

IMMUNE PRIVILEGED SITES



DIRT Gets Into Immune-Privileged Sites
8th Annual Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Immune Dysregulation Symposium

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Learn more: chop.cloud-cme.com

 **Children's Hospital
of Philadelphia**
Immune Dysregulation Program

 Jeffrey Modell
Foundation



Course Overview

The symposium, hosted by the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) multidisciplinary Immune Dysregulation Team, is intended for an audience of clinicians and translational scientists from both the U.S. and abroad. This year's theme revolves around immune privileged sites. Electrifying sessions on maternal/fetal immunity, ocular inflammation, and neuroinflammation are planned. The event will include cutting edge talks, a debate on therapeutic decision-making, provocative trainee cases, and more.

Course Objectives

- The protective and pathologic consequences of the maternal-fetal immune interface
- The retina-blood barrier and how it relates to ocular inflammation
- The roles that brain-native and circulating immune cells play in health and neuroinflammatory disease

General Information

Attendees have the option of attending the hybrid conference at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia or virtually.

Registration is Free

In-person registration includes continental breakfast and lunch and course materials.

Accreditation



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

In support of improving patient care, 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

Physicians: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: This program provides 5.75 contact hours.

Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms has been reserved at reduced rates at The Study, located just a few blocks from Children's Hospital. The group overnight rate is \$259 single and double occupancy plus a 16.25% room tax. Participants are required to make their own hotel reservations by calling The Study directly at 215-387-1400. Please mention the name of the conference when making your reservation. The special room rate will be available until May 9, 2026. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space and rate availability basis.

Cancellation Policy

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia reserves the right to cancel or postpone any course due to any unforeseen circumstances. Cancellations must be received in writing by Friday, May 29, 2026.

Register now: chop.cloud-cme.com



We are grateful for symposium financial support from the Jeffrey Modell Foundation.



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The HUB for Clinical Collaboration

PROGRAM

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Registration

8:20 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
Neil D. Romberg, MD

Session I: At the Maternal/Fetal Interface

Moderator: *Elise Breed, MD, PhD*

8:30 a.m. Antigen Discovery in Gestational Alloimmune Liver Disease
Tamir Diamond, MD

8:50 a.m. Compartmentalized Loss of Tolerance and Placental Damage in Human
Congenital Viral Infection
Scott Gordon, MD, PhD

9:10 a.m. KEYNOTE: Bypassing the Placenta with Fetal Genetic Surgeries
William H. Peranteau, MD

9:45 a.m. Trainee Case
Abin Abraham, MD, PhD

10:00 a.m. Break

Session II: Ocular Inflammation

Moderator: *Dorottya Laczko, MD, PhD*

10:30 a.m. KEYNOTE: Delivering Gene Therapies into the Eye
Katherine Uyhazi, MD, PhD

11:05 a.m. Tears Shed in Pediatric Uveitis: What They Reveal
Melissa A. Lerman, MD, PhD, MSCE

11:25 a.m. Proteomic Assessments of Ocular Fluid
Jeffrey Sundstrom, MD, PhD

11:45 a.m. Trainee Case
Monica Manglani MD, PhD

Noon Lunch and Poster Viewing

Session III: Neuroinflammation

Moderator: Edward M. Behrens, MD

- 1:20 p.m. **Complement Factor I-Deficient Neuroinflammatory Disease in the Amish**
Whitney Reid, MD
- 1:40 p.m. **The BBB at the Crossroads of Immune Dysregulation, Behavior, and
Neurological Disease**
Jorge I. Alvarez, PhD
- 2:00 p.m. **Microglia in Setting of Systemic Immune Dysregulation**
Mariko L. Bennett, MD, PhD
- 2:20 p.m. **Trainee Case**
Samuel Belfer MD, PhD
- 2:35 p.m. **Break**
- 2:45 p.m. **Pro Con Debate: Systemic Versus CNS Specific Biomarkers and Therapies
for Neuroinflammation**
Jennifer McGuire MD, MSCE
Caroline Diorio MD, MSTR, FRCPC
- 3:30 p.m. **Trainee Awards**
- 3:45 p.m. **KEYNOTE: Brain-Resident T Cells, Friends or Foes?**
Andrew Wang, MD, PhD
- 4:20 p.m. **Closing Remarks/Adjourn**
Neil D. Romberg, MD

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

FACULTY

Course Organizers

Edward M. Behrens, MD

*Director, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program
Division Chief, Pediatric Rheumatology
Attending Physician, Division of Rheumatology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Scott W. Canna, MD

*Attending Physician, Division of Rheumatology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Hana O. Conlon, CRNP

Nurse Practitioner, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program

Michele P. Lambert, MD, MSTR

*Co-Director, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program
Medical Director, Special Coagulation Laboratory, Department of Pathology and
Laboratory Medicine
Attending Physician, Division of Hematology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Whitney L. Petrosa, CRNP

Nurse Practitioner, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program

Neil D. Romberg, MD

*Course Director, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program
Attending Physician, Division of Allergy and Immunology
Associate Professor of Pediatrics*

Kathleen E. Sullivan, MD, PhD

*Co-Director, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program
Division Chief, Allergy and Immunology
Attending Physician, Division of Immunology
Professor of Pediatrics*

David T. Teachey, MD

*Co-Director, Immune Dysregulation Frontier Program
Attending Physician, Division of Oncology
Professor of Pediatrics*

Course Faculty

Jorge I. Alvarez, PhD

Associate Professor of Pathobiology

Abin Abraham, MD, PhD

Fellow, Division of Neonatology

Samuel Belfer, MD, PhD

Neurology Resident, Division of Neurology

Course Faculty (continued)

Mariko L. Bennett, MD, PhD

*Attending Neurologist, Division of Neurology
Assistant Professor of Neurology*

Elise Ristig Breed, MD, PhD

Attending Physician, Division of Rheumatology

Tamir Diamond, MD

Attending Physician, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Caroline Diorio, MD, MSTR, FRCPC

Attending Physician, Division of Oncology

Scott Gordon, MD, PhD

Attending Physician, Division of Neonatology

Dorottya Laczko, MD, PhD

Attending Physician, Division of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Melissa A. Lerman, MD, PhD, MSCE

*Pediatric Rheumatologist, Division of Rheumatology
Co-director Uveitis Coordinated Care Clinic
Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics, Rheumatology*

Monica Manghani MD, PhD

Rheumatology Fellow, Division of Rheumatology

Jennifer McGuire, MD, MSCE

Pediatric Neurologist, Division of Neurology

Jeffrey Sundstrom, MD, PhD

*Attending Ophthalmologist, Division of Ophthalmology
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology*

Whitney Reid, MD

Attending Physician, Division of Rheumatology

William H. Peranteau, MD

*Attending Fetal and Pediatric Surgeon, Division of General, Thoracic and Fetal Surgery
Associate Professor of Surgery*

Katherine Uyhazi, MD, PhD

*Attending Physician, Division of Ophthalmology
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology*

Guest Faculty

Andrew Wang, MD, PhD

*Associate Professor of Internal Medicine (Rheumatology)
Yale School of Medicine*



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3401 Civic Center Blvd.

Philadelphia, PA 19104 chop.edu

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