

CME opportunity

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# 1st Annual AHN Headache Conference

**Saturday, September 27, 2025**

**RLA Learning and Conference Center  
850 Cranberry Woods Drive  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066**

Sponsored by  
Allegheny General Hospital  
AHN Neuroscience Institute



## Conference overview

The inaugural AHN Headache Conference is a one-day course featuring presentations from various leading experts in headache medicine, highlighting the ever-growing landscape of headache management. The educational content will provide useful approaches for diagnosis and management of headache disorders and facial pain disorders by applying best practices in headache medicine. Learn about neuromodulation devices and other nonpharmacological options available. The event is ideal for primary care providers, general neurologists, fellows, residents, CRNPS, PAs, nurses, and all other allied health personnel.

## Conference objectives:

- Review the pathophysiology and diagnosis of headache disorder in adults and apply it to clinical practice and research
- Review, analyze, and discuss complex patient cases to improve quality and safety of patient care in management of headache in practice
- Develop multidisciplinary approaches to headache medicine including nonpharmacological treatments
- Devise strategies for diagnosing facial pain and other headache mimics

CME accreditation

Physicians

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

Approved for 6.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*.

**American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)** accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

**American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP)** accepts *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* from organizations accredited by the ACCME.

**The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)** states that the *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™* are acceptable for continuing medical education requirements for recertification.

CE for psychologists

Allegheny General Hospital is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists. Allegheny General Hospital maintains responsibility for the program and its content. This session is approved for a maximum of 6.0 APA Credits.

CE for social workers

Social workers may claim credits for attending educational courses and programs delivered by preapproved providers, such as the American Psychological Association (refer to CE for psychologists above).

For verification, please refer to Continuing Education Regulations §47.36(6)(ix) found at **dos.state.pa.us/social**. Certificates of attendance will be awarded following the conference provided a completed evaluation form is submitted.

CE for physical therapists

Application will be submitted for PA PT credits. Credits pending upon approval of application.

Non-physicians

Allegheny General Hospital has approved this activity for 6.0 contact hours for non-physicians.

Program agenda

7 – 7:55 a.m.	Registration, breakfast, and visit exhibits
7:55 – 8 a.m.	Welcome and course overview <b>Dolores Santamaria, MD, and Laxmi Shah, DO</b>
8 – 8:30 a.m.	What is migraine? <b>Dolores Santamaria, MD</b>
8:30 – 9 a.m.	Acute treatment of migraine <b>Laxmi Shah, DO</b>
9 – 9:30 a.m.	Why you should consider anti-CGRP treatments first for prevention of migraine <b>Jessica Ailani, MD, FAHS</b>
9:30 – 10 a.m.	Break and visit exhibits
10 – 10:30 a.m.	Medication overuse <b>Heather Moury, DO</b>
10:30 – 11 a.m.	Neuromodulation for headaches <b>Nestor D. Tomycz, MD</b>
11 – 11:30 a.m.	Occult CSF leaks <b>Jody Leonardo, MD</b>
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Lunch and visit exhibits
12:30 – 1 p.m.	Post concussive headache <b>Marco Antonio Alcala Jr., MD</b>
1– 1:30 p.m.	Pericranial neuralgias <b>Andrea Synowiec, DO</b>
1:30 – 2 p.m.	The headaches we see <b>Sarah Zambotti, OD</b>
2 – 2:20 p.m.	Break and visit exhibits
2:20 – 2:50 p.m.	Pain psychology: State of science and approaches to treatment <b>Leah Flaherty, PsyD</b>
2:50 – 3:20 p.m.	Cervical causes for headaches and physical therapy management <b>Erika Fisher, DPT</b>
3:20 – 3:40 p.m.	Cervicogenic headache: Is it still a migraine? <b>Stephen Samples, MD</b>
3:40 – 4 p.m.	Cases from the clinic <b>Meghan Piccinin, DO</b>
4 – 4:05 p.m.	Course adjournment

# Conference co-directors

**Patricia Haddas, BS, MSN, RN, CRNP, NP-C, AQH**

AHN Neuroscience Institute  
Allegheny Health Network

**Sarah Rowling, PA-C**

AHN Neuroscience Institute  
Allegheny Health Network

**Dolores Santamaria, MD, FAHS**

D.ABPN and Headache Medicine  
Director, AHN Headache Center,  
AHN Allegheny General Hospital  
Allegheny Health Network

**Laxmi Shah, DO**

AHN Forbes Hospital  
Headache Medicine  
Allegheny Health Network

# Invited faculty

**Jessica Ailani, MD, FAHS**

Director, Georgetown Headache Center  
Professor of Clinical Neurology  
Vice Co-Chair Strategic Planning Neurology,  
Medstar Georgetown University Hospital

**Marco Antonio Alcala Jr., MD, CAQSM**

Sports Medicine and Concussion Specialist  
Director of Sports Medicine,  
Pediatric Orthopedic Institute  
Team Physician, Pittsburgh Pirates  
Allegheny Orthopedic Associates  
Allegheny Health Network

**Erica Fisher, DPT, CLT, CCTT**

Oncology, TMD, and Orofacial Pain Specialist  
Outpatient Therapy Services  
Allegheny Health Network

**Leah Russell Flaherty, PsyD**

Pain Psychologist  
Clinical Director, AHN Empowered Relief Program  
Allegheny Health Network

**Jody Leonardo, MD, FACS, FAANS**

Associate Professor of Neurosurgery  
Neurosurgery Residency Program Director  
Director, AHN Adult Hydrocephalus Center  
Director, AHN Pituitary Center  
Assistant Director, Endoscopic Neurosurgery

**Heather Moury, DO, AQH**

Neurologist and Headache Specialist,  
St. Clair Medical Group,  
St. Clair Health

**Meghan Piccinin, DO**

Neurologist and Headache Specialist,  
Department of Neurology  
Allegheny Health Network

**Stephen Samples, MD**

Neurology System Chair  
Allegheny Health Network

**Andrea Synowiec, DO, FAAN**

Associate Professor of Neurology,  
Drexel University College of Medicine  
System Vice Chair, Department of Neurology  
Allegheny Health Network

**Nestor D. Tomycz, MD, FAANS**

Director, Stereotactic Functional Neurosurgery  
Director, Neurosurgical Pain Division  
Allegheny Health Network

**Sarah Zambotti, OD**

AHN Ophthalmology Clinic  
Salus University Optometry Clinical Preceptor  
AHN West Penn Hospital

## Disclosure of significant relationships with relevant commercial companies.

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

# Registration

Online registration can be accessed at **cme.ahn.org**.

Click on **Courses**, then scroll down or type **1st Annual Headache Conference**.

The registration fee includes course materials, continental breakfast, lunch, parking, and break refreshments.

## Fees

Fellow, resident, student, and patients: Free

Nurses, APPs, health care professionals, and social workers: \$35

Physicians: \$75

Early-bird registration offered through June 30, 2025.

## Registrant refund policy

Eligibility for a registrant refund is based on the following criteria. Please note, all registrants must email the CME Department at [ahncme@ahn.org](mailto:ahncme@ahn.org) within the specified time frames to be eligible for a refund. To receive a full refund, registrants must provide written notification to the CME department no sooner than 30 days of activity start date. Registrants that notify the CME department within 14 – 29 days prior to activity will receive a 50% refund.

30+ days prior to activity: 100% refund

14 – 29 days prior to acitvity: 50% refund

Less then 14 days prior to activity: No refund

## Learn more or have questions

Please contact Sherri Aufman in the CME office at **sherri.aufman@ahn.org** for more information.



Scan code for  
more information.

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