

# Liver Disease Treatment and Transplant Update

*Provider CME Education*

COURSE HANDOUT

*March 6, 2024*

*5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ET*

UPMC Montefiore | LHAS Auditorium, Seventh Floor  
3459 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213

This program has been planned in collaboration between  
Community Liver Alliance  
UPMC

# Introduction

## Program Overview

There is a diverse array of liver disorders affecting diverse populations and communities. There is an urgency to understand, diagnose, and treat them effectively. The landscape of liver health is evolving, and the future promises groundbreaking advancements that will redefine how we approach diagnostics and patient care. Innovation represents a path forward for liver health, offering hope for improved detection, personalized care, and enhanced patient outcomes. From a broader perspective, the economic implications are noteworthy. The costs associated with liver diseases not only encompass medical expenses but also extend to diminished productivity due to illness and the long-term burden of chronic care. It is a complex interplay between health and economics, and effective intervention at the right time becomes crucial for mitigating both individual suffering and societal costs.

Given the grave prognosis associated with advanced liver diseases and HCC, early detection becomes paramount. Our program explores strategies aimed to identify these conditions at a stage where interventions can be more effective. In cases where liver diseases progress to an advanced stage and no other therapeutic options remain, liver transplantation emerges as a lifesaving intervention. Liver transplantation is indicated for conditions such as end-stage liver disease, acute liver failure, or certain liver cancers. By establishing cross-disciplinary, cross-institutional partnerships and using collaborative endeavors, we can advance the discipline and guarantee a future in which liver health is not merely monitored but genuinely fostered.

Additionally, the course underscores the significance of fostering cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional partnerships in liver disease treatment. Collaboration with regional academic liver programs and nonprofit organizations serves to educate the medical community about advancements in liver disease management.

It has been observed that the interprofessional collaboration between physicians, nurses, and other members of the health care team increases the collective awareness of each other's knowledge and skills. Furthermore, by opening this educational program to physicians, nurses, advanced practice providers, primary care providers, transplant providers, and other allied health professionals, we will contribute to the quality of care through the continued improvement in decision-making. Unlike a multidisciplinary approach, interdisciplinary approaches have the advantage of coalescing a joint effort from different disciplines with a common goal to address a patient's health care problem. This pooling of specialized services is what contributes to lasting and effective integrated interventions. In addition, it has been demonstrated that improved interprofessional collaboration and communication are important factors which health care workers consider to be crucial in improving clinical effectiveness.

The landscape of liver health is evolving, and the future promises groundbreaking advancements that will redefine how we approach diagnostics and patient care. Innovation represents a path forward for liver health, offering hope for improved detection, personalized care, and enhanced patient outcomes.

We thank the program speakers for generously sharing their time and expertise, educating the medical community about the latest advancements in liver disease management. We consider our esteemed colleagues as valuable allies in the battle against liver diseases.

We also express our gratitude to our planning committee for their generous support of this program and our overarching mission. Additionally, we applaud our partners for their innovation and dedication to advancing the development of improved therapies, diagnostics, and cures for liver diseases.

Thank you for attending,

In health,

Margaret Andrzejewski, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Hepatology Physician Assistant  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases  
Course Director

Sarah Davic, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Liver Transplant Surgical Physician Assistant  
Starzl Transplantation Institute UPMC Transplant  
Services  
Course Director

## Learning Objectives

At course completion, attendees should be able to:

- Understand living liver transplantation protocols.
- Discuss medical topics as they relate to transplant patients.
- Discuss specialized surgical transplant interventions for patients with cholangiocarcinoma, HCC, and colorectal liver metastasis.
- Address barriers to liver transplantation and living-donor liver transplant, leading to enhanced patient care.
- Identify advancements in non-alcoholic and alcoholic liver disease screening, interventions, and treatments, with attention to liver diseases such as MASLD/MASH, cholestatic diseases.
- Foster the development of multidisciplinary and interactive models to treat liver diseases.


## Target Audience

This course is designed for providers in hepatology, gastroenterology, and abdominal and general surgery, referring primary care physicians, and other health care professionals with an interest in the treatment and latest research for liver disease and liver transplantation.

- 5:30 p.m. Registration and Refreshments
- 5:50 p.m. Welcome Suzanna Masartis, CEO Community Liver Alliance

6:00 p.m.  **Alcoholic Liver Disease**  
 Shahid Malik, MD  
 Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine  
 Program Director, Transplant Hepatology Fellowship  
 Co-Director, Liver Outreach Program  
 Moderator: Margaret Andrzejewski, PA-C

6:30 p.m.  **MASLD/MASH Update**  
 Jaideep Behari, MD, PhD  
 Associate Professor of Medicine  
 Director FLOW Clinic (Fatty Liver, Obesity, and Wellness Clinic)  
 Associate Director, Pittsburgh Liver Research Center (PLRC)  
 UPMC Center for Liver Diseases  
 Moderator: Margaret Andrzejewski, PA-C

7:00 p.m.  **Liver Transplantation Update**  
 Christopher Hughes, MD, FACS  
 Surgical Director  
 Starzl Transplantation Institute -  
 UPMC Transplant Services  
 Moderator: Sarah Davic, PA-C

7:30 p.m. Break/Refreshments

7:40 p.m. Breakout Sessions



**Breakout Session 1**  
**Fulminant Hepatic Liver Failure**  
 Naudia Jonassaint, MD, MHS, MBA  
 Interim Chief  
 Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
 Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs  
 Vice Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
 Associate Professor of Medicine  
 UPMC Center for Liver Diseases  
 Moderator: Margaret Andrzejewski, PA-C



**Breakout Session 2**  
**Liver Transplant Risk Score**  
 Michele Molinari, MD, MPH  
 Kidney Transplant Surgery, Liver Transplant  
 Surgery, Pancreas Transplant Surgery  
 Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute  
 UPMC Transplant Services  
 Moderator: Sarah Davic, PA-C



Margaret Andrzejewski, MPAS, PA-C  
 Supervisor APP  
 Inpatient Hepatology Physician Assistant  
 UPMC Center for Liver Diseases

**Course Directors**



Sarah Davic, MPAS, PA-C  
 Supervisor APP  
 Inpatient Liver Transplant Surgical Physician Assistant  
 Starzl Transplantation Institute UPMC Transplant  
 Services

8:10 p.m. **Panel Discussion - All Speakers**  
 Moderators: Margaret Andrzejewski, MPAS, PA-C and Sarah Davic, MPAS, PA-C

8:30 p.m. Closing Remarks/Adjourn



## Course Faculty



Margaret Andrzejewski, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Hepatology Physician Assistant  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases

Sarah Davic, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Liver Transplant Surgical Physician Assistant  
Starzl Transplantation Institute  
UPMC Transplant Services

Jaideep Behari, MD, PhD  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Director FLOW Clinic (Fatty Liver, Obesity, and Wellness Clinic)  
Associate Director, Pittsburgh Liver Research Center (PLRC)  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases

Christopher Hughes, MD, FACS  
Surgical Director  
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Naudia Jonassaint, MD, MHS, MBA  
Interim Chief, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs  
Vice Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases

Shahid Malik, MD  
Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine  
Program Director, Transplant Hepatology Fellowship  
Co-Director, Liver Outreach Program

Suzanna Masartis, CEO  
Community Liver Alliance  
Pittsburgh, PA

Deborah Maurer, RN, MBA  
UPMC  
Program Administrator, Transplant Services  
Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute

Michele Molinari, MD, MPH  
Kidney Transplant Surgery, Liver Transplant  
Surgery, Pancreas Transplant Surgery  
Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute  
UPMC Transplant Services

Susan Piccirilli, MBA  
Manager, Transplant Program Development  
Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute  
UPMC Montefiore

## Course Planning Committee

### Course Directors

Margaret Andrzejewski, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Hepatology Physician Assistant  
UPMC Center for Liver Diseases

Sarah Davic, MPAS, PA-C  
Supervisor APP  
Inpatient Liver Transplant Surgical Physician Assistant  
Starzl Transplantation Institute  
UPMC Transplant Services

### Planning Committee Members

Naudia Jonassaint, MD, MHS, MBA  
Interim Chief, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs  
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## Accreditation Information

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the University of Pittsburgh and Community Liver Alliance. The University of Pittsburgh is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

### Physician (CME)

The University of Pittsburgh designates this live activity for a maximum of 2.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### Nursing (CNE)

The maximum number of hours awarded for this Continuing Nursing Education activity is 2.25 contact hours.

### Physician Assistant (AAPA)

The University of Pittsburgh has been authorized by the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) to award AAPA Category 1 CME credit for activities planned in accordance with AAPA CME Criteria. This activity is designated for 2.25 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Other health care professionals will receive a certificate of attendance confirming the number of contact hours commensurate with the extent of participation in this activity.

### Faculty Disclosure:

All individuals in a position to control the content of this education activity have disclosed all financial relationships with any companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

All of the relevant financial relationships for the individuals listed below have been mitigated.

Jaideep Behari, MD PhD - Grant/Research Support from Pfizer, AstraZeneca, Gilead

No other members of the planning committee, speakers, presenters, authors, content reviewers and/or anyone else in a position to control the content of this education activity have relevant financial relationships with any companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

### Disclaimer Statement

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## How to Receive Continuing Education Credit

**Must be completed before March 21, 2024**

### Step One: Record your attendance

- Go to <https://cce.upmc.com/code>
- \*Login to your account
- Enter code: TAWHAY

### Step Two: Complete the course evaluation

- Go to **My Account, My Courses**, Choose **Pending Activities**
- Click on the course title then click the register/complete course button to complete the course evaluation

Certificates will be available to download and stored for future reference

**\*If you are a new user, access <http://cce.upmc.com> to create an account.**



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