

14th Annual

Abdominal Wall Reconstruction 2023

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital



June 23 to 24, 2023

Grand Hyatt Washington • Washington, D.C.

Conference Chair:

Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Washington, D.C.

Course Directors:

Karen Kim Evans, MD

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Washington, D.C.

Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Columbus, OH

William W. Hope, MD

New Hanover Regional Medical Center
Wilmington, NC



MedStar Health

AWRConference.com

Conference Chair



Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

Executive Director
MedStar Georgetown Center for Abdominal Wall Reconstruction and Hernia Surgery
MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Professor, Surgery and Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.

Course Directors



Karen Kim Evans, MD

Plastic Surgeon
MedStar Georgetown University Hospital
Associate Program Director and Vice Chairman of Education,
MedStar Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Professor, Plastic Surgery
Georgetown University School of Medicine
Washington, D.C.



Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

Professor of Plastic Surgery, Neurosurgery, and Surgery
Chief of Plastic Surgery, University Hospital
Co-Director, Center for Abdominal Core Health
Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Columbus, OH



William W. Hope, MD

Program Director, General Surgery Residency Program
New Hanover Regional Medical Center
Associate Professor, Surgery
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Wilmington, NC



For updated program information, please visit AWRConference.com

Faculty

Anu Anthony, MD, MPH, FACS

Chief, Breast Reconstruction
Professor and Vice Chair, Surgery
Rush University Medical Center
Chicago, IL

Vedra A. Augenstein, MD, FACS

Associate Fellowship Director, Minimally Invasive and
Gastrointestinal Surgery
Carolinas Medical Center
Associate Professor, Surgery
Carolinas Health Care System - Atrium Health
Charlotte, NC

Igor Belyansky, MD, FACS

Director, Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Program
Chief, General Surgery
Anne Arundel Medical Center
Annapolis, MD

Jeffrey A. Blatnik, MD

Director, Hernia Surgery
Washington University Hernia Center
Associate Professor, Surgery
Washington University School of Medicine &
Barnes Jewish Hospital
St. Louis, MO

John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

Director, Clinical Research
Presbyterian Medical Center
Associate Professor, Surgery
University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine
Philadelphia, PA

B. Todd Heniford, MD

Professor and Chief, Gastrointestinal and
Minimally Invasive Surgery
Director, Carolinas Hernia Center
Carolinas Medical Center
Charlotte, NC
Past-President, American Hernia Society
Charlotte, NC

Kamal M.F. Itani, MD

Chief, Surgery
VA Boston Health Care System
Professor, Surgery
Boston University
Boston, MA

Stephen J. Kovach III, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery, Plastic Surgery and
Orthopaedic Surgery
University of Pennsylvania Health System
Philadelphia, PA

Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

Medical Director, Hospital Nutrition Services
Chief, Division of GI and General Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Division of Gastrointestinal and
General Surgery
Oregon Health Sciences University
Portland, OR

Brent D. Matthews, MD

Surgeon-in-Chief, Atrium Health
Carolinas Medical Center
Professor and Chair, Surgery
Wake Forest University School of Medicine Charlotte
Charlotte, NC

Mary Anne Obst, RN, BSN, CCRN, CWON

Complex Abdomen Specialist
Complex Abdominal Wall Reconstruction Service
Department of Surgery
Regions Hospital Level I Trauma Center
St. Paul, MN

Eric M. Pauli, MD, FACS, FASGE

Chief, Division of Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery
David L. Nahrwold Professor, Surgery
Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Hershey, PA

**2023 MEDSTAR GEORGETOWN DISTINGUISHED
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN ABDOMINAL WALL
RECONSTRUCTION AWARDEE****J. Scott Roth, MD**

Division Chief, General, Endocrine and Metabolic Surgery
Chief of Surgery,
UK Good Samaritan Hospital
Commonwealth Professor, Surgery
University of Kentucky College of Medicine
Lexington, KY

Guy R. Voeller, MD

Core Faculty, Baptist Memphis Surgery Residency Program
Minimally Invasive Surgery Faculty
Baptist Memorial Medical Education General Surgery
Residency
Memphis, TN



Announcing the 2023 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and AWR 2023 are pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2023 MedStar Georgetown Lifetime Achievement Award in abdominal wall reconstruction is **Dr. J. Scott Roth** from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.



J. Scott Roth, MD is the Division Chief of General, Endocrine and Metabolic Surgery and Director of Minimally Invasive Surgery Program at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in Lexington, Kentucky. He also serves as the Chief of Surgery at UK Good Samaritan Hospital. His practice is focused in the areas of foregut surgery, abdominal hernias, and abdominal wall reconstruction.

Dr. Roth was born and raised in New Jersey. He completed his Bachelor of Science at the College of William and Mary and later earned his Medical Degree from the Medical College of Virginia. He subsequently completed his general surgery residency training followed by a fellowship in Minimally Invasive Surgery at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Roth returned to the University of Kentucky in 2008 as Chief of Gastrointestinal Surgery.

Dr. Roth's research interests are in the area of abdominal wall reconstruction, prosthetic materials and tissue engineering for hernia repair. His basic research focuses on evaluating mechanisms of improving hernia repair outcomes through the inhibition of Matrix Metalloproteinases resulting in alterations in collagen deposition. He is a member of numerous surgical societies including the American Surgical Association, the Southern Surgical Association, the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons, the American Hernia Society, the Southeastern Surgical Congress, the Society of University Surgeons and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Roth is a past-president of the Kentucky Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and former Governor of the American Hernia Society and is currently serving his fourth term as advisor to the CPT Editorial panel, representing SAGES.

Dr. Roth is a nationally recognized leader in minimally invasive surgery and hernia repair. He is the Principal Investigator in numerous ongoing clinical trials evaluating outcomes in hernia repair.

Past Award Recipients:

2022: John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

2021: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD

2019: Michael J. Rosen, MD

2018: J. Jeekel, MD, PhD

2017: Oscar M. Ramirez, MD

2016: Charles E. Butler, MD

2015: Brent D. Matthews, MD

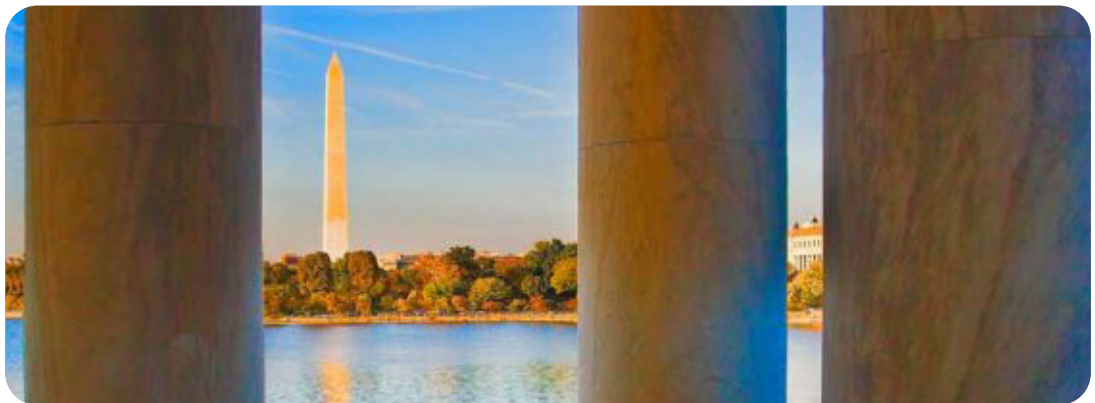
2014: B. Todd Heniford, MD

2013: Adrian E. Park, MD

2012: Guy R. Voeller, MD

2011: Jean Bernard Flament, MD

Please joins us in honoring Dr. J. Scott Roth on Friday, June 23 during Session IV with an introduction by John P. Fischer, MD, MPH



Call for Abstracts

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital is pleased to announce the call for abstracts at the 14th Annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction conference on June 23 to 24, 2023.

AWR accepts abstracts to be considered for poster presentation. Abstracts will be reviewed and selected on the basis of their scientific merit and content quality. Submitted abstracts meeting the eligibility requirements will be considered for poster presentation on Thursday, June 23 to Saturday, June 24. Top authors will be selected for oral presentation on Saturday, June 24.

We invite you to participate by submitting a 250-word abstract, which should describe work with relevance to abdominal wall reconstruction.

Please see website for additional information, and guidelines. Submissions must be received by April 21, 2023.



Venue Information

Grand Hyatt Washington
1000 H St. NW • Washington, D.C. 20001

Reservation line: 888-421-1442

Hotel phone number: 202-582-1234

Room Block Rate: \$259 + applicable tax

Be sure to mention "Abdominal Wall Reconstruction" when making your room reservations.

Hotel arrangements can also be made online at:
www.awrconference.com/hotel-travel

Hotel Room Block Cutoff Date: May 31, 2023



Reasons to Attend

- Full two-day (Friday–Saturday) education agenda with live lectures, presentations, panel discussions and interactive Q&A sessions
- Learn from 18 nationally and internationally renowned faculty
- Network with peers during conference breaks, and reception
- Take advantage of the incomparable conference location blocks away from the White House, Washington Monument, Smithsonian Museums, and the National Mall, near Washington, D.C.'s dynamic downtown dining and shopping

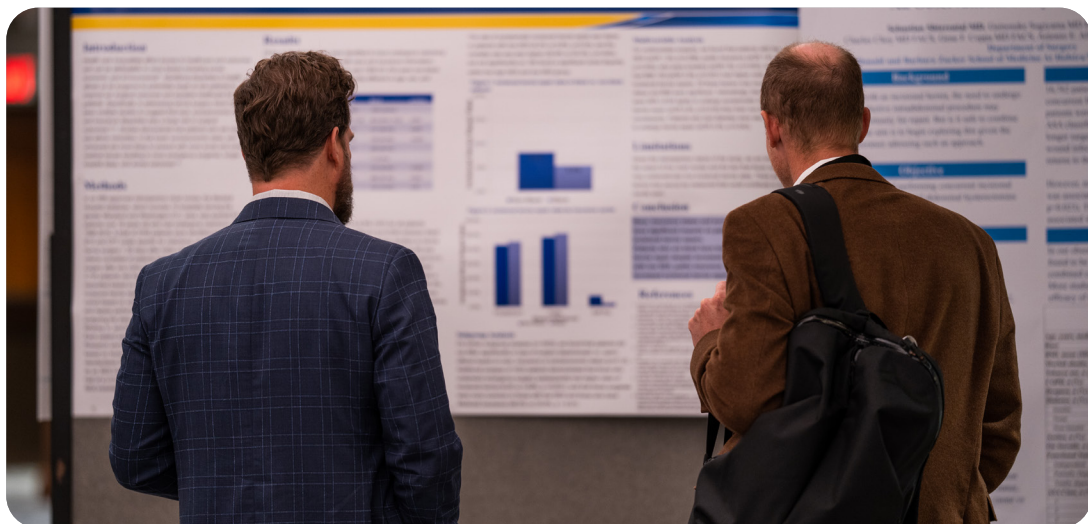
For updated program information, please visit **AWRConference.com**

Continuing Education Credit Information

Course Description

MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's 14th Annual Abdominal Wall Reconstruction (AWR) Conference is a comprehensive two-day symposium that provides an in-depth understanding of the complexities of AWR. The purpose of this highly interactive meeting is to offer an evidence-based discussion on all aspects of AWR through didactic lectures with video education and case presentations to address the growing rate of complex hernia repairs and updates in technology and procedures.

Currently, there are approximately 350,000 ventral hernia repairs performed annually in the United States and the patient population continues to be increasingly complex with significant co-morbidities. Thus, there is a significant complication rate including surgical site morbidity, readmission, and recurrence. The course is comprised of internationally renowned faculty that are a diverse group of experts chosen from the disciplines of general and plastic surgery, based upon their ongoing contributions to the field of abdominal wall reconstruction. The individual sessions will focus on patient selection and optimization, selection of surgical approach and reinforcement material, technical aspects of open and minimally invasive surgery, and management of complications. Attendees will be given much of the knowledge required to have a successful AWR practice.



Learning Objectives

- Identify why preoperative preparation is necessary for optimizing patient outcomes.
- Recognize how to interpret peer reviewed literature.
- Identify the indications for biologic, synthetic, bioabsorbable mesh.
- Utilize patient optimization to reduce the incidence of surgical site occurrences.
- Utilize advanced abdominal wall reconstruction techniques to improve patient outcomes.
- Utilize advanced minimally invasive techniques for optimal patient outcomes.
- Recognize the value of plastic surgery techniques for advanced abdominal wall reconstruction.
- Manage entero-cutaneous fistulas in the setting of a hernia.
- Implement appropriate treatment options for infected abdominal wall mesh.
- Recognize the optimal management of skin and soft tissue during hernia repair.
- Implement enhanced recovery after surgery (ERAS) after hernia repair.
- Recognize the value of botulinum toxin A in large hernia defects.
- Evaluate and manage the common complications after component separation procedure.
- Recognize how to interpret relevant radiology studies when evaluating hernia patients.
- Recognize the importance of quality of life metrics when defining metrics of success for hernia patient.
- Recognize abdominal wall anatomy.
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of members of the healthcare team involved in the collaborative care of patients with hernias.
- Integrate a team-based approach in the care of patients with hernias.

For updated program information, please visit [AWRConference.com](https://www.AWRConference.com)

Continuing Education Credit Information

Target Audience

This conference is designed to be a multidisciplinary program and is intended for a wide range of medical practitioners who are interested in the latest information regarding the treatment of abdominal wall reconstruction. The program is purposely targeted towards general, plastic and trauma surgeons, endocrinologists, wound care specialists, residents, fellows, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, medical assistants, nurses, dietitians, and other allied health professionals interested in abdominal wall reconstruction.

Accreditation



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, MedStar Health is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Credit Designation



IPCE CREDIT™

This activity was planned by and for the healthcare team, and learners will receive 13.00 Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) credits for learning and change.

Physicians: MedStar Health designates this live activity for a maximum of 13.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



American Board of Internal Medicine MOC Credit: Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the participant to earn up to 13.00 MOC points in the American Board of Internal Medicine's (ABIM) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit participant completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABIM MOC credit.



American Board of Surgery CC Credit: Successful completion of this CME activity, which includes participation in the evaluation component, enables the learner to earn credit toward the CME and Self-Assessment requirements of the American Board of Surgery's Continuous Certification program. It is the CME activity provider's responsibility to submit learner completion information to ACCME for the purpose of granting ABS credit.

MOC/CC Participation Threshold: Learner participates by writing a reflective statement and makes a commitment to change or maintain an element of practice.

Nurses: This activity is approved for 13.00 ANCC contact hours. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.



Registered Dietitians (RDs) and Dietetic Technicians, Registered (DTRs): Completion of this RD/DTR profession-specific or IPCE activity awards CPEUs (one IPCE credit = one CPEU). If the activity is dietetics-related but not targeted to RDs or DTRs, CPEUs may be claimed which are commensurate with participation in contact hours (one 60-minute hour = 1 CPEU). RDs and DTRs are to select activity type 102 in their Activity Log. Sphere and Competency selection is at the learner's discretion.

8:00 a.m. **Welcome Remarks**
Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

SESSION I: INTRODUCTION TO AWR
Moderator: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS

8:15 a.m. **Are We a Specialty Yet?**
B. Todd Heniford, MD

8:30 a.m. **Core Concepts in AWR**
Guy R. Voeller, MD

8:45 a.m. **The Basics of Prospective
Randomized Trials in Hernia Surgery**
Kamal M.F. Itani, MD

9:00 a.m. **Journal Club: Top Articles You
Should Know**
Brent D. Matthews, MD

9:15 a.m. **Pre-operative Preparation:
Improving Outcomes with Novel
Nutrition Strategy**
Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

9:30 a.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS
Panelists: T. Heniford, K. Itani,
R. Martindale, B. Matthews, G. Voeller

10:00 a.m. **Break and Visit the Exhibitors and
Abstract Poster Presentations**

SESSION II: HOT BUTTON TOPICS
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD

10:30 a.m. **Imaging the Hernia Patient: Beyond
the Radiology Report**
Eric M. Pauli, MD, FACS, FASGE

10:45 a.m. **Mesh in 2023: Is the Picture any
Clearer?**
John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

11:00 a.m. **The Use of AI in Predicting AWR
Outcomes**
B. Todd Heniford, MD

11:15 a.m. **Hernia Prevention: Any Traction?**
William W. Hope, MD

11:30 a.m. **The Power of Social Media**
Anu Antony, MD, MPH, FACS

11:45 a.m. **Opiates in Hernia Patients: Moving
the Needle**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

12:00 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD
Panelists: J. Fischer, T. Heniford, J. Janis,
E. Pauli

12:30 p.m. **Lunch and Visit the Exhibitors and
Abstract Poster Presentations**

1:00 p.m. **Lunch Symposium I**

**SESSION III: CONCEPTS OF THE COMPONENT
SEPARATION TECHNIQUE**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD

2:15 p.m. **Picking Your Technique:
Understanding Abdominal Wall
Anatomy**
John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

2:30 p.m. **The External Oblique Release:
Perforator Sparing Technique**
Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

2:45 p.m. **The Transversus Abdominis Muscle
Release (TAR): Extending the
Retro-rectus Dissection**
Vedra A. Augenstein, MD

3:00 p.m. **Parastomal Hernia Repair using TAR**
Eric M. Pauli, MD, FACS, FASGE

3:15 p.m. **Robotic TAR: How to Overcome the
Learning Curve**
Igor Belansky, MD, FACS

3:30 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD
Panelists: V. Augenstein, I. Belansky,
J. Fischer, J. Janis, E. Pauli

4:00 p.m. **Break and Visit the Exhibitors and
Abstract Poster Presentations**

SESSION IV: ADVANCED CONCEPTS
Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS

4:20 p.m. **2023 MedStar Georgetown
Distinguished Achievement Award
in Abdominal Wall Reconstruction**
Introduction by John P. Fischer, MD, MPH
Awardee: J. Scott Roth, MD

4:45 p.m. **Nonmidline and Subcostal Defects:**
Jeffrey A. Blatnik, MD

5:00 p.m. **The Flank Hernia: Robotic Approach**
Igor Belansky, MD, FACS

5:15 p.m. **Abdominal Wall Management with
EC Fistula: Single vs Staged
Reconstruction**
Robert G. Martindale, MD, PhD

5:30 p.m. **The Difficult Enterocutaneous
Fistula/Stoma: Soft Tissue Remodeling**
Mary Anne Obst, RN, BSN, CCRN, CWON

5:45 p.m. **AWR in the Acute Care Patient:
"On Call" Goals**
Brent D. Matthews, MD

6:00 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Jeffrey E. Janis, MD, FACS
Panelists: I. Belansky, J. Blatnik,
B. Matthews, R. Martindale, M. Obst

6:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

6:30 p.m. **Welcome Reception with Exhibitors**

Agenda

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

7:00 a.m. **Top Abstracts: Oral Presentations**

8:45 a.m. **Breakfast Symposium I**

SESSION V: ADVANCED CONCEPTS

Moderator: William W. Hope, MD

9:45 a.m. **Rectus Diastasis: Ensuring Optimal Functional & Cosmetic Results**
Anu Anthony, MD, MPH, FACS

10:00 a.m. **Botulinum Toxin: How to Corporate into Your Algorithm**
Vedra A. Augenstein, MD

10:15 a.m. **Complex Skin & Soft Tissue Defects**
Stephen J. Kovach III, MD

10:30 a.m. **Panniculectomy & Use of Negative Pressure Wound Therapy**
Karen Kim Evans, MD

10:45 a.m. **GI Contamination with Hernia Surgery: A Path Forward to Successful Repair**
Jeffrey A. Blatnik, MD

11:00 a.m. **Mesh Infection: Strategies for Salvage**
Kamal M.F. Itani, MD

11:15 a.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: William W. Hope, MD
Panelists: A. Anthony, V. Augenstein, J. Blatnik, K. Evans, K. Itani, S. Kovach

11:45 a.m. **Lunch and Visit the Exhibitors and Abstract Poster Presentations**

12:15 p.m. **Lunch Symposium II**

SESSION VI: PATH TO SUCCESSFUL AWR PRACTICE

Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD

1:15 p.m. **Redefining Indications & Success in AWR**
John P. Fischer, MD, MPH

1:30 p.m. **Knowing Enough to Know We Are Wrong: 20 years of Quality Improvement**
B. Todd Heniford, MD

1:45 p.m. **Big Data in Hernia: Friend or Foe?**
William W. Hope, MD

2:00 p.m. **Hernia Coding: The Foundation for Payment**
J. Scott Roth, MD

2:00 p.m. **Questions and Discussion**
Moderator: Karen Kim Evans, MD
Panelists: J. Fischer, B. Heniford, H. Hope, J. Roth

2:30 p.m. **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**
Parag Bhanot, MD, FACS



For updated program information, please visit [AWRConference.com](https://www.AWRConference.com)

Registration Information

Registration Fees	NOW to February 1	February 2 to June 22	Conference Dates
Physician	\$595	\$675	\$750
Resident or Fellow	\$350	\$425	\$500
Physician Assistant	\$450	\$525	\$600
Nurse Practitioner	\$450	\$525	\$600
Nurse	\$450	\$525	\$600
Pharmacist	\$450	\$525	\$600
Dietitians	\$450	\$525	\$600
Allied Health Professional	\$450	\$525	\$600
Industry Professional	\$950	\$950	\$1000

REGISTRATION ADD-ON

Reception Guest	\$50	\$50	\$50
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Online Registration Preferred

Please visit **www.AWRConference.com** for updated program and registration information. We are unable to accept registrations or cancellations by telephone.

All registrations will be confirmed by email only. If you have questions or do not receive a confirmation within 1-2 business days, please contact us at MedStarCPE@MedStar.net or (833) 731-1273.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations made in writing by May 12, 2023, will be subject to a 50% penalty. No refunds will be given after May 12, 2023. Cancellations will not be accepted by telephone. In the unlikely event that the course is canceled, MedStar Health will refund the registration fee, but is not responsible for any travel costs.

Special Assistance

MedStar Health wishes to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied services, segregated or otherwise treated differently from other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact (833) 731-1273 to notify us of your needs.

For grant information please contact Ada Guo at ada.guo@medstar.net
For exhibit support information please contact Elizabeth Romano at elizabeth.s.romano@medstar.net