About the Presenter:

David Hood is a partner at Russell Phillips & Associates, LLC. He is the Vice Chair of the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) Healthcare Section Codes & Standards Committee, the Chair of the NFPA Healthcare Education Committee, a member of the Life Safety Committee for the American Health Care Association (Long-term care), a member of NFPA 1600 (Healthcare representative) and an alternate member on the NFPA 101 Technical Committee on Healthcare Occupancies. David also has fire service experience at the Company Officer level in both Prince George’s County, MD and Monroe County, NY. He has a degree in Fire Protection Engineering from the University of Maryland and is a member of the NFPA, the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE) and American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE).
Abstract Summary:
The past several years have shown a number of fires and other disasters involving the loss of life, serious injury or evacuation in healthcare facilities.

- Two (2) nursing home fires in 2003 took the lives of 31 total residents.
- An average of two (2) surgical fires per week are occurring on or in the patient rooms at hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers (this includes operating rooms, cardiac catheterization labs, C-section rooms, etc).
- Hurricanes in 2004 caused the evacuation of multiple hospitals and nursing homes as preventative measures and during moments of crisis.
- A federal report in July 2004, cited insufficient Life Safety inspections—"State and federal oversight of nursing home fire safety is inadequate."

Abstract Outline:
Fires in healthcare facilities provide a unique challenge to the fire service. Full building evacuation is generally not a viable option for most situations. Close cooperation between facility staff and firefighters is essential if a fire forces evacuation of non-ambulatory patients and/or patients connected to medical equipment.

Russell Phillips & Associates, LLC has provide healthcare fire and disaster consultant and training since 1976 and services 1,300 healthcare facilities in the United States and Canada. They specifically write facility-wide and department-specific fire procedures and train facility staff in such procedures through realistic hands-on training methods.

With healthcare being such a unique occupancy, close coordination is obviously required between healthcare facilities and their local fire departments.