

## 2025 International Pediatric Heart Failure & VAD Summit:

Preliminary Program

October 16-17, 2025

Houston, TX

Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

### 07:15 REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST

#### 08:00 Welcome and opening remarks

Lara Shekerdemian, MD  
Chair, Department of Pediatrics  
Baylor College of Medicine

### SESSION 1: ADVANCED HEART FAILURE IN CRITICAL CARE

**Moderator:** Angela Lorts, Cincinnati, OH & Jack Price, Houston, TX

#### 08:05 Little People, Big Problems: Recognizing and Strategizing Cardiogenic Shock in Children

*Kriti Puri, Houston, TX*

#### 08:20 Short-Term Mechanical Circulatory Support in Shock: What are My Options?

*Bhavikkumar Langanecha, Toronto, Canada*

#### 08:35 You're Tearing Up My Heart: Myocardial Injury During Renal Replacement Therapy

*Sameer Thadani, Houston, TX*

#### 08:50 It's Just a Phase: The "Hot Phase" of Arrhythmogenic Cardiomyopathy

*Christina Miyake, Houston, TX*

#### 09:05 Putting Data to Work for Better Outcomes in the Cardiac ICU

*Mjaye Mazwi, Seattle, WA*

#### 09:30 CASE DISCUSSION

### 10:00 BREAK with Abstract Poster Presentations

### SESSION 2: DETECT, PREDICT, TREAT: THE NEW ERA OF HEART FAILURE DIAGNOSTICS AND THERAPIES

**Moderator:** Christopher Almond, Palo Alto, CA & Elizabeth Blume, Boston, MA

#### 10:20 Novel Diagnostics in Pediatric Cardiorenal Syndrome: Here and on the Horizon

*Ayse Akcan-Arikan, Houston, TX*

#### 10:35 CardioMEMS in Pediatric and Adult Congenital Heart Failure

*Jesse Esch, Boston, MA*

#### 10:50 Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy in Children: Who Benefits and When to Refer

*Henry Chubb, Palo Alto, CA*

#### 11:05 Intravenous Iron Replacement Therapy in Heart Failure

*Ryan Kobayashi, Boston, MA*

- 11:20 **Panacea or Flash in the Pan: GLP-1 Agonists in Heart Failure**  
*Sadeer Al-Kindi, Houston, TX*
- 11:35 **Beyond GDMT in DMD: Evolving Therapies and Improving Outcomes**  
*Chet Villa, Cincinnati, OH*
- 11:50 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

**12:15 LUNCH with Abstract Poster Presentations**

**SESSION 3: PRO/CON DEBATE: SPORTS RESTRICTION IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH HYPERTROPHIC CARDIOMYOPATHY**

**Moderator:** David Rosenthal, Palo Alto, CA

- 13:00 **Competitive Athletics are Safe and Our Patients With HCM Should be Encouraged to Play**  
*Charles Canter, St. Louis, MO*
- 13:10 **Competitive Athletics Raise the Risk of Sudden Death in Our Patients With HCM and We Should be a Voice of Reason For Them**  
*Jeff Dreyer, Houston, TX*
- 13:20 **Audience Rebuttals**
- 13:30 **Speaker Rebuttals**

**SESSION 4: LIGHTNING ROUND: WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT.....**

- 13:50 **Friedreich Ataxia**  
*Kimberly Lin, Philadelphia, PA*
- 14:00 **Pompe Disease**  
*Imran Masood, Los Angeles, CA*
- 14:10 **Laminopathies**  
*Ivan Wilmot, Cincinnati, OH*
- 14:20 **Giant Cell Myocarditis**  
*Matthew O'Connor, Philadelphia, PA*
- 14:30 **Fabry Disease**  
*Alicia Kamsheh, St. Louis, MO*
- 14:40 **ClinVAR**  
*Abigail Yesso, Houston, TX*
- 15:00 **AUDIENCE QUESTION AND DISCUSSION**

**15:10 BREAK with Abstract Poster Presentations**

**SESSION 5: THE FUTURE IS NOW: BREAKTHROUGHS IN CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH AND EMERGING THERAPIES**

**Moderator:** Aamir Jeewa, Toronto, Canada & Antonio Cabrera, Columbus, OH

- 15:30 **How to Increase the Likelihood That Your Heart Failure/VAD Manuscript Will be Published**  
*Shahnawaz Amdani, Cleveland, OH*
- 15:45 **Finger on the Pulse: The Latest From the Pediatric ACTION Frontlines**  
*Deepa Mokshagundam, St. Louis, MO*
- 16:00 **What, Exactly, is Gene Therapy in Cardiomyopathy And is it Safe?**  
*John Tadros, Houston, TX*
- 16:15 **What is the MitraClip and is There a Role in Teens and Young Adults?**  
*Sachin Goel, Houston, TX*
- 16:30 **Shockingly Effective: The Rise of Cardiac Contractility Modulation in Heart Failure**  
*Wilson Lam, Houston, TX*
- 16:45 **Pushing the Limits and Treading Lightly: Prescribing SGLT2 Inhibitors in Children**  
*David Peng, Ann Arbor, MI*
- 17:00 **AUDIENCE QUESTION AND DISCUSSION**

**SESSION 6: CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSION:**

**AT THE HEART OF CARE: EMPOWERING NPs AND COORDINATORS IN HF and VAD MANAGEMENT**

**Moderators:** Jenna Murray, Palo Alto, CA & Andrea Maurich, Toronto, Canada

- 15:30 **The Nurse Practitioner's Impact on Improving Heart Failure Patient Outcomes**  
*Rumi Yokota, Palo Alto, CA*
- 15:45 **The VAD Coordinator's Impact on Improving Heart Failure Patient Outcomes**  
*Andrea Maurich, Toronto, Canada*
- 16:00 **Sharing is Caring: How ACTION Registries Can Improve Patient Outcomes**  
*Jenna Murray, Palo Alto, CA*
- 16:15 **The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of VAD Wound Care**  
*Barbara Elias, Houston, TX*
- 16:30 **Houston, We Have a Solution: Obesity, Weight Loss, and Gastric Bypass Surgery in the HeartMate 3 Patient**  
*Hari Tunuguntla, Houston, TX*
- 16:45 **Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep: Sleep Disordered Breathing in Children and its Potential Impact on the Heart**  
*Amee Revana, Houston, TX*
- 17:00 **AUDIENCE QUESTION AND DISCUSSION**

Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

07:30 **BREAKFAST**

08:10 **ABSTRACT AWARDS** (Kae Watanabe, Houston, TX)

**SESSION 7: FROM BURDEN TO BENEFIT: SOLVING THE CLINICAL PUZZLES OF VADS**

**Moderator:** Joseph Spinner, Houston, TX

- 08:15 **Persistent Heart Failure After VAD Implant: What Went Wrong and How Do I Fix it?**  
*Anna Joong, Chicago, IL*
- 08:30 **This Really Bugs Me: The Infected VAD and Solutions for Successful Bridge to Transplant**  
*Claire Bocchini, Houston, TX*
- 08:45 **Smooth Operator: Solving Anatomic Conundrums During VAD Implantation For CHD**  
*Ed Hickey, Houston, TX*
- 09:00 **Getting Small With New VADs**  
*Iki Adachi, Houston, TX*
- 09:15 **The BiVACOR Total Artificial Heart: Will it be the World's First Permanent Heart Replacement Device?**  
*Billy Cohn, Houston, TX*
- 09:30 **No Wires? The World's First Fully Implanted and Wirelessly Recharged LVAD**  
*Greg Aber, Webster, TX*
- 09:45 **CASE DISCUSSION (Spinner)**

10:15 **BREAK**

**SESSION 8: THE RECOVERING HEART: MECHANISMS, MARKERS, AND MANAGEMENT**

**Moderators:** Paul Kantor, Los Angeles, CA

- 10:30 **What, Exactly, Is Myocardial Recovery and How Can I Make it Happen in Pediatric Patients?**  
*John Dykes, Palo Alto, CA*
- 10:45 **Scarred for Life: Myocardial Fibrosis in Pediatric Heart Disease**  
*Stephanie Nakano, Aurora, CO*
- 11:00 **Mechanisms and Signals of Recovery With Ventricular Unloading**  
*Diwakar Turaga, Houston, TX*
- 11:15 **Harnessing the Heart's Regenerative Potential in Heart Failure**  
*James Martin, Houston, TX*
- 11:30 **Recovering Stronger: The Role of Exercise and Rehabilitation in Myocardial Recovery**  
*John Edelson, Philadelphia, PA*
- 11:45 **You've Had Enough: Successfully Weaning from Durable VADs**  
*Kyle Hope, Houston, TX*
- 12:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

12:15 **ADJOURN** Joseph Spinner