

CME opportunity

Pittsburgh Spine Summit

August 7-9, 2025
Allegheny General Hospital
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sponsored by:
Allegheny Health Network Neuroscience Institute
Allegheny General Hospital
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Conference overview

The Pittsburgh Spine Summit is an annual meeting devoted to advancing the field of spine surgery through the exposition of relevant spine surgical skills, advanced technologies and complications from master spine surgeons. The program is designed for senior-level residents and early-career spine surgeons from both Neurosurgery and Orthopedic Surgery backgrounds. Physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and other physicians involved in the care of patients with spinal disease are also encouraged to attend. This will be an in-person hands-on laboratory and didactic event, with the option for attendees to participate in the didactic portion virtually.

The course will consist of:

- Lectures from world-renowned invited faculty discussing their most complicated cases
- Presentation of standard and advanced approaches for the thoracolumbar and cervical spine
- Hands-on cadaver dissection sessions which will expose attendees to and reinforce their knowledge in the latest technology in minimally invasive surgical techniques
- Interactive case review sessions with invited faculty

Every year a host of preeminent surgeons take the stage to discuss their most thought-provoking lessons gained from their surgical experience. Past keynote speakers have included Volker Sonntag, MD; Hansen Yuan, MD; Arthur Steffe, MD; Edward Benzel, MD; and Hamilton Hall, MD.

Intended Audience: neurosurgeons, orthopaedic spine surgeons, residents, medical students, basic science researchers, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses and others interested in the latest advances in spine surgery.

Conference objectives

At the end of this course, attendee will be able to

- Practice complex surgical techniques
- Perform implant techniques
- Perform robot assisted procedures
- Describe osteobiologics and usage
- Demonstrate and apply advanced spinal techniques

CME accreditation

This conference will provide a total of 5.25 hours of education.

Friday: 2.75 | Saturday: 2.50

Accreditation

Allegheny General Hospital is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Allegheny General Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*

Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Disclosure Statement

In accordance with the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and the policy of Allegheny General Hospital, presenters must disclose all relevant financial relationships, which in the context of their presentation(s), could be perceived as a real or apparent conflict of interest, (e.g., ownership of stock, honorarium, or consulting fees). Any identifiable conflicts will be resolved prior to the activity. Any such relationships will be resolved prior to the activity. Any such relationships will be disclosed to the learner prior to the presentation(s).

AHN CME Website

<https://cme.ahn.org>

Program Agenda

Thursday, August 7

Sponsored Resident Surgical Skills Day (Non-CME)

- 11:00 a.m. Registration and Sponsored Lunch: Resident and Fellow Support, **Mary Dempsey**
- 12:00 –
4:00 p.m. Hands on Resident Skills Competition
- 6:00 p.m. Reception, Meet the Masters, Hyde Park Steakhouse

Friday, August 8

Sponsored Resident Lectures and Hands-On Cadaver Lab (Non-CME)

- 6:45 a.m. Registration
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast and Sponsored Lecture, **Jeffrey Dick, MD**
- 7:30 a.m. Cadaver Lab Morning Session
- 10:45 a.m. Sponsored Lunch Lecture **Brian Asmussen/Jennifer Serafin**), Magovern Conference Center
- 11:30 a.m. Cadaver Lab Afternoon Session

Official Spine Summit Kickoff

- 1:35 p.m. Welcome and Introduction, **Boyle Cheng, PhD**
- 1:40 p.m. Spine Surgery Complications Competition (**CME**), **Daniel Altman, MD/Alexander Yu, MD**
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Complications Talk 1 | John France, MD |
| Complications Talk 2 | Jeffrey Dick, MD |
| Complications Talk 3 | Jakob Godzik, MD |
| Complications Talk 4 | Douglas Orr MD |
| Complications Talk 5 | Douglas Beall, MD |
- 2:30 p.m. Break and Visit Exhibits
- 2:50 p.m. Spine Surgery Complications Competition Continued (**CME**)
- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Complications Talk 6 | James Billys, MD |
| Complications Talk 7 | Rani Nasser, MD |
| Complications Talk 8 | Stephen Pirris, MD |
| Complications Talk 9 | Paul Arnold, MD |
| Complications Talk 10 | Don Moore, MD |
- 6:30 p.m. Spine Summit Opening Reception, The Rivers Casino – Fort Pitt Room

Saturday, August 9

7:00 a.m. Registration and Breakfast

7:30 a.m. Cadaver Lab Workshop: Hands on With New Technologies, **Center For Surgical Arts Lab**

New Technology Lunch Session – Moderator: Alexander Yu, MD, (Non-CME)

11:30 a.m. State of Spine, **Robin Young, PhD**

11:45 a.m. Supporting Clinical Trials, **James Ryaby, PhD**

12:00 p.m. Neuromodulation, TBD

12:15 p.m. The Future Business of Spine, **Marc Viscogliosi**

12:30 p.m. TBD, **Shawn Adams, MD**

12:45 p.m. Mechanisms of Action Behind P15, **Jerome Connor, PhD**

1:00 p.m. Break and transition to Auditorium

Motion Preservation – Moderator: Alexander Yu, MD/Daniel Altman, MD (CME)

1:20 p.m. An Update on Long-Term Clinical Trial Outcomes for Cervical Motion Preservation Devices, **Gordon Mao, MD**

1:30 p.m. Cervical Deformity, **Rani Nasser, MD**

1:40 p.m. Posterior Devices, **Daryn Cass, MD**

1:50 p.m. PJK: Hybrid?, **John France, MD**

2:00 p.m. Rod Bending, **Jeffrey Dick, MD**

2:10 p.m. Segmental Plaining and Hybrid Cervical Surgery, **Ryan Johnson, MD**

2:20 p.m. Sagittal Balance in View of the Era of Motion Preservation, **Douglas Orr, MD**

2:30 p.m. Break and Visit Exhibits

Endoscopic Spine from A to Z – Moderator: Ryan Sauber, MD (CME)

2:50 p.m. The Role of MIS Procedures in Maximally Invasive Spine Surgery, **John France, MD**

3:00 p.m. Starting an Endoscopic Practice, **Ryan Sauber, MD**

3:10 p.m. Midcareer Surgeons Can Join the Endoscopic Spine Surgery Wave, **Stephen Pirris, MD**

3:20 p.m. Biomechanics of Endoscopic Spine, **Lisa Ferrara, PhD**

3:30 p.m. Who Wore it Best (Injections)?, **Douglas Beall, MD**

3:40 p.m. Total Eclipse of the Disc, **Matthew Myntti, PhD**

3:50 p.m. Panel Discussion

4:00 p.m. Break and Visit Exhibits

Degenerative Disk Disease: – Moderator: Douglas Orr, MD (CME)

4:20 p.m. Single Site Experience, **Alexander Yu, MD**

4:30 p.m. Research Coop, **Robin Young, PhD**

4:40 p.m. PnD in Spinal Applications, **Brett Schlifka, MD**

4:50 p.m. Intradiscal Therapies for the Future, **Chad Stephens, DO**

5:00 p.m. Pathomechanics of Early-Stage Lumbar Intervertebral Disc Degradation Leading to Discogenic Pain, **Thomas Hedman, PhD**

5:10 p.m. Closing Remarks, **Boyle Cheng, PhD**

6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Closing Reception, The Warhol Museum

Conference Director



Boyle Cheng, PhD

Director of Translational Research
Neuroscience and Orthopaedic Surgery
Allegheny Health Network

Conference Co-directors



Alexander Yu, MD

Assistant Professor
Department of Neurosurgery
Allegheny Health Network



Daniel T. Altman, MD

Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery
Allegheny Health Network

Invited Faculty



Paul Arnold, MD, FACS, FAANS

Professor and Chairman of Neurosurgery
Carle Illinois College of Medicine
Urbana, Illinois



Douglas Beall, MD

Clinical Radiology of Oklahoma
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



James Billys, MD

University of Florida
Tampa, Florida



Daryn Cass, MD

Assistant Professor, Neurological Surgery
Loyola University
Chicago, Illinois



Jeffrey C. Dick, MD

Expert Physician Evaluations
Minneapolis, Minnesota



Lisa Ferrara, PhD

Hypoid Ventures, LLC
Hendersonville, North Carolina



John France, MD

Professor and Vice Chairman
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia



Jakub Godzik, MD

University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, Alabama



Ryan Johnson, DO

Carle Neuroscience Institute
Urbana, Illinois



Gordon Mao, MD

Assistant Professor of Neurological Surgery
Indiana University Health Neuroscience Center
Indianapolis, Indiana



Don Moore, MD

Associate Professor Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri



Rani Nasser, MD

Assistant Professor of Neurological Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Cincinnati, Ohio



Douglas Orr, MD

Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic
Surgery Cleveland Clinic, Center for
Spine Health Cleveland, Ohio



Stephen Pirris, MD

Neurological Surgery
Mayo Clinic
Jacksonville, Florida



Brett Schlifka, DO, FACOS
Neurological Surgery
Jupiter Medical Center
Jupiter, Florida



Robin Young, PhD
Publisher Emeritus
Orthopedics This Week
Portland, Oregon



Chad Stephens, DO
Interventional Pain Management and Sports Medicine
Nobile Pain Management & Sports
Southlake, Texas

Allegheny Health Network Faculty



Jody Leonardo, MD
Professor of Neurosurgery
Director, Residency Program



Ryan Sauber, MD
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery



Daniel Myers, MD
Department of Neurosurgery



Matthew Shepard, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Neurosurgery



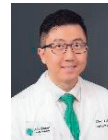
Michael Patterson, MD
Anesthesiology/Pain Management



Alexander Whiting, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Neurosurgery



Richard Prostko, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Neurosurgery



Chen Xu, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Neurosurgery

For more information or to register, email:

Michele.birgelen@ahn.org

CME accreditation

Allegheny General Hospital is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Allegheny General Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit TM. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in this activity.

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.