

SNAPSHOT: MEDICAL ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS AND SPECIAL NEEDS FALL 2026 FUNCTIONAL & TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE CONFERENCE

All session times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

WEDNESDAY

1. Exhibitor Check In - -
 2. Attendee Check In - -
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THURSDAY-TRACK I: FOUNDATIONS

1. Registration- Avoid the Morning Rush by checking in on Wednesday (3-9pm) - -
 2. Welcome/Announcements - Nancy O'Hara, MD, MPH, FAAP, FMAPS
 3. The Foundation of Biomedical Thinking - James Neuenschwander, MD, FMAPS, President
 4. Breakfast- Provided by MAPS - -
 5. The Foundation of A Functional Medicine Approach: How to Interpret the Signs, Symptoms and Lab Testing - Nancy O'Hara, MD, MPH, FAAP, FMAPS
 6. The Foundation of Nutrition: You Are what You Eat - Yana Etemadi, Nutritionist
 7. The Foundation of Metabolic and Mitochondrial Dysfunction: How These Systems Affect Our Brains - Richard Frye, MD, PhD, FMAPS
 8. Lunch- Provided by MAPS - -
 9. 4th Course Lecture: Defining Autism Through Prevention: A P2i Framework for Early-Life Risk Reduction - David Berger, MD
 10. The Foundation of Gastrointestinal Dysfunction: Mind the Gut - Anjum Singh, MD, FMAPS
 11. The Foundation of Immune Dysfunction: Why are Our Kids So Sick? - Myriah Hinchey, ND, FMAPS
 12. Afternoon Snack- Provided by MAPS - -
 13. The Foundation of Neurology: Our Brains on Fire - John Gaitanis, MD, FMAPS
 14. The Foundations of MAPS Recap - Nancy O'Hara, MD, MPH, FAAP, FMAPS
 15. Roundtable Q&A - -
 16. MAPS Welcome Reception - -
 17. Foundations Dinner - -
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THURSDAY-TRACK II: MAPS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

1. REGISTRATION - Avoid the Morning Rush by checking in on Wednesday (3-9pm) - -
2. Welcome/ Announcements - Elizabeth Mumper, MD, FMAPS
3. Case Study: The Role of MicroRNA in ASD Pathology and Treatment - Armen Nikogosian, MD, FMAPS
4. Case Study: Marine-Derived Compounds in Autism: A Case Study on Clinical Response to a Sea Cucumber-Based Intervention - Lindsey Wells, ND, FMAPS
5. Breakfast- Provided by MAPS - -
6. Case Study: Substance Use Risk in Autistic Adolescents: Gaps in Screening and Care - Lisa Wada, ND, FMAPS
7. Case Study: Folate Receptor Autoimmunity in a 22-Year-Old Woman With Down Syndrome and Regression-Like Neurobehavioral Symptoms - Erica Peirson, ND, FMAPS

8. Case Study: MYLK: "It does a body good" ...NOT! Complex Cases with Autism, EDS, and MYLK Genetic Finding - Kathleen Johnson, DNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC, C-PMHS, FMAPS
 9. Lunch- Provided by MAPS - -
 10. 4th Course-Defining Autism Through Prevention: A P2i Framework for Early-Life Risk Reduction - David Berger, MD
 11. Case Study: Autism and Chronic Fungal Problems , Mechanisms of Harm Beyond Digestive System Imbalances - Kurt Woeller, DO, FMAPS
 12. Case Study: Low Dose Naltrexone - a Novel Treatment in Complex Cases - Taylor Bean, ND, FMAPS
 13. Case Study: Practical Aspects of Converting Genetic Information into Treatment Options and Improved Outcomes in Autism - Richard Boles, MD, PhD, FMAPS
 14. Afternoon Snack- Provided by MAPS - -
 15. Case Study: Managing Complex PANS Patients: An Integrated Approach - Darin Ingels, ND, FAAEM, FMAPS
 16. Roundtable Q&A - -
 17. MAPS Welcome Reception - -
 18. Fellows Dinner - -
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THURSDAY-TRACK III: INNOVATIONS

1. REGISTRATION - Avoid the Morning Rush by checking in on Wednesday (3-9pm) - -
 2. Welcome/Announcements - Thomas Moorcroft, DO, FMAPS
 3. That's Not Evidence-Based Medicine!"...Equipping Yourself for an Innovative Practice - Scott Antoine, DO
 4. The Power of Diagnostic Labels in Autism Policy, Treatment and Reimbursement - Elizabeth Mumper, MD, FMAPS
 5. Breakfast- Provided by MAPS - -
 6. Redefining Autism Through Treatable Biology: Transcranial and Abdominal Photobiomodulation as a Mechanism-Guided Therapeutic Model. - Gabriela Guimaraes, MD
 7. Neuroactive Antimicrobials in Pediatric Chronic Infection: Mechanistic Rationale, Clinical Considerations, and the Emerging Role of Disulfiram - Amy Offutt, MD
 8. The Invisible Inheritance: Maternal Antibodies, Chronic Infection, and the Neurodevelopmental Trajectory of ASD - Katie Dahlgren, ND
 9. What We Can Learn from the Amish Population: A Clinical Evaluation - Teresa Holler, MS, PA-C, FMAPS
 10. Lunch- Provided by MAPS - -
 11. 4th Course Lecture- Defining Autism Through Prevention: A P2i Framework for Early-Life Risk Reduction - David Berger, MD
 12. Predicting ASD Phenotype in Seizures - John Gaitanis, MD, FMAPS
 13. Environmental Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals and Human Gender Identity Development: Current Evidence, Placental Transfer Mechanisms, and Solutions - Krishna Doniparthi, MD, FMAPS
 14. IV Platelet Therapy as an Adaptogenic Immunomodulatory Approach in Pediatric PANS - Tapley Holland, PhD
 15. Afternoon Snack- Provided by MAPS - -
 16. Microbiota Transplant Therapy for Autism - James Adams, PhD
 17. Roundtable Q&A - -
 18. MAPS Welcome Reception - -
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FRIDAY

1. Welcome/Announcements - James Neuenschwander, MD, FMAPS, President
 2. What is Autism? The Biochemical and Physiologic Redefinition - James Neuenschwander, MD, FMAPS, President
 3. Evaluation and Treatment of Children with Autism: Addition by Subtraction - Lawrence B Palevsky, MD, FMAPS
 4. Breakfast- Provided by MAPS - -
 5. Stuck in Survival Mode: Understanding the Cell Danger Response - Elizabeth Mumper, MD, FMAPS
 6. From Patterns to Mechanisms: How Genomics Has Added to Our Understanding of ASD - Sharon Hausman-Cohen, MD, FMAPS
 7. Genomics-Guided Treatment in Adults with Autism and Behaviors: Outcomes from a Pilot Program in an Insurance-Based Primary Care Practice - Andrea Iannuzzelli, DO, FACOI, CMD
 8. Lunch- Provided by MAPS - -
 9. 4th Course Lecture - Bob Miller
 10. Proactive not Reactive Health: Preventive Strategies to Optimize Infant and Lifelong Health - Michael Gabriel, MD
 11. Congenital Tick-Borne Infections as Emerging Drivers of Pediatric Autoimmune Encephalopathy and Autism Spectrum Phenotypes: A Systems-Based Diagnostic and Therapeutic Framework - Somer DelSignore, DNP, BC-PNP, FMAPS
 12. Autism and Vector-Borne Disease: Overlapping Mechanisms and Clinical Implications - Lindsey Wells, ND, FMAPS
 13. Afternoon Snack- Provided by MAPS - -
 14. Beyond Behavior: Whole Body Apraxia, Sensorimotor Dysfunction, and Dopaminergic Disruption in Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Neurobiological Framework Integrating the Midbrain, Gut-Brain Axis, and Vagus Nerve - Dana Johnson, PhD, MS, OTR/L
 15. Rethinking Autism: The Role of Movement Variability and Objective Biomarkers - Elizabeth Torres, PhD
 16. Roundtable Q&A - -
 17. MAPS Community Cocktail Reception - -
 18. MAPS Community Dinner - -
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SATURDAY

1. Welcome/ Announcements - Anjum Singh, MD, FMAPS
2. Is This Still Autism? Rethinking Kanner's Syndrome in the Modern Era - John Gaitanis, MD, FMAPS
3. Mito, CFD, and Seizures- OH MY! - Richard Frye, MD, PhD, FMAPS
4. Breakfast- Provided by MAPS - -
5. Oxidative Stress at the Autism-Epilepsy Intersection: Shared Mechanisms, Genomic Drivers, and Practical Clinical Levers - Aunna Herbst, DO
6. Role of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy in ASD and Developmental Delays: The Rationale, Mechanisms of Action and Clinical Application - Jason Sonners, DC, DIBAK, DCBCN, CCWP, CHP
7. Regressive ASD or PANS/PANDAS/BGE? You be the Judge - Nancy O'Hara, MD, MPH, FAAP, FMAPS
8. Low Level Lead Exposure and Developmental Delays - Anjum Singh, MD, FMAPS
9. Lunch- Provided by MAPS - -
10. 4th Course - -

11. Toxins and Autism: the Vaccine Link - James Neuenschwander, MD, FMAPS, President
 12. The Contribution of Mast Cell Activation to the Symptoms, Immune Dysregulation, and Gut-Brain Inflammation in Autism Spectrum Disorders - Debby Hamilton, MD, FMAPS
 13. Addressing Autism Spectrum Disorder And Neuroinflammation Through the Lens of The 16 Point MSIDS Model. - Richard Horowitz , MD
 14. Afternoon Snack Break (Provided By MAPS) - -
 15. Latest Research in ASD - Dan Rossignol, MD, FMAPS
 16. Roundtable Q&A - -
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SUNDAY

1. Conference Wrap Up Q&A Session - -
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