16th Annual

# Abdominal Wall Reconstruction 2025

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital



## **June 13 to 14, 2025**

The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner | McLean, VA

#### Conference Chair:

#### Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Washington, D.C.

#### **Course Directors:**

#### Karen Kim Evans, MD

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Washington, D.C.

#### William W. Hope, MD

New Hanover Regional Medical Center Wilmington, NC

#### Jeffrey E. Janis, MD

Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center Columbus, OH





## **Conference Chair**



Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS
Executive Director
MedStar Georgetown Center for Abdominal Wall Reconstruction and Hernia Surgery
MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Professor, Surgery and Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.

## **Course Directors**



Karen Kim Evans, MD

Plastic Surgeon
MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Associate Program Director and Vice Chairman of Education
MedStar Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Professor, Plastic Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.



Jeffrey E. Janis, MD
Professor of Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery, Neurology, and Surgery
Chief of Plastic Surgery, University Hospital
Co-Director, Center for Abdominal Core Health
Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Columbus, OH



William W. Hope, MD
Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program
New Hanover Regional Medical Center
Professor, Surgery
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Wilmington, NC



## Why Attend AWR 2025?

- **Expert-Led Education:** Immerse yourself in an educational agenda filled with cutting-edge lectures, panel discussions, and interactive Q&A sessions.
- **Poster Abstracts Viewing:** Explore innovative research and findings for showcasing the latest developments in the field.
- **Multiple Symposia:** Attend specialized symposia designed to deepen your understanding and expand your expertise in this rapidly evolving specialty.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with leading experts, peers, and industry professionals during built in breaks and reception.
- **Exhibit Hall:** Discover the latest technologies, products, and services in our Exhibit Hall, where you can interact directly with industry representatives and explore innovations that are shaping the future of AWR.

## **Faculty**

#### Yewande R. Alimi, MD, MHS

MIS/Bariatric Surgeon
MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
MedStar Washington Hospital Center
Assistant Professor, Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.

#### Vedra A. Augenstein, MD

Associate Fellowship Director, Minimally Invasive and Gastrointestinal Surgery Carolinas Medical Center Professor, Surgery Carolinas Health Care System - Atrium Health Charlotte, NC

#### Sarah N. Bishop, MD

Assistant Professor, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine Cleveland, OH

#### Charles E. Butler, MD

Former Department Chairman and Tenured Professor, Plastic Surgery and Charles B. Barker Endowed Chair in Surgery Department of Plastic Surgery The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Houston, TX

#### David C. Chen, MD

Director, Lichtenstein Amid Hernia Clinic Professor, Clinical Surgery David Geffen School of Medicine University of California Chief, Surgery UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center Los Angeles, CA

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

#### Stephen R. T. Evans, MD

Executive Vice President, Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer MedStar Health Columbia, MD Professor, Surgery Georgetown University School of Medicine Washington, D.C.

#### John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

Director, Clinical Research Professor, Surgery University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine Philadelphia, PA

#### Hobart W. Harris, MD, MPH

Professor & J. Englebert Dunphy Endowed Chair in Surgery Director, UCSF Center for Hernia Repair & Abdominal Wall Reconstruction University of California, San Francisco San Francisco, CA

#### B. Todd Heniford, MD

Director, Carolinas Hernia Center Professor, Gastrointestinal and Minimally Invasive Surgery Carolinas Medical Center Past-President, American Hernia Society Charlotte, NC

#### **Howard Levinson, MD**

Professor and Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences Old Dominion University/Eastern Virginia Medical School Clinical Chief Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Sentara Medical Group Norfolk, VA

#### Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

Professor, Surgery Division of Gastrointestinal and General Surgery Oregon Health Sciences University Portland, OR

#### Eric M. Pauli, MD

Director, Abdominal Wall Surgery Chief, Division of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery David L. Nahrwold Professor, Surgery Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Hershey, PA

#### Michael J. Rosen, MD

Chief, GI Surgery Professor, Surgery Northwestern University Chicago, IL

#### David A. Ross, MD

Consultant Plastic Surgeon The London Clinic London, United Kingdom

#### J. Scott Roth, MD

Division Chief; General, Endocrine and Metabolic Surgery Vice-Chair, Clinical Affairs Department of Surgery Professor, Surgery & Commonwealth Professor of Minimally Invasive Surgery University of Kentucky Lexington, KY

#### Jenny M. Shao, MD

Director, Comprehensive Abdominal Hernia Program Clinical Assistant Professor, Surgery University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

#### Dana A. Telem, MD, MPH

Chief, Section of General Surgery Director, Core Optimization Hernia Registry (MSQC-COHR) Department of Surgery Lazar J. Greenfield Professor of Surgery University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

## Announcing the 2025 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award



MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and AWR 2025 are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2025 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award in abdominal wall reconstruction is **Dr. William W. Hope**.

Dr. William W. Hope is a highly experienced general surgeon with over 17 years of practice in Wilmington, North Carolina. He is currently affiliated with Novant Health New Hanover Regional Medical Center, where he serves as the Surgery and the General Surgery Residency Program Director. Dr. Hope serves

Academic Chair of Surgery and the General Surgery Residency Program Director. Dr. Hope serves as the Surgical Institute lead for Novant Health Coastal region, as well as the Professor of Surgery at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Hope obtained his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine and did his Surgical Residency at Prisma Health in Greenville, South Carolina. He completed a two-year Minimally Invasive Surgery Fellowship at Atrium Health/Carolinas Medical Center where he received expert training in minimally invasive and hernia surgery. His specialties include advanced laparoscopic procedures, with a focus on anti-reflux, stomach, intestine/colon, gallbladder, spleen, and adrenal surgeries. Additionally, he has a keen interest in both open and minimally invasive hernia surgery.

In addition, he is the past President of the Americas Hernia Society and is a Board Member of the Americas Hernia Society Quality Collaborative Foundation. His research interest includes hernia surgery, minimally invasive surgery, and surgical education publishing over 100 peer review articles and 15 book chapters related to these topics. He has a special interest in techniques to minimize the risk of incisional hernia formation and other hernia prevention strategies.

Dr. Hope is committed to providing top-tier surgical care and advancing the field of general surgery through education and mentorship.

#### **Past Award Recipients:**

2024: Mary Hawn, MD, MPH

**2023:** J. Scott Roth, MD

**2022:** John P. Fischer, MD, MPH **2021:** Jeffrey E. Janis, MD

**2019:** Michael J. Rosen, MD

**2018:** J. Jeekel, MD, PhD **2017:** Oscar M. Ramirez, MD

2016: Charles E. Butler, MD

**2015:** Brent D. Matthews, MD **2014:** B. Todd Heniford, MD

**2014:** B. Todd Heniford, ML **2013:** Adrian E. Park, MD

**2012:** Guy R. Voeller, MD

2011: Jean Bernard Flament, MD



## **Call for Abstracts**

MedStar Health and MedStar Georgetown University Hospital are pleased to announce the call for abstracts for the 16th Annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction (AWR) Conference on June 13 to 14, 2025 at The Ritz-Carlton Tyson's Corner in McLean, VA.

Abstracts will be reviewed and selected on the basis of their scientific merit and content quality. Submitted abstracts meeting the eligibility requirements will be considered for poster presentation from June 13 to 14, 2025. The top abstracts will also be awarded and presented orally in the conference general session on Saturday, June 14.

We invite you to participate by submitting a 250-word abstract, which should describe work with relevance to abdominal wall reconstruction.

Abstracts must be submitted by April 21, 2025, on our website: AWRConference.com

#### WHY YOU SHOULD SUBMIT:

#### • Showcase Your Research

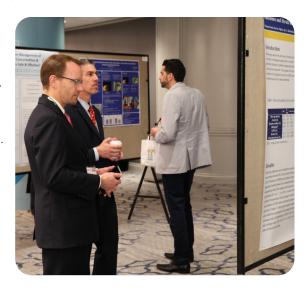
Present your findings at a prestigious event attended by leading surgeons, researchers, and practitioners in the field.

#### Gain Recognition

Top abstracts will be selected for oral presentation during the general session, offering recognition on a prominent stage.

#### Expand Your Network

Connect with a wide array of professionals in surgery, research, and healthcare, fostering collaborations and enhancing career development.





## **Continuing Education Credit Information**

## **Course Description**

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's 16th Annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction (AWR) Conference is a comprehensive two-day symposium that provides an in-depth understanding of the emerging specialty of AWR and hernia surgery. The purpose of this highly interactive meeting is to offer an evidence-based discussion on clinical aspects of AWR through didactic lectures with video education, case presentations, and panel discussions to address the complexities of hernia surgery.

Currently, there are approximately 600,000 ventral hernia repairs performed annually in the United States and the patient population continues to be increasingly complex with significant co-morbidities. Thus, there is a significant complication rate including surgical site morbidity, readmission, and recurrence.

The course is comprised of internationally renowned faculty that are a diverse group of experts chosen from the disciplines of general and plastic surgery, based upon their ongoing contributions to the field of abdominal wall reconstruction. The individual sessions will focus on patient selection and optimization, selection of surgical approach and reinforcement material, technical aspects of open and robotic surgery, and management of complications. The conference is designed to give attendees a broad knowledge of abdominal core health required to have a successful AWR practice.

## **Learning Objectives**

- Identify why preoperative preparation is necessary for optimizing patient outcomes.
- Recognize how to interpret peer reviewed literature.
- Identify the indications for biologic, synthetic, bioabsorbable mesh.
- Utilize patient optimization to reduce the incidence of surgical site occurrences.
- Recognize the value of botulinum toxin A in large hernia defects.
- Utilize advanced minimally invasive techniques for optimal patient outcomes.
- Recognize the value of plastic surgery techniques for advanced abdominal wall reconstruction.
- Manage entero-cutaneous fistulas in the setting of a hernia.
- Recognize the nuisances of AWR in specific patient cohorts (e.g. women of childbearing age)
- Implement appropriate treatment options for infected abdominal wall mesh.
- Recognize the optimal management of skin and soft tissue during hernia repair.
- Utilize advanced abdominal wall reconstruction techniques to improve patient outcomes.
- Evaluate and manage the common complications after component separation procedure.
- Recognize how to interpret relevant radiology studies when evaluating hernia patients.
- Recognize the importance of quality-of-life metrics when defining metrics of success for hernia patient.
- Recognize abdominal wall anatomy.
- Summarize the importance of sub-specialty training to be a successful hernia surgeon.
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of members of the healthcare team involved in the collaborative care of patients with hernias.
- Integrate a team-based approach in the care of patients with hernias.
- Summarize the importance of sub-specialty training to be a successful hernia surgeon.

## **Target Audience**

This conference is designed to be a multidisciplinary program and is intended for a wide range of medical practitioners who are interested in the latest information regarding the treatment of abdominal wall reconstruction. The program is purposely targeted towards colorectal, bariatric general, plastic, transplant and trauma surgeons, infectious disease specialists, wound care specialists, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, dietitians, medical assistants, nurses, and other allied health professionals interested in abdominal wall reconstruction.

## **Continuing Education Credit Information**

#### **Accreditation**



In support of improving patient care, MedStar 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 healthcare

### **Credit Designation**



This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 13.50 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

Physicians: MedStar Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 13.50 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



American Board of Internal Medicine MOC Credit: Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 13.50 MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It

is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.



American Board of Surgery CC Credit: Successful completion of this CME THE AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn credit toward the CME and Self-Assessment requirements of

the American Board of Surgery's Continuous Certification program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABS credit.

MOC/CC Participation Threshold: Learner participates by writing a reflective statement and makes a commitment to change or maintain an element of practice.

Nurses: This activity is approved for 13.50 ANCC contact hours. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



Registered Dietitians (RDs) and Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTRs): Completion of this IPCE activity awards 13.50 CPEUs. RDs and DTRs are to select activity type 102 on Professional Development Portfolio (PDP) activity logs.

## **Additional Course Information**

Attention Physician Learners: To ensure accurate reporting of your CME credit data, to ACCME and relevant licensing boards, please verify that your CloudCME profile contains the details listed below. To access your CloudCME profile, once signed in, click My CE > Profile.

- Full name
- State of licensure

- State license number
- Birth month and day (year not required)

In addition, please remember to check the box at the bottom of the CloudCME Profile page, granting the CPE department permission to report your credit data to ACCME and relevant licensing boards.

Questions? Email medstarceapplications@email.sitel.org CloudCME Link: https://medstar.cloud-cme.com

## **Agenda**

Registration, Breakfast, and Visit the **SESSION III: PLASTIC SURGERY** 7:00 a.m. CONSIDERATIONS: ADVANCED CONCEPTS
Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD **Exhibits SESSION I: INTRODUCTION TO AWR** Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS 2:30 p.m. The Mesh Footprint: Long-term Impact of Mesh on Future Surgery Welcome Remarks 7:30 a.m. John P. Fischer, MD, MPH Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS Management of the Postpartum 2:45 p.m. 7:45 a.m. AWR as a Specialty: Future Direction Abdominal Wall and Rectus Diastasis B. Todd Heniford, MD David A. Ross, MD 8:00 a.m. Advocacy for The Hernia Surgeon: 3:00 p.m. Panniculectomy: Quality of Life At a National Level (QOL) vs Surgical Site Occurrences J. Scott Roth, MD (SSO) Karen Kim Evans, MD 8:15 a.m. Better Together: Multi-disciplinary Collaboration Soft Tissue Reconstruction of the 3:15 p.m. Jeffrey E. Janis, MD Abdominal Wall Howard Levinson, MD 8:30 a.m. Hernia Registries and Guidelines William W. Hope, MD Repair of the Perineal Hernia After Abdominoperineal Resection (APR) 8:45 a.m. Prehabilitation: Data vs Dogma Sarah N. Bishop, MD Dana A. Telem, MD, MPH 3:45 p.m. Panel Discussion 9:00 a.m. Role of Weight Loss Medications in Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD Panelists: S. Bishop, K. Evans, J. Fischer, **AWR** David A. Ross, MD H. Levinson, D. Ross 9:15 a.m. **Panel Discussion** Break and Visit the Exhibitors and 4:15 p.m. Moderator: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS Abstract Poster Presentations Panelists: B. Heniford, MD W. Hope, J. Janis, D. Ross, J. Roth, D. Telem **SESSION IV: CHALLENGING SCENARIOS: ADVANCED CONCEPTS** Break and Visit the Exhibitors and 9:45 a.m. Moderator: William W. Hope, MD Abstract Poster Presentations 4:45 p.m. Management of the Failed SESSION II: CONCEPTS OF THE COMPONENT Component Separation: What to **SEPARATION TECHNIQUE** do Next Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD Michael J. Rosen, MD **Open Pre-peritoneal Approach** 10:15 a.m. 5:00 p.m. Thoraco-abdominal Hernia B. Todd Heniford, MD Eric M. Pauli, MD 10:30 a.m. **Minimally Invasive Component** 5:15 p.m. The Non-Midline and Parastomal Separation: Beyond the Robot Hernia: Robotics to the Rescue Charles E. Butler, MD Vedra A. Augenstein, MD 10:45 a.m. Open Transversus Abdominis 5:30 p.m. **Emergent Hernia Repair: Tips for** Release (TAR) Procedure the Acute Care Surgeon Jeffrey E. Janis, MD Dana A. Telem, MD, MPH 11:00 a.m. **Robotic TAR** Hernia Surgery in Women: Special 5:45 p.m. Jenny M. Shao, MD Considerations? Yewande R. Alimi, MD, MHS 11:15 a.m. The Pauli Procedure: Using the TAR to Repair Parastomal Hernia 6:00 p.m. AWR in the Setting of Eric M. Pauli, MD Contamination / Enterocutaneous 11:30 a.m. Are We Overusing the TAR Procedure? Fistula (ECF) Michael J. Rosen, MD Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD 11:45 a.m. **Panel Discussion** 6:15 p.m. Management of Infected Mesh Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD Panelists: C. Butler, B. Heniford, J. Janis, E. Pauli, M. Rosen, J. Shao Hobart W. Harris, MD, MPH 6:30 p.m. **Panel Discussion** Moderator: William W. Hope, MD Break and Visit the Exhibitors and 12:15 p.m. Panelists: Y. Alimi, V. Augenstein, H. Harris, R. Martindale, E. Pauli, M. Rosen, D. Telem **Abstract Poster Presentations** Closing Remarks Day One 12:45 p.m. **Lunch Symposium I** 6:55 p.m. William W. Hope, MD Break and Visit the Exhibitors and 1:30 p.m. Adjourn to Welcome Reception **Abstract Poster Presentations** with Exhibitors 2:00 p.m. Founding Chairman Lecture

Stephen R. T. Evans, MD

Introduction by: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

## **Agenda**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 14**

7:00 a.m.	MORNING BREAKOUTS	12:00 p.m.	Break and Visit the Exhibitors and Abstract Poster Presentations	
	Operate with the Masters: Hands-on Cadaver Lab Top Abstract: Oral Presentations			
		12:30 p.m.	Lunch Symposium II	
8:45 a.m.	Breakfast Symposium	1:15 p.m.	Break and Visit the Exhibitors and	
			<b>Abstract Poster Presentations</b>	
9:15 a.m.	Break and Visit the Exhibits and Abstract Poster Presentations	1:45 p.m.	Controversies in Hernia Surgery: A Multi-Specialty Panel Discussion Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD	
9:45 a.m.	2025 MedStar Georgetown		Panelists: J. Fischer, B. Heniford, M. Rosen,	
	Distinguished Achievement Award in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction	SESSION VI	D. Ross, J. Roth  • MAXIMIZING SUCCESS BY	

**MINIMIZING COMPLICATIONS** 

Moderator: William W. Hope, MD Panelists: V. Augenstein, D. Chen, M. Rosen, J. Roth

SESSION V: INGUINAL HERNIA - DIAGNOSIS, APPROACH, POSTOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT		Karen Kim Evans, MD		
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD		3:00 p.m.	Five Take-aways to Change Your Practice Tomorrow	
10:15 a.m.	The Shouldice Repair: Avoiding Mesh Altogether		B. Todd Heniford, MD	
	Michael J. Rosen, MD	3:15 p.m.	Lessons Learned: What I Know Now I Wish I Knew Two Decades Ago	
10:30 a.m.	<b>Modern Lichtenstein Repair</b> David C. Chen, MD		Charles E. Butler, MD	
		3:30 p.m.	Rehabilitation of the AWR Patient:	
10:45 a.m.	Laparoscopic Inguinal Hernia Repair: Totally Extraperitoneal (TEP) Approach		Postoperative Program Howard Levinson, MD	
	J. Scott Roth, MD	3:45 p.m.	Quality of Life: Measuring to be Better	
11:00 a.m.	Robotic Inguinal Hernia Repair: Transabdominal Preperitoneal		John P. Fischer, MD, MPH	
	(TAPP) Approach Vedra A. Augenstein, MD	4:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion Moderator Karen Kim Evans, MD Panelists: C. Butler, J. Fischer, B. Heniford,	
11:15 a.m.	Chronic Pain: Diagnosis and Treatment Algorithm		H. Levinson	
	David C. Chen, MD	4:25 p.m.	<b>Day Two Closing Remarks</b> Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS	
11:30 a.m.	Panel Discussion			

4:30 p.m.

**Adjourn** 



## **Registration Information**

Registration Fees	EARLY BIRD NOW TO FEBRUARY 2	ADVANCE RATE FEBRUARY 2 TO JUNE 12	ON-SITE JUNE 13 TO 14		
Physician	\$595	\$675	\$750		
Resident or Fellow	\$350	\$425	\$500		
<b>Physician Assistant</b>	\$450	<b>\$525</b>	\$600		
<b>Nurse Practitioner</b>	\$450	\$525	\$600		
Nurse	\$450	<b>\$525</b>	\$600		
Pharmacist	\$450	\$525	\$600		
Dietitians	\$450	\$525	\$600		
<b>Allied Health Professional</b>	\$450	\$525	\$600		
<b>Medical Student</b>	\$350	\$425	\$500		
<b>Industry Professional</b>	\$950	\$950	\$1000		
REGISTRATION ADD-ON					
Cadaver Lab with the Masters	\$95	\$95	\$95		
Reception Guest	\$50	\$50	\$50		

## **Online Registration Preferred**

Please visit **www.AWRConference.com** for updated program and registration information. We are unable to accept registrations or cancellations by telephone.

All registrations will be confirmed by email only. If you have questions or do not receive a confirmation within 1-2 business days, please contact us at MedStarCPE@MedStar.net or (833) 731-1273.

## **Cancellation Policy**

Cancellations made in writing by April 25, 2025 will be subject to a 50% penalty. No refunds will be given after April 25, 2025. Cancellations will not be accepted by telephone. In the unlikely event that the course is canceled, MedStar Health will refund the registration fee, but is not responsible for any travel costs.

## **Special Assistance**

MedStar Health wishes to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently from other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact (833) 731-1273 to notify us of your needs.

For grant information, please contact Ada Guo at ada.guo@medstar.net
For exhibit support information, please contact Elizabeth Romano at
elizabeth.s.romano@medstar.net