

"Compassion Fatigue"

Caring for patients with complex issues can result in compassion fatigue. This usually begins with a gradual lessening of empathy for patients and an increased sense of indifference to their individual needs. This workshop will explore the concept of compassion fatigue in medicine, including factors that contribute to risk for burnout and others that improve resilience. Participants will engage in a large group discussion about these concepts, then break into smaller groups for case-based activities. Lastly, participants will work in dyads to discuss challenging encounters and develop strategies for improved resilience and ability to provide compassionate, empathic care for their patients.

Suzanne Harrison, M.D. is Professor of Family Medicine & Rural Health and serves as the Director of Clinical Programs at Florida State University College of Medicine. She is dedicated to the education and well-being of the students she teaches and mentors, and received the AMWA Exceptional Mentor Award in 2016. Dr. Harrison also serves as the President of the American Medical Women's Association, and in this capacity developed a Wellness Initiative with other AMWA leaders. She has committed years to the advocacy of those impacted by violence and abuse, leading AMWA's anti-trafficking committee for several years, Physicians Against the Trafficking of Humans. Dr. Harrison was inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society in 2015 and serves as the co-advisor for the Chapman Chapter of GHHS at FSU College of Medicine. She is married with 4 grown children, 3 adorable grandchildren and one very old and loving dog.