# *COVID-19 Vs. Healthcare Speaker Event Guest Speaker Biographies*

*Hosted by:* Student Hospital Connections (SHC), American Medical Student Association (AMSA), and Pre-Physician Assistant Club (PAC)

## **Mr. Matt Wain:** Keynote Speaker & Panelist



Matt Wain is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Emory University Hospital, Emory University Orthopedics & Spine Hospital and Emory Wesley Woods Hospital. In his role as CEO, he is responsible for leading these hospitals through the COVID pandemic.

Prior to relocating to Emory, Matt worked at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) Health in Charleston, South Carolina from 2013-2019. His tenure included serving as Chief Operating Officer of MUSC Medical Center and MUSC Health. From 2001-2013, Matt worked at Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA. This included several roles of increasing responsibility culminating as the medical center's Chief Administrative Officer. Matt began his professional career as an active duty military officer and helicopter pilot. He retired from reserve component military service in 2008.

Matt grew up in New Jersey where he met his wife, Elizabeth. They have 6 children. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA and also earned an M.A.S. from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Worldwide) in Daytona Beach, Florida.

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## **Dr. Vijay Patel, MD:** Panelist

Vijay M. Patel, MD, FCCP, earned his medical degree from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield, Illinois. He completed his internal medicine internship and residency at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. Following his residency, Dr. Patel completed a pulmonary and critical care medicine fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Patel is board certified in pulmonary medicine and internal

medicine. Prior to joining Piedmont Physicians Group, Dr. Patel was in practice at PAPP Clinic. His special interests include sleep disorders, asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, lung disorder, bronchoscopy, thoracentesis and pulmonary function tests. Dr. Patel is a member of the American College of Physicians, the Society of Critical Care Medicine, the American College of Chest Physicians and the American Thoracic Society. Dr. Vijay Patel also dedicates his time to Piedmont Newnan Hospital in Newnan, GA. For the last 23 years, Dr. Patel and his team have provided all the pulmonary and critical care needs in their community through inpatient and outpatient services. During the pandemic, Dr. Patel was one of the few working physicians at the hospital. He witnessed many of the structural and functional changes at the hospital and experienced many of the pandemic's effects on his patients. In his spare time, Dr. Patel enjoys spending time with his family.

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## **Dr. Colleen Kraft, MD, MSc:** Panelist



Colleen S. Kraft, MD, MSc is the Associate Chief Medical Officer of Emory Hospital and a professor in the Departments of Pathology/Laboratory Medicine and Medicine/Division of Infectious Diseases of Emory Medical School.

With her experiences in both the 2009 H1N1 influenza and Ebola pandemics, she has been well positioned to support Emory University Hospital and Emory Healthcare through infectious diseases clinical decision-making, healthcare worker safety, diagnostic testing algorithms, and innovative research strategies. She also enjoys speaking and sharing experiences to be able to inform colleagues and the public about the importance of being vaccinated and staying COVID-free.

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## **Mr. Todd Middleton:** Panelist

Todd Middleton, after earning his Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology, has over 29 years of leadership experience in the delivery of successful lean transformations in both commercial and healthcare organizations. He held wide ranging positions of leadership within the HNI Corporation at both the HON Company and MAXON Furniture in addition to mentoring such healthcare clients as Denver Health, Missouri Baptist Medical Center, Ballad Health, Emory Healthcare, and a 5-rural hospital collaborative in western North Carolina including Caldwell Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Middleton is one the partners in Simple Consulting's Healthcare Sector. The company's approach with their clients upon the onset of the pandemic was to focus on two of the key principles of a lean management system: deliver value to customers on demand (matching capacity to demand) and reduce the operational waste that makes it difficult for caregivers to provide excellent and timely care for their patients. By doing this, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, they have partnered with clients to rapidly set up drive-in medical clinics, to develop socially distanced registration processes, and to increase the capacity of critical response processes such as laboratory services. Additionally, they have worked with their clients to stand up both COVID testing clinics as well as vaccination clinics.

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## **Kim Perkins, MSN, APRN, ACNPC-AG, CCRN:** Panelist



Kimberly Perkins serves as a Pulmonary Nurse Practitioner with Wellstar. She obtained her Master of Science in Nursing from Walden University in 2020, specializing in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care. She has been an Intensive Care Unit Registered Nurse since 2015, earning her Certified Critical Care Registered Nurse certificate in 2018. She has served on Professional Practice Councils with Piedmont Healthcare, helping to ensure evidence-based care was delivered to patients for optimal outcomes. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Kimberly has assisted her team in both roles, caring for the influx of patients battling COVID. Kimberly has been married to her husband, Shawn, for 21 years, and together they have four children.

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## **Gina Papa, DNP, MSN, MS-INTA, FNP-BC, APRN:** Panelist



Dr. Papa is a Board Certified Nurse Practitioner and an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. She received her Doctor of Nursing Practice, the highest clinical degree in Nursing, at Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. She received her Master of Science in International Affairs at Georgia Institute of Technology. She is the Clinic Administrator at Clarkton Community Health Center, a charity clinic that provides culturally and linguistically informed healthcare for refugees, immigrants, migrants, and native-born uninsured community members. She is a

clinical instructor, preceptor, and simulation faculty member at Emory University's School of Nursing. Her clinical focus is on primary and preventive care for marginalized and underserved communities using the lens of social determinants to health, community based participatory research, population/community health, systems dynamics, and geopolitical influence.

During the pandemic, Dr. Papa transitioned an all-volunteer clinic in-person clinic serving to a telehealth model, outsourced phlebotomy and laboratory services, led drive through insulin clinics, launched a drive through COVID-19 PCR testing site  in partnership with DeKalb Board of Health, deployed and managed COVID-19 vaccine mobile clinics, and collaborates with local, state, and national partners to meet the diverse needs of community members from over 50 countries of origin. Since March, 2021, the clinic has reopened in limited operation and maintains a hybrid telehealth and in-person model.