

# 3rd Annual Sonntag Spine Symposium

*The Academy of Spine Awards*



**March 22, 2024**

Barrow Neurological Institute  
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, Phoenix, Arizona



**Barrow**  
Neurological Institute



**SONNTAG**  
SPINE CENTER

## Who Should Attend

Neurological and orthopedic spine surgeons in training and in practice

## Objectives

The Sonntag Spine Symposium focuses on delivering education regarding the novel, innovative technologies within minimally invasive spine surgery.

The main goal of this event is to educate and train the next generation of neurosurgeons. At this symposium, attendees will become fully immersed in the world of minimally invasive spine surgery. In addition to case presentations, course faculty will discuss topics including adult spinal deformity, single position surgery, and technology. This environment establishes the opportunity to learn new minimally invasive spine surgery techniques with surgeons, fellows, and residents by creating a mutually beneficial bidirectional educational setting.

## Grand Rounds Portion

This portion of the symposium is certified for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ by the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Division of Continuing Professional Development (DCPD). BCM is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and is required to ensure that this CE activity is planned and presented according to the ACCME's criteria, standards, and policies. **This portion is free of commercial support.**

## Disclosure Policy

It is the policy of St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center to ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all of its educational programs. All those in control of content will disclose all relevant relationships with commercial interests. Detailed disclosures will be made in the activity handout materials.

**Free Registration**



# AGENDA (Pacific Time)

## GOLDMAN AUDITORIUM

### Spine Grand Rounds

(CME Credit Offered; 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™)

- 7:30 a.m. Grand Rounds - **Regis Haid, MD**  
Finding True North
- 8:30 a.m. Grand Rounds - **Fayyadh Yusuf, PhD**  
“And the Oscar for Best Spine Surgeon Goes to...” How to  
Create a Chair-Worthy Character

**9:20 a.m. Break**

## SONNTAG PAVILION

### SESSION ONE

**Panel 1 Introduction: Meng Huang, MD**

- 9:45 a.m. Will Spinal Endoscopy Become The Next Vertebroplasty? Who Will Own It: Proceduralists or Surgeons? - **Frank Phillips**  
*Panelists: Meng Huang, Pierce Nunley, Christoph Hofsetter, Praveen Mummaneni, Scott Kreiner, Zoher Gogowala, Evan Rivers, Luis Tumialan*

**Panel 2 Introduction: Muhammad Abd-El-Barr, MD**

- 10:20 a.m. Single-Position Circumferential MIS Surgery – A True Breakthrough or Just Clever Marketing? - **David Okonkwo**  
*Panelists: Adam Kanter, Juan Uribe, Richard Fessler, Luiz Pimenta, Ali Baaj, Nicholas Theodore, Daniel Sciubba, Robert Eastlack*

**Panel 3 Introduction: Andrew Chan, MD**

- 10:55 a.m. Meeting Madness: How Many Societies and Conferences do We Actually Need? - **Luis Tumialan**  
*Panelists: Chris Shaffrey, Regis Haid, Praveen Mummaneni, Frank Phillips, Zoher Gogowala, Laura Snyder, Suken Shah, Nicholas Theodore*

**Panel 4 Introduction: Hardeep Singh, MD**

- 11:30 a.m. The Progressive Challenges Faced by Physician-Owned Practices. Will Independent Physician Owned Groups Remain an Employment Option in the Emerging Corporate Healthcare Environment? - **Regis Haid**  
*Panelists: Frank Phillips, Kevin Foley, Luis Tumialan, Pierce Nunley, Munish Gupta, Greg Mundis, Allan Levi, David Okonkwo*

**Noon Lunch – Volker K.H. Sonntag, MD, Conversations**

### SESSION TWO

**Panel 5 Introduction: Camilo Molina, MD**

- 12:45 p.m. T10-Pelvis Open with Interbody Fusions vs Posterolateral Fusion Alone: Separating Fact from Fiction - **Michael Kelly**  
*Panelists: Han Jo Kim, Kumar Kakarla, Jeremy Fogelson, Greg Mundis, Pierce Nunley, Luiz Pimenta, Neel Anand, Richard Fessler*

**Panel 6**

1:20 p.m.

**Introduction: Andrew Vivas, MD**

Ideal Sagittal Alignment Targets: Why so Many Conflicting Concepts and How Close Are We to A Universally Accepted Definition? - **Suken Shah**

*Panelists: Chris Shaffrey, Michael Kelly, Munish Gupta, Jeremy Fogelson, David Polly, Eric Klineberg, Han Jo Kim, Jay Turner*

**Panel 7**

1:55 p.m.

**Introduction: Corey Walker, MD**

Balancing Act in Deformity Surgery: MIS Approaches – When Less Invasive Means More Morbidity, Where Do We Draw the Line? - **Greg Mundis**

*Panelists: Neel Anand, Richard Fessler, William Taylor, Paul Park, Robert Eastlack, Han Jo Kim, Tyler Koski, Lawrence Lenke*

2:25 p.m.

**Vendor Break**

**SESSION THREE**

**Panel 8**

2:55 p.m.

**Introduction: Benjamin Elder, MD**

When to Say No to The “Less-Than-Ideal” Surgical Candidate: Osteoporosis, Frailty, Surgical Invasiveness - **David Polly**

*Panelists: Allan Levi, Daniel Sciubba, Nicholas Theodore, Regis Haid, Jay Turner, Chris Shaffrey, Christoph Hofsetter, Paul Park*

**Panel 9**

3:30 p.m.

**Introduction: Jakub Godzik, MD**

Pedicle Screw Placement: Free Hand/Fluoro vs. Navigated/ Robotic – Unraveling Legal Implications and Liability in 2024 - **Praveen Mummaneni**

*Panelists: Lawrence Lenke, Eric Klineberg, Michael Kelly, Adam Kanter, Kevin Foley, Tyler Koski, David Polly, Paul Park*

**Panel 10**

4:05 p.m.

**Introduction: Nima Alan, MD**

Spine Surgery and Social Media: Going Viral For the Wrong Reasons - **Juan Uribe**

*Panelists: Ali Baaj, David Okonkwo, Laura Snyder, William Taylor, Robert Eastlack, Suken Shah, Adam Kanter, Tyler Koski*

4:35 p.m.

Closing Remarks/Adjourn



**Barrow**  
Neurological Institute



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## Course Directors

### **Juan Uribe, MD**

Chief of Spinal Disorders  
Sonntag Chair of Spine Research  
Vice Chair of Neurosurgery

### **Jay Turner, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor  
Director, Barrow Clinical Outcomes  
Center

## Barrow Neurological Institute Faculty

### **Laura Snyder, MD, FAANS**

Associate Program Director

### **Luis Tumialán, MD**

Neurosurgeon

### **Scott Kreiner, MD**

Physiatrist  
Interventional Spine Specialist

### **Kumar Kakarla, MD**

Neurosurgeon

## Honored Faculty

### **Volker K.H. Sonntag, MD**

Neurosurgeon, Emeritus

## Invited Faculty

### **Neel Anand, MD**

### **Ali Baaj, MD**

### **Robert Eastlack, MD**

### **Richard Fessler, MD, PhD**

### **Jeremy Fogelson, MD**

### **Kevin Foley, MD**

### **Zoher Gogowala, MD**

### **Munish Gupta, MD**

### **Regis Haid, MD**

### **Christoph Hofsetter, MD, PhD**

### **Adam Kanter, MD**

### **Michael Kelly, MD**

### **Han Jo Kim, MD**

### **Eric Klineberg, MD**

### **Tyler Koski, MD**

### **Lawrence Lenke, MD**

### **Allan Levi, MD, PhD**

### **Praveen Mummaneni, MD, MBA**

### **Greg Mundis, MD**

### **Pierce Nunley, MD**

### **David Okonkwo, MD, PhD**

### **Paul Park, MD**

### **Luiz Pimenta, MD, PhD**

### **Frank Phillips, MD**

### **David Polly, MD**

### **Evan Rivers, DO**

### **Daniel Sciubba, MD, PhD**

### **Chris Shaffrey, MD, FACS**

### **Suken Shah, MD**

### **William Taylor, MD**

### **Nicholas Theodore, MD**

### **Fayyadh Yusuf, PhD**

## Young Surgeons

### **Nima Alan, MD**

### **Hardeep Singh, MD**

### **Meng Huang, MD**

### **Corey Walker, MD**

### **Jakub Godzik, MD**

### **Andrew Vivas, MD**

### **Andrew Chan, MD**

### **Benjamin Elder, MD**

### **Muhammad Abd-El-Barr, MD**

### **Camilo Molina, MD**