

**KidneyBee**  
*Summit* 2026

# KidneyBee Summit 2026

**July 14-16, 2026**

## **Children's Hospital Colorado**

Anschutz Medical Campus | Medical Conference and Education Center  
13123 East 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Aurora, Colorado 80045

## **Provided by**

Children's Hospital Colorado, Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy Program

## **In collaboration with**

Children's of Alabama, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center,  
and University of Iowa, Stead Family Children's Hospital



**Children's Hospital Colorado**



Affiliated with  
University of Colorado  
Anschutz Medical Campus

# KidneyBee Summit 2026

## Overview and Target Audience

The KidneyBee Summit is a dynamic, interdisciplinary conference dedicated to advancing the science and practice of pediatric Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) and acute kidney support. Designed for nurses, advanced practice providers, and physicians, the program blends practical application, emerging therapies, and collaborative strategy to improve outcomes for critically ill children. Attendees will engage in case-based discussion and expert-led sessions that strengthen clinical decision-making, technical proficiency, and team-based care.

## Learner Outcomes

After participating in the conference, learners will be able to: Identify current evidence-based practices relevant to CRRT management and bedside care. Describe standardized approaches to troubleshooting common CRRT challenges. Report increased confidence in participating in multidisciplinary CRRT discussions and decision-making. Identify at least one concept or strategy they intend to apply in their clinical practice.

## Agenda

### Tuesday, July 14, 2026

#### Base Camp - Pre-Conference

*Spend the morning building a practical foundation in pediatric CRRT, including machine fundamentals, alarm troubleshooting, prescription design, and integration with ECMO and other extracorporeal therapies. In the afternoon, apply those concepts during an interactive, team-based case study workshop spanning prescription through de-escalation. Designed for both newer and experienced clinicians, this pre-conference emphasizes hands-on learning, clinical reasoning, and interdisciplinary collaboration.*

7:00 a.m.

#### Registration, Check-in and Breakfast

8:00 – 8:50

#### Basecamp Equipment Check: CRRT Machine Fundamentals

*Amanda Snyder MSN, APRN-CNP, CNL  
David Zolezzi, MSPAS, PA-C*

9:00 – 9:50

#### Trail Hazards: Navigating Alarms and Troubleshooting

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN  
Katie Plomaritas, BSN, RN*

10:00 – 10:50

#### Designing the Trail Map: Crafting CRRT Prescriptions

*Theresa Mottes, MSN, APRN, CDN  
Brynna Van Wyk, ARNP, MSN*

11:00 – 11:50

#### Crossing Terrain Types: Integrating Tandem Therapies

*Jolyn Morgan, DNP, APRN-CNP, CDN  
Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC  
Sara Sullivan*

11:50 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Lunch** – provided

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**Breakout Sessions** – Choose one to attend - optional

1:00 – 2:20 | **Breakout 1**

#### Advanced CRRT Procedures | Prime Lab

*Katherine Lewandowski, MSN, CCRN  
Calette Thomas, BSN, RN, CPN, CCRN*

1:00 – 3:30 | **Breakout 2**

#### CRRT Track and Field

*KidneyBee Founders*

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3:30 – 4:15

#### Workshop: Interactive CRRT Case Studies

*Jolyn Morgan, DNP, APRN-CNP, CDN  
Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC  
Amanda Snyder MSN, APRN-CNP, CNL  
Brynna Van Wyk, ARNP, MSN  
David Zolezzi, MSPAS, PA-C*

4:15

#### Adjourn Base Camp Pre-Conference

## Tuesday, July 14, 2026

### **KidneyBee Summit 2026 Opening Ceremony**

4:30 – 4:40

#### **Opening remarks: Welcome to the Summit**

*Michele Pietras MS, MBA, RN, NEA-BC*

4:40 – 4:55

#### **"The Flight of the KidneyBee"**

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

4:55 – 5:10

#### **Building the Hive: Nursing-Provider Partnerships in CRRT Programs**

*Stuart Goldstein, MD, FAAP, FNKF*

5:10 – 6:00

#### **Keynote**

*Theresa Mottes, MSN, APRN, CDN*

6:00

#### **Welcome Reception**

## Wednesday, July 15, 2026

### **Main Plenary Sessions**

7:00 a.m.

#### **Registration, Check-in, and Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:15

#### **The Expedition Team: Care Models, Communication, and Collaboration**

*Amanda Snyder, MSN, APRN-CNP, CNL*

8:15 – 8:35

#### **Building the Basecamp: Program Infrastructure and the CRRT Clinician Journey**

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

8:35 – 8:55

#### **AKI Fundamentals: Understanding the Landscape**

*Weiwen Vivian Shih, MD*

8:55 – 9:10

#### **The Altitude Guide: Physiology and Modalities in CRRT**

*Amanda Snyder, MSN, APRN-CNP, CNL*

9:10 – 9:30

#### **Gear Check: Devices, Filters, and What's in the Pack**

*Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC*

9:30 – 9:45

#### **Setting Your Anchor: Mastering Vascular Access**

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

9:45 – 10:00

#### **Safe Launch from Basecamp: Best Practices for Initiating CRRT**

*Katie Plomaritas, BSN, RN*

10:00 – 10:15

#### **Coffee Break**

10:15 – 10:30

#### **The Smallest Climbers: Neonatal AKI and Outcomes**

*Cara Slagle, MD, MS*

10:30 – 10:50

#### **Climbing with Caution: CRRT in the Cardiac Patient**

*Katja (Kat) Gist, DO, MSc, FAHA*

*Amelia Wirth, RN*

10:50 – 11:05

#### **Storms on the Ridge: Understanding Sepsis-Related AKI**

*Aadil Kakajiwala, MD, MSCl*

11:05 - 11:20

#### **Finding Your Footing: Biomarkers and Fluid Balance on Unstable Ground**

*Kyle Merrill, MD, MS*

11:20 – 11:35

#### **When the pack gets too heavy: Understanding Fluid Overload**

*Stuart Goldstein, MD, FAAP, FNKF*

11:35 – 11:50

#### **Customizing the Route: Personalized CRRT Prescription Strategies**

*Brynna Van Wyk, ARNP, MSN*

11:50 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

#### **Lunch – provided**

12:00 – 12:30 pm. – *During Lunch*

#### **From Trail Guide to Expedition Leader: Nursing Pathways in CRRT**

*KidneyBee Founders*

12:45 – 1:05

#### **Abstract Presentations**

1:05 – 1:20

#### **Tracing the Old Trail: The Evolution of Pediatric CRRT**

*Brynna Van Wyk, ARNP, MSN*

1:20 – 1:50

#### **Smoother Trails Ahead: Anticoagulation Principles in CRRT**

*Jolyn Morgan DNP, APRN-CNP, CDN*

1:50 – 2:05

**Fueling the Climb: Nutrition Strategies During CRRT**

*Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC*

2:05 – 2:25

**Beyond the Bedside: Intraoperative CRRT in Pediatric Care**

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

*David Zolezzi, MSPAS, PA-C,*

2:25 – 2:40

**The Family Expedition: A Journey of Resilience**

2:40 – 2:55

**Break**

2:55 – 3:15

**Climbing Higher: Continuous Quality Improvement in Pediatric CRRT**

*Theresa Mottes, MSN, APRN, CDN*

**Thursday, July 16, 2026**

**Simulation Day**

*Calette Thomas BSN, RN, CPN, CCRN*

*Katherine Lewandowski, MSN, CCRN*

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

Learners will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on high-fidelity simulation sessions designed to reflect real-world CRRT practice across care environments. Each simulation block is 3.5 hours in length and begins with a 30-minute hosted light breakfast or light lunch, followed by two immersive 90-minute patient simulations.

Each session will include both an Operating Room (OR) scenario and an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) scenario, each structured with a prebrief, high-fidelity simulation, and facilitated debrief to promote deliberate practice, critical thinking, and team-based learning.

**Separate registration is required for simulation sessions and must be completed in addition to the KidneyBee Summit registration.** Space is limited, and participants may register for one simulation session.

7:30 – 11:00 a.m.

**Session 1**

10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Session 2**

1:30 – 5:00

**Session 3**

5:00

**Adjourn**

3:15 – 3:30

**Building New Trails: Research & Collaborative Pathways to Better Outcomes**

*Katja (Kat) Gist, DO, MSc, FAHA*

3:30 – 3:40

**Closing Remarks and Adjourn**

*Sarah Franz, BSN, RN*

*Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC*

## Registration

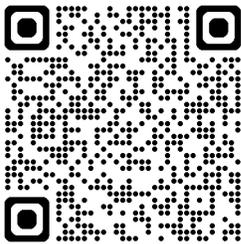
### Registration Fees

Learner Type	For the Conference	For the Simulation Day Sessions
Physicians	\$550 / person	\$50 / person
Nurses Other Healthcare Professionals	\$350 / person	\$50 / person
Children's Hospital Colorado Team Members	\$175 / person	\$50 / person

*Learners that would like to attend both the Summit and the Simulation Course must register for each separately.*

#### To Register for the Summit

[Click here](#) or scan the QR code to register

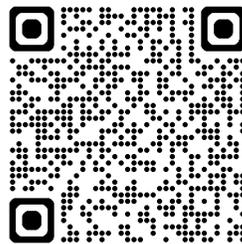


#### To Register for the Simulation Sessions

**Session 1** - [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to register



**Session 2** - [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to register



**Session 3** - [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to register



## Cancelation and Refund Policy

A registration refund, minus a \$10.00 cancellation fee, will be issued if the cancellation request is received at least 14 calendar days prior to the activity date. No refunds will be granted after this deadline or for non-attendance. However, a substitute may attend in your place if you notify the conference coordinator at least three days before the activity.

Children's Hospital Colorado reserves the right to modify the agenda or cancel the activity due to unforeseen circumstances. In such cases, a full refund will be issued to registered participants.

## Objectives

- Critically evaluate the capabilities and limitations of current pediatric CRRT platforms to inform technology selection and institutional adoption.
- Apply evidence-based CRRT prescription, troubleshooting, and de-escalation strategies in the management of critically ill pediatric patients.
- Collaborate across disciplines to advance, optimize, or advocate for improvements in pediatric CRRT program development and delivery within their institution.

## Abstract Submission

We invite healthcare professionals, researchers, and students to submit abstracts for poster presentations at the KidneyBee Summit 2026. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase innovative research, quality improvement initiatives, and best practices in the practice of pediatric CRRT and acute kidney support. Accepted abstracts will present a 5-minute podium presentation.

### Submission Guidelines:

- Abstracts should focus on topics related to the practice of pediatric CRRT, including but not limited to clinical practice, research, case studies, quality improvement, and education.
- Submissions must include a title, abstract (250 words max), and author information.

**Submission Deadline:** End-of-business on April 20, 2026.

**Notifications** will be sent out on May 11, 2026.

[Click here to submit your abstract and complete disclosures](#)

For questions, contact [sarah.franz@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:sarah.franz@childrenscolorado.org). We look forward to your contributions in the practice of pediatric CRRT and acute kidney support!

## Continuing Education Credit

**Registration, attendance,** and submission of the **evaluation,** including a written response to questions related to any change in practice that you may make as a result of learning that took place at this activity, are required for successful completion and receipt of the certificate of attendance. Claim only those hours you attend.

**Medical:** Children's Hospital Colorado is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Children's Hospital Colorado designates this live activity for a maximum of 12.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup> (The Summit, 7/14-15: 12.75 hours). Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Nursing:** Children's Hospital Colorado is approved with distinction as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by Colorado Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This educational activity for 15.75 nursing contact hour(s) (The Summit, 7/14-15: 12.75 hours | The Simulation Day, 7/16: 3 hours) is provided by Children's Hospital Colorado.

**Others:** Will receive a general certificate of attendance

**Disclosures:** Planners, faculty, and others in control of content (either individually or as a group) have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.

## Faculty

### **Sarah Franz, BSN, RN**

Clinical Program Manager  
CRRT Program  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Katja (Kat) Gist, DO, MSc, FAHA**

Assistant Professor, Pediatrics  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Pediatric Intensivist  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Stuart Goldstein, MD, FAAP, FNKF**

Professor, Department of Pediatrics  
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
Director, Center for Acute Care Nephrology  
Medical Director, Pheresis Service  
Co-Director, Heart Institute Research Core  
Cincinnati Children's

### **Aadil Kakajiwala, MD, MSCI**

Associate Professor, George Washington University  
Faculty, Children's National Hospital  
Department of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and  
Nephrology

### **Katherine Lewandowski, MSN, CCRN**

Clinical Education Special  
CRRT Program  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Kyle Merrill, MD, MS**

Clinical Assistant Professor  
Associate Medical Director Pediatric Dialysis  
Director of Acute/Inpatient Dialysis  
Division of Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation  
Stead Family Department of Pediatrics  
University of Iowa Health Care

### **Jolyn Morgan, DNP, APRN-CNP, CDN**

Clinical Manager, The Heart Institute and the Center for  
Acute Care Nephrology  
Certified Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Division  
of Nephrology and Hypertension  
Cincinnati Children's

### **Theresa Mottes, MSN, APRN, CDN**

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner  
Operations Director of Acute Dialysis & Pheresis  
Ann & Robert Lurie Children's Hospital

### **Michele Pietras, MS, MBA, RN, NEA-BC**

Director, Patient Care Services, North Metro Region,  
Network of Care  
North Campus | Uptown | Wheat Ridge  
Children's Hospital Colorado North Campus

### **Katie Plomaritas, BSN, RN**

Mott Children's Hospital, Michigan Medicine  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI

### **Calette Thomas, BSN, RN, CPN, CCRN**

Clinical Practice Specialist  
CRRT Program  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Weiwen Vivian Shih, MD**

Associate Professor of Pediatric-Nephrology  
University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Clinical Medical Director  
Attending Physician, Pediatric Nephrology  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Kara Short, MSN, CRNP, CPNP-PC**

Co-Director, NICKS  
Clinical Practice Coordinator, PICAN  
Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Acute Dialysis and Pheresis  
Team (ADAPT)  
Children's of Alabama

### **Cara Slagle, MD, MS**

Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics  
Indiana University School of Medicine  
Neonatologist and Associate Medical Director  
Simon Family Tower Level IV NICU  
Riley Hospital for Children

### **Sara Sullivan**

ECMO VAD Supervisor  
Children's Hospital Colorado

### **Amanda Snyder, MSN, APRN-CNP, CNL**

Nurse Practitioner, Division of Nephrology and  
Hypertension  
Cincinnati Children's

### **Brynna Van Wyk, ARNP, MSN**

Nurse Practitioner  
Stead Family Children's Hospital

### **Amelia Wirth, RN**

Clinical Practice Specialist  
Cardiac Intensive Care Unit  
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### **David Zolezzi, MSPAS, PA-C**

Physician Assistant  
Department of Pediatric Nephrology  
Children's Medical Center Dallas