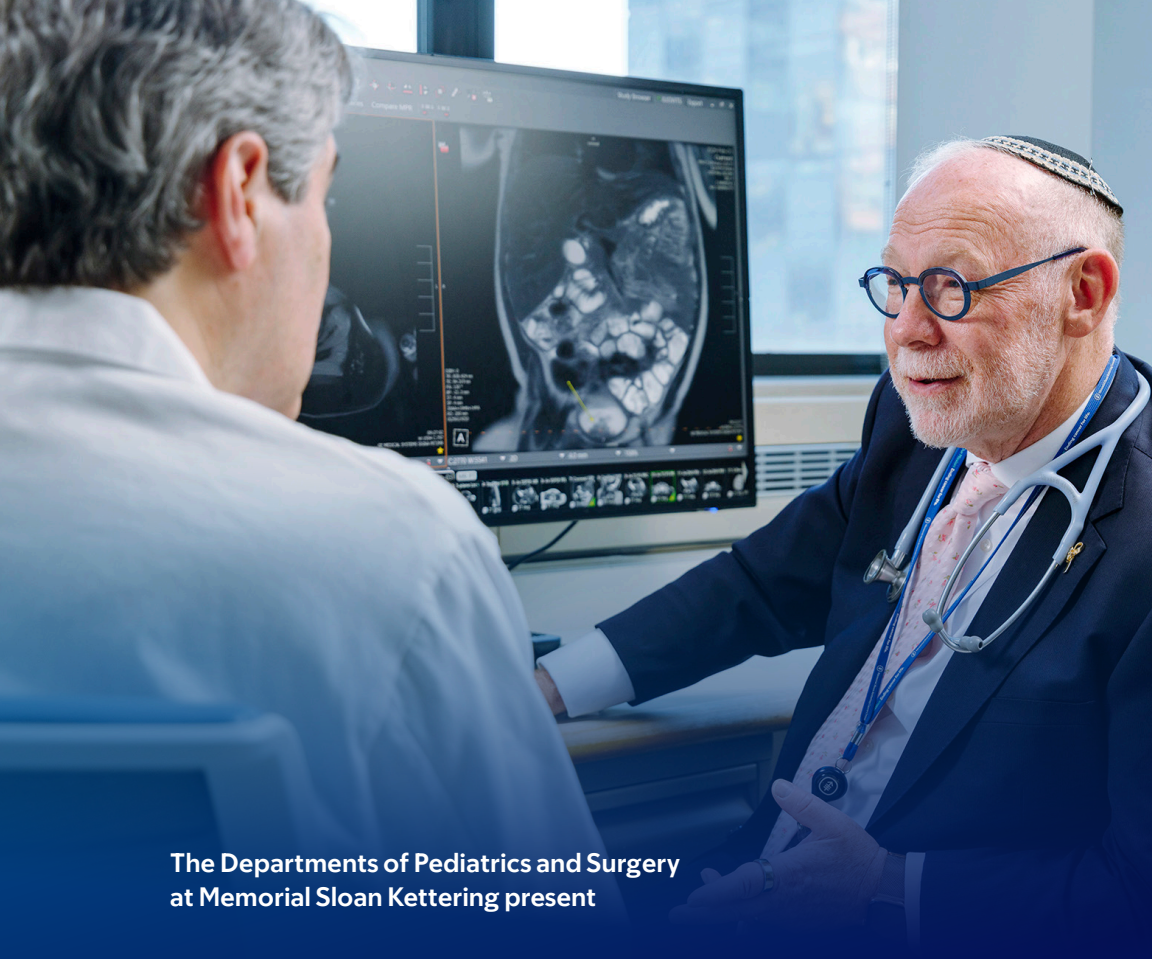

The Departments of Pediatrics and Surgery
at Memorial Sloan Kettering present

Rhabdomyosarcoma

ADVANCING SCIENCE, IMPROVING OUTCOMES

OCTOBER 19, 2026

IN PERSON • VIRTUAL • ON DEMAND

Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

The management of rhabdomyosarcoma requires a highly coordinated, multidisciplinary approach. This comprehensive one-day symposium will equip healthcare professionals with the latest evidence, best practices, and practical strategies to improve clinical outcomes and the patient experience.

Overview

Jointly presented by the **Departments of Pediatrics and Surgery** at MSK, the program will highlight the importance of collaboration across specialties and disciplines throughout the continuum of care. Key topics include advances in medical management, surgical innovation, diagnostic imaging, and translational research. A dedicated session will explore the patient journey through the perspectives of patients and families, providing valuable insight into the lived experience of rhabdomyosarcoma care.

Participants will gain actionable strategies to strengthen evidence-based, collaborative care; enhance quality of life for patients and families; and gain a deeper understanding of the scientific advances moving the field closer to cure.

Objectives

- Discuss the multidisciplinary approach to complex patients with rhabdomyosarcoma
- Review treatment and advances in the medical management of rhabdomyosarcoma patients
- Identify advanced surgical techniques used to manage both primary and metastatic disease sites
- Discuss research initiatives
- Describe the importance of the patient and family experience

Target Audience

This course is intended for all healthcare professionals involved in diagnosing, treating, or supporting pediatric oncology patients, including physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, allied health professionals, and trainees.

Flexible Learning Options

We are pleased to offer **flexible learning options**, with the opportunity to participate live in person or virtually, or register for on demand access to the recorded program.

Live Participation (In Person or Virtually)

Attend the symposium live on **Monday, October 19, 2026**, either in person at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center or virtually via Zoom. All live participants will have the opportunity to engage with faculty through interactive Q&A sessions, while those attending in person are also invited to a networking reception. Participants may claim credit for the live activity and will receive access to the online course syllabus following the symposium.

On Demand Access

View the recorded presentations, complete the enduring activity, and claim credit **at your convenience**. The on demand program will be available a few weeks after the live event. Those who register for on demand access will be notified as soon as the content becomes available.

Scan here for full details and registration or visit:
msk.org/RhabdoSymposium

Faculty

MSK Symposium Directors

J. Ted Gerstle, MD
Chief, Pediatric Surgical Service
Department of Surgery

Leonard H. Wexler, MD
Attending, Department of Pediatrics

Mariel Marrano, MSN, RN, FNP-BC
Advanced Practice Provider

Rochelle D. Smithingell, MHA, MBA, BSN, RN
Program Manager, Department of Surgery

MSK Symposium Planners

Jessie Hennessy, MSN, RN, CPNP
Advanced Practice Provider, Pediatric Sarcoma

Mary Eliza McEachen, RN, CPHON®
Clinical Nurse Manager,
MSK Kids

Guest Faculty

Mark E. Hatley, MD, PhD
Associate Member, St. Jude Faculty;
Director, Division of Molecular Oncology,
St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Dada Pisconti, PhD
Associate Professor of Cell Biology,
Stony Brook University

MSK Faculty

David H. Abramson, MD, FACS
Chief, Ophthalmic Oncology Service,
Department of Surgery
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center;
Professor of Ophthalmology,
Weill Cornell Medical School

Gerald Behr, MD
Member, Body Imaging Service,
Department of Radiology
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center;
Professor of Clinical Radiology,
Weill Cornell Medical School

Filemon Dela Cruz, MD
Associate Attending,
Department of Pediatrics

Debbie Diotallevi, MS, CPNP
Advanced Practice Provider

Lydia Finley, PhD
Geoffrey Beene Junior Faculty Chair,
Sloan Kettering Institute

Ian Ganly, MD, PhD
Attending, Head and Neck Service,
Department of Surgery

Christopher B. Jackson, MD, MS
Assistant Attending, External Beam
Radiotherapy Service,
Department of Radiation Oncology

Chimene Kesserwan, MD
Associate Attending,
Clinical Genetics Service,
Department of Pediatrics
Lead, Inherited Pediatric Cancer
Genomics, Niehaus Center

Christopher A. Klebanoff, MD
Director, Center for Cellular
Immunotherapy;
Associate Attending, Cellular Therapy and
Early Drug Development Services,
Department of Medicine

Evan Matros, MD, MPH, MMSc
Attending, Plastic and Reconstructive
Surgical Service,
Department of Surgery

Carol D. Morris, MD, MS
Chief, Orthopaedic Surgery Service,
Department of Surgery;
Jack Byrne Chair for Adolescent and
Young Adult Cancers

Danielle Novetsky Freidman, MD
Director, Pediatric Long-Term Follow-Up;
Associate Attending,
Department of Pediatrics

Jovana Pavisic, MD
Assistant Attending,
Department of Pediatrics

Daniel Rhee, MD, MPH, FACS
Associate Attending,
Department of Surgery

Suzanne Wolden, MD, FACR
Director, Pediatric Radiation Oncology;
Attending, External Beam Radiotherapy
and Brachytherapy Services,
Department of Radiation Oncology

Patient and Family Perspectives

Eliza Weber
Member and Chair Emeritus,
MSK Patient Family Advisory Council
for Quality (PFACQ),
Compliance Consultant,
Guidepost Solutions

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 have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

Agenda

TIME	SESSIONS
8:15 a.m.	Onsite Breakfast and Check-in
8:40 a.m.	Virtual Check-in
8:45 a.m.	**Welcome and Introduction** Leonard H. Wexler, MD Eliza Weber — *A Parent's Perspective*

Keynote Lecture

MODERATOR: Leonard H. Wexler, MD

9:00 a.m.

Identity Theft: Insights Into the Origin of Fusion-Positive Rhabdomyosarcoma
Mark E. Hatley, MD, PhD

Unraveling the Cellular Origins: From Myoblasts to Malignant Transformation

MODERATOR: To be announced

9:45 a.m.	**Genetic Predisposition to Sarcomas** Chimene Kesserwan, MD
10:05 a.m.	**p53 Functions in Skeletal Muscle Fibers and Myoblasts: Beyond the "Wound That Does Not Heal"** Dada Pisconti, PhD
10:25 a.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
10:30 a.m.	**Targeting State-Specific Vulnerabilities in MYOD1-Mutant Rhabdomyosarcoma: A Framework for Rational Combination Therapy Design** Jovana Pavisic, MD
10:50 a.m.	**Identifying Metabolic Dependencies in Rhabdomyosarcoma** Lydia Finley, PhD
11:10 a.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
11:15 a.m.	Break

The Treatment Toolbox: Cornerstones of Rhabdomyosarcoma Management

MODERATOR: J. Ted Gerstle, MD

11:30 a.m.	**Diagnostic Imaging in Rhabdomyosarcoma** Gerald Behr, MD
11:50 a.m.	**General Surgical Principles for Genitourinary Rhabdomyosarcoma** Daniel Rhee, MD, MPH, FACS
12:10 p.m.	**Local Control of Extremity Rhabdomyosarcoma** Carol D. Morris, MD, MS
12:30 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
12:35 p.m.	**Advances in Radiation Oncology for Rhabdomyosarcoma** Christopher B. Jackson, MD, MS
12:55 p.m.	**Chemotherapy for Rhabdomyosarcoma: A Tale of Goldilocks and the Three Bears** Leonard H. Wexler, MD
1:15 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
1:20 p.m.	Lunch Break

Pushing Boundaries: Next-Generation Strategies Against Rhabdomyosarcoma

MODERATOR: To be announced

2:20 p.m.	**Brachytherapy for Vaginal Rhabdomyosarcoma** Suzanne Wolden, MD, FACR
2:40 p.m.	**Drug Discovery in Rhabdomyosarcoma: Preclinical Models and the Emerging Role of Artifical Intelligence** Filemon Dela Cruz, MD
3:00 p.m.	**Intrarterial Chemotherapy for Orbital Rhabdomyosarcoma: a Paradigm Shift** David H. Abramson, MD, FACS
3:20 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
3:25 p.m.	Break

3:40 p.m.	**Therapeutic Targeting of Fusion-Derived Public Neoantigens** Christopher A. Klebanoff, MD
4:00 p.m.	**Salvage Surgery and Reconstruction for Recurrent Head and Neck Rhabdomyosarcoma** Ian Ganly, MD, PhD Evan Matros, MD, MPH, MMSc
4:20 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**

Beyond the Cure: Navigating Survivorship and Long-Term Impact

MODERATOR: Debbie Diotallevi, MS, CPNP

4:25 p.m.	**Long-Term Survivorship After Rhabdomyosarcoma: Late Effects and Risk-Based Care** Danielle Novetsky Freidman, MD
4:45 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**

Patient and Family Perspectives: The Human Side of Rhabdomyosarcoma

MODERATOR: Danielle Novetsky Freidman, MD

4:50 p.m.	**Patient and Family Stories and Reflections**
5:20 p.m.	**Q&A and Discussion**
5:25 p.m.	**Closing Remarks** J. Ted Gerstle, MD
5:30—6:30 p.m.	**Networking Reception** Join faculty and colleagues for hors d'oeuvres, refreshments, and an opportunity to network and exchange ideas.

Registration

Registration Fees
— Physicians (MDs, PhDs & DOs): $299
— Advanced Practice Providers: $249
— Nurses & Other Healthcare Professionals: $199
— Residents and Fellows: $100
— Industry Professionals*: $525
— MSK Employees: Complimentary

Discounted registration is available for select groups.
For full details and registration, visit:

msk.org/RhabdoSymposium

Onsite Participation
Continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks will be provided for onsite participants. If you have dietary restrictions or require accommodations to attend in person, please contact cme@mskcc.org at least one week before the event.

Location
Zuckerman Research Center
417 East 68th Street
New York, NY

For travel and parking information, visit the symposium website.

Virtual Participation
The virtual portion of this program will be delivered via Zoom. Access instructions and login details will be provided to registered virtual attendees prior to the event. Please note that all times listed on the schedule are Eastern Standard Time (UTC−5).

On Demand Participation
The on demand program will be available a few weeks after the live event. Those who register for on demand access will be notified as soon as the content becomes available.

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 **7.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™***. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

MOC/CC Recognition Statements

Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to **7.00 credits/points** in the following certification programs:

- Medical Knowledge MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (**ABIM**) Maintenance of Certification Assessment Recognition Program; and
- Lifelong Learning & Self-Assessment MOC points for the American Board of Pediatrics (**ABP***) Maintenance of Certification program; and
- Accredited CME and Self-Assessment credits for the American Board of Surgery (**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, ABP, and ABS MOC/CC credit.

Continuing Education for Licensed Psychologists in New York State**

This event offers 7.00 NYS Psychology Contact Hours.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center is recognized by the New York State Education Department State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists #PSY-0166.

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ANCC CNE Statement

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center—Nursing Professional Development / Continuing Education is accredited with distinction as a provider of nursing continuing professional development (NCPD) by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

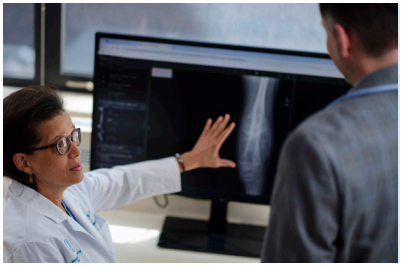
7.00 contact hours will be awarded to participants who attend the program in its entirety and complete a program evaluation. **Partial credit not awarded.**

Please note that ANCC Nursing Contact Hours, NYS Psychology Contact Hours, and NYS Social Work Continuing Education Credit are available only to participants who attend the live symposium and are not available for the on demand program.

*To receive ABP MOC points for the 2025 calendar year, a course evaluation must be completed by Friday, November 27, 2026
**Not all states accept New York State Contact Hours/CEUs. We recommend consulting your state licensing board to confirm whether the credit types offered for this course are accepted.

About the Annual Symposium

In 2023, Memorial Sloan Kettering became the first hospital in the nation to receive the **American College of Surgeons' Children's Surgery Verification (CSV) Quality Improvement Program Level I Specialty Children's Center in Oncology** designation. Developed in support of the CSV program standards, this annual symposium brings together experts to share advances, innovative approaches, and strategies in pediatric oncology surgery.



Each year, the program focuses on a different topic, including prior symposia on **Advancing Osteosarcoma Care: From Bench to Bedside** (2025) and the **2024 MSK Kids Surgery Symposium** (2024).

The goal of the symposium is to share knowledge and strategies that support healthcare professionals in delivering state-of-the-art, collaborative care that improves outcomes and enhances quality of life for pediatric oncology patients.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Continuing Medical Education

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