



Enduring Education Edition- Recorded
Event

THE PELVIC PAIN SYMPOSIUM

Presented by the UPMC Rehabilitation Institute in association
with UPMC Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology,
and Reproductive Sciences and UPMC Department of
Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital Auditorium
Friday, April 17, 2026

Intent and Overview

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.



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INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Physician (CME)

The University of Pittsburgh designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit[s]™. 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 5.0 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 5.0 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

This activity is approved for 5.0 APA credits.

*Other Healthcare Professionals: The course has been approved for 5.0 CEU's in PA for Physical and Occupational Therapists. **When you have completed course and quiz, please email hersickj@upmc.edu and you will receive a certificate of attendance confirming the number of contact hours commensurate with the extent of participation in this activity on completion of this course, approved in PA, candidates must self-submit to any additional State board for approval.***



Overview

The pelvis is a complex region with multiple potential sources of pain. This conference is a collaborative effort presenting leading experts in their respective fields, including Minimally Invasive Gynecology, Urogynecology, Anesthesiology Pain Management, Gastroenterology, Behavioral Health, Vascular Surgery, Orthopedics, and Physical Therapy to educate on the multidisciplinary approach required to offer patients superior care for a challenging array of etiologies.

Objectives

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Differentiate the broad etiologies of pelvic pain to support timely and accurate diagnosis in clinical practice.
- Collaborate effectively with physicians and healthcare providers across disciplines to coordinate comprehensive care for patients with chronic pelvic pain.
- Implement evidence-based strategies to improve patient care by:
 - Integrating multidisciplinary approaches into the evaluation and management of pelvic pain.
 - Streamlining referral processes to facilitate appropriate specialty care.
 - Expediting the diagnosis of common pelvic pain etiologies through coordinated assessment and care pathways.

Disclaimer Statement

The information presented at this program represents the views and opinions of the individual presenters, and does not constitute the opinion or endorsement of, or promotion by, the UPMC Center for Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, UPMC or Affiliates, and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Reasonable efforts have been taken intending for educational subject matter to be presented in a balanced, unbiased fashion and in compliance with regulatory requirements. However, each program attendee must always use his/her own personal and professional judgment when considering further application of this information, particularly as it may relate to patient diagnostic or treatment decisions including, without limitation, FDA-approved uses and any off-label uses.



Course Directors:

Joanna Hersick, PT, WCS	UPMC Rehabilitation Institute
Nicole Donnellan, MD	UPMC MIGS, Department of OB/GYN
Jocelyn Fitzgerald, MD	UPMC Urogynecology, Department of OB/GYN
Danielle Zheng, MD, PhD	UPMC Pain Management, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

Course Planning Committee:

Jonalyn Brickner, RN	UPMC Professional Staff Nurse, MIGS, Department of OB/GYN
Trista McMahon, CRNP	UPMC Women's Health Gynecology
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The UPMC Rehabilitation Institute

UPMC Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Sciences

UPMC Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine

UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital



Presenters:

Nicole Donnellan, MD	UPMC MIGS, Department of OB/GYN
Jocelyn Fitzgerald, MD	UPMC Urogynecology, Department of OB/GYN
Danielle Zheng, MD, PhD	UPMC Pain Management, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine
Susan Jarquin, PhD, MBA	UPMC Pain Management, Psychology
Alison Zeccola, MD	UPMC MIGS, Department of OB/GYN
Sarah Allen, MD	UPMC MIGS, Department of OB/GYN
Sun Jung Oh, MD	UPMC Digestive Health Care
Joanna Hersick, PT, WCS	UPMC Rehabilitation Institute, Lemieux Center
Elizabeth Leimer, MD, PhD	UPMC Pain Management, Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine
Noelle DiGioia Guthrie, DO	UPMC Department of Orthopedic Surgery
Shannon DiPietro, PT, DPT, WCS	UPMC Rehabilitation Institute, McCandless
Mylynda Massart, MD, PhD	UPMC Primary Care Precision Medicine
Natalie Sridharan, MD, MS	UPMC Heart and Vascular Institute (Vascular Surgery)

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

Dr. Fitzgerald discloses she is a consultant for Septerna Medical.

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.



“What’s Causing My Pain, Doc? Overview of the Differential Diagnosis of Chronic Pelvic Pain”

Nicole Donellan, MD

Dr. Donnellan is a minimally invasive gynecologic surgeon who has focused her career on improving the care of women with endometriosis and chronic pelvic pain. She founded and directs the UPMC Center for Endometriosis and CPP and is the leader of the benign gynecology biobank. Partnering with investigators at MWRI, the University of Pittsburgh, and beyond, she has developed a research network of a diverse group of scientists and clinicians committed to better understanding, diagnosing and treating endometriosis. Dr. Donnellan treats patients at the UPMC Magee, Cranberry, Bethel Park, and Erie sites.

“Surgical Management of Endometriosis”

Sarah Allen, MD

Dr. Allen is a minimally invasive gynecologic surgeon who specializes in chronic pelvic pain, endometriosis, fibroids, and complex benign gynecologic surgery. She is the director of the Fibroid Treatment Center, and Education Director of Gynecology for the Ob/Gyn residency. Dr. Allen treats patients at the UPMC Magee, Cranberry, Horizon, and Northwest sites.

“Medical Management of Endometriosis”

Alison Zeccola, MD

Dr. Zeccola is a board-certified Ob/Gyn and fellowship-trained Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgeon with a clinical practice focused on caring for patients with pelvic pain, endometriosis, and fibroids. She completed her medical training at the University at Buffalo and completed both her Ob/Gyn residency and MIGS fellowship at UPMC Magee Womens Hospital. She treats patients at the UPMC Magee, Cranberry, and Erie sites.



“GI Role in Endometriosis”

Sun Jung Oh, MD

Dr. “Sunny” Oh is a gastroenterologist with an interest in women's health, general gastroenterology, as well as GI motility and neuro-gastroenterology. She has an undergraduate background in psychology from Carnegie Mellon University and studied peripheral nerve repair at a bioengineering lab prior to attending medical school at the Medical College of Georgia. She completed her residency at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA, followed by her fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, where she served as a chief fellow during her final year. She is an Associate Program Director of Educational Innovation at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

“Urine Good Hands: Female Bladder Pain Syndromes”

Jocelyn Fitzgerald, MD

Dr. Fitzgerald is an assistant professor of Ob/Gyn/RS, Division of Urogynecology and Reconstructive Pelvic Surgery at the University of Pittsburgh SOM. She has a clinical and research interest in bladder pain, particularly related to mast cell recruitment, neuroinflammation, and endometriosis.

“Medical Management of Pelvic Pain”

Elizabeth Leimer, MD, PhD

Dr. Leimer is an anesthesiologist and chronic pain physician. She combines her clinical knowledge with her engineering background to conduct research related to mechanisms of chronic pain. In her free time, Dr. Leimer enjoys playing the bassoon and learning about the world through the eyes of her toddler.



“Interventional Management of Pelvic Pain”

Danielle Zheng, MD, PhD

Dr. Zheng is certified in anesthesiology and pain medicine by the American Board of Anesthesiology. She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine and the Associate Program Director for the Chronic Pain Fellowship Program at UPMC. She partners with each patient in developing an individualized, multimodal approach to the management of chronic pain, with focus on pelvic pain as well as spinal pain.

“Behavioral Health Considerations in Pelvic Pain Management”

Susan Jarquin, PhD, MBA

Dr. Jarquin is a licensed counseling psychologist who has been providing psychological services to adults living with chronic pain, including pelvic pain, since 2015. Dr. Jarquin works in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. In addition to providing clinical services, Dr. Jarquin offers education and training, in the provision of psychological services to adults living with chronic pain, at the University of Pittsburgh and at UPMC. Dr. Jarquin has also been involved in chronic pain research and has spoken at the local and national level about the psychological treatment of chronic pain.

“Pelvic Floor Physical Therapy 101: What do we do?”

Joanna Hersick, PT, PWCS, CLT

Joanna graduated from the University of Brighton, England in 1995 and has practiced PT in the U.S. since 1996. She is an APTA Board Certified Pelvic and Women’s care specialist and is Lymphedema and Wound Care certified. She serves as the Educational Coordinator for the UPMC Women’s Rehab/Men’s Health (WRMH) team at the UPMC Lemieux center as well as serving as cadaver lab tutor and residency mentor.



“Orthopedic Considerations in Pelvic Pain”

Noelle DiGioia Guthrie, DO

Dr. DiGioia Guthrie completed her medical school training at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM). She completed her Orthopedic Residency at PCOM and then went on to finish her fellowship training in Adult Reconstruction at Magee-Womens Hospital Bone and Joint Center. During these years of training, she developed a particular interest in an array of clinical research efforts, particularly including examining gender-specific disparities and considerations in the treatment of hip and knee arthritis. She is currently a practicing surgeon at the Bone and Joint Center of UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital specializing in knee and hip replacements and serves as the Co-Medical Director of the Wellness Center of Bone and Joint Health.

“Relationship of Obturator Internus and Hip Dysfunction in Pelvic Pain”

Shannon DiPietro, PT, DPT, PWCS, CLT

Shannon is a physical therapist specializing in pelvic floor health for all genders. She completed her doctorate at Chatham University and a residency in Women's Health through UPMC and is an ABPTS board Pelvic and Womens Health specialist. Her passions include working with patients experiencing pelvic pain and sexual dysfunction, along with working with athletes to improve pelvic floor function in their sports. She currently practices at UPMC Rehabilitation Institute McCandless.

“Ehlers Danlos Syndrome: Hypermobility and Pelvic Pain”

Mylynda B. Massart, MD, PhD

Dr. Massart is a board-certified family medicine physician at UPMC and an associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh. She currently serves as the founder and Medical Director of the UPMC Primary Care Precision Medicine clinic and as the Associate Director of Clinical Services for the Institute for Precision Medicine. Dr. Massart is co-director for the HUB Core over Research Inclusivity and Community Partners Core at the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). Dr. Massart serves as MPI of The Community Engagement Alliance Consultative Resource (CEACR) created in 2021 by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with the aim of leveraging the CEAL community-engagement expertise to promote and facilitate diversity



and inclusion of racial/ethnic minority populations and rural underserved populations in clinical research.

“Vascular Sources and Interventions for Pelvic Pain”

Natalie Sridharan, MD, MS

Dr. Sridharan is an Associate Professor of Surgery and Site Chief of Vascular Surgery at Mercy Hospital. She is an Associate Program Director for the Vascular Surgery residency and fellowship training programs and Director of Surgical Education for Vascular Surgery at UPMC. Her clinical and research interests include pelvic venous disease, deep venous disease, and interventions for VTE.

