Accurate diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias, particularly atrial fibrillation and flutter, is a common area of concern for primary care physicians and a major focus in this activity. Although common, some drug therapies have significant toxicities. Updated information regarding anticoagulation, a common method of treating atrial fibrillation, and its effectiveness will be reviewed. Another topic of discussion will be ablation therapy, now a more mature therapeutic option, through data regarding the longitudinal effectiveness of this therapy has altered the perception as to who is a good candidate for this treatment modality. Breakout sessions regarding electrocardiogram interpretation will be offered to help facilitate accurate interpretations of arrhythmias and other electrocardiogram-related findings.

Final medications adherence, particularly for more complex medications such as antihypertensives or heart failure medications remains an ongoing barrier, as does the cost of these medications, both of which will be addressed in a breakout session. Several new findings have also been released in the last year regarding the treatment of heart failure. Most important is mitral regurgitation and aortic stenosis, which will be reviewed to update providers on new knowledge from recent trials and guidelines.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of the activity, the healthcare team will be able to:
1. Identify best practices for the treatment of hypertension both in the elderly and across the entire age spectrum.
3. Discuss the implications of patient initiated activities such as self-directed diets and exercise training.
4. Describe the implications of the new guidelines for treatment of cholesterol and various lipid abnormalities in children.
5. Review new and existing information on the role of medication adherence.
7. Distinguish the new areas of management of patients with coronary artery disease in acute and chronic situations.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of interpretation of ECGs.