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Dr. Heather Coats Appointed Director of Research for HPNA

The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Heather Coats as Director of Research for HPNA through a collaboration with the University of Colorado. We are excited to have Dr. Coats join our team.

Dr. Heather Coats, a Palliative Care Adult Nurse Practitioner, joined the University of Colorado College of Nursing at the Anschutz Medical Campus as an Assistant Professor in July 2017 with more than 20 years of clinical experience in palliative, oncology, and hospice care. Prior to joining the faculty, she completed a two-year postdoctoral NIH/NHLBI T32 fellowship at the University of Colorado College of Nursing at the Anschutz Medical Campus, and she was a NINR predoctoral fellow during her doctoral education at the University of Arizona, College of Nursing, where she received the Outstanding Dissertation Award. Her research interests focus on improving psychological-social-spiritual well-being through the development of narrative interventions with patients and families living with serious illnesses.

“HPNA is very excited to have Dr. Coats join our team and oversee research—one of our pillars of excellence. Dr. Coats will focus on the further growth and development of research within HPNA through member engagement, collaborations, and mentoring. Her skills and experience as a clinician and researcher will be a great addition to our team as we continue to advance expert care in serious illness,” said Marika Haranis, MSN, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, ACHPN and Senior Vice President HPNA Clinical Operations/Chief Clinical Officer.

About the Enterprise

HPNA was established in 1986 and is the national professional organization that represents the specialty of hospice and palliative nursing, which has more than 10,500 members and 50 chapters nationally. HPNA supports the profession through education programs, research initiatives, and advocacy. The goal of the organization is to advance expert care in serious illness.

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Page 1 of 1