

Jesse Jacob, MD

Emory University School of Medicine and
Emory Hospital

Dr. Jacob pursued his undergraduate education at Johns Hopkins University and received his medical degree from the University of South Florida. He completed his residency and chief residency in Internal Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, followed by a fellowship in infectious diseases at the Emory University where he subsequently joined the faculty. Currently he is assistant professor of medicine and epidemiology. Based at Emory University Hospital Midtown, he serves as Hospital Epidemiologist and Director of the Antibiotic Stewardship Program. His research focuses on three areas of healthcare epidemiology: antibiotic optimization, prevention of transmission of infection with a focus on the environment, and assessing risk factors and outcomes for infections with multidrug resistant organisms. He has authored or co-authored over 30 peer-reviewed articles and contributed to numerous national and international symposia and conferences.

Cindy Prosnak, BSN, RN, CIC

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Cindy Prosnak is the Technical Advisor for Infection Prevention at Alliant GMCF, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) for Georgia. She is a graduate of Oxford College of Emory University and the Medical College of Georgia School of Nursing. Cindy has been board-certified in Infection Control and Epidemiology (CIC) since 2006. Her nursing background includes medical-surgical, intensive care, emergency department, IV team, home health, clinical education, and quality review. She was the Director of Infection Control and Employee Health at McDuffie Regional Medical Center in Thomson, Georgia from 2003 until the beginning of 2010 when she joined the staff of Alliant GMCF. Cindy is an active member of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) and the Georgia Infection Prevention Network (GIPN). She is a past president of the Augusta, Georgia APIC Chapter and has served on the GIPN Executive Board of Directors as Board Treasurer, Secretary, and Chairperson. Currently, Cindy works with Alliant GMCF to assist Georgia hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare providers with quality initiatives involving infection prevention and control as put forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Cindy has worked with the Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH), Healthcare Facilities Regulatory Division (HRFD), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Georgia Healthcare Association (GHCA) to design and implement infection prevention and control guidelines and training to long term nursing facilities in Georgia. She works with the Georgia Hospital Association (GHA) and the Georgia Department of Public Health to provide education offerings involving infection prevention and control topics. She is a member of the Region 6 ESRD Network HAI Advisory Board, and also is a member of the State of Georgia Healthcare Associated Infection Advisory Committee (GAHAIAC), where she works on the subcommittee on Antimicrobial Stewardship. Cindy and her husband, Mark, enjoy country living in their home near Augusta, Georgia, and visiting their daughter and son-in-law in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Nancy Fendler, Technical Advisor, Learning & Action Networks

Nancy joined Alliant GMCF, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Georgia, in February, 2010. As the Technical Advisor for Learning & Action Networks, Nancy's focus is on the Nursing Home Learning Collaborative that commenced February 2013. Nancy has worked with Georgia hospitals and nursing homes on several initiatives for Patient Safety including pressure ulcer reduction, physical restraint reduction, collaboratives to decrease the rate of C. difficile and CRE in specific communities and most recently, a statewide effort to reduce unnecessary use of antipsychotics in long term care. Other initiatives include working with the NY QIO Medication Reconciliation project, reduction of 30-day hospital readmissions, TeamSTEPPS training and INTERACT II training.

Nancy has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Georgia and is a member of the Southeast Association of Facilitators, Past President of Lincoln L.O.G.S. Toastmasters Club, and a certified TeamSTEPPS trainer. Prior to joining the Alliant GMCF team, Nancy spent twenty-two years in the long term acute care hospital arena serving in clinical and management roles with emphasis in the areas of Clinical Dietetics, Risk Management, Hospital/Patient Safety, Accreditation and Quality Improvement.