

13th Annual

Abdominal Wall Reconstruction 2022

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital



June 8 to 11, 2022

A Dynamic Virtual Conference with Expert Faculty

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.

Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Columbus, OH

William W. Hope, MD

New Hanover Regional Medical Center
Wilmington, NC



MedStar Health

AWRConference.com

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



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Plastic Surgeon
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MedStar Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Professor, Plastic Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.



Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

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
Past President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons
Past President, American Council of Academic Plastic Surgeons
Past President, Migraine Surgery Society
President, American Hernia Society
Governor, Board of Governors, American College of Surgeons
Editor-in-Chief, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery - Global Open
Columbus, OH



William W. Hope, MD

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Wilmington, NC



For updated program information, please visit **AWRConference.com**

Faculty

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MedStar Washington Hospital Center
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Associate Professor, Surgery
Carolinas Health Care System - Atrium Health
Charlotte, NC

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Chief, General Surgery
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Director, Carolinas Hernia Center
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Past-President, American Hernia Society
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Stephen J. Kovach III, MD

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Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

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Chief, Division of GI and General Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal and
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Hershey, PA

Ajita Prabhu, MD

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Associate Professor, Surgery
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Cleveland, OH

J. Scott Roth, MD, FACS

Division Chief; General, Endocrine and Metabolic Surgery
Chief, Surgery
UK Good Samaritan Hospital
Commonwealth Professor, Surgery
University of Kentucky College of Medicine
Lexington, KY

Guy R. Voeller, MD

Surgeon, Minimally Invasive Surgery
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Professor, Surgery
University of Tennessee College of Medicine
Memphis, TN

Announcing the 2022 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and AWR 2022 are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2022 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award in abdominal wall reconstruction is **Dr. John P. Fischer** from the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine.



Dr. John P. Fischer is an Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania Health System. His practice includes reconstructive and aesthetic plastic surgery. He has proudly served as a two-term member of the Board of Directors of the American Hernia Society, has a

Master's in Public Health from the Bloomberg School at Johns Hopkins, and is the Director of Clinical Research in the Division of Plastic Surgery. He has over 200 peer-reviewed publications and over 75 on hernia-related research.

Prior to joining the University of Pennsylvania faculty, Dr. Fischer completed his undergraduate studies at Hamilton College and medical school at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY graduating AOA. John completed his general surgery and plastic surgery training at the University of Pennsylvania under the mentorship of some of the best in the field of plastic surgery including Stephen Kovach MD, Joseph Serletti, MD, and L. Scott Levin, MD. He has the privilege of overseeing the Clinical Research Program at Penn Plastic Surgery and collaborating with multiple research fellows, students,

and numerous faculty across the University. Dr. Fischer's Research Lab focuses on surgical outcomes, patient reported outcomes, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in surgery. He was recently awarded an NIH R01 to better predict the formation of hernia using AI.

Dr. Fischer's interest in plastic surgery stems back to his initial motivation for studying medicine. He has a special interest in science, research, taking care of patients and improving their quality of life. He performs both cosmetic and reconstructive surgeries, which helps him be a better aesthetic surgeon. Dr. Fischer uses cutting-edge technology to advance patient outcomes and takes time to learn from his patients, which provides the perfect combination to ensure they always happy with their clinical outcomes. He builds from his clinical work, through his research, as well as the development of medical devices and a connected start up company.

Dr. Fischer grew up and was born in Syracuse, NY. He is the oldest of 5. His mom (Kathy) teaches nursing and father (Joe), a plastic surgeon who instilled his interest in medicine at a young age. He met his wife, Becky, a pediatrician in Philadelphia where they live with their two wonderful children, Claire and Patrick ("PJ"). He values spending time with his family, exercising, traveling and trying new restaurants. Dr. Fischer is an avid golfer and Eagle's fan.

Dr. Fischer is incredibly honored to receive the 2022 MedStar Georgetown Distinguished Achievement Award in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction.

Past Award Recipients:

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

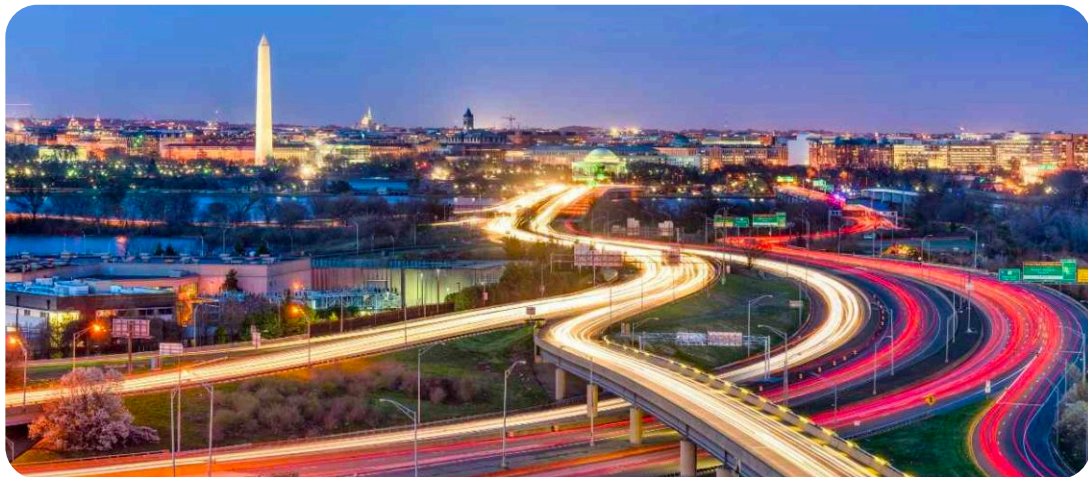
2014: B. Todd Heniford, MD

2013: Adrian E. Park, MD

2012: Guy R. Voeller, MD

2011: Jean Bernard Flament, MD

Please joins us in honoring him on Thursday, June 9 during Session II with an introduction by Stephen J. Kovach, III, MD



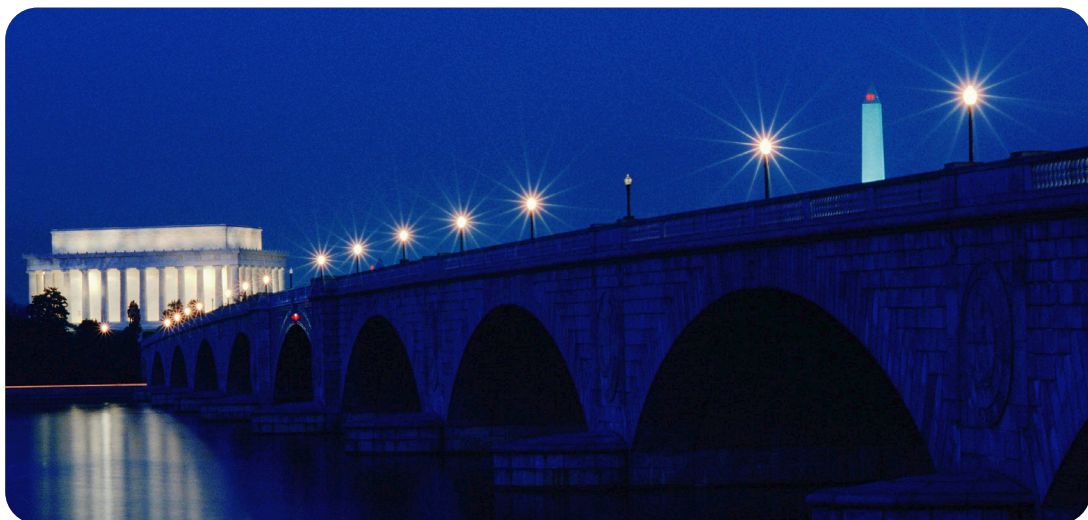
For updated program information, please visit [AWRConference.com](https://www.AWRConference.com)

Continuing Education Credit Information

Course Description

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's 13th Annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction (AWR) Conference is a comprehensive four-day symposium that provides an in-depth understanding of the complexities of AWR. The purpose of this highly interactive meeting is to offer an evidence-based discussion on all aspects of AWR through didactic lectures with video education and case presentations to address the growing rate of hernia repairs and updates in technology and procedures.

Currently, there are approximately 350,000 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 minimally invasive surgery, and management of complications. Attendees will be given much of the knowledge required to have a successful AWR practice.



Learning Objectives

- Identify why preoperative preparation is necessary for optimizing patient outcomes.
- Identify the indications for biologic, synthetic, bioabsorbable mesh.
- Utilize patient optimization to reduce the incidence of surgical site occurrences.
- Utilize advanced abdominal wall reconstruction techniques to improve patient outcomes.
- Utilize advanced laparoscopic 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.
- Implement appropriate treatment options for infected abdominal wall mesh.
- Recognize the optimal management of skin and soft tissue during hernia repair.
- Implement enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) after hernia repair.
- Recognize the value of botulinum toxin A in large hernia defects.
- Evaluate and manage the common complications after component separation procedure.
- Implement surgical approach for unique patient populations (oncology, transplant, child bearing age).
- Understanding the medical-legal issues associated with mesh reinforcement.
- Identify training strategies for residents and fellows pursuing abdominal wall reconstruction practice.
- 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.

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Continuing Education Credit Information

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 general, plastic and trauma surgeons, endocrinologists, wound care specialists, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, nurses, and other allied health professionals interested in abdominal wall reconstruction.

Accreditation



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

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 team.

Credit Designation



IPCE CREDIT™

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 13.00 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

Physicians: MedStar Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 13.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: This activity is approved for 13.00 ANCC contact hours. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



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Agenda

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

4:00 p.m. **Welcome Remarks**
Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

SESSION I: Introduction to AWR

Moderator: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

4:15 p.m. **Abdominal Core Health: What are We Talking About?**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

4:30 p.m. **Journal Club: Top 5 Manuscripts Everyone Should Know**
Brent D. Matthews, MD

4:45 p.m. **Pre-operative Optimization: Helpful or Just Hype**
Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

5:00 p.m. **A Working Algorithm for the "Common Surgeon": A Mainstream Approach**
B. Todd Heniford, MD

5:15 p.m. **Current State of Robotics in AWR: Data Versus Marketing**
Ajita Prabhu, MD

5:35 p.m. **Hernia Registries: Are We Learning Anything Useful?**
William W. Hope, MD

5:50 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS
Panelists: J. Janis, B. Heniford, W. Hope, R. Martindale, B. Matthews, A. Prabhu

6:15 p.m. **Adjourn**

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

SESSION II: Updates on Reinforcement Materials and Imaging

Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD

2:00 p.m. **Session Introduction**
Karen Kim Evans, MD

2:05 p.m. **Imaging Modalities: The Tell of the Pre-operative CT scan**
B. Todd Heniford, MD

2:20 p.m. **Use of Synthetics: Do Outcomes Vary with Level of Contamination?**
Charles E. Butler, MD

2:35 p.m. **Biologicals: Long-term Value Versus Cost in the High-risk Patient**
Vedra A. Augenstein, MD, FACS

2:50 p.m. **Resorbable Synthetics: Have We Identified the Right Patient?**
J. Scott Roth, MD, FACS

3:05 p.m. **Mesh Location: Does the Mesh Material Matter?**
Guy R. Voeller, MD

3:20 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD
Panelists: V. Augenstein, C. Butler, B. Heniford, J. Roth, G. Voeller

3:45 p.m. **Afternoon Break and Visit the Exhibitors Abstract Poster Presentations**

4:35 p.m. **2022 MedStar Georgetown Distinguished Achievement Award in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction**
Introduction by Stephen J. Kovach III, MD
Awardee: John P. Fischer, MD, MPH, FACS

SESSION III: Concepts of the Component Separation Technique

Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

5:00 p.m. **Session Introduction**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

5:05 p.m. **Minimally Invasive Anterior Component Separation: Perforator-sparing is the Key**
Charles E. Butler, MD

5:20 p.m. **Posterior Component Separation (TAR): Step by Step Instructions**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

5:35 p.m. **Parastomal Hernia Repair using TAR: Lessons Already Learned**
Eric M. Pauli, MD, FACS, FASGE

5:50 p.m. **Robotic TAR: What are the Benefits?**
Igor Belyansky, MD, FACS

6:05 p.m. **The Difficult Reconstruction: Adjuncts to Obtain Fascial Closure**
Stephen J. Kovach III, MD

6:20 p.m. **Question and Discussion**
Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS
Panelists: I. Belyansky, C. Butler, E. Pauli, S. Kovach

6:45 p.m. **Adjourn**

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SESSION IV: Management of Complications/Abdominal Wall Disasters

Moderator: William W. Hope, MD

- 2:00 p.m. **Session Introduction**
William W. Hope, MD
- 2:05 p.m. **Focus on Bowel Injuries during Hernia Surgery**
Jeffrey A. Blatnik, MD
- 2:20 p.m. **Focus on EC Fistula / Mesh Infection: Thoughts on the Staged Repair**
Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD
- 2:35 p.m. **Management of the Common Post-operative Complications: Strategies to Preserve the Repair**
Eric M. Pauli, MD, FACS, FASGE
- 2:50 p.m. **Management of My Own Disasters: Lessons Learned over 3 Decades**
Charles E. Butler, MD
- 3:05 p.m. **Question and Discussion**
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD
Panelists: J. Blatnik, C. Butler, R. Martindale, E. Pauli
- 3:30 p.m. **Afternoon Break and Visit the Exhibitors and Abstract Poster Presentations**

SESSION V: Advanced Concepts I

Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

- 4:20 p.m. **Session Introduction**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS
- 4:25 p.m. **Complex Skin & Soft Tissue Defects: What Are Your Options**
Stephen J. Kovach III, MD
- 4:40 p.m. **Use of Negative Pressure Wound on Open and Closed Incisions: Why Not Everyone?**
Karen Kim Evans, MD
- 4:55 p.m. **Botulinum Toxin: Adjunct or Alternative to Component Separation?**
Vedra A. Augenstein, MD, FACS
- 5:10 p.m. **EC Fistulas, Stomas, & Complex Wounds: A Nursing Perspective**
Mary Anne Obst, RN, BSN, CCRN, CWON
- 5:25 p.m. **Ventral Hernia Management in the Morbidly Obese Patient: Timing is Critical**
Yewande Alimi MD, MHS
- 5:40 p.m. **The Emergent Ventral Hernia Patient: Avoiding Pitfalls**
J. Scott Roth, MD, FACS
- 5:55 p.m. **Question and Discussion**
Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS
Panelists: V. Augenstein, Y. Alimi, K. Evans, S. Kovach, M. Obst, J. Roth
- 6:20 p.m. **Adjourn**



Agenda

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

SESSION VI: Advanced Concepts II

Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD

- 9:00 a.m. **Session Introduction**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD
- 9:05 a.m. **The Flank Hernia: Principles of an Open Approach**
Ajita Prabhu, MD
- 9:20 a.m. **Rectus Diastasis Repair: A Plastic Surgeon's Guide for the General Surgeon**
Kenneth L. Fan, MD
- 9:35 a.m. **Management of the Giant Hernia: Thoughts From a Master Surgeon**
B. Todd Heniford, MD
- 9:50 a.m. **Parastomal and Non-midline Hernias: Making it Easy Using Robotics**
Vedra A. Augenstein, MD, FACS
- 10:05 a.m. **Totally Extra-peritoneal Approach: Laparoscopic and Robotic Techniques**
Igor Belyansky, MD, FACS
- 10:20 a.m. **Question and Discussion**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD
Panelists: V. Augenstein, I. Belyansky, B. Heniford, K. Fan, A. Prabhu
- 10:45 a.m. **Morning Break and Visit the Exhibitors and Abstract Poster Presentations**

SESSION VII: Future Directions in AWR

Moderator: William W. Hope, MD

- 11:35 a.m. **Session Introduction**
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD
- 11:40 a.m. **Prophylactic Mesh: Focus on Prevention Rather than Repair**
William W. Hope, MD
- 11:55 a.m. **Quality Improvement Priorities in AWR: Utility of ERAS Society Guidelines**
Brent D. Matthews, MD
- 12:10 p.m. **Medicolegal Liabilities: Challenges Faced by the Hernia Surgeon**
Guy R. Voeller, MD
- 12:25 p.m. **The Future of Training Residents and Surgeons in AWR**
Jeffrey A. Blatnik, MD
- 12:40 p.m. **Question and Discussion**
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD
Panelists: J. Blatnik, B. Matthews, G. Voeller
- 1:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS
- 1:05 p.m. **Adjourn**



For updated program information, please visit [AWRConference.com](https://www.AWRConference.com)

Registration Information

Registration Fees	Through March 5	March 5 to June 7	Conference Dates
Physician	\$325	\$400	\$450
Resident or Fellow	\$125	\$175	\$225
Physician Assistant	\$200	\$275	\$325
Nurse Practitioner	\$200	\$275	\$325
Nurse	\$200	\$275	\$325
Allied Health Professional	\$200	\$275	\$325
Medical Student	\$125	\$125	\$125
Industry Professional	\$500	\$550	\$600

Online Registration Preferred

Please visit **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

If you are unable to attend the date of the conference, your registration will still grant you access to conference slides and recorded content until December 8, 2022. CE hours will be credited based on attendance day of or completion of recorded content.

Conference Information

This conference is taking place online with live speakers and Q&A sessions.

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 exhibit and support information please contact
Ada Guo at ada.guo@medstar.net**