

# New Developments in Understanding Chronic Illnesses:

*The Role of Immune Dysfunction and Infections*

November 8 to 10, 2023 | A Virtual Conference

## Conference Chair

Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM  
Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine  
Georgetown University School of Medicine  
Washington, D.C.

## Conference Co-Chair

Craig Shimasaki, PhD, MBA  
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Oklahoma City, OK



MedStar Health



FOUNDATION for  
TOTAL RECOVERY  
Finding A Cure For Neuroinflammatory Diseases

For more information and to register, visit  
<https://chronicillnessconference.com>

# Continuing Education Credit Information

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## Course Description

There are over 20 million Americans suffering from a group of chronic disabling disorders who are diagnosed without a clear elucidation of pathophysiologic mechanisms. This includes Fibromyalgia, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/ Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS), Neuropsychiatric illnesses, Posttreatment Lyme Syndrome, Pediatric Acute on Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANDAS/PANS).

Adding to this massive disease burden the CDC now estimates that of the 40% of Americans who were infected with COVID-19 1 in 5 continue to suffer with what is now referred to as Post-acute sequelae of COVID (PASC). Research has demonstrated that common to all these conditions is dysregulation of the immune system resulting from an infectious insult. Dramatic advances have occurred in our understanding of all these conditions as a result of COVID. It is an incredibly exciting period in medicine where these diseases are beginning to coalesce around an understanding of shared pathophysiology. We are entering a period of true hope for those millions who are suffering where we will finally be able to provide comprehensive solutions for their illness.

This conference will bring together some of the leading researchers and clinicians from around the world to discuss the advances in our understanding of these conditions and breakthroughs in diagnostic and treatment options.

## Target Audience

This conference is intended for internists, family physicians, allergists, neurologists, pediatricians, psychiatrists, psychologists, rheumatologists, physicians, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, dietitians, nutritionists and other allied health professionals interested in the treatment of chronic disabling disorders.

## Learning Objectives

- Summarize the role of the innate and adaptive immune system in chronic disease.
- Explain biological mechanisms of how infections incite immune dysfunction resulting in chronic disease.
- Describe new diagnostic testing and biomarkers for defining and identifying immune dysfunction in chronic illness.
- Identify clinical and case study examples using new and repositioned treatment modalities that have been shown to be effective in treating immune-mediated chronic disorders secondary to infection.
- Summarize long haul covid and its pathophysiology and new diagnostic and treatment modalities.
- Describe a new understanding of fibromyalgia as an immunologic disorder and the role of the immune system in Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/ Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS).
- Recognize the role of infections and immune dysfunction as the cause of other neurologic, psychiatric, and behavioral disorders.
- Explain the role of gut microbiome in health and immune dysfunction.
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of members of the healthcare team involved in the collaborative care of patients with atypical immunological diseases.
- Integrate a team-based approach in the care of patients with atypical immunological diseases.

# Continuing Education Credit Information

## Accreditation Statement



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™  
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by MedStar Health and the Foundation for Total Recovery. 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 Statement



IPCE CREDIT™

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 20.25 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

**Physicians:** MedStar Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 20.25 *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 20.25 ANCC contact hours. Nurses 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 20.25 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 Pediatrics MOC Credit:** Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn up to 20.25 MOC points in the American Board of Pediatrics' (ABP) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity

provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABP MOC credit.

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

## Course Director



### **Gary Kaplan, D.O. DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA**

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Washington, D.C.

## Course Co-Director



### **Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA**

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## Faculty

### **Ronald W. Davis, PhD**

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Member, Stanford Cancer Institute  
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### **Brian A. Fallon, MD**

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Director, Lyme, and Tick-Borne Diseases Research Center  
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### **Jennifer Frankovich, MD**

Clinical Professor, Pediatrics  
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### **Richard E. Frye, PhD, MD**

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### **Jonathan Godbout, PhD**

Faculty Director, Chronic Brain Injury Program  
Co-Director, Neuroscience Graduate Program  
Co-Director, NNDS T32 Training Program in Neuroimmunology  
The Ohio State University College of Medicine  
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### **Andreas Goebel, MSc (Pain Medicine), PhD, FRCA, FFPMRCA**

Director, Pain Research Institute  
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### **Moviglia A. Gustavo, MD, PhD**

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### **Maureen R. Hanson, PhD, BS**

Director, Center for Enervating Neuroimmune Disease  
Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor, Molecular Biology and Genetics  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY



# Faculty

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## **Elizabeth P. Irias, LMFT**

Psychotherapist, Utilization Review Trainer  
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## **Sandra Kaufman, MD**

CEO and Founder, Kaufmann Anti-Aging Institute  
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## **Kim Lewis, PhD, BSc**

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## **Cherie Marvel, PhD**

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## **Bruce K. Patterson, MD**

CEO and Founder  
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## **Claude Steriade, MD, CM**

Assistant Professor, Epilepsy Center  
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## **Eric J. Wang, MD**

Program Director, Multidisciplinary Pain Medicine Fellowship  
Director, Pain Treatment Center, Johns Hopkins Bayview  
Medical Center  
Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine  
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Baltimore, Maryland

# Agenda

## **DAY ONE | Wednesday, November 8**

11:30 a.m.	<b>Virtual Platform Opens and Visit the Exhibits</b>
12:00 p.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA
12:15 p.m.	<b>Epidemiology: How Big is the Problem? Immune Dysregulation Secondary to Infections as a Cause of Chronic Disease. From Symptoms to a New Pathophysiologic Understanding of Chronic Illness</b> Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA
1:00 p.m.	<b>Acute and Chronic Neurological Disorders in COVID-19: Potential Mechanisms of Disease</b> Avindra Nath, MD
1:45 p.m.	<b>NIH Data / Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) Data</b> Avindra Nath, MD
2:30 p.m.	<b>The Enterovirus Theory of Disease Etiology in Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: A Critical Review</b> Maureen R. Hanson, PhD, BS

3:15 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

3:40 p.m.

4:25 p.m.

5:10 p.m.

5:55 p.m.

6:05 p.m.

### **Afternoon Break and Visit the Exhibits**

#### **Session II Introductions**

Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA

#### **Long Covid and Long Lyme: Mental Health Implications**

Brian A. Fallon, MD

#### **The Neuroimmunology of Social Stress Induced Sensitization**

Jonathan Godbout, PhD

#### **PANS: Update on Our Understanding of Inflammation Characteristics, Clinical Course, and Comorbidities**

Jennifer Frankovich, MD

#### **Day One Closing Remarks**

Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA

### **Adjourn**

# Agenda

## DAY TWO | Thursday, November 9

7:30 a.m.	<b>Virtual Platform Opens and Visit the Exhibits</b>	1:00 p.m.	<b>Session V Introductions</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA
7:50 a.m.	<b>Day Two Welcome Remarks</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA	1:10 p.m.	<b>Diagnosis and Treatment of Chronic Inflammatory Conditions including Long COVID and ME-CFS</b> Bruce K. Patterson, MD
8:00 a.m.	<b>Chronic Pain and Infection: Mechanisms, Causes, Conditions, Treatments, and Controversies</b> Eric J. Wang, MD	1:55 p.m.	<b>Modulation of the Acquired Immune System \ Autoimmune Therapy Stem Cells Topic</b> Moviglia A. Gustavo, MD, PhD
8:45 a.m.	<b>The Autoimmune Aetiology of Unexplained Chronic Pain</b> Andreas Goebel, PhD	2:40 p.m.	<b>Afternoon Break and Visit the Exhibits</b>
9:30 a.m.	<b>The Brain and Gut Connection: More Impactful Than You Think</b> Kyle Landry, BS, MS, PhD	2:55 p.m.	<b>Session VI Introductions</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA
10:15 a.m.	<b>Morning Break and Visit the Exhibits</b>	3:05 p.m.	<b>Molecular Mimicry: The Infection Connection to the Immune System and Chronic Disorders</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA
10:30 a.m.	<b>Session IV Introductions</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA	3:50 p.m.	<b>The Axis of Infectious Immune as a Player in Neuro Immune Disease</b> Isaac Melamed, MD
10:40 a.m.	<b>Current and Practical Techniques to Support the Gut Microbiome</b> Kyle Landry, BS, MS, PhD	4:35 p.m.	<b>Autoimmunity and Epilepsy</b> Claude Steriade, MD, CM
11:25 a.m.	<b>Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS)</b> Ronald W. Davis, PhD	5:20 p.m.	<b>Day Two Closing Remarks</b> Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA
12:10 p.m.	<b>Lunch Break and Visit the Exhibits</b>	5:25 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b>

# Agenda

## DAY THREE | **Friday, November 10**

7:30 a.m.	<b>Virtual Platform Opens and Visit the Exhibits</b>	12:15 p.m.	<b>Session VIII Introductions</b> Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA
7:50 a.m.	<b>Day Three Welcome Remarks</b> Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA	12:25 p.m.	<b>Denied Due to Lack of Medical Necessity: Preventing &amp; Responding to Insurance Denials for PANS/PANDAS Treatments</b> Elizabeth P. Irias, LMFT
8:00 a.m.	<b>The Clinical Significance of Metabolic Immune Interactions: Implication for Treatment</b> Richard E. Frye, PhD, MD	1:10 p.m.	<b>Panel: Treatment</b> Moderator: Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA Panelists: Isaac Melamed, MD; M. Elizabeth Latimer, MD
8:45 a.m.	<b>Rituximab Treatment of PANS/PANDAS</b> M. Elizabeth Latimer, MD	1:55 p.m.	<b>Panel: Post Treatment Lyme-PANS/PANDAS</b> Moderator: Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA Panelists: Brian A. Fallon, MD; Jennifer Frankovich, MD; Cherie Marvel, PhD
9:30 a.m.	<b>Long Lyme: Opportunities for Prevention and Treatment</b> Kim Lewis, PhD, BSc	2:40 p.m.	<b>Closing Remarks</b> Gary Kaplan, DO, DABFM, DABPM, FAAMA; Craig D. Shimasaki, PhD, MBA
10:15 a.m.	<b>Brain Changes and Clinical Outcome Correlates in Post-Treatment Lyme Disease</b> Cherie Marvel, PhD	2:45 p.m.	<b>Adjourn</b>
11:00 a.m.	<b>Nutritional Supplements for Immune and Mitochondrial Dysfunction</b> Sandra Kaufman, MD		
11:45 a.m.	<b>Afternoon Break and Visit the Exhibits</b>		



# Registration Information

## Virtual Conference Ticket Registration Fees

FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS	FOR PATIENTS & GENERAL PUBLIC
<b>\$175</b> prior to the conference	<b>\$495</b> prior to the conference
<b>\$245</b> day of the event	<b>\$595</b> day of the event

## Online Registration Preferred

Please visit <https://chronicillnessconference.com> for updated program and registration information. We are unable to accept registrations or cancellations by telephone.

Information will be emailed closer to the conference date with login instructions. This will be sent to the email address you registered with.

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](mailto:medstarcpe@medstar.net) or (833) 731-1273.

## 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.

## Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made in writing by September 25 will be subject to a 50% penalty. No refunds will be given after September 25. 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.

**For grant information please contact Ada Guo at [ada.guo@medstar.net](mailto:ada.guo@medstar.net)**  
**For exhibit support information please contact Elizabeth Romano at [elizabeth.s.romano@medstar.net](mailto:elizabeth.s.romano@medstar.net)**