Best of Gastroenterology 2026

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 6.25 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credit for learning and change.

IPCE CREDIT™

Friday, June 12, 2026
8:00am – 4:30pm (EDT)
In-person ▪ at Convene
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

8:30am – 4:30pm (EDT)
Via Zoom

Course Directors
Keith Sultan, MD
Arun Swaminath, MD

Keynote Speaker
Anita Afzali MD
Aimee Lee Lucas, MD

Northwell Health®

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DONALD AND BARBARA ZUCKER SCHOOL of MEDICINE AT HOFSTRA/NORTHWELL

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Program Agenda

8:00am	**Breakfast/Registration**
8:30am	**Welcome Remarks** Juan Carlos Bucobo, MD
SECTION 1:	**Esophageal Disease: From Inflammation to Structural Change**
8:45am	**Update on Eosinophilic Esophagitis** Matthew Whitson, MD, MSEd
8:55am	**Barrett's: Role of Ablative Therapy** Nichol Martinez, MD
9:05am	**When Medical Therapy Fails: TIF vs. Surgery** Aditya Sreenivasan, MD
9:15am	**CASES & PANEL DISCUSSION** Alexander Abadir, MD; Paul Lee, MD; Yonatan Ziv, MD; Mary Cheung, MD **Q & A Moderator:** Josue Gomez, ANP-C
SECTION 2:	**Gastric Disease: Metaplasia, Motility, and Advanced Endoscopy**
9:45am	**Gastric Intestinal Metaplasia: What is it and How to Manage (New Guideline Highlights)** Ronald Greenberg, MD
9:55am	**Medical Management of Gastroparesis** Linda Lee, MD
10:05am	**Gastroparesis: Advanced Endoscopic Management (G-POEM)** Jean Chalhoub, MD
10:15am	**CASES & PANEL DISCUSSION** Henry Jen, MD; Kaveh Zivari, MD; Steven Shamah, MD **Q & A, Moderator:** Sara Cerrone, MD
10:45am	**Break & Exhibits**
SECTION 3:	**Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Microscopic Colitis: Updates & Practical Management**
11:05am	**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** **Annual Alter Family Lecture:** **State of the Art in Precision Medicine for IBD: Optimizing Therapeutic Positioning** Anita Afzali, MD
11:30am	**Positioning of Selective p19IL23 Inhibitor Therapies: Out with the Old, in with the New?** Raluca Vrabie, MD
11:45am	**Update on Rescue Therapy for Ulcerative Colitis** Jakob Saidman, MD
12:00pm	**CASES & PANEL DISCUSSION** Roni Aoun, MD; Ramona Rajapakse, MD; Inas Mikhail, MD; Ahmed Gemei, MD; Adam Gorelick, MD **Q & A Moderator:** Isabel Roitman, MBA, NP-BC*
12:30pm	**Lunch**
SECTION 4:	**Pancreatobiliary Lesions: Risk Stratification, Intervention, & Surgical Collaboration**
1:30pm	**KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** **Thomas J. Milone Endowed Lecture:** **State of the Art in Precision Medicine in Pancreatic Cancer: Identifying Precursor Lesions and the role for Early Detection** Aimee Lee Lucas, MD
2:00pm	**The Incidental Lesion in the Pancreas: Observation s. Intervention** Christopher J. DiMaio, MD
2:20pm	**Surgical Considerations for Patients with Pancreatic Lesions** Gerardo Vitiello, MD
2:40pm	**CASES & PANEL DISCUSSION** Kara Raphael, MD; Natasha McMillan, MD; Sherif Andrawes, MD; Calvin Lee, MD **Q & A Moderator:** David Robbins, MD
3:10pm	**Coffee Break**
SECTION 5:	**Colonic Emergencies: Obstruction & Hemorrhage**
3:30pm	**Approach to Acute Lower GI Bleed** Kevin Yeroushalmi, MD
3:45pm	**Endoscopic Management of Colonic Strictures** Gursimran S. Kochhar, MD
4:00pm	**PANEL:** **COMMUNITY CASE DISCUSSION** **Firrah Saeed, MD; Nathan Hung, MD; Juan Carlos Bucobo, MD** **Q & A Moderator:** Shaheen Khalfan, PA-C
4:30pm	**Closing Remarks**

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Statement of Need: Gastroenterology clinicians face significant challenges in accurately diagnosing and effectively managing complex gastrointestinal diseases. Key practice gaps impede their ability to provide optimal, evidence-based care, stemming from inconsistent application of motility testing for complicated esophageal conditions, limited awareness of advanced endoscopic techniques for severe reflux cases, and suboptimal approaches to evaluating and managing new pancreatic lesions with contemporary endoscopic and surgical methods. Additionally, many lack comprehensive practical knowledge for the evaluation and multidisciplinary management (including surgical and endoscopic options) of suspected Crohn's disease of the small bowel. These deficiencies contribute to diagnostic delays, suboptimal treatment decisions, and ultimately, poorer patient outcomes.

Program Objectives: All Northwell Health CME activities are intended to improve patient care, safety and outcomes. At the conclusion of this conference, participants should be able to:

— **DIFFERENTIATE** between low and highly effective 1st and 2nd line therapies for esophageal reflux. Apply this knowledge to prescribe reflux therapy in an evidence-based fashion to improve patient outcomes. Differentiate between medically responsive and medically refractory esophageal reflux and identify appropriate referral for advanced endoscopic management.

— **UTILIZE** the workup of Crohn's disease to design a program of appropriate medical management and subsequent appropriate referral for surgical therapy

— **FORMULATE** a protocol for evidence-based workup of pancreatic cystic lesions, appropriate referral for advanced endoscopic intervention and surgical referrals

Target Audience: This activity was planned by and for physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. All other members of the health care team who are interested in gastroenterology and hepatology are welcome to attend.

JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
WITH COMMENDATION
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Joint Accreditation Statement: In support of improving patient care, Northwell Health 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 health care team.

Credit Designation Statement:

Physicians: Northwell Health designates this live activity for a maximum of *6.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.* Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: Northwell Health designates this activity for 6.25 ANCC contact hours.

Physician Assistants: Northwell Health 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 6.25 AAPA Category 1 CME credits. PAs should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation.

Verification of Attendance: This will be provided to all other attendees.

Location: **Convene 237 Park Avenue**
New York, NY 10017
and virtually via Zoom.

Registration fees:

❑ $50:	Northwell Health employees and regional affiliates
❑ $25:	Non-Northwell Residents, Fellows
❑ $75:	All others
No charge:	Northwell Residents, Fellows Students with ID — NO Credit

In-Person Registration fee includes: Breakfast, lunch, and certificates.

Virtual Registration fee Includes: Access to virtual conference, and certificates.

Cancellation Policy: To receive a refund, all cancellations must be confirmed via email to **Jenny Lino,** CME Project Manager **Jlino@northwell.edu, by May 29, 20206.** An administrative fee of $10 will be kept for all cancellations. No refunds will be made after this date or for "no-shows."

Disclosure Policy: Northwell Northwell Health adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CME-CE activity, including faculty, planners, reviewers or others are required to disclose all financial relationships with ineligible companies. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

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Americans With Disabilities Act: This conference is in compliance with provisions of the ADA and is accessible for individuals with special needs. If you would like to attend this conference and require any special accommodations, please contact the Office of CME at (516) 730-2263.

Hotel Room Block
Millennium Hilton New York One UN Plaza Guestrooms are now available to book through the booking link: **https://group.hilton.com/bqia22**

Register Here

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*Planners

Conference Coordinated by

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