

SCHHRA

SC HEALTHCARE HUMAN
RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

SCONL

SC ORGANIZATION OF
NURSE LEADERS

SCASHRM+AHQ

SC CHAPTER OF AMERICAN
SOCIETY OF HEALTHCARE
RISK MANAGEMENT
+HEALTHCARE QUALITY

The New Wave: Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

Tuesday, November 3, 2026 | 7:45 am – 4:00 pm

Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center | 1101 Lincoln Street, Columbia 29201
Richland A&B rooms

Tuesday, November 3rd

7:45 am – 8:45 am	Registration & Breakfast with Vendor Partners
8:45 am – 9 am	Welcome & Introductions Ashley Capps , RN, NEA-BC, MSN, President SCONL VP Operations & CNO Tidelands Health Charity Gerald President SCHHRA Director Recruiting & Workforce Development McLeod Health Allison Hmurciak, MSN, RN President SC ASHRM+AHQ Manager Infection Prevention & Quality Beaufort Memorial
9 am – 10:00 am	Leading in the Intelligence Age: Understanding How AI Works So We Sharpen Our Judgement Bryon K. Frost, MD VP & Chief Medical Information Officer McLeod Health
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Machine Learning, Human Liability: The Legal Frontier of AI in Healthcare. Lauren DeMoss Shareholder MaynardNexsen

11:00 am – Noon	Growing Healthcare Cybersecurity Risks Through the Lens of the Recent Sandhills Medical Foundation Ransomware Attack. Karry Elson Cybersecurity Professor Anderson University Paulina Thornton Student Anderson University Brady O'Shea Student Anderson University
Noon – 12:45	Beyond the Wave: Getting Clear When Healthcare Won't Slow Down Will Johnson CEO CxO Advisors, LLC & Author of Max Out and Go Beyond
12:45 pm – 1:45 pm	Networking Lunch & Vendor Visits
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Turning Claims into Insights: Using AI to Improve Outcomes & Reduce Risk Tamara Rodriguez Director, Risk Management Antum Risk Mattie Mitchum Senior Vice President, Claims & Risk Management Antum Risk
2:45 pm – 3:15pm	SCHA Legislative Update Thornton Kirby President & CEO SCHA

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Registration & Fees Hospital Members & Non-Members

\$100 for members of SCHHRA, SCONL, or SC ASHRM+AHQ \$130 for non-members of SCHHRA, SCONL, or SC ASHRM+AHQ. If you are not currently a member, register at the non-member rate to learn more about us. We will begin recruiting new members in early 2027 and hope you will join in membership.

Sponsorships for Vendors – You must exhibit in order to attend – Limit 10 Vendor Companies.

If you are a SCHA Sponsor or Solvent Networks Sponsor/Partner, you receive a 10% discount.

Set up/ Tear Down

All booths are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Set up starts at 7:00 am, Tuesday, November 3rd. **SHIPPING INFORMATION**

If you need to have any items shipped to the convention center. [Click here](#) for shipping information. All sponsorships come with electricity.

Level 1 | \$2250

- 1 vendor table at prime location
- Company logo on advance and onsite materials
- Company logo scrolling on main screen.
- Advanced copy of registration list
- Recognition as prime sponsor at main registration area
- Complimentary registration for up to 4 company representatives, to include light breakfast and lunch, each additional rep is \$50.
- 1 company representative to make brief opening comments.
- Opportunity to host 1 follow-up educational webinar for SCONL, SCHHRA, & SC ASHRM+AHQ

Level 2 | \$1250

- 1 vendor table
- Company logo on advance and onsite materials
- Company logo scrolling on main screen.
- Complimentary registration for up to 2 company representatives, to include light breakfast and lunch, each additional rep is \$50.

To register for this or other meetings, visit the [SCHA web calendar of events](#). Select this event, view the agenda, and register online.

Registration and payment confirmation will be emailed to you once the registration process is complete. If you experience problems, please contact Kasey McCarty, kmccarty@scha.org

Nearby Hotel Accommodations: No room blocks or discount code

[Cambria Hotel Columbia Downtown the Vista](#)

[Aloft Columbia Downtown](#)

[Hilton Columbia Center](#)

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Substitution/Refund/Cancellation

Any registrant who cannot attend may send a substitute from the same organization by emailing Kim Wooten at kwooten@scha.org with the name of the substitute. The

registration fee is refundable if SCHA is notified of cancellation 5 business days before the event. No refunds will be issued past this date. No refunds issued for no-shows.

Special Dietary Needs

If you have any special dietary needs, please contact Kim Wooten at 803.744.3527.

Speaker Biographies & Course Objectives

Bryon Frost, MD, FACEP

Bryon K. Frost, MD, FACEP is Vice President and Chief Medical Information Officer at McLeod Health, where he oversees clinical informatics strategy, AI governance, and EHR optimization. His leadership has been recognized with McLeod's Pillars of Professionalism Award for "Efficiency and Value in Medicine."

Board-certified in emergency medicine and an Epic-certified informaticist, Dr. Frost has practiced emergency medicine at McLeod for twenty-three years. He earned his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and completed his emergency medicine residency at the University of Virginia Health System.

Dr. Frost chairs McLeod's AI Governance Committee and Physician Advisory Council. He led McLeod's system-wide evaluation and implementation of ambient clinical intelligence and has presented nationally on AI implementation and health IT strategy at venues including Becker's, AMIA, and HIMSS. He has also delivered a lecture titled "Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Practice: Core Competencies and Critical Risks" to many diverse audiences ranging from healthcare leadership to community organizations. His work on ambient AI vendor selection in health systems was published in *JMIR Medical Informatics* in June 2026.

Lauren De Moss

Lauren DeMoss advises healthcare providers nationwide on regulatory compliance, transactions, HIPAA, Medicare reimbursement, fraud and abuse, contracting, and operational matters, including Stark Law, the Anti-Kickback Statute, licensure, certificate of need, ownership changes, mergers and acquisitions, Medicare and Medicaid provider number transfers, ACOs, joint ventures, pharmacy benefit management, insurance regulatory issues, and Department of Insurance filings. She has been recognized by Chambers USA, Best Lawyers in America®, and Super Lawyers for her work in healthcare law.

Summary/Objectives

Machine Learning, Human Liability: The Legal Frontier of AI in Healthcare

Artificial intelligence is reshaping healthcare faster than the regulatory frameworks designed to govern it. This presentation will cover the current federal and state policy landscape — including FDA, HHS, and CMS guidance — alongside emerging case law addressing liability allocation among AI developers, deployers, and clinicians. We will examine the governance gap most healthcare organizations face when deploying AI tools and outline the key elements of an effective oversight framework, from bias auditing and model validation to vendor due diligence. The session will also address how existing legal regimes — HIPAA, anti-discrimination laws, and informed consent — apply to AI use cases their drafters never anticipated. Attendees will leave with practical steps to manage risk, structure AI vendor agreements, and prepare for the next wave of regulatory activity.

Karry Elson & Students

Karry Elson is a Cybersecurity / Technology management leader turned Professor with 30+ years of experience leading successful cybersecurity and technology teams at fortune 100 companies while working at Bank of America, Accenture, and Dell Technologies. Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and FAIR Institute Member focusing on Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC). He focuses on preparing cybersecurity students for the workplace that have both technical and people skills.

Paulina Thornton is a Junior Cybersecurity student at Anderson University. She is dual citizen of the United States and of Russia. Over the past summer she was gifted the opportunity to learn more about cybersecurity in the corporate world from IAT Insurance Group. She has her Security+ Certificate and will graduate in the Spring of 2028.

Brady O'Shea is a Sophomore Cybersecurity student at Anderson University with an interest in cybersecurity, criminal justice, and law. He works as a teaching assistant for the Security with Linux class at Anderson University and coaches competitive Lincoln-Douglas debate.

Summary/Objectives

Growing Healthcare Cybersecurity Risks Through the Lens of the Recent Sandhills Medical Foundation Ransomware Attack.

Healthcare organizations are increasingly targeted by sophisticated cyber threats due to their critical role in patient care, handling and storing Personal Health Information (PHI), and expanding digital environments. This session provides a practical overview of the healthcare threat landscape, using the recent Sandhills Medical Foundation, Inc. ransomware incident, as a real-world example to highlight how modern attacks can disrupt operations and expose common vulnerabilities. It will cover key risks across healthcare systems, along with actionable strategies to strengthen security controls, improve detection and response, and build resilience, which will equip attendees with potential steps to better protect operations and ensure continuity of care in an evolving threat environment.

Will Johnson

Will Johnson is an executive leader, advisor, author, and speaker with more than 30 years of experience in technology and more than 25 years in senior leadership roles. He is the CEO of CxO Advisors, where he works with executives and organizations to align strategy, culture, technology, and execution to drive measurable results.

Previously, Will served as Chief Information and Digital Officer of Tidelands Health, where he led enterprise technology, digital transformation, cybersecurity, and innovation. During his tenure, he strengthened the organization's security posture and helped establish a new paradigm for risk management and compliance, guiding the organization through significant change while balancing security, operational priorities, regulatory requirements, and business objectives.

Throughout his career, Will has led large-scale transformation, technology modernization, AI strategy, organizational change, and performance improvement initiatives across healthcare, financial services, technology, consulting, and product organizations.

He is the author of *Max Out and Go Beyond: Live Beyond Limits*, a leadership and professional development book focused on helping individuals maximize their potential and move beyond their current limits.

Will holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M University and an MBA from Johns Hopkins University. He is a Fellow of HIMSS and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Summary & Objectives:

Beyond the Wave: Getting Clear When Healthcare Won't Slow Down: Summary & Objectives:

Healthcare has never moved faster or asked more of you. Risk is everywhere. The technology reinvents itself before you've finished learning the last version. Margins are thin enough that every decision carries weight. The news provides something everyday that is hopeful then scary. Finally, your organization itself seems to change every single day — new mandates, new priorities, new fires — so the water never settles long enough for you to catch your breath.

What do you do? Most people swim harder, take on more, or try do whatever to keep the organization afloat.

Here's the uncomfortable question: while you're swimming that hard, are you actually going anywhere you chose to go?

There's a name for high-performing, valuable work that keeps you busy and celebrated but isn't carrying you toward your own vision. It's the swirl. It hides inside success, which is what makes it so dangerous — the wins are real, the recognition is real, and you can give your full effort and still drift further from where you meant to be. In an organization that changes by the day, the swirl doesn't just pull quietly — it churns. Every shift yanks you toward the newest urgent thing.

The good news is that the swirl has an exit, and you don't have to blow up your career to find it. In this session, drawn from his book *Max Out and Go Beyond*, Will Johnson will help you first recognize when you're caught in the swirl and then walk you through three practical ways to gain clarity and pull yourself back toward your own direction, even when everything around you keeps moving.

At the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the warning signs of "the swirl" — valuable, high-performing work that feels like advancement but isn't moving you toward your own goals — in themselves and the people they lead.
2. Explain how a constantly changing organization — shifting mandates, priorities, and technology — intensifies the swirl and pulls even high performers off their own direction.
3. Apply three practical moves for gaining clarity and getting out of the swirl, starting with defining the direction their work should actually be serving.

Thornton Kirby

Thornton Kirby is President & CEO of the South Carolina Hospital Association.

Before joining SCHA, Thornton practiced law as a healthcare attorney and worked as a hospital executive. He also served as Executive Secretary to the Board of Trustees for Clemson University. This unique combination of experiences has combined to make him a well-respected thought leader on state and federal healthcare policy issues.

Thornton also has extensive experience with governing boards. He has served on more than 50 boards, leading ten of them as chairman. His board service includes nine years of service on the board of Joint Commission International, including two years as Chair.

Thornton studied Government at the University of Virginia, and he earned his law degree at the University of South Carolina.

He is a frequent speaker on healthcare issues, and he was recently selected by Columbia Business Monthly as one of South Carolina's 50 Most Influential People.

Summary:

SCHA Legislative Update

This session will focus on legislative best practices & standards as well as current & proposed SC legislation as it relates to SC Healthcare.

Tamara Rodriguez, CSP, CIT, Director Risk Management, Antum Risk

Tamara Rodriguez found her passion for occupational safety and health nearly 20 years ago when she joined SCOSHA as a general industry Compliance Officer. After spending 10 years with SCOSHA, she moved on to be the Safety Manager for the Richland County Government in Columbia, SC before joining Antum Risk in 2019. She provides risk management consulting services to clients within the healthcare industry, working to help them reduce risks in the area of workers' compensation, focusing on employee safety and leveraging data used to track and trend injuries to aid in senior management's understanding of the ROI. Working closely with clients, she assists them in the development of their safety initiatives and provides safety and health training, onsite assessments, in-depth data analysis, mock inspections, and resources to ensure they are aware of trending topics as well as changes within the occupational safety and health space.

Mattie Mitchum, AIC, AIS, AIM, Senior Vice President, Claims & Risk Management, Antum Risk

Mattie is responsible for managing the claims and risk management operations for the workers' compensation and liability programs with a focus on optimizing claim processes, mitigating risks, and maintaining a high standard of service for all clients. Prior to joining Antum Risk in February 2000, Mattie worked in insurance-related positions for commercial insurers, third party administrators and self-insured administration for 13 years.

Summary & Objectives:

Turning Claims into Insights: Using AI to Improve Outcomes and Reduce Risk

This course explores how AI is transforming the way we analyze workers' comp claims. Participants will learn to use AI assisted root cause analysis to uncover the real drivers behind injuries and claims, strengthen claims handling through smarter review and audits, and turn raw claims data into insights that improve outcomes and reduce financial and compliance risk. Rather than replacing professional judgment, the tools covered here sharpen it, helping claims professionals catch issues earlier, make better informed decisions, and build a more proactive approach to risk.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Apply AI assisted root cause analysis to identify the underlying drivers of workers' comp injuries and claims, moving past surface symptoms to the factors that actually shape outcomes.
2. Evaluate claims handling and audit practices using AI supported review, so they can spot gaps, inconsistencies, and risk indicators earlier in the claim lifecycle.
3. Translate claims data into actionable insights that inform decisions, reduce financial and compliance risk, and strengthen future prevention efforts.