



The 29th Annual

Virginia Liver Symposium and Update in Gastroenterology

April 26, 2025 | The Westin Richmond

Presented by the VCU Health Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition,
and VCU Health Continuing Education



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SCHEDULE

A.M.

7:00 **Registration and breakfast with exhibitors**

7:55 **Welcome and introduction**

Milan Patel, MD; Arun Sanyal, MD and
Richard Sterling, MD, MSc

SESSION I

Inflammatory bowel disease: Diagnosis and management

Educational objectives:

1. To recognize and diagnose inflammatory bowel disease.
2. To understand the treatments for inflammatory bowel disease.
3. To understand the complications of inflammatory bowel disease.

Moderator: Milan Patel, MD

8:00 **Inflammatory bowel disease: Recognition and diagnosis**

Stephen Bickston, MD

8:25 **Inflammatory bowel disease: Biologic treatment**

Raseen Tariq, MD

8:50 **Inflammatory bowel disease: Complications and management**

Sasha Mangray, MD

9:15 **Panel discussion**

9:25 **Alvin Zfass State of the Art Lecture: Acid secretion and H. Pylori – Past, present and future**

Mitch Schubert, MD

10:00 **Break with exhibitors**

SESSION II

Understanding cirrhosis and liver diseases

Educational objectives:

1. To inspect clinical, lab and imaging findings of cirrhosis.
2. To name metabolic phenotyping in liver disease.
3. Construct health literacy in patients with cirrhosis.

Moderator: Richard Sterling, MD, MSc

10:20 **Cirrhosis: Diagnosis and nomenclature**

Amon Asgharpour, MD

10:45 **PBC/PSC: Identification and diagnosis**

Obi Aseem, MD

11:10 **MASLD: New advances and treatment**

Arun Sanyal, MD

11:35 **Screening for MASLD: Identifying patients in clinic**

Juan Pablo Arab, MD

P.M.

12:00 **Living donor liver transplant surgery**

Vinay Kumaran, MBBS

12:25 **Panel discussion**

12:35 **Lunch with exhibitors**

12:50 **Workshop sessions**

A. Effective administration of esophageal manometry

Annette McVey, MSN and Milan Patel, MD

B. Endoscopic nurse session - Colonoscopy preparation

Jennifer Almeda, MSN and Christine Dillon, RN

C. Management of viral hepatitis B and C

Reena Cherian, NP and Shawn Lewis, NP

SESSION III

Common gastrointestinal disorders

Educational objectives:

1. To identify varying methodology for colorectal cancer screening.
2. To identify the utilization of artificial intelligence in endoscopy.
3. To determine optimal management strategies for acute pancreatitis.
4. To identify advances in advanced endoscopy.

Moderator: Ravi Vachhani, MD

1:30 **Colorectal cancer screening: Varying modalities**

Milan Patel, MD

1:55 **Use of artificial intelligence in endoscopy**

Nikita Chadha, DO

2:20 **Acute pancreatitis: Updates on management**

Catie Vozzo, MD

2:45 **Advances in therapeutic endoscopy: When to refer**

Doumit BouHaidar, MD

3:10 **Panel discussion**

3:20 **Break with exhibitors**

SESSION IV

Liver diseases and transplant

Educational objectives:

1. To identify compensated versus decompensated cirrhosis and indications for liver transplant evaluation.
2. To explain the role and value of living donor liver transplantation.
3. To describe post-transplant liver complications.

Moderator: Obi Aseem, MD

3:30 **Liver transplant: When to evaluate and refer?**

Joel Wedd, MD

3:55 **Hepatocellular carcinoma: Identification and modalities of treatment**

Hannah Lee, MD

4:20 **Liver transplant complications**

Brian Davis, MD

4:45 **Panel discussion**

4:55 **Final comments**

Course description and target audience

The Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, the Liver Transplant Program, and VCU Health Continuing Education are pleased to offer the 29th Annual Virginia Liver Symposium and Update in Gastroenterology taking place in Richmond, VA. The program is designed for primary care and sub-specialty physicians, and advanced practice providers who treat patients with gastrointestinal and liver disorders.

Course objectives

- Explain the criteria for colorectal cancer screening and the modalities used for testing.
- Identify signs of cirrhosis and criteria for referral for evaluation of liver transplantation.
- Explain diagnosis and management of inflammatory bowel disease.

VCU Health course directors

Richard K. Sterling, MD, MSc, FACP, FACG, FAASLD, AGAF
Professor of Medicine
Chief, Section of Hepatology
Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Milan Patel, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Allison Lewis, BSN, MSN
Program Manager
Hume-Lee Transplant Center

Visiting faculty

Mitchell Schubert, MD
Professor of Medicine
Former Chief, Central Virginia Veterans Healthcare System

VCU Health Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition faculty

Jennifer Almeda, MSN, NP
Advanced Practice Provider Gastroenterology Endoscopy

Juan Pablo Arab, MD
Transplant Hepatologist and Director of Alcohol Sciences

Obi Aseem, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Amon Asgharpour, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

Stephen Bickston, MD, AGAF
Professor of Medicine
Director, Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center

Doumit BouHaidar, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director of Endoscopy

Nikita Chadha, DO
Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellow

Reena Cherian, NP
Advanced Practice Provider Hepatology

Brian Davis, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Central Virginia Veterans Healthcare System

Christen Dillon, RN
Nurse Navigator of Gastroenterology Endoscopy

Vinay Kumaran, MBBS, MS, MCh
Professor of Surgery
Surgical Director, Living Donor Liver Transplantation

Hannah Lee, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Co-Director, Hepatocellular Cancer Clinic

Shawn Lewis, NP
Advanced Practice Provider Hepatology

Sasha Mangray, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Annette McVey, MSN, RN, CGRN
Endoscopy Nursing Clinician

Arun Sanyal, MD
Professor of Medicine
Interim Chair, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Raseen Tariq, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine

Ravi Vachhani, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship Director

Catie Vozzo, MD
Assistant Professor Medicine
Central Virginia Veterans Healthcare System

Joel Wedd, MD, MPH
Associate Professor of Medicine
Director, Liver Transplantation

Accreditation and credit



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INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

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Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to **8 MOC points** in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program.

Participants will earn MOC points equivalent to the amount of CME credits claimed for the activity. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.

REGISTRATION

Register online at vcu.cloud-cme.com/liver

Registration rates

\$280	Physician (includes MOC)
\$180	Healthcare Providers (non-physician)
\$20	VCU Health Employee
\$20	Central Virginia Veterans Healthcare System - Residents & GI Fellows, Faculty, Transplant Staff

Syllabus Free download available

Cancellation policy

Registration fee, less a 25% non-refundable administrative fee, will be refunded only if written notice of cancellation is received via email to ceinfo@vcuhealth.org on or before **April 11, 2025**. There will be no refunds after that date.

Questions?

Contact VCU Health Continuing Education. Box 980048 | Richmond, VA | 804.828.3640 | ceinfo@vcuhealth.org

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