

## December RIA Grand Rounds

# Pediatric Triage: Understanding challenges and opportunities to improve Emergency Department Triage

**Dec 9, 2024**  
4 - 5 p.m. PST

### Speakers:

#### Dana Sax, MD

Emergency Physician and Adjunct Investigator at the KP Division of Research

Since joining the Permanente Medical Group in 2013, Dana has been the Principal Investigator or Co-Investigator on several multicenter studies on knowledge translation and clinical decision support through leverage of the information technology innovations available at Kaiser Permanente. This work has included emergency department (ED) decision support for patients with chest pain. Her two main areas of focus over the past five years have been around ED triage processes and heart failure care and outcomes in the ED.

#### Tina Vitale-McDowell, MSN, RN, CPEN, PECC

Emergency Department Director at Kaiser San Rafael

Tina Vitale-McDowell started her Kaiser Journey in 2001 as an Emergency Department Nurse at KP Oakland, she is currently Service Director of the San Rafael Emergency Department. Her role as Regional Pediatric Emergency Care Coordinator has provided her an opportunity to work on initiatives such as Pediatric Sepsis, National Pediatric Readiness and most recently studying Triage processes across KPNC with Dr Sax. Her passion for improvements in systems safety and patient safety led to her studying Human and Operational Performance. Her use of Learning Teams as a method to understand work as done has been instrumental in identifying how context drives behavior in our everyday experience.

### Course Objectives

1. Present findings on rates of under- and over-triage among pediatric and adult emergency department patients, and characteristics associated with mis-triage.
2. Explain how Learning Teams are being used to deepen our understanding of how triage is performed across KPNC EDs currently, as well as barriers and opportunities to improving triage processes.
3. Explore how use of prediction models might be used to assist triage nurses by providing useful clinical information at the point of care and allowing nurses to focus more on clinical assessments.

### Scan to Register



Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number 2365, for 1 contact hour. **KP California nurses only.**