

Please join us for the 2026

## UM Aging Initiative Symposium:

# Stress, Resiliency, and Health in Later Life

Thursday, March 26, 2026

8:00 am – 3:30 pm

UM Biomedical Science  
Research Building (BSRB)

Kahn Auditorium

109 Zina Pitcher Place  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

### Now accepting poster abstracts!

Studies of any topic relevant to health and aging are welcome. Please submit abstracts of 250 words or less by Thursday, March 12th

### Registration is required

Register/submit a poster abstract using the QR code or link below



<https://forms.gle/VzRVnoGsLuHDNgdL9>

#### UM Aging Initiative Research Centers

Michigan Center on the Demography of Aging (MiCDA)

Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center (Pepper Center)

Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR)

Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC)

Michigan Center for Contextual Factors in Alzheimer's Disease (MCCFAD)

Center to Accelerate Population Research in Alzheimer's (CAPRA)

Roybal Center for Promoting Adherence to Behavior Change & Enhancing Cognitive Function (Roybal Center)

8:00am - 9:00am Breakfast, Registration, and Poster Setup

9:00am - 9:15am Welcome (Pepper Center)

9:15am - 10:00am Keynote Presentation and Q&A



*Promoting Adherence to Behavior Change & Enhancing Cognitive Function in Middle-Aged and Older Adults*

David Conroy, PhD

10:00am – 11:00am – Session 1 (Pepper Center/MiCDA)

10:00 am Grace Noppert, PhD, MPH, MA

*Depression, Disconnection, and the Aging Immune System: Population-Level Evidence*

10:20 am Helen Meier, PhD, MPH

*Aging Under Stress: Biological Markers of Social Vulnerability*

10:40 am Panel Discussion (MCCFAD/Roybal Center)

Florence Johnson, PHD; Libby Benson, PhD

11:00am - 12:00pm - Poster Session in BSRB Atrium

12:00am - 1:00pm - Networking & Lunch in ABC Seminar Rooms

1:00pm – 2:00pm – Session 2 (MCUAAAR/CAPRA)

1:00 pm Briana Mezuk, PhD

*Sense-making in the Acute Aftermath of Older Adult Suicide Deaths: An Application of Large Language Models*

1:20 pm Monica Walters, PhD, MA

*Multidomain Workplace Stressors and Cognition in Older Adults*

1:40 pm Panel Discussion (Pepper Center/MiCDA)

Aleda Leis, PhD; Noah Webster, PhD

2:00pm – 3:00pm – Session 3 (MADRC/Roybal Center)

2:00 pm Amanda Maher, PhD, MS

*Age-related Cognitive Decline is not inevitable: Early findings from the SuperAging Research Initiative*

2:20 pm David Almeida, PhD

*Daily Stress as the Speedometer of Life: How Big Little Things Affect Your Health*

2:40 pm Panel Discussion (MCUAAAR/CAPRA)

Kimson Johnson, PhD; Ana Montoya, MD

3:00pm - 3:30pm - Poster Awards & Closing

Please contact Ryan McCleery with questions at [rmccleer@med.umich.edu](mailto:rmccleer@med.umich.edu)

