



# 23rd Annual Topics Explored: Pediatric Surgical and Trauma Nursing Conference

Thursday, Nov. 20 and Friday, Nov. 21, 2025

CHOP HUB for Clinical Collaboration

**Sponsored by**

The Trauma Program and the Department of Pediatric Surgery  
Division of General and Thoracic Surgery  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



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# Course Overview

The format for this two-day program will be general lecture. The content options will be applicable to all levels of nursing expertise. Expert faculty will share the lessons they have learned from managing children who experience unexpected illness and traumatic injury. Rejuvenate your practice and learn how you can continue to make a difference at the hospital bedside, one family at a time.

## General Information

The conference will be held Thursday, November 20th and Friday, November 21st at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, CHOP HUB for Clinical Collaboration building. Registration will begin each day at 7:30 a.m.

### In-Person Only Registration Fees

- Nurse Fee (Two Day) - \$199
- Nurse Fee (One Day) - \$125
- EMS Fee (Two Day) - \$50
- EMS Fee (One Day) - \$30

### Virtual Only Registration Fees

- Nurse Fee (Two Day) - \$199
- Nurse Fee (One Day) - \$125
- EMS Fee (Two Day) - \$50
- EMS Fee (One Day) - \$30

The registration fee includes registration materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and breaks.

## Course Objectives

Upon completion of this two-day course, participants will be able to:

- Management of the traumatically injured child and those children requiring surgical interventions
- Discuss the values that support effective multidisciplinary teams in pediatric surgical/trauma care
- Describe current treatments and technological advances that decrease pediatric trauma and disability
- Discuss how trauma affects the physical and emotional development of the pediatric patient

## Joint Accreditation Statement



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia 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.

## Designation of Credit

Nurses: This program provides 12.75 ANCC contact hours.

## Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms with reduced rates has been reserved at The Study at University City, 20 S 33rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. The group rates are \$249 single and double occupancy, plus a 16.25% percent state and local taxes. Participants are required to make their own reservations by calling The Study directly at 215-387-1400. Please mention the CHOP Dermatology Conference. The special room rate will be available until October 19, 2025. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space and rate availability basis.

## Cancellation and Refund Policy

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia reserves the right to cancel or postpone any course due to any unforeseen circumstances. In the event of cancellation or postponement, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia will refund any registration fees, less a \$30 service fee, but is not responsible for any related costs, charges, or expenses to participants, including cancellation charges assessed by airlines/travel agencies. To process refunds for course withdrawals, cancellations must be received in writing by Friday, November 14, 2025. No refunds will be issued thereafter.

## Services for People With Disabilities

If special arrangements are required for an individual with a disability to attend this meeting, please contact the Continuing Medical Education Department at 215-590-5263.

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## PROGRAM

Thursday, November 20, 2025

- 7:30 a.m.      Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 7:55 a.m.      Welcome and Introductions  
*Mary Jo Pedicino, MSN, RN*
- 8:00 a.m.      Role of IR in Surgical & Trauma Care\*\*  
*Seth Vatsky, DO*
- 9:00 a.m.      State of the Union\*\*  
*Michael Nance, MD*
- 10:00 a.m.     Break / Visit Exhibits
- 10:15 a.m.     Minds Matter Model: Updates in the Medical Management of Concussion\*\*  
*Roni Robinson, MSN, CRNP*
- 11:15 a.m.     Hirschsprung's Disease: Diagnosis, Surgical Repair and Bowel Management  
*Lisa Jang, MSN, CRNP*
- 11:45 a.m.     Lunch / Visit Exhibits
- 12:45 p.m.     What's New in Burn Treatments\*\*  
*Brian Joho, RN*
- 1:45 p.m.      Pediatric Vascular Surgery 101  
*Sylvia Whitridge, MSN, CRNP*
- 2:15 p.m.      Break / Visit Exhibits
- 2:30 p.m.      Best Practices for Mental Health Screening\*\*  
*Caitlin Axtmayer, LSW, MPH*  
*Julia Price, PhD*
- 3:15 p.m.      Navigating the Aftermath\*\*  
*Hamidah McCorkle, MSN, CRNP*  
*Jenny Kloss, MSn, CRNP*
- 4:00 p.m.      Adjourn

\*\* Eligible for CHOP Trauma Credit Hours

## Friday, November 21, 2025

- 7:30 a.m.      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 7:55 a.m.      **Welcome and Introductions**  
*Lauren Agzigian MSN, CRNP*  
*Daniele Thurston, MSN, CRNP*
- 8:00 a.m.      **Overuse Injuries in Athletes\*\***  
*Michael Beasley, MD*
- 9:00 a.m.      **Arteriovenous Malformations of the Brain & Spine**  
*Adam Kundishora, MD*
- 9:45 a.m.      **Break / Visit Exhibits**
- 10:00 a.m.     **Challenges of Penetrating Trauma\*\***  
*Gary Nace, MD*
- 10:45 a.m.     **Care Beyond the Procedure: Understanding G-tube Realities**  
*Lauren Agzigian MSN CRNP/Dennis Hiller, RN*
- 11:30 a.m.     **Lunch / Visit Exhibits**
- 12:15 p.m.     **Protecting the Vulnerable Brain\*\***  
*Matthew Kirschen, MD*
- 1:00 p.m.      **Keeping Children Safe from Firearms: State of the Science\*\***  
*Katelin Hoskins, PhD, CRNP*
- 2:00 p.m.      **Congenital Anorectal Malformations: A Basic Overview**  
*Stephanie Collins, MSN, CRNP*
- 2:30 p.m.      **Break / Visit Exhibits**
- 2:45 p.m.      **When Transport Gets Tricky: Challenges in Interfacility Pediatric Care\*\***  
*Nate Smith, MSN*
- 3:30 p.m.      **Adjourn**

*\*\* Eligible for CHOP Trauma Credit Hours*

*Unless otherwise noted, faculty is from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and/or the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.*

## Course Directors

**Mary Jo Pedicino, RN, MSN**  
*Trauma Education Coordinator*  
*Trauma Program*

**Lauren Agzigian RN, MSN, CRNP**  
*Advanced Practice Nurse*  
*Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery*

**Danielle Thurston RN, MSN, CRNP**  
*Advanced Practice Nurse*  
*Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery*

## Course Faculty

**Caitlin Axtmayer, LSW, MPH**  
*Program Coordinator*  
*Center for Pediatric Traumatic Stress*  
*Center for Injury Research and Prevention*

**Michael Beasley, MD, CAQSM, FAAP, FAMSSM**  
*Assistant Program Director, Medical Sports Medicine*  
*Sports Medicine & Performance Center*  
*Department of Orthopedic Surgery*

**Stephanie Collins, MSN, BSN, RN, CRNP**  
*Nurse Practitioner*  
*Division of General, Fetal and Thoracic Surgery*

**Dennis Hiller, RN**  
*Program Manager*  
*Department of Surgery*

**Katelin Hoskins, PhD, MBE, CRNP**  
*Assistant Professor*  
*Department of Biobehavioral Health Sciences, School of Nursing*  
*Senior Fellow, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics*

**Lisa Jang, CRNP-AC, MSN, CRNP, BSN, RN**  
*Nurse Practitioner*  
*Division of Pediatric General and Thoracic Surgery*

**Matthew Kirschen, MD, PhD, FAAN, FNCS**  
*Attending Physician*  
*Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine*

**Jenny Kloss, MSN, BSN CRNP-AC/PC**  
*Nurse Practitioner*  
*Trauma Program*

## Course Faculty (continued)

**Adam J. Kundishora, MD**

*Pediatric Neurosurgeon*

*Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery*

**Hamidah McCorkle, MSN, CRNP**

*Nurse Practitioner*

*Trauma Program*

**Gary Nace, MD, FACS, FAAP**

*Attending, Pediatric Surgeon*

*Director, Pediatric Trauma Program*

*Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery, and the Trauma Center*

**Michael L. Nance, MD, FACS, FAAP**

*Chief*

*Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic, and Fetal Surgery*

**Roni L. Robinson, MSN, CRNP**

*Nurse Practitioner*

*Orthopedic Center*

**Nate Smith, MSN, RN, PHRN**

*Nurse Manager*

*Emergency Transport Team*

**Seth Eliot Vatsky, DO**

*Pediatric Radiologist*

*Department of Radiology*

**Sylvia Whitridge, MSN, CRNP**

*Nurse Practitioner*

*Division of Pediatric General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery*

## Guest Faculty

**Brian Joho, MSN, RN, CBRN**

*Burn Program Coordinator*

*Nemours Children's Health*

*Lehigh Valley Regional Burn Center*

**Julia Price, PhD**

*Pediatric Psychologist*

*Nemours Children's Health*

*Conference Planning Committee*

## **Conference Planning Committee**

**Stefanie Gabris, RN, BSN**

*Clinical Nurse*

*Nursing Surgical Services*

**Deborah Britt-Lightkep, RN, BSN**

*Staff Nurse*

*PACU-Perioperative Complex*

**Eileen Houseknecht, RN, BSN, MBA**

*Trauma Research Coordinator*

*Trauma Program*

**April Lydon, RN, MSN, CCRN**

*Nursing Professional Development Specialist*

*PICU Room and Board*

**Jessica Osipowicz, RN, MSN, ACNP**

*Trauma Advanced Practice Nurse Trauma*

*Program*

**Diane H. Perks, DNP, CRNP**

*Trauma Program Manager*

**Gwyneth Sharer, RN, MSN, CPEN**

*Clinical Nurse Specialist*

*Emergency Department*

**Stacey Smith, RN, CPN**

*Clinical Nurse Expert*

*Surgical Room and Board*



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