

PHYSICIAN LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Breakout Sessions

BREAKOUT SESSION 1:

This session is mandatory for all attendees and will be the only breakout offered for Session 1.

Group Practice Commitments (See event website for your assigned room location)

Presented by: Members of the Physician Roundtable, Professional Affairs Committee and physician leadership

In this session, physician leaders will review, reflect on, and discuss the newly established Ochsner Group Practice Commitments — the shared values and behaviors that define how we work, lead, and grow together. Participants will explore how these commitments—spanning patient-first care, integrity, compassion, inclusivity, excellence, and teamwork—can be practically applied across their teams and sites. The discussion will focus on aligning daily actions with these principles to strengthen culture, collaboration, and accountability throughout the group practice.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2 & 3:

Each attendee will select 2 sessions from the below list.

Care Variation Reduction: Vendor Consolidation (Orleans Room)

Presented by: Dr. Michael Maddox and Dr. Christopher White

In this session, physician leaders will discuss ways to align clinical excellence with fiscal stewardship by identifying opportunities to reduce variation and optimize vendor partnerships. Participants will explore how consolidating physician preference items can unlock significant savings while maintaining quality and outcomes, as well as the importance of active engagement and collaboration among front-line physicians, clinical councils, and service lines to drive system-wide alignment and accountability.

Cyber Pulse: Staying Secure in Healthcare (Lafayette Ballroom EAST)

Presented by: Wayman Cummings and Amy Trainor

In this session, physician leaders will be equipped with practical knowledge about how to safeguard patient information, protect their digital identities, and strengthen Ochsner's overall cybersecurity posture. Participants will learn about current threats facing healthcare organizations, best practices for password and data protection, and the shared responsibility each team member has in maintaining system security. The discussion will emphasize real-world scenarios and the physician's critical role in preventing breaches that could compromise care and trust.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2 & 3 (continued):

From Insight to Impact: Driving Results Through the Physician Scorecard **(La Salle Room)**

Presented by: Dr. Robert Hart and Dawn Pevey

In this session, physician leaders will engage in a collaborative review of the key asks raised by their peers around development of a current performance scorecard. Together, participants will review and identify priority opportunities and co-develop a practical “toolkit of actions” designed to drive improvement in the most critical metrics.

Leading with Compassion: Tools to Help with Serious Illness Discussions **(Vermilion Room)**

Presented by: Dr. Erika Diaz-Narvaez and Dr. Susan Nelson

In this session, physician leaders will discuss why improved communication skills are an opportunity to improve patient care and outcomes. Participants will review laws and ethics guiding end-of-life decisions, be introduced to the Serious Illness Conversation Guide as a structure for serious illness and prognosis conversations, discuss how to communicate recommendations confidently, and review how to document the conversations using MyDirectives.

Meeting the Med-Legal Headwinds Head On: How to Stay Out of Court in a Changing Practice Landscape **(Evangeline Room)**

Presented by: Meredith Miceli and Shelley Sullivan-Tynan

In this session, physician leaders will receive timely updates from members of our legal department on the most pressing legal and regulatory issues impacting medical practice today. Topics will include both open discussions and pre-selected insights that are relevant to physicians across all specialties. Participants will leave with practical insights to safeguard their practice, strengthen operational integrity, and ensure alignment with current laws and system policies.

Referral Excellence: Strengthening the Physician-to-Physician Connection **(Acadia Room)**

Presented by: Dr. Ari Cohen and Dr. Jody Morris

In this session, physician leaders will engage in defining what a true culture of referral excellence looks like at Ochsner. Participants will explore the evolving needs of referring physicians, both internal and external, and identify best practices to enhance collaboration, access, and communication throughout the referral process. Together, leaders will shape a shared vision for consistent, relationship-driven referral experiences that strengthen trust and improve continuity of care.

The Why Behind the No: Ending 'Non-Compliance' Through Empathy and Understanding **(Lafayette Ballroom WEST)**

Presented by: Dr. Veronica Gillispie-Bell and Dr. Richard Guthrie

In this session, physician leaders will learn the importance of asking "why" when patients say "no." By understanding barriers to care, participants can help patients navigate through the healthcare system with success by removing those barriers and improve outcomes.