

23rd Annual Pittsburgh Vascular Symposium Comprehensive Vascular Care

May 21-23, 2026

Fairmont Pittsburgh Downtown
510 Market St. | Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



SPONSORED BY

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences
UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute

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VASCULAR INSTITUTE

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OVERVIEW

The 23rd annual Pittsburgh Vascular Symposium will provide evaluation and critique of the current standards of care and future directions in the treatment of the vascular patient with respect to medical management, endovascular, and open therapies. Focusing on both evidence-based medicine, as well as new innovations, the symposium is designed for primary care providers, cardiologists, interventionalists, and vascular surgeons caring for patients with arterial and venous disease in academic and community settings.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This course is designed for primary care providers, cardiologists, interventionalists, vascular surgeons, and other interested health care professionals who provide primary care services.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of the program, attendees should be able to:

- Explain evidence-based approaches for managing aortic, peripheral arterial, carotid, and venous diseases, including medical, endovascular, and open surgical therapies.
- Assess emerging technologies and techniques—such as AI applications, 3D printing, and telemedicine — and their impact on vascular care delivery.
- Critically review challenging vascular cases to improve problem-solving skills and enhance clinical judgment in high-risk or unusual situations.
- Discuss evolving trends in vascular surgery, including quality improvement, health care delivery models, and strategies for training the next generation of vascular specialists.



CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS



In support of improving patient care, 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 16 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Other Healthcare Professionals: 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.

WIRELESS INTERNET CONNECTION INFORMATION

For complimentary wireless internet access during the meeting, attendees should use the **Fairmont Meeting** wireless network and use the access code **UPMC2026** when prompted.

LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The conference will be held in the Grand Ballroom on the second floor of the **Fairmont Pittsburgh Hotel**, located at 510 Market St., Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

PARKING

Parking is on your own, and facilities are available across the street from the Fairmont Pittsburgh Hotel.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Participation by all individuals is encouraged. Advance notification of any special needs will help us provide better service. Please notify us of your needs at least two weeks in advance of the program by emailing **titchworthjs@upmc.edu**.

VISIT THE UPMC HEART AND VASCULAR INSTITUTE WEBSITE

The UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute invites you to visit our website at **UPMC.com/HVI**. Learn more about us and receive information about the conditions we treat, treatment options, specialty programs, services, research and education, our experts, patient stories, and locations.



THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026

9 a.m. **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

9:55 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Michael Madigan, MD

Session I: Vascular Care - Better Together

Moderators: *Katharine McGinigle, MD and Satish Muluk, MD*

10:05 a.m. **Preop anesthesia evaluation in the vascular patient**
Stephen Esper, MD

10:13 a.m. **ERAS and the vascular surgery patient**
Katharine McGinigle, MD

10:21 a.m. **Taking the stress out of stress testing before vascular surgery**
Suresh Mulukutla, MD

10:29 a.m. **How early referral to physical medicine and rehab can facilitate ambulation after amputation**
Elise Pearson, MD

10:37 a.m. **Surgical management of nerves in amputations**
Brodie Parent, MD

10:45 a.m. **Panel Discussion**

11 a.m. **Acute pain management of lower extremity amputations**
Charles Lin, MD

11:08 a.m. **Spine stimulators are a good option for intractable neuropathic pain**
Bryan Ryneerson, MD

11:16 a.m. **MALS algorithm: Who benefits from surgical therapy**
Ruy Cruz, MD

11:24 a.m. **Thoracic Outlet Syndrome: Choosing the optimal surgical approach**
Satish Muluk, MD

11:32 a.m. **When to intervene on popliteal aneurysms**
Kathy Gonzalez, MD

11:40 a.m. **Discussion**

Noon **Lunch**

Session II: Carotid, Vascular Lab

Moderators: *Mark Eskandari, MD and Mohammad Eslami, MD*

1 p.m. **Strategies for managing carotid disease in the radiated neck**
Desiree Picone, MD

1:08 p.m. **Does gender affect decision making for carotid disease?**
Kathy Gonzalez, MD

1:16 p.m. **Can imaging improve selection for treatment of asymptomatic carotid disease?**
Anthony Lewis, MD

1:24 p.m. **Defining a safe stump pressure threshold for CEA**
Mark Eskandari, MD

1:32 p.m. **CREST-2 proves what we knew all along, TFCAS is the best approach to asymptomatic carotid stenosis**
Gennedy Geskin, MD

1:40 p.m. **CREST-2 is unrealistic and does not impact modern clinical practice for asymptomatic carotid stenosis**
Mohammad Eslami, MD

1:48 p.m. **CREST-2 missed the best approach to asymptomatic carotid disease: TCAR**
Richard Redlinger, MD

1:56 p.m. **Discussion**

2:16 p.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**

2:30 p.m. **Break and Exhibits**

3 p.m. **Keynote Lecture: What is cooking in the BEST-CLI kitchen?**
Alik Farber, MD



THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026 (cont'd)

Session III: Venous/Dialysis

Moderators: *Efthymios Avgerinos, MD and Rabih Chaer, MD*

- 3:30 p.m. **The impact of interventions for submassive pulmonary embolism**
Belinda Rivera-Lebron, MD
- 3:38 p.m. **Think deeper in venous ulcer management**
Efthymios Avgerinos, MD
- 3:46 p.m. **Medical management and surveillance after deep venous stenting — is there any data?**
Elizabeth Andraska, MD
- 3:54 p.m. **Outcomes of radical nephrectomy and IVC tumor thrombectomy**
Mark Eskandari, MD
- 4:02 p.m. **Venous stenting in oncology patients**
Efthymios Avgerinos, MD
- 4:10 p.m. **Point: Stenting the left renal vein is reasonable with good long-term results**
Rabih Chaer, MD
- 4:18 p.m. **Counterpoint: Open management of nutcracker is the best solution**
Greg Steiner, MD
- 4:26 p.m. **Management of central venous stenosis in the dialysis patient**
Theodore Yuo, MD
- 4:32 p.m. **Discussion**
- 4:46 p.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**
- 5 p.m. **Thursday Adjournment**
Natalie Sridharan, MD
- 5 p.m. **Cocktail Reception in Ballroom Foyer**
Meet the Professors and Case Presentations by Fellows
- 7 p.m. **Dinner for U.S. and International Faculty**
- 7 p.m. **Resident and Fellows Outing**

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026

7 a.m. **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

7:55 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Michael Madigan, MD

Session IV: Aortic I

Moderators: *Kristina Giles, MD and Stéphan Haulon, MD*

- 8 a.m. **Infrarenal vs. Suprarenal fixation in EVAR: Does it really matter and how to choose it?**
Athanasios Giannoukas, MD
- 8:08 a.m. **Fenestrated branch EVAR for chronic dissection**
Stéphan Haulon, MD
- 8:16 a.m. **Algorithm for type II endoleak management**
Kristina Giles, MD
- 8:24 a.m. **Two, one, or none at all? Internal iliac artery preservation in endovascular aortic repair**
Georges Al-Khoury, MD
- 8:32 a.m. **Point: Physician modification is the gold standard for off-label treatment of visceral segment abdominal aortic aneurysms**
Yazan Duwayri, MD
- 8:40 a.m. **Counterpoint: In-situ laser fenestration should be a go-to procedure for off-label aortic aneurysm treatment**
Jonathan Bath, MD
- 8:48 a.m. **Preservation of the artery of Adamkiewicz and intercostals is essential to prevent SCI**
Laurent Chiche, MD
- 8:56 a.m. **Discussion**
- 9:16 a.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**
- 9:30 a.m. **Break and Exhibits**



FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026 (cont'd)

Session V: PAD I/Mesenteric

Moderators: *Anahita Dua, MD and Alik Farber, MD*

- 10 a.m. **Machine learning-based risk stratification scheme for chronic limb-threatening ischemia**
Katharine McGinagle, MD
- 10:08 a.m. **Pedal approaches for PAD interventions**
Kristina Giles, MD
- 10:16 a.m. **Point: Perimalleolar bypass is an art, saves legs, and is often overlooked as an option**
Steven Leers, MD
- 10:24 a.m. **Going out on a limb to save a limb: DVA is changing outcomes in limbs and lives**
Anahita Dua, MD
- 10:32 a.m. **Did modern registry results change how I use DCB and DES?**
Rabih Chaer, MD
- 10:40 a.m. **Autologous vein extremity bypass for trauma**
Alik Farber, MD
- 10:48 a.m. **Acute mesenteric ischemia: Is endovascular therapy first line?**
Britt Tonnessen, MD
- 10:54 a.m. **Discussion**
- 11:14 a.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**
- 11:30 a.m. **Keynote Lecture: Endovascular repair of the aortic arch**
Stéphan Haulon, MD
- Noon **Lunch**

Session VI: PAD II, ALI

Moderators: *Britt Tonnessen, MD and Jonathan Bath, MD*

- 1 p.m. **PAD screening: Who and How?**
Katherine Reitz, MD
- 1:08 p.m. **PAD in women — is lack of early recognition is leading to worse outcomes**
Lindsey Haga, MD
- 1:16 p.m. **Point: There are so many great thrombus removal devices - how do you choose?**
Johathan Bath, MD
- 1:24 p.m. **Counterpoint: Open thrombectomy is the tried-and-true solution to the cold extremity**
Britt Tonnessen, MD
- 1:32 p.m. **How to fight calcified lesions**
Natalie Sridharan, MD
- 1:40 p.m. **BTK: Evolving endovascular landscape**
Eric Hager, MD
- 1:48 p.m. **Groin infections: Don't panic**
Raymond Eid, MD
- 1:54 p.m. **Discussion**
- 2:14 p.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**
- 2:30 p.m. **Break and Exhibits**
- 3 p.m. **Keynote Lecture: Let's make it personal: Tailored thromboprophylaxis to prevent amputation**
Anahita Dua, MD



FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2026 (cont'd)

Session VII: Aortic II

Moderators: Athanasios Giannoukas, MD and
Laurent Chiche, MD

- 3:30 p.m. **Our center's transition from open surgical repair to EVAR for ruptured AAAs**
Athanasios Giannoukas, MD
- 3:38 p.m. **Point: Fix it Now! False lumen obliteration is important for treating acute Type B dissection**
Michael Singh, MD
- 3:46 p.m. **Counterpoint: Leave it for later - it'll grow anyway! False lumen should be addressed in the chronic phase of aortic dissection**
Mohammad Eslami, MD
- 3:54 p.m. **IMH represents a unique pathology and treatment algorithm**
Sophia Khan, MD
- 4:02 p.m. **Current approaches to endovascular repair of the thoracoabdominal aorta**
Nathan Liang, MD
- 4:10 p.m. **Interventions for failed EVAR, open repair or FEVAR?**
Yazan Duwayri, MD
- 4:18 p.m. **Use of fiber optic guidance to reduce radiation level during complex endo aortic procedures**
Laurent Chiche, MD
- 4:26 p.m. **Discussion**
- 4:46 p.m. **Case Presentation and Discussion**
- 5 p.m. **Friday Adjournment**
Nathan Liang, MD

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2026

7 a.m. **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

7:55 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Michael Madigan, MD

Session VIII: My Worst Case: What Would You Do?

Moderator: *Michel S. Makaroun, MD*

- 8 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Athanasios Giannoukas, MD
- 8:15 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Mark Eskandari, MD
- 8:30 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Anahita Dua, MD
- 8:45 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Laurent Chiche, MD
- 9 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Yazan Duwayri, MD
- 9:15 a.m. **Break**

Session IX: My Worst Case: What Would You Do?

Moderator: *Michel Makaroun, MD*

- 9:30 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Kristina Giles, MD
- 9:45 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Rabih Chaer, MD
- 10 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Efthymios Avgerinos, MD
- 10:15 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Katherine McGinagle, MD
- 10:30 a.m. **Unique and Challenging Case**
Jonathan Bath, MD
- 11:30 a.m. **Conference Adjournment**
Michael Madigan, MD



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