



# HASC Briefs

## In This Issue:

- Work Group to Address Specialty RN Shortage 2
- Study: Music Increases Well-being in Palliative Care 2
- Association Welcomes New CEOs 2
- Most Appropriate Care Gets Warm Reception at Inaugural Event 3
- HBA Trust is Aboard as Business Partner 3

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## Manchanda to Head ‘Upstream’ at Meeting



Los Angeles-based Rishi Manchanda is the author of “The Upstream Doctors,” a 2013 book published by the TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) lecture and conference organization. *(TED photo)*

**R**ishi Manchanda, M.D., lead physician for homeless primary care with the Veterans Affairs in Los Angeles, signed on last week to speak during a breakout session at HASC’s 2016 Annual Meeting, which runs April 13 – 15 at the St. Regis Monarch Beach resort in Dana Point.

Manchanda joins other innovators like Geisinger Health System’s Glenn Steele, Jr., M.D., whole-person health advocate Ira

Byock, M.D. and health policy experts C. Duane Dauner and Alan Weil, editor of Health Affairs.

Manchanda is the founder of HealthBegins, an organization that spreads the word about upstream health care. He will connect his experience treating homeless and other marginalized patients with his advocacy for “upstream” treatment options. Upstream health care seeks sources of patient maladies

**See “Upstream,” on page 3**

## Association Welcomes New CEOs

Gregory R. Padilla is President and CEO at Gardens Regional Hospital and Medical Center in Hawaiian Gardens. Padilla brings experience from prior executive roles with Community Health Systems, Vanguard Health Management and Iasis Healthcare.



Gregory R. Padilla

Amit Mohan is CEO at Barlow Respiratory Hospital in Los Angeles. Mohan's resume includes a role as executive director at Shore Rehabilitation Institute in New Jersey. He is currently a doctoral candidate in business administration at Minneapolis-based North Central University.



Amit Mohan

## Work Group to Address Specialty RN Shortage

Over the past year, the association has listened to concerns from hospitals about a shortage of specialty-trained registered nurses. These concerns are supported by both workforce data and anecdotal reports.

In response, HASC, in collaboration with HealthImpact (formerly the California Institute for Nursing and Health Care) is launching a study to identify the cause of the insufficient supply and develop recommendations to support nurse hiring goals.

The association is seeking input and involvement to develop solutions and validate findings. As part of the process, HASC will convene an RN Specialty Shortage Work Group to assist in

identifying contributing causes to the insufficient supply of specialty nurses — and to make recommendations to address the shortage.

Human resources, workforce development and nursing professionals are invited to participate. Work group members must be actively engaged and knowledgeable about the specialty RN recruitment experience, position requirements and related supply and demand factors at their own hospital.

The work will take place from January through March 2016, with an in-person meeting on Thursday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and in three subsequent group calls. The effort will result in a report identifying root-cause findings, the size and

definition of the gap and recommended strategies, processes or programs to address the issue.

The plan calls for at least six to eight hospitals to participate in the work group. Each will be represented by an HR and a nursing professional working together to explore various dimensions of this issue.

“We hope you will consider joining us,” said Teri Hollingsworth, HASC Vice President for Human Resources Services.

If you are interested, contact Hollingsworth by Friday, Dec. 11.

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## Palliative Care Patients Get Boost from Live Music

The first rigorous study to evaluate live music therapy in a palliative care setting appears to support the approach's efficacy.



Researchers in Heidelberg, Germany found that patients exposed to performed music displayed stronger vital signs, better relaxation and a reduction in fatigue compared to similar patients in a control group.

The results appear in the current issue of the journal *Deutsches Ärzteblatt International*.

## Most Appropriate Care Gets Warm Reception

At an Oct. 30 event, attended by 72 people representing 38 hospitals, HASC members made it clear that Most Appropriate Care is a valuable initiative.

The initiative's curriculum follows the nationally-recognized Choosing Wisely recommendations to reduce usage of certain diagnostic tests and treatments that physicians in over 70 specialty societies agree are often ordered out of habit or routine rather than clinical need. To read more about the recommendations, visit [www.choosingwisely.org](http://www.choosingwisely.org).

HASC's Most Appropriate Care initiative features expert speakers and facilitates peer-to-peer discussion between hospitals so that members can learn

from each other about what works and what does not as they implement their own approach to Most Appropriate Care.

Most Oct. 30 participants agreed that priority topics should include antibiotic stewardship, blood utilization, serial labs, continuous telemetry monitoring and palliative care. Hospitals that join the initiative can choose any topic or area of focus, and will receive resources and support from HASC staff, including experts both locally and from medical literature.

Participating hospital teams should include the director of case management, the CMO or physician champion, another executive from the C-Suite, as well as a depart-

ment manager from the clinical area of focus. There is no cost to participate, and the benefits include reduced cost of care and increased physician alignment — as all decision making will be shared internally for each hospital.

All HASC members are invited to join the next meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 19 at the Pacific Palms Resort and Conference Center in the City of Industry.

To register, please visit [www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?OID=130&EID=MOST14E](http://www.signup4.net/Public/ap.aspx?OID=130&EID=MOST14E)

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## Upstream (Continued from page 1)

in the places where people work and live.

Community health workers and legal staff are among the trained professionals on his team who work to improve environmental conditions for patients. In a recent talk, Manchanda recalled a case when he determined that a woman's symptoms were due to mold and water leaks in her home.

While homeless and low

-income patients benefit from the strategy, hospitals do too — in fewer repeat visits to emergency departments, the doctor contends.

With the theme, *Uber-Bold: Moving Health Care Beyond Incremental Change*, the 2016 annual meeting offers members a chance to expand their horizons with education, networking, idea-exchange and recreation opportuni-

ties. Members can book at a discounted rate by submitting registration and payment information by Friday, Feb. 5. To learn more and to register, visit [www.hasc.org/2016-hasc-annual-meeting](http://www.hasc.org/2016-hasc-annual-meeting).

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## HBA Trust Offers Members, Brokers Options

The association this week welcomes a new endorsed business partner, The Healthcare Benefits Alliance (HBA) Trust. The HBA Trust offers hospitals and health systems access to group insurance coverage designed exclusively for the health care industry.

Instead of competing with existing brokers, the HBA Trust welcomes existing brokers to the program.



Based in Denver, the Trust covers over 800 health care entities and close to 1 million employees for group life, group short term disability, long term disability, reinsurance, prescription drug programs and other group benefits. Its strength and scale creates opportunities for hospitals to increase purchasing power, balance risk, simplify administration and control expenses.

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