



9th Advances in Colorectal Oncology

Controversies and Emerging Approaches

NOVEMBER 6—7, 2025

Zuckerman Research Center, New York City
Virtual Option Available

Featuring live surgical broadcasts, multidisciplinary case discussions, and expert insights on current controversies and emerging treatments.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Overview

This two-day live symposium at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) will focus on the surgical and multidisciplinary management of colorectal cancer. National and international leaders in surgery, medical oncology, and radiation oncology will address current controversies and highlight emerging approaches in the treatment of both localized and metastatic disease.

Highlights of this year's program include:

- **Live surgery presentations** streamed directly from MSK's operating rooms
- **Focused sessions exploring current controversies** in the medical and surgical management of rectal cancer, with a focus on TNT and Watch-and-Wait approaches
- **Cutting edge updates in the treatment of colorectal malignancies**, including advances in KRAS and BRAF targeted therapies
- **Reviews of recent clinical trials** in colon, rectal, and anal cancers
- **Interactive multidisciplinary tumor boards** featuring complex case discussions
- **Networking opportunities** to connect with leading experts and peers

This comprehensive program is designed to equip participants with the latest evidence-based strategies and multidisciplinary perspectives that are shaping the future of colorectal cancer care—ultimately **advancing clinical practice and improving patient outcomes.**

Target Audience

This symposium is intended for medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, interventional radiologists, colorectal/hepatopancreatobiliary/oncologic surgeons, gastroenterologists, pathologists, and other oncology care team members interested in rectal cancer.

Format

This symposium will be offered in a **hybrid format**, with in-person participation at MSK's Zuckerman Research Center in New York City and a virtual participation option available via Zoom.



Zuckerman Research Center
417 East 68th Street

Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the requirements for a successful, multidisciplinary colorectal cancer program
- Discuss technical options for the surgical management of distal rectal cancer
- Identify appropriate candidates for Watch and Wait and adjuncts to optimize organ preservation
- Discuss evidence-based practice recommendation for the management of metastatic colorectal cancer
- Review advancements in immunotherapy and alternative strategies for managing colorectal cancer

Post-Symposium Resources

Participants will receive access to an online syllabus following the symposium, which will include presentation recordings and faculty slide decks in PDF format.

Accreditation

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center designates this live activity for a maximum of **15.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

MOC/CC Recognition Statement

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to:

- 15.25 Medical Knowledge MOC Points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (**ABIM**) Maintenance of Certification Assessment Recognition program; and
- 15.25 Accredited CME and Self-Assessment MOC points in the American Board of Surgery's (**ABS**) Continuous Certification program.

It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM or ABS MOC credit.

ANCC CNE Statement

Contact hours pending application approval.



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center



MSK Symposium Directors



Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD

Chief, Colorectal Service
Benno C. Schmidt Chair in Surgical Oncology
Department of Surgery



Andrea Cercek, MD

Attending, Gastrointestinal Oncology Service
Section Head, Colorectal Cancer
Co-Director, Center for Young Onset Colorectal
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Maria Widmar, MD, MPH

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MSK Symposium Planners

Jin Kim, MD

Colorectal Surgery Fellow

Rachel Rassam, NP

Adult Care Nurse Practitioner

Guest Faculty

Geerard Beets, MD

Professor, Department of Surgery
The Netherlands Cancer Institute

Andrew T. Chan, MD, MPH

Chief, Clinical and Translational Epidemiology Unit
Massachusetts General Hospital

Alessandro Fichera, MD

Chief, Division of Colon and Rectal Surgery
NewYork-Presbyterian, Weill Cornell Medicine

Guodong He, MD, PhD

Colorectal Surgeon
Zhongshan Hospital, Fudan University

Scott Kopetz, MD, PhD, FACP

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The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Sheela Rao, MBBS, MD, FRCP

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Anwaar Saeed, MD

Chief, Gastrointestinal Medical Oncology Program
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Kai-Keen Shiu, FRCP, PhD

Medical Oncology Consultant, Gastrointestinal Oncology Service;
UCLH Clinical Lead, Cancer of Unknown Primary and Acute Oncology
HCA Healthcare UK
Associate Professor, UCL Cancer Institute

Patricia Sylla, MD, FACS, FASCRS

System Chief, Colon and Rectal Surgery
Mount Sinai Health System

Jurriaan Tuynman, MD, PhD

Professor, Surgery
Amsterdam UMC

Memorial Sloan Kettering 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 financial relationships are mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

MSK Faculty

Mohammad Ali Abbass, MD, MPH

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Christopher Crane, MD

Attending, Department of Radiation
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Attending, Colorectal Service,
Department of Surgery

Leonard Saltz, MD

Head, Colorectal Oncology Section;
Attending, Gastrointestinal Oncology
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Jessica Scott, PhD

Head, Exercise Oncology Program
and Principal Investigator

Deb Schrag, MD, MPH

Chair, Department of Medicine

Neil H. Segal, MD, PhD

Research Director,
Division of Gastrointestinal Oncology;
Associate Attending, Gastrointestinal
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Jinru Shia, MD

Director, Gastrointestinal Pathology;
Attending, Department of Pathology
and Laboratory Medicine

Iris H. Wei, MD, FACS

Assistant Attending, Colorectal Service
Department of Surgery

Martin R. Weiser, MD

Acting Chair, Department of Surgery;
Stuart H.Q. Quan Chair in Colorectal
Surgery; Attending, Colorectal Service,
Department of Surgery

Abraham J. Wu, MD

Attending, Department of Radiation
Oncology

Day 1 Agenda

Thursday, November 6, 2025

All sessions will take place according to Eastern Time (ET).

TIME	SESSION/FACULTY
7:15 AM	Breakfast and Check-in (In-Person Participants)
7:55 AM	Zoom Sign-On (Virtual Participants)
8:00 AM	Introductory Remarks Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD
8:05 AM	Live Surgery Presentations Live surgical cases will be streamed directly from MSK's operating rooms and accompanied by didactic lectures. A scheduled break will take place from 10:00 to 10:15 AM. CHAIRS: Emmanouil P. Pappou, MD, PhD, FACS, FASCRS Iris H. Wei, MD, FACS
12:30 PM	Lunch Break

Controversies in the Surgical Management of Distal Rectal Cancer in the Era of TNT and Watch-and-Wait

CHAIRS	Georgios Karagkounis, MD Mohammad Ali Abbass, MD, MPH
1:30 PM	Is There Still a Role for Laparoscopic TaTME? Patricia Sylla, MD, FACS, FASCRS
1:45 PM	When There is No Room for Stapling: Coloanal Anastomosis or APR? Martin R. Weiser, MD
2:00 PM	Managing the Perineal Wound After APR: Primary Closure, Mesh, or Flaps? Emmanouil P. Pappou, MD, PhD, FACS, FASCRS
2:15 PM	Salvage Local Excision for Incomplete Responders: Are We Pushing Organ Preservation Too Far? Geerard Beets, MD
2:30 PM	Brachytherapy for Incomplete Response After Neoadjuvant Therapy: When and How? Abraham J. Wu, MD
2:45 PM	Q&A and Panel Discussion

3:15 PM	Break and Refreshments
3:30 PM	<p>Surgical Tumor Board Interesting Cases From Everyday Clinical Practice</p> <p>CHAIRS: Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD Marc J. Gollub, MD, FACR Jinru Shia, MD</p> <p>PANELISTS: Geerard Beets, MD Imane El Dika, MD Philip B. Paty, MD Patricia Sylla, MD, FACS, FASCRS Jurriaan Tuynman, MD, PhD Martin R. Weiser, MD Abraham J. Wu, MD</p>
5:00 PM	<p>Closing Remarks and Conclusion of Accredited Sessions</p> <p>Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD</p>
	<p>Networking Reception</p> <p>We invite all participants and faculty to a complimentary networking reception in the lobby, with hors d'oeuvres and refreshments provided.</p>
5:45 PM	<p>Non-Accredited Industry Session* New Platforms for Robotic Colorectal Surgery</p> <p>Additional details to follow.</p> <p><i>*Please note: AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ will not be offered for this session (5:45–6:45 PM).</i></p>

Day 2 Agenda

Friday, November 7, 2025

All sessions will take place according to Eastern Time (ET).

TIME	SESSION/FACULTY
7:15 AM	Breakfast and Check-in (In-Person Participants)
7:55 AM	Zoom Sign-On (Virtual Participants)
8:00 AM	Welcome and Stuart H.Q. Quan Lecture Introduction Martin R. Weiser, MD
8:05 AM	Keynote Lecture and Stuart H.Q. Quan Lecture Series  The Harbinger's Dilemma: ctDNA in Colorectal Cancer Scott Kopetz, MD, PhD, FACP

Current Controversies in Colorectal Oncology

CHAIRS	Philip B. Paty, MD Rona Yaeger, MD
9:00 AM	Management Options for Intermediate Risk Mid Rectal Cancer Neoadjuvant Therapy for Everyone — Deb Schrag, MD, MPH Neoadjuvant Therapy is Rarely Necessary — Jurriaan Tuynman, MD, PhD
9:25 AM	Near Complete Response After Neoadjuvant Therapy for Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer Surgery Now — Iris H. Wei, MD, FACS No Need to Rush to the OR — Maria Widmar, MD, MPH
9:50 AM	Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for pMMR Locally Advanced Colon Cancer Pro — Anwaar Saeed, MD Con — Maria Widmar, MD, MPH
10:15 AM	New Immuno-Oncology Strategies in Colorectal Cancer Immune Checkpoint Blockade in pMMR Colon and Rectal Cancer — Kai-Keen Shiu, FRCP, PhD mRNA Vaccines — Vinod P. Balachandran, MD
10:40 AM	Break and Refreshments

Cutting-Edge Updates in the Treatment of Colorectal Malignancies

CHAIRS	Georgios Karagkounis, MD Neil H. Segal, MD, PhD
11:00 AM	Aspirin for Chemoprevention in Early Stage Colorectal Cancer Andrew T. Chan, MD, MPH
11:15 AM	Structured Exercise to Reduce Colorectal Cancer Recurrence Jessica Scott, PhD
11:30 AM	ctDNA Testing to Guide Colorectal Cancer Management: Is The Time Now? Luis Diaz Jr., MD
11:45 AM	Colorectal Cancer Plasticity and Evolution Karuna Ganesh, MD, PhD
12:00 PM	Genome Driven Treatment of Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Rona Yaeger, MD
12:15 PM	New Therapies for Refractory dMMR Metastatic Colorectal Cancer Michael Foote, MD
12:30 PM	Lunch Break

Highlights from Recent Clinical Trials

CHAIRS	Andrea Cercek, MD Martin R. Weiser, MD
1:30 PM	The REAL Trial Guodong He, PhD DISCUSSANT: Geerard Beets, MD
2:00 PM	TESAR Trial Jurriaan Tuynman, MD, PhD DISCUSSANT: Martin R. Weiser, MD
2:30 PM	Stellar 303 Anwaar Saeed, MD DISCUSSANT: Neil H. Segal, MD, PhD
3:00 PM	Podlum 303 Sheela Rao, MBBS, MD, FRCP DISCUSSANT: Maliha Nusrat, MD, MS

3:30 PM

Break and Refreshments

4:00 PM

Multidisciplinary Tumor Board

CHAIRS:

Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD

Marc J. Gollub, MD, FACR

Jinru Shia, MD

PANELISTS:

Geerard Beets, MD

Andrea Cercek, MD

Christopher Crane, MD

Alessandro Fichera, MD

Scott Kopetz, MD, PhD, FACP

Philip B. Paty, MD

Leonard Saltz, MD

Jurriaan Tuynman, MD, PhD

Martin R. Weiser, MD

5:30 PM

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Julio Garcia-Aguilar, MD, PhD

Registration

This symposium offers the option to attend either **in person or virtually**. Attendance type should be selected during registration.

Register online: msk.org/ColorectalCourse

Registration Fees

- Physicians (MDs, PhDs, DOs) \$400
- Advanced Practice Providers: \$350
- Residents, Fellows, and Other Healthcare Providers: \$300
- Industry Professionals*: \$950
- MSK Employees: Complimentary

***An “industry professional” is defined as any individual—regardless of profession (e.g., MD, PhD, APP, RN)—who is employed by an ineligible company.*

Registration Discounts: Discounted registration is available for specific groups. If eligible, you will receive further instructions and a promotion code to use during registration.

Meals and Accommodations: Continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks will be provided to in-person participants. If you have dietary restrictions or require special accommodations to attend in person, please contact us at cme@mskcc.org at least one week prior to the course.

Cancellation Policy: For details regarding our cancellation policy, please visit the course website.



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