

2025 International Pediatric Heart Failure & VAD Summit:

Final Program

October 16-17, 2025

Houston, TX

Thursday, October 16th

07:00 REGISTRATION, POSTER DISPLAY SET UP & 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 THERAPEUTICS

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

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

Ayşe 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 Fueling the Failing Heart: Iron Replacement Therapy in Children

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 and 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 but Treading Lightly: Prescribing SGLT2 Inhibitors in Children**
David Peng, Ann Arbor, MI
- 17:00 **AUDIENCE QUESTION AND DISCUSSION**

17:30 **SUMMIT DINNER, 6th Floor of McGovern Commons adjacent to summit venue building**

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 and 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**
Dawn Wilson, 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**

17:30 **SUMMIT DINNER, 6th Floor of McGovern Commons adjacent to summit venue building**

Friday, October 17th

07:15 **BREAKFAST**

08:10 **ABSTRACT AWARDS**

SESSION 7: VADS IN PEDIATRIC HEART FAILURE: CURRENT PRACTICE AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Moderator: Joseph Spinner, Houston, TX (NON- ACCREDITED SESSION)

08:15 **This Really Bugs Me: The Infected VAD and Solutions for Successful Bridge to Transplant**

Claire Bocchini, Houston, TX

08:30 **Persistent Heart Failure After VAD Implant: What Went Wrong and How Do I Fix it?**

Anna Joong, Chicago, IL

08:45 **Emerging Roles for the Impella Pump in Pediatric Cardiogenic Shock**

Iki Adachi, Houston, TX

09:00 **How I Do it: Strategies for Successful VAD Implantation**

Ed Hickey, 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**

10:15 **BREAK**

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

Moderators: Paul Kantor, Los Angeles, CA (NON- ACCREDITED SESSION)

10:45 **What, Exactly, Is Myocardial Recovery and How Can I Make it Happen in Pediatric Patients?**

John Dykes, Palo Alto, CA

11:00 **Scarred for Life: Myocardial Fibrosis in Pediatric Heart Disease**

Stephanie Nakano, Aurora, CO

11:15 **Mechanisms and Signals of Recovery With Ventricular Unloading**

Diwakar Turaga, Houston, TX

11:30 **Harnessing the Heart's Regenerative Potential in Heart Failure**

James Martin, Houston, TX

11:45 **Recovering Stronger: The Role of Exercise and Rehabilitation in Myocardial Recovery**

John Edelson, Philadelphia, PA

12:00 **You've Had Enough: Successfully Weaning from Durable VADs**

Kyle Hope, Houston, TX

12:15 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

12:30 **ADJOURNMENT AND LUNCH TO GO** Joseph Spinner