

New Paradigms in Gastrointestinal Surgery and Medicine

Omni William Penn Hotel – 530 William Penn Place – Pittsburgh, PA USA

Reception: Friday November 8, 2024 5:30-7:30 pm

Conference: Saturday November 9, 2024 7:30-3:00

7:30 am *Registration/Breakfast/Exhibits*

8:00 **Welcome**

David S. Medich, MD and Robert E. Schoen, MD, MPH

Session I: Advancements in Colorectal Surgery

Moderator: David S. Medich, MD

8:10 **Advancements in CRC Surgery: The Art of Robotic Surgery**

Kellie Cunningham, MD

8:30 **“Watch and Wait” Approach to Rectal Cancer**

David S. Medich, MD

8:50 **Targeted Therapies to Enhance Rectal Preservation**

Vikram C. Gorantla, MD

9:10 **What Can Health Systems Do to Improve Quality, Safety and Patient Recovery?**

Jennifer Holder-Murray, MD

9:30 **Panel Discussion with Audience**

9:50 *Break/Exhibits*

Session II: Advancements in Endoscopic Therapy

Moderator: Robert E. Schoen, MD, MPH

10:15 **Endoscopic Management of What Used to be Surgical Disease:**

ESD for Large and Super-Large Polyps

Mohammed Othman, MD

10:50 **Panel Discussion with Audience**

Session III: Advancing Care to a Wider Audience

Moderator: Naudia L. Jonassaint, MD, MHS, MBA

11:05 **Strategic Update on How to Leverage Telemedicine for Integrated and Peri-operative Care**

Andrew R. Watson, MD, MLitt

11:25 **Inequities in Care**

Robert Tessler, MD, MPH

11:45 **Panel Discussion with Audience**

12:00 *Break/Lunch Buffet/Exhibits*

Session IV: Controversies in Care

Moderator: Adam Slivka, MD, PhD

Robert E. Schoen, MD, MPH

1:15 **Biologics are Making IBD Surgery Passé**

Marc Schwartz, MD

1:35 **We are Waiting Too Long to Operate in IBD**

Sean P. Whelan, MD

1:55 **New Insights in Diverticular Diseases**

Ravy K. Vajravelu, MD, MSCE

2:15 **Panel Discussion with Audience**

2:30 *Adjourn*

New Paradigms in Gastrointestinal Surgery and Medicine

All course faculty are part of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine unless noted otherwise.

UPMC Surgery – [Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery](#)

UPMC Medicine – [Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition](#)

Course Directors:

David S. Medich, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery
Chief, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery

Robert E. Schoen, MD, MPH

UPMC Endowed Chair in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology
Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Guest Course Faculty:

Mohammed O. Othman, MD

William T. Butler Chair for Distinguished Faculty
Professor of Medicine
Chief, Gastroenterology Section, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center
Baylor College of Medicine | Houston, Texas

Course Faculty:

Kellie Cunningham, MD

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Vikram C. Gorantla, MD

Hematology/Oncology
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center

Jennifer M. Holder-Murray, MD

Vice Chair for Quality Integration
Associate Professor of Surgery
Surgical Director, UPMC Center for Perioperative Care
Co-Director, Enhanced Recovery Program, UPMC

Naudia L. Jonassaint, MD, MHS MBA

Associate Professor of Medicine
Interim Chief, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, School of Medicine
Vice Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Dept. of Medicine

Marc Schwartz, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Co-Director, Total Care-IBD
Clinical Lead, UPMC IBD Center

Adam Slivka, MD, PhD

Professor of Medicine
Associate Chief for Clinical Affairs, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
Medical Director, GI Service Line for the UPMC Health System

Robert Tessler, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Colorectal Surgeon, VAPHS

Ravy K. Vajravelu, MD, MSCE

Assistant Professor of Surgery
Gastroenterologist, VAPHS
Core Faculty, Center for Health Equity Research & Promotion, VAPHS

Andrew R. Watson, MD, MLitt

Professor of Surgery, Division of Colorectal Surgery
Senior Medical Director, UPMC Insurance Services Division
Senior Medical Advisor, UPMC Enterprises
Past-President, American Telemedicine Association
US FDA, Digital Health Advisory Committee

Sean P. Whelan, MD

Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery
Chief of General Surgery, UPMC St. Margaret
Associate Program Director, General Surgery Residency