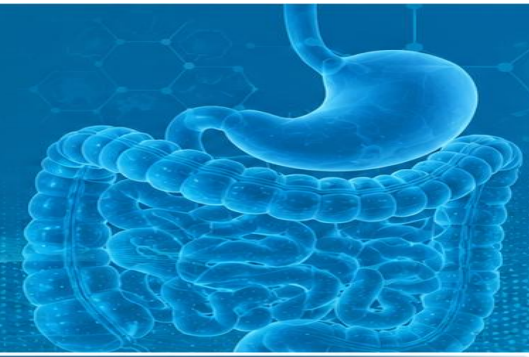


Medical and Surgical Approaches to GI Disorders

July 13 – 17, 2026



AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY
**MEDICAL COLLEGE
OF GEORGIA**

PRESENTED BY

Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University and
Division of Professional and Community Education
at Kiawah Island Resort, Kiawah, South Carolina

Endorsed by:



OBJECTIVES

The symposium should prepare participants to:

- review advances in treating disease commonly seen by gastroenterologists and GI surgeons
- outline practical, evidence-based approaches for diagnosis and management of GI disorders that reflect advances in treatment
- discuss challenges and controversies in managing the patient with GI disease

TARGET AUDIENCE

This conference is designed for gastroenterologists, surgeons, physician assistants, nurse practitioners and other health care professionals who treat GI disorders

FORMAT

The course emphasizes audience participation in informal case study sessions. Participants are encouraged to bring interesting cases for discussion at breakfast round tables with the faculty.

ACCREDITATION

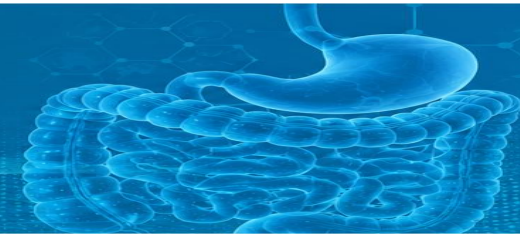
The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing education for physicians.

DESIGNATION

The Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University designates this live activity for a maximum of 25.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim the credit Commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Monday, July 13, 2026

7:00-7:45 AM	Registration & Breakfast Roundtable with Faculty
7:45-8:00 AM	Welcome
8:00-8:45 AM	Comparing Biologics in Head-to-Head Trials: Moving Beyond Placebo in IBD Hans H. Herfarth, MD, PhD, FACC
8:45-9:30 AM	Modern Management of Chronic Hepatitis B: Who to Treat, When to Treat, and How to Monitor Devina Bhasin, MD
9:30-10:15 AM	Chronic Pancreatitis: The IBS of Advanced Endoscopy or a Misunderstood Disease? Rethinking Pain, Pathophysiology and Interventions Nirav C. Thosani, MD, MHA
10:15-10:45 AM	BREAK
10:45-11:30 AM	Contemporary Surgical Management of Cholangiocarcinoma: From Resectability to Long-Term Outcomes Dan Milgrom, MD
11:30-12:15 PM	Feeding the Gut: Evidence Based Approach to Enteral Access and Mastering Enteral Feeding in Complex Patients John Fang, MD
12:15-1:00 PM	Understanding and Treating Fibrostenotic Crohn's Disease Aline Charabaty, MD, FACC
1:00-1:15 PM	Review of the Day
1:15 PM	Adjourn

CME 5hr 15min

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast Roundtable with Faculty – Q&A and Cases
8:00-8:45 AM	Upper Gastrointestinal Crohn's Disease: Definitions, Diagnosis, and Management Aline Charabaty, MD
8:45-9:30 AM	Autoimmune Hepatitis: Practical Approaches to Diagnosis, Treatment and Monitoring Devina Bhasin, MD
9:30-10:00 AM	POEM in Motion: One Tunnel, Many Solutions – Applications Across the GI Tract John Fang, MD
10:00-10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30-11:15 AM	The Role of Azathioprine and Methotrexate in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Are Immunomodulators Still Relevant? Hans H. Herfarth, MD, PhD
11:15-12:00 PM	EUS Meets ERCP: The Evolving Landscape of Pancreatobiliary Interventions Nirav C. Thosani, MD, MHA
12:00-12:30 PM	Benign Hepatic Lesions: Balancing Surveillance, Intervention, and Surgery Dan Milgrom, MD
12:30-1:00 PM	Review of the Day
1:00 PM	Adjourn

CME 4hr 45min

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast Roundtable with Faculty – Q&A and Cases
8:00-8:45 AM	Intestinal Ultrasound in IBD Care Erin Forster, MD, MPH
8:45-9:30 AM	Post Lyon Consensus 2.0: Controversies in the Diagnosis and Management of GERD Chuma Obineme, MD
9:30-10:00 AM	NAFLD / NASH to MAFLD / MASH: The New Paradigm – Emerging Therapies and Future Outlook Ryan Ford, MD
10:00-10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30-11:00 AM	IBD in Women's Health 2026: Fertility, Pregnancy, Postpartum Care, and Medication Safety Erin Forster, MD, MPH
11:15-11:45 AM	When Push Comes to Shove: The Mechanics of Defecation Gone Wrong Amol Sharma, MD, MS, FACC, AGAF
11:45-12:30 PM	Abnormal LFTs: Over-Investigation or Missed Opportunity? Ryan Ford, MD
12:30-1:00 PM	Review of the Day
1:00 PM	Adjourn

CME 5hr

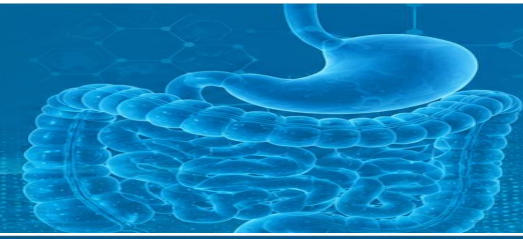
Thursday, July 16, 2026

7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast Roundtable with Faculty – Q&A and Cases
8:00-8:30 AM	Navigating the Growing Therapeutic Armamentarium in IBD Reezwana Chowdhury, MD, FACC
8:30-9:15 AM	Therapeutic Diets vs Restrictive Diets: Exploring the Dual Role of The Nutrition in GI Disease Therapy Zain Sobani, MD, FACC
9:15-10:00 AM	Siphon That Won't Flow: Current Controversies in Gastroparesis Management and Future Hope Kyle Staller, MD, MPH
10:00-10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30-11:15 AM	Next Generation Endoscopy: Newer Technologies and Tools Changing How We Diagnose and Treat John Erikson Yap, MD, MBA, MHA, FACC, FASGE, AGAF, DABOM
11:15-11:45 PM	Examination Under Anesthesia (EUA): A Surgeon's Approach to Anorectal Disease Susan Gearhart, MD
11:45-12:15 PM	Advanced Endoscopy in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: State-of-the-Art in 2026 Bo Shen, MD, FACC, AGAF
12:15-12:45 PM	Review of the Day
12:45 PM	Adjourn

CME 4hr 45min

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COURSE SCHEDULE

Friday, July 17, 2026

7:00-8:00 AM	Breakfast Roundtable with Faculty – Q&A and Cases	
8:00-8:45 AM	When Medical Therapy is Not Enough: The Role of Surgery in IBD	Susan Gearhart, MD
8:45-9:30 AM	Troubleshooting the Pouch: Diagnosis and Management Made Practical	Bo Shen, MD, FACG, AGAF
9:30-10:00 AM	Is It Time to Rethink H. Pylori Eradication? Challenges and Advances in Therapy	Zain Sobani, MD, FACG
10:00-10:30 AM	BREAK	
10:30-11:15 AM	Gut Buggs and Gut Health: Is Microbiome the Missing Link?	Kyle Staller, MD, MPH
11:15 – 11:45 AM	Health maintenance in IBD	Reezwana Chowdhury, MD
11:45- 12:30 PM	The Weight Loss Revolution: From Pharmacotherapy to Endoscopic Solutions – Is The Landscape Changing from Surgery?	John Erikson Yap, MD, MBA, MHA, FACG, FASGE, AGAF, DABOM
12:30-1:00 PM	Review of the Day	
1:00 PM	Adjourn	

CME 5hr

Conference Location:

Turtle Point Clubhouse 1,
Turtle Point Lane,
Kiawah Island, SC 29455



Scan to find the location

SPECIAL NEEDS

The Augusta University Division of Professional and Community Education complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require special services, facilities or dietary considerations (vegetarian or otherwise) to support your participation in this continuing education program, contact the conference coordinator at 800-221-6437 or 706-721-3967.

COMFORT ZONE

Although every effort is made to have a comfortable temperature in the meeting room, we realize everyone's comfort zone is different. Please bring a jacket or light wrap in case the room is too cool for your comfort.

COURSE DIRECTOR

Co-Directors

Viveksandeev Thoguluva Chandrasekar, MBBS, FACG, FASGE Assistant Professor of Medicine, Gastroenterology & Hepatology at WellStar MCG Health
Evangelos Tsiptotis, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Gastroenterology & Hepatology at WellStar MCG Health

GUEST FACULTY

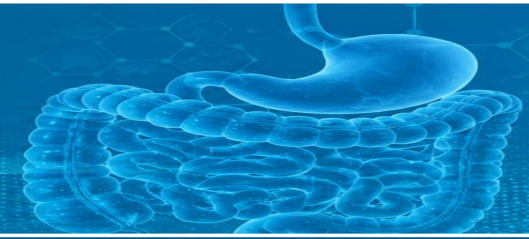
Aline Charabaty, MD, AGAF, FACG, Professor of Medicine, University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
Amol Sharma, MD, MSc, FACG, AGAF, Professor of Medicine, Donald O. Castell, MD - Endowed Chair in Gastroenterology (MUSC)
Bo Shen, MD, FACG, AGAF, Professor, Director of the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, NY
Chuma Obineme, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC
Devina Bhasin, MD, Transplant Hepatologist, Piedmont Transplant Institute, Atlanta, GA.
Erin Forster, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC.
Hans H. Herfarth, MD, PhD, FACG, Professor of Medicine, University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill, NC
John Erikson Yap, MD, MBA, MHA, FACG, FASGE, AGAF, DABOM, Associate Clinical Professor, University of Utah School of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology/Hepatology and Nutrition. Salt Lake City, UT
John Fang, MD, Professor of Medicine, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
Kyle Staller, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
Nirav C. Thosani, MD, MHA, Professor, Department of Medicine, Director Atilla Ertan MD Endowed Chair in Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition, UT Health Houston, McGovern Medical School, Houston, TX
Reezwana Chowdhury, MD, FACG, Assistant Professor of Medicine, John Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD
Ryan Ford, MD, Associate Professor, Emory School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA
Zain Sobani, MD, FACG, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

MCG FACULTY

Daniel Milgrom, MD, Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology, Augusta University
Susan L. Gearhart, MD, Professor, Surgical Oncology, Augusta University

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LOCATION & LODGING



Kiawah Island is ten miles of wide, immaculate, oceanfront beach that invites you to stroll or cycle for hours without interruption. Soothing by day, romantic by night, the beach is complemented by the island's river, meandering lagoons, pristine marshlands, and maritime forests.

Each sun-washed day ends beneath a star-studded southern sky. Kiawah Island Golf Resort is a destination like no other. Guests enjoy world-class accommodations, amenities, and recreational facilities, so you can fully experience and enjoy the resort lifestyle. Located less than 30 miles south of Charleston, Kiawah Island Golf Resort consistently ranks as one of the country's top resorts. It includes The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, the resort's ultra-luxury 255-room hotel and spa, and nearly 500 private villas and luxury homes, five championship golf courses, including The Ocean Course, host of the 1991 Ryder Cup, the 2012 PGA Championship and 2022 PGA Championship. For 10 of the past 12 years, the resort has ranked as the number one tennis resort in the world by <https://www.TennisResortsOnline.com> and features an award-winning recreation and nature program. Beginning spring 2018, Kiawah Island Golf Resort launched a three-year development that will greatly enhance the resort's already world-class amenities. For more information, visit [Kiawah Island Golf Resort] <https://www.kiawahresort.com>

Scenic View Villas Daily Rates

1-Bedroom Villa	\$ 280.00
2-Bedroom Villa	\$ 420.00
3-Bedroom Villa	\$ 540.00
Sanctuary ROH	\$ 755.00

Reservations: 800-654-2924 or 843-768-2121

Please identify your group as Augusta University GI Disorders, and/or the group booking number 1130. Email: group_reservations@kiawahresort.com

Deposit: Each reservation must be guaranteed by a check equal to one night's lodging (plus 12.5% tax) payable to the Kiawah Island Resort. The Kiawah Island Resort will confirm your reservation directly to you when your deposit is received. If the type of accommodation you request is sold out, the most appropriate lodging available will be reserved for you. Your deposit must be received within five days if not paid by major credit card. All rates are subject to 12.5% tax. Cancellations must be received 14 days prior to arrival date for refund of deposit.

REGISTRATION

Physicians

- Early Registration Before July 1st - \$ 795.00
- Registration on July 1st or Afterward - \$995.00

Non-Physicians

- Early Registration Before July 1st - \$695.00
- Registration on July 1st or Afterward - \$895.00

2 Days or Less

- Early Registration Before July 1st - \$445.00
- Registration on July 1st or Afterward - \$595.00



Please register online via credit card at:

<https://mcg.cloud-cme.com/course/courseoverview?P=5&EID=27431>

Or Scan



For questions or registering via check, please call

706-721-2239 - Helen B. Smith

The registration fee, less a \$200 administrative charge, is refundable if notice of cancellation is received by June 28, 2026

Augusta University is not responsible for any circumstance making it impossible to attend their continuing education courses due to acts of God, war, government regulations, disaster, strikes, civil disorder or curtailment of transportation facilities. If Augusta University cancels a continuing education activity you will be refunded your registration fee.