



UCAOA Fall Conference Sets Record

■ P. JOANNE RAY

A record-high 450-plus professionals gathered in New Orleans in September for the UCAOA Urgent Care Fall Conference (see <http://www.ucaoa.org/?2015FallConference>). An updated education program boasted 60 business and clinical sessions and 5 hands-on workshops, providing a 360-degree view of urgent care center operations.

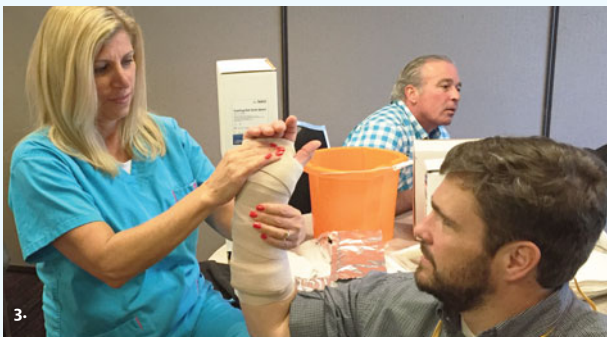
Extended exhibit hours, more sales and networking opportunities featuring 77 companies with more than 250 representatives, and Mardi Gras-themed festivities made for an extremely busy hall.

Keynote speaker Steven Berkowitz, MD, a national speaker and writer on healthcare management, addressed how to assist patients in the changing healthcare landscape by strategic partnerships with hospitals and systems, a focus on quality of care, and increased data transparency.

Legislative and regulatory consultant Camille S. Bonta, MHS, discussed how to stay abreast of state regulatory trends with the newly released advocacy tool, the CQ State Track, for UCAOA members (see <http://www.ucaoa.org/?page=CQStateTrack>).

Speaking by video, Louisiana Senator Bill Cassidy, MD, focused on urgent care cost-effectiveness through platforms such as TRICARE (<http://www.ucaoa.org/?TRICARE>) and Medicare Alternative Payment Models.

More highlights from the conference will be featured online (<http://www.ucaoa.org/?2015FallConference>) and in *UCAccess* (<http://www.ucaoa.org/?UCAccessIssues>), along with UCAOA education events (<http://www.ucaoa.org/?FutureMeetings>). The 2016 Call for Presentations will open on October 26 and will accept proposals for all 2016 education events. ■



1. UCAOA Accreditation Manager Joan Sampey (left) meets with Yasser Salem, Rama Aysola, Mohamed Salem, and Nishant Gandhi, DO, of Brooklyn Urgent Care (New York) at UCAOA Central. 2. Louisiana Senator Dr. Bill Cassidy speaks by video on cost-effectiveness and alternative payment methods. 3. Pam Sullivan, MD, instructs Brian Benson, MD, of Lake After Hours Urgent Care (Louisiana) during the Hands-On Splinting and Casting course. 4. Wade Blomgren (second from left), of DocuTAP, talks with Deana Barcus, Lena Meier, and Kallie Gordon of Kootenai Urgent Care (Idaho).



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