

**8<sup>th</sup> Interdisciplinary Pain and Opioid Seminar**

# Navigating the Opioid Use Conundrum: Use, Underuse, and Nonmedical Use

**April 24-25, 2026 | Virtual Event**



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MDAnderson**  
~~Cancer Center~~

Making Cancer History®





Clinical evidence supports the use of opioid analgesics as the gold standard to treat cancer-related pain. Unfortunately, the opioid crisis has brought renewed attention and scrutiny to opioid prescriptions, thereby creating a dilemma in patient management. Clinicians are required to carefully balance the judicious prescription of opioids with the risk of nonmedical opioid use.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Interdisciplinary Pain and Opioid Seminar** provide a unique opportunity for healthcare providers to achieve this much needed balance by enhancing their knowledge and competencies in the use of opioids. It will offer cutting-edge lectures and interactive panel discussions from worldwide expert faculty with diverse clinical and research backgrounds in pain and opioids. This activity will provide practical evidence-based guidance and solutions to address clinical, public health, and regulatory issues related to the use and nonmedical use of opioids.

## Educational Objectives

### After attending the seminar, participants should be able to:

- Apply the basic principles of pain management and chronic opioid therapy.
- Utilize practical strategies to manage patients with co-occurring cancer pain and nonmedical opioid use.
- Implement ways to improve patient care and ensure patient/ family safety related to the use of opioids.
- Apply non-pharmacologic approaches to manage pain in patients with opioid use disorder.
- Describe the basic principles of pain management.

### Topics include:

- Long-Term Opioid Use and Its Consequences: From Population Data to Endocrine and Immune Findings
- Artificial Intelligence in Pain Medicine: What, When, and How?
- Opioid Conversion in Cancer Pain management: MASCC-ASCO-AAHPM Clinical Practice Guidelines
- The Interprofessional treatment of pain in the Setting of Opioid Use Disorder or Complex Persistent Opioid Dependence
- The Change Talk: Facilitating Conversations with Motivational Interviewing in Patients with Nonmedical Opioid Use/ Opioid Use Disorder
- One Size Does Not Fit All: Personalizing Opioid Therapy to Balance Analgesia with Risk for Nonmedical Opioid Use



## Target Audience

**Specialties:**

- Anesthesiology
- Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- Internal medicine
- Oncology
- Primary Care
- Pain Medicine

**Professions:**

- Nurse (APRN, LVN, RN)
- Physician (MD or DO)
- Physician Associate
- Social Worker

## Course Evaluation

A course evaluation tool will provide participants with the opportunity to comment on the value of the program content to their practice decisions, performance improvement activities, or possible impact on patient health status. Participants will also have the opportunity to comment on any perceived commercial bias in the presentations as well as to identify future educational topics. The survey link will be provided during the review course.

## Description

Clinical evidence supports the use of opioid analgesics as the gold standard to treat cancer-related pain.

Unfortunately, the opioid crisis has brought renewed attention and scrutiny to opioid prescriptions, thereby creating a dilemma in patient management. Clinicians are required to carefully balance the judicious prescription of opioids with the risk of nonmedical opioid use.

## Learning Objectives

**Apply the basic principles of pain management and chronic opioid therapy:**

- Utilize practical strategies to manage patients with co-occurring cancer pain and non-medical opioid use.
- Implement and integrate ways to improve patient care and ensure patient and family safety related to the use of opioids.
- Apply non-pharmacologic approaches to manage pain in patients with opioid use disorder.
- Articulate the basic principles of pain management.
- Describe practical strategies to manage patients with co-occurring cancer pain.

## DEA Licensure

This activity meets the new DEA 8-hour training requirement for initial registration or license renewal of all opioid prescribers which began on 06/27/2023 as part of the federal Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act.

## Risk Management Education

The training qualifies for 5 hours of Risk Management Education (RME).



## Accreditation

In support of improving patient care, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center 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

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 13.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.50 credit(s) of education in medical ethics and/or professional responsibility.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of 9.50 credit(s) of education in pain management and the prescription of opioids.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center designates this live activity will award 13.75 Nursing Contact Hour(s) which includes 7.25 Pharmacotherapeutics credit(s).

## American Board of Anesthesiology MOCA Credit

This activity contributes to the CME component of the American Board of Anesthesiology's redesigned Maintenance of Certification in Anesthesiology™ (MOCA®) program, known as MOCA 2.0®. Please consult the ABA website, [www.theABA.org](http://www.theABA.org), for a list of all MOCA 2.0 requirements. Participant completion data will be shared with and transmitted to ACCME on the participant's behalf.

## 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 13.75 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.

## Disclosure of Financial Relationships

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CE activity, including faculty, planners, reviewers or others are required to disclose all financial relationships with ineligible companies (commercial interests). All relevant conflicts of interest have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.



## Featured Speakers



### **Geana Kurita**

Clinical Professor, Senior Researcher

Multidisciplinary Pain Centre, Department of Anaesthesiology,  
Pain and Respiratory Support, Neuroscience Centre  
Section of Palliative Medicine, Department of Oncology,  
Centre for Cancer and Organ Diseases  
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### **Kathleen Broglio, DNP, ANP-BC, ACHPN, CARN-AP, FPCN, FAANP, FAAHPM**

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### **Akhila Reddy, MD, FAAHPM**

Professor and Section Chief

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### **Joseph Arthur, MD**

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### **Angelica F. Torres, MS, LPC**

Sr. Counselor

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# Agenda

## Friday, April 24

Time	Topic	Speaker
8-8:15 a.m.	Welcome	Joseph Arthur, MD
8:15-9 a.m.	Opioid Conversion in Cancer Pain Management: MASCC-ASCO-AAHPM Clinical Practice Guidelines	Akhila Reddy, MD
9-10 a.m.	Award Presentation	Eduardo Bruera, MD
	Keynote Speech: Long-Term Opioid Use and Its Consequences: From Population Data to Endocrine and Immune Findings	Geana Kurita, PhD
10-10:45 a.m.	Percutaneous Cordotomy for Refractory Cancer Pain: Review of Evidence	Ashwin Viswanathan, MD
<b>10:45-11 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
11-11:45 a.m.	Opioid-Sparing Benefits of Integrative Therapies: Hypnosis and More	Lorenzo Cohen, PhD; Santhosshi Narayanan, MD
11:45-12:30 p.m.	Creation of an Innovative Neuromodulation Program for Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy: Science in Translation	Sarah Prinsloo, PhD
12:30-1:15 p.m.	Ketamine for Cancer Pain: What is the Evidence?	Saba Javed, MD
<b>1:15-1:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
1:30-2:15 p.m.	The Interprofessional Treatment of Pain in the Setting of Opioid Use Disorder or Complex Persistent Opioid Dependence	Kathleen Broglio, DNP, ANP-BC, ACHPN, CARN-AP, FPCN, FAANP, FAAHPM
2:15-3 p.m.	Towards Safer Opioid Prescribing: A Harm Reduction Clinic for Patients with Co-occurring Substance Use Disorder and Cancer Pain	Deborah Russell, RN, MSN, FNP-BC, APRN-CNP, ACHPN; Maximillian H. Stevenson, PharmD, MA, BCPS
3-3:45 p.m.	Tobacco, Pain, and Opioid Use: Dissecting the Complex Interplay and Implications for Practice	Rony Dev, DO
<b>3:45-4 p.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
4-4:45 p.m.	Patient and Health Care Provider Perceptions about Medical Marijuana in Symptom Care: An Evolving Trend	Kimberson Tanco, MD
4:45-5:15 pm	Meet the Professor: An Interactive Discussion on Cancer Pain, Opioid Therapy, and Opioid Use Disorder	Eduardo Bruera, MD; Lakshmi Koyyalagunta, MD; Joseph Arthur, MD
5:15-5:20 p.m.	Adjourn	Joseph Arthur, MD

**Saturday, April 25**

Time	Topic	Speaker
8-8:15 a.m.	Welcome	Tonya Edwards, FNP-C
8:15-9 a.m.	Opioid Deprescribing in Cancer Pain Management: Rationale, Indications, and Processes	Joseph Arthur, MD
9-9:45 a.m.	Opioid Stewardship Program: Promoting Safe Opioid Use in Patients with Cancer Pain and Nonmedical Opioid Use	Tonya Edwards, FNP-C; Matthew Clark, PharmD
9:45-10:30 a.m.	The Change Talk: Facilitating Conversations with Motivational Interviewing in Patients with Nonmedical Opioid Use/ Opioid Use Disorder	Angelica Torres, MS, LPC, LCDC; Brittany Bowell, LPC
<b>10:30-10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>	
10:45-11:30 a.m.	Artificial Intelligence in Pain Medicine: What, When, and How?	Sonal Admane, MD; Min Ji Kim, MD
11:30-12:15 p.m.	The Clinical and Legal Landscapes for Opioid Treatment Agreements in Pain Medicine	Soraira Pacheco, DO, MS
12:15-1 p.m.	Pharmaceutical and Insurance Company Barriers to Opioid Access for Patients with Cancer Pain	Michael Tang, MD
1-1:45 p.m.	One Size Does Not Fit All: Personalizing Opioid Therapy to Balance Analgesia with Risk for Nonmedical Opioid Use	Eduardo Bruera, MD
1:45-1:50 p.m.	Seminar Wrap Up	Tonya Edwards, FNP-C

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The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center has implemented a process whereby everyone who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity must disclose all financial relationships with any commercial interest that could potentially affect the information presented.

MD Anderson also requires that all faculty disclose any unlabeled use or investigational use (not yet approved for any purpose) of pharmaceutical and medical device products. Specific disclosure will be made to the participants prior to the educational activity.

Agendas are subject to change because we are always striving to improve the quality of your educational experience.

MD Anderson may substitute faculty with comparable expertise on rare occasions necessitated by illness, schedule conflicts, and so forth.

Photographing, audio taping and videotaping are prohibited.

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Please let us know what specific topics, issues or questions you wish to see addressed or emphasized in this activity. Email Continuing Professional Education (CPE) at [PEPInfo@MDAnderson.org](mailto:PEPInfo@MDAnderson.org). All responses will be forwarded to the Activity Director for consideration.



# Registration Information

## Conference Registration Fees

Type of Attendee	Cost before April 17	Cost after April 17
MD Anderson: Physician	\$180	\$200
MD Anderson: Other Healthcare Professional*	\$125	\$140
MD Anderson: Trainee/Student	\$60	\$60
Non-MD Anderson: Physician	\$250	\$275
Non-MD Anderson: Other Healthcare Professional*	\$150	\$175
Non-MD Anderson: Trainee/Student	\$80	\$95

\*Other Healthcare Professional includes physician assistants, nurses, advanced nurse practitioners, pharmacists, and all those who are interested in pain management and opioid prescribing.

## We accept the following forms of payment:

- Credit Cards (MasterCard, VISA, and American Express)
- Check (payable to The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center through U.S. banks only)

## Mail checks to:

Continuing Professional Education – Unit 1781  
 The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
 P.O. Box 301407  
 Houston, TX 77230-1407

## Telephone registrations will not be accepted

When registering online a receipt (confirmation letter) will be automatically emailed to the e-mail address you list on the registration form. Once your payment has been made, a receipt can be found in the MyCE tab of your PEP@MD Anderson account.

## Refund/Cancellation Policy

The registration fee, minus a \$35.00 administration-handling fee, is refundable if a written request is **received on or before Friday, April 17, 2026**. No refunds will be granted after these dates. The request for a registration refund must include the tax identification number of the company or institution if registration was paid by a company or institution check.

The Department of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) reserves the right to cancel activities prior to the scheduled date, if low enrollment or other circumstances make it necessary. Each registrant will be notified by mail, e-mail, or at the phone or fax numbers given on the registration form. In case of activity cancellation, the liability of the Department of Continuing Professional Education, is limited to the registration fee. CPE will refund the full registration fee.

The Department of Continuing Professional Education, reserves the right to limit the number of participants in a program and is not responsible for any expenses incurred by an individual whose registration is not confirmed and for whom space is not available.

## Special Assistance

For additional information contact Continuing Professional Education at 713-792-2223 or toll free at 866-849-5866 or via e-mail:

[ContinuingEducation@MDAnderson.org](mailto:ContinuingEducation@MDAnderson.org). If you have any ADA accommodation needs or need assistance.

## A Virtual Live Streaming Course

The 8<sup>th</sup> Interdisciplinary Pain and Opioid Crisis Seminar will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, April 24, and adjourn at 5:20 p.m. It will reconvene on Saturday, April 25, at 8 a.m. and adjourn at 1:50 p.m.

Instructions for accessing the virtual program will be emailed to you 3-5 days prior to the conference. The only requirements for participation are a laptop or desktop computer, a webcam, and a stable internet connection.