't posted to your CPE Monitor account within one (1) week of completing the evaluation(s). If reports indicate unsuccessful completion of requirements or credit submission, Belmont will attempt to contact pharmacists at the email they've provided in eeds. Pharmacists with questions regarding their NABP e-Profile or CPE Monitor should contact NABP Customer Engagement at [help@nabp.pharmacy](mailto:help@nabp.pharmacy) or visit <https://nabp.pharmacy/help/>.

### BCIDP PHARMACY CREDIT



The Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP) is accredited by the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (BPS) as a provider of board certified infectious diseases pharmacist (BCIDP) credit. A BCIDP statement of credit will be issued online upon successful completion of a post-test and online evaluation. No partial credit will be given. BCIDP credit must be claimed within 60 days of the live activity date (5/1/26). Participants are responsible for verifying credits were transferred successfully to your BPS profile account before the 60-day deadline. After the 60 day deadline, SIDP will no longer be able to report your credit(s) for this activity.

### NURSES & PHYSICIANS



**Nurses:** Each course in this activity is accredited for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. We recommend that you check with your individual licensing board to confirm acceptance.

**Physicians:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the **Tennessee Medical Association** and the **Belmont University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences**. The **Tennessee Medical Association** is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Tennessee Medical Association designates this live activity for a maximum of **5.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## Notes

## Join Us Next Year!

The Southeast Antimicrobial Stewardship Symposium (SEAS) is tentatively scheduled for May 2027.

Watch your email for more details!

## We Welcome Your Feedback

In addition to a program evaluation that will be emailed to you, please send any feedback regarding the Symposium to [pharmacyce@belmont.edu](mailto:pharmacyce@belmont.edu).