



Best Practices in Endocrine Surgery Summit

Friday, September 18, 2026
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Birmingham, AL

UAB MEDICINE | Surgery

AJS The
American
Journal of
Surgery



Best Practices in Endocrine Surgery Summit

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The *American Journal of Surgery (AJS)* is hosting a summit called “Best Practices in Endocrine Surgery” on Friday, September 18, 2026, on the campus of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The summit will convene experts from around the world to debate and publish reviews in *AJS* on three emerging topics in endocrine surgery.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Practicing surgeons, APPs, and trainees are encouraged to attend to learn more about updates in the field of endocrine surgery, connect with peers, and collaborate on the best practices in endocrine surgery.

LOCATION

The one-day symposium will take place at the new, state-of-the-art UAB Marnix E. Heersink Conference Center of the Altec/Styslinger Genomic Medicine & Data (ALGEN) Building, which is located in the medical campus of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Nestled in the heart of downtown Birmingham, AL, UAB is near 5-star dining, Civil Rights museums, urban parks and plenty of breweries. Partner hotels include the **UAB Hilton** and the **Valley Hotel**, in nearby Homewood, AL.

Summit Location Address: 701 19th Street South, Birmingham AL 35233

Staff will be at the front doors, across the street from the UAB School of Dentistry, to let you in and guide you to the meeting location.



REGISTER TODAY!

FEATURED SESSION TOPICS

- Preventing and Treating Hypoparathyroidism After Surgery
- Ablative Techniques for Thyroid Cancer
- Surgery for Mild Autonomous Cortisol Secretion
- Interesting Case Session
- ... And many more opportunities to network and learn!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration includes:

- Embedded networking opportunities
- Lunch provided
- Opportunities for publication in *AJS*

Registration Fee:

- APPs, Trainees, and Practicing Endocrine Surgeons: \$25 / Attendee

Seats are limited - register today!



Register here:



INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN EXHIBITOR?

Join the event of the year, as renowned faculty shape the future of the field of endocrine surgery. There are several levels of investment for potential supporters of the Best Practices in Endocrine Surgery summit.

To learn more and become an exhibitor, please contact UAB Surgery Events Specialist Gabby Rice at gr7502@uab.edu.

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY

If a registrant is unable to attend, they may request a refund up to 30 days before the start of the course. Cancellation requests must be in writing and submitted to surgcomm@uabmc.edu. No refunds will be issued after Saturday, Sep. 12, 2026.

COURSE AGENDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026
UAB Marnix E. Heersink Conference Center, ALGEN Building

- 7-7:50 a.m. Check In**
- 7:50-8 a.m. Introductions by Summit Co-Leaders Drs. Herbert Chen and Tracy Wang**
- 8-9:45 a.m. Session 1: Preventing and Treating Hypoparathyroidism After Surgery**
Co-Leaders: Kopal Patel and Dave Schneider
Faculty: Paul Gauger, Sarah Oltmann, Elizabeth Cottrill, Carmen Solorzano, Peter Abraham, Basma S. Abdulhadi, Susie Pitt, Adwoa S. Opoku-Boateng, Alex Papachristos
- Session 1a: Definition, Preoperative Preparation, Intraoperative Adjuncts**
Preoperative Preparation (10 min) - Sarah Oltmann
Autotransplantation (10 min) - Alex Papachristos
Intraoperative Adjuncts (10 min) - Elizabeth Cottrill
Panel Discussion (20 min) - Paul Gauger
AJS Manuscript - Peter Abraham
- Session 1b: Diagnosis, Immediate and Long-Term Management**
Definition & Diagnosis (10 min) - Susan Pitt
Immediate Treatment (10 min) - Adwoa Opoku-Boateng
Long Term Management (10 min) - Basma Abdulhadi
Panel Discussion (25 min) - Carmen Solorzano
AJS Manuscript - Peter Abraham
- 9:45-10:15 a.m. Break**

COURSE AGENDA

10:15 a.m.-noon **Session 2: Ablative Techniques for the Thyroid**

Co-Leaders: Sophie Dream and Jennifer Kuo

Faculty: Ralph Tufano, Claire Graves, Jesse Pasternak, Erivelto Volpi, Anne Weaver, Alexander S. Chiu, Jessica Fazendin, Salem Noureldine

Session 2a: Ablative Techniques for Thyroid Cancer

Thermal Ablation of Papillary Thyroid Microcancers (8 min.) - Erivelto Volpi

Thermal Ablation of Lymph Node Metastases (8 min.) - Claire Graves

Panel Discussion (14 min.) - Anne Weaver, Senior Author: Erivelto Volpi

AJS Manuscript - First Author(s): Claire Graves, Anne Weaver

Session 2b: Ablative Techniques for Indeterminate Nodules

Updates in Molecular Testing (8 min) - Jesse Pasternak

Thermal Ablation of Indeterminate Nodules (8 min) - Alexander S. Chiu

Panel Discussion (14 min) - Jennifer Kuo, Senior Author: Jennifer Kuo

AJS Manuscript - First Authors: Jesse Pasternak, Alexander Chiu

Session 2c: Best Practice Recommendations

Peri-procedural Considerations (8 min) - Ralph Tufano

Data Collection and Follow-up (8 min)

Panel Discussion (25 min) - Jessica Fazendin, Salem Noureldine,
Senior Author: Ralph Tufano

AJS Manuscript - First Authors: Jessica Fazendin, Salem Noureldine

noon-1 p.m. **Lunch and Conversations with Sponsors**

COURSE AGENDA

1-2:45 p.m.

Session 3: Surgery for Mild Autonomous Cortisol Secretion

Co-Leaders: Brenessa Lindeman and Catherine McManus

Faculty: Heather Wachtel, James Lee, Corbin Frye, Jessica McMullin, Wen T. Shen, Danica M. Vodopivec, Lindsay Kuo, Kimberly M. Ramonell

Session 3a: Diagnosis & Surgical Indications

Definition & Diagnosis (10 min) - Jessica McMullin

Surgical Indications (10 min) - Lindsay Kuo

Preoperative Considerations (medical alternatives, vein sampling) (10 min) - Corbin Frye

Panel Discussion (20 min) - James Lee

AJS Manuscript - Jessica McMullin, Senior Author: Catherine McManus

Session 3b: Surgical Approach, Perioperative Steroids, Long Term Outcomes

Surgical approach to the adrenal (10 min) - Heather Wachtel

Management of perioperative steroids (10 min) - Kimberly Ramonell

Long Term Outcomes (10 min) - Danica M Vodopivec

Panel Discussion (25 min) - Wen T Shen

AJS Manuscript - Kimberly Ramonell, Senior Author: Brenessa Lindeman

2:45-3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15-4:30 p.m.

Session 4: Interesting Cases Highlighting Innovation

Co-Leaders: Insoo Suh and Andrea Gillis

Faculty Judges: Kristin Long, Sareh Parangi, Jacob Moalem, Daniel Rocke

COURSE FACULTY



Herbert Chen, MD, FACS, FRACS - Summit Co-Leader

University of Alabama at Birmingham
Chair, Department of Surgery
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Fay Fletcher Kerner Endowed Chair
Professor of Surgery, Pediatrics, and Biomedical Engineering
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Editor-in-Chief, *American Journal of Surgery*
President, American Association of Endocrine Surgeons Foundation
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Peter Abraham, MD, MSPH

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COURSE FACULTY



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COURSE FACULTY



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Chair of Surgery, Newton Wellesley Hospital

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