

CME AGENDA | DAY ONE | FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2026

43rd Annual AIIMSonians of America Convention | Kansas City, Missouri, USA | August 6-9, 2026

THE WESTIN KANSAS CITY AT CROWN CENTER **BALLROOM C**

Session	Time	Title	Speaker
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM			
Registration & Breakfast (नारत)			
		Faculty Roundtables – Meet the Professor	Drs. M.K. Devi, Varun Puri, Sharad Mathur
		Social Media Roundtable – Meet the Influencer	Dr. Abhinav Singh Verma
		Research Roundtable – Meet the Scientist	Dr. Aditi Gupta
8:00 AM - 8:10 AM			
Welcome (स्वागत)		Official Welcome Setting Up Audience Response	CME Chair
8:10 AM - 10:10 PM			
1 – Public Health (सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य)			Mods: Drs. Puneet Sood & Vibhor Krishna
	8:10 AM	The Silent Epidemic: Cardiovascular Risk in South Asians	Dr. Anurag Mehta
Moderated Discussions (चर्चा)	8:25 AM	From the Krebs Cycle to the Crap Cycle – How Modern Life Hijacked Our Metabolism, and How to Reclaim It	Dr. Nikhil Gupta
	8:45 AM	Careers at the FDA	Dr. Geetika Srivastava
Special Guest (विशेष अतिथि)	9:05 AM	California's Tobacco Control Program 1989 to 2026: An Empirical, Non-Randomized, Non-Clinical Trial Which Cost \$4 Billion and Saved Well Over \$1 Trillion – Not a Shabby ROI	Dr. Dileep Bal
Discussion (चर्चा)	9:40 AM	Moderated/Audience Q&A with Dr. Dileep Bal	Drs. Puneet Sood & Vibhor Krishna
	9:55 AM	Audience MCQs and Panel Discussion	CME Committee & Panel
10:10 AM - 10:30 AM			
Coffee Break (चाय शाय)			Research Posters (Drs. Swati Sonal, Mariyam Rafla Hassan)
10:30 AM - 12:00 AM			
2 – Gastroenterology (जठरांत्र विज्ञान)			Mods: Drs. Ashish Atreja & Kanika Puri
	10:30 AM	The Brain–Gut Connection: An Update on Functional GI Disorders	Dr. Anjan Bhattacharyya
	10:45 AM	IBD in 2026: From Inflammation to Precision Care	Dr. Siddharth Singh
	11:00 AM	Advances in Cancer Vaccines Against Gastrointestinal Cancers	Dr. Ajay Bansal
	11:15 AM	Beyond the Scalpel: How Liver Transplant and HPB Surgery Are Transforming GI Care	Dr. Saurabh Singhal
	11:30 AM	Updates in Kidney Transplantation	Dr. Gaurav Gupta
	11:45 AM	Audience MCQs and Panel Discussion	CME Committee & Panel
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM			
Lunch (भोजन)			
		Business Roundtables – Meet the Entrepreneur	Drs. Ganesan Keerthivasan, VK Sharma, Ashish Atreja
		Leadership Roundtables – Meet the Leader	Drs. Sai Yendamuri, Hardeep Singh
		Bookwriting Roundtables – Meet the Author	Drs. Sanjiv Chopra, Pankaj Vij, Narayan Verma
		IP Roundtable – Meet the Lawyer	Ms. Jayashree Mitra
Sponsored by Vera Therapeutics Advancing the Treatment Paradigm in IgA (Non-CME) Nephropathy			Dr. Sumit Kumar
1:00 PM - 2:10 PM			
3 – Future of Medicine (भविष्य)			
Research Abstracts (शोध सारांश)	1:00 PM	Rising Stars in Medicine: Rapid-Fire Research Presentations	Judges: Drs. Nikhil Chawla, Snigdha Jain, Shashank Chauhan, Ruchika Goel
	1:50 PM	Audience MCQs and Discussion	CME Committee
2:10 PM - 2:30 PM			
Coffee Break (चाय शाय)			Research Posters (Drs. Aditya Singh, Amritesh Grewal)
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM			
Non-CME			Mod: Dr. Rajesh Kabra
	2:30 PM	Beyond Medicine: Stories of Service and Impact	Drs. Ashok Garg, Sunil Kumar, Abdul Razzaque Ahmed, Behram Pastakia, Ramesh L. Bijlani
	3:00 PM	Pathways for Alumni Impact in Education, Research, and Patient Care at AIIMS	Drs. Geetika Srivastava, Neerja Bhatla, Sanjiv Chopra, Atul Dhir, Pankaj Vij
Adjourn Day 1 (छुट्टी)	3:30 PM		



Conference Wifi:
Network: Westin Conference
Access Code: AOA2026

CME AGENDA | DAY TWO | SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

43rd Annual AIIMSonians of America Convention | Kansas City, Missouri, USA | August 6-9, 2026

THE WESTIN KANSAS CITY AT CROWN CENTER BALLROOM C

Session	Time	Title	Speaker
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM			
Registration & Breakfast (नार्शरी)			
		Faculty Roundtables – Meet the Professor	Drs. M.K. Devi, Varun Puri
		Social Media Roundtable – Meet the Influencer	Drs. Saurabh Sethi, Abhinav S. Verma
		Research Roundtable – Meet the Scientist	Drs. Turaga Kiran, Aditi Gupta
8:00 AM - 9:55 AM			
4 – Oncology (अर्बुदविज्ञान)			Mods: Drs. Shailender Bhatia & Roopina Sangha
	8:00 AM	Cancer Genetics from Peripheral Blood – Screening, Prognosis, Monitoring	Dr. Ravi Rao
	8:15 AM	Head & Neck Cancers – Unique Risks and Realities in South Asians	Dr. Sunil Kumar
	8:30 AM	Targeting KRAS in Pancreatic Cancer – Drugging the Undruggable	Dr. Anirban Maitra
	8:45 AM	Engineering a Cure – CAR-T and the Revolution in Blood Cancers	Dr. Shaji Kumar
Highlight (पद्म श्री)	9:00 AM	From Screening to Elimination – Transforming the Cervical Cancer Landscape in India	Dr. Neerja Bhatla
Discussion (चर्चा)	9:30 AM	Audience Q&A with Padma Shri Dr. Neerja Bhatla	Drs. Shailender Bhatia & Roopina Sangha
	9:40 AM	Audience MCQs and Panel Discussion	CME Committee & Panel
9:55 AM - 10:15 AM			
Coffee Break (चाय शाय)			Research Posters (Drs. Varun Nandakumar, Ishika Gupta)
10:15 AM - 11:50 PM			
5 – Cardiology (हृद्विज्ञान)			Mods: Drs. Malini Madhavan & Rajesh Kabra
	10:15 AM	When Congenital Heart Disease Walks Into Your Clinic – A Guide for Internists	Dr. Pankaj Madan
	10:40 AM	One Pill to Cure Them All – Role of Polypills in Heart Disease	Dr. Ambarish Pandey
Keswani Lecture	10:55 AM	Cardiac Arrhythmology: From Pulse to Digital Science – A View From the Front Row	Dr. Sanjeev Saxena
Discussion (चर्चा)	11:30 AM	Moderated Discussion & Audience Q&A with Dr. Saxena	Drs. Malini Madhavan & Rajesh Kabra
	11:45 AM	Audience MCQs and Panel Discussion	CME Committee & Panel
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM			
Lunch (भोजन)			
		Business Roundtables – Meet the Entrepreneur	Drs. Ganesan Keerthivasan, VK Sharma, Ashish Atreja
		Leadership Roundtables – Meet the Leader	Drs. Sai Yendamuri, Hardeep Singh
		Bookwriting Roundtables – Meet the Author	Drs. Sanjiv Chopra, Pankaj Vij, Narayan Verma
1:00 PM - 2:20 PM			
6 – Potpourri (खिचड़ी)			
Audience Participation (दर्शकों की भागीदारी)	1:00 PM	CME Challenge: Battle of Wits	Drs. Preetpaul Singh, Ashwani Gupta, Sahil Khanna, Roopina Sangha
2:20 PM - 2:30 PM			
Coffee Break (चाय शाय)			
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM			
GBM (आम सभा की बैठक)			
Adjourn Day 2 (छुट्टी)	3:30 PM		



Conference Wifi:
Network: Westin_Conference
Access Code: AOA2026

CME Learning Objectives

43rd Annual AIIMSonians of America Convention | Kansas City, Missouri, USA | August 6-9, 2026

Educational Goal:

The AIIMSonians of America (AoA) 34th Annual Convention CME Program is designed to enhance physician competence and clinical performance by providing evidence-based updates in public health, gastroenterology, oncology, cardiovascular medicine, transplantation, cancer prevention, and emerging medical science. Through expert-led presentations, case-based discussions, audience response activities, and interactive panel sessions, participants will be better equipped to incorporate contemporary advances into patient care and population health practice.

Learning Objectives:

SESSION 1: PUBLIC HEALTH:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Assess major cardiovascular risk factors contributing to the disproportionate burden of cardiometabolic disease among South Asian populations.
2. Describe the role of environmental and lifestyle contributors to metabolic dysfunction and chronic disease.
3. Explain the role of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in advancing public health and supporting medical innovation.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of large-scale tobacco control programs in reducing cancer incidence, mortality, and healthcare costs.
5. Apply evidence-based public health principles to disease prevention and health promotion in diverse populations.

SESSION 2: GASTROENTEROLOGY:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Review current concepts regarding the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management of functional gastrointestinal disorders.
2. Discuss advances in precision medicine and therapeutic approaches for inflammatory bowel disease.
3. Evaluate emerging prevention strategies for hereditary gastrointestinal cancers, including vaccine-based interventions for Lynch syndrome.
4. Recognize the expanding role of liver transplantation and hepatopancreatobiliary surgery in the management of complex gastrointestinal diseases.
5. Describe recent developments in kidney transplantation relevant to physicians caring for patients before and after transplant.
6. Apply evidence-based approaches to the management of gastrointestinal and transplant-related conditions through case discussion and audience interaction.

SESSION 3: FUTURE OF MEDICINE:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate emerging clinical and translational research presented across multiple medical and surgical specialties.
2. Identify novel scientific discoveries and innovations with potential implications for future patient care.
3. Assess the strengths and limitations of contemporary research methodologies and findings.
4. Incorporate new evidence into clinical decision-making and lifelong learning practices.
5. Reinforce key educational concepts through interactive discussion and audience response activities.

SESSION 4: ONCOLOGY:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Discuss the clinical applications of blood-based genetic and molecular testing for cancer risk assessment, screening, prognosis, and disease monitoring.
2. Recognize unique epidemiologic, environmental, and clinical factors influencing head and neck cancers in South Asian populations.
3. Review advances in precision oncology, including KRAS-targeted therapies for pancreatic cancer.
4. Explain the mechanisms, indications, and evolving role of CAR-T cell therapy in hematologic malignancies.
5. Evaluate evidence-based strategies for cervical cancer prevention, screening, HPV vaccination, and elimination initiatives.
6. Incorporate contemporary cancer prevention, diagnostic, and therapeutic advances into clinical practice.

SESSION 5: CARDIOLOGY:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify common clinical challenges in the recognition and management of adults with congenital heart disease in general medical practice.
2. Evaluate the evidence supporting polypill-based strategies for the prevention and management of cardiovascular disease.
3. Describe advances in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.
4. Discuss the growing role of digital health technologies, wearable devices, and remote monitoring in cardiovascular care.
5. Apply contemporary cardiovascular management strategies to improve patient outcomes across diverse practice settings.

SESSION 6: POTPOURRI:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

1. Integrate key learning points from the multidisciplinary CME curriculum.
2. Apply evidence-based clinical reasoning to patient management scenarios spanning multiple specialties.
3. Demonstrate knowledge acquisition through interactive audience-response exercises and case-based problem solving.
4. Identify opportunities to improve clinical decision-making and patient care through interdisciplinary learning.

CONFERENCE FACULTY

Ashish Atreja—Professor, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, CA

Dileep Bal—Clinical Professor, Cancer Center, Department of Family Medicine & Community Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine, Honolulu, HI

Ajay Bansal—Professor, Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Motility, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Anjan Bhattacharya—Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Neerja Bhatla—Professor & Head, Obstetrics and Gynecology, All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

Shailender Bhatia—Professor, Division of Hematology and Oncology; Lyn and Daniel Lerner Endowed Chair for Merkel Cell Carcinoma, University of Washington and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center, Seattle, WA

Ramesh L. Bijlani—Professor and Former Head of Department, Physiology, All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India, Writer & Inspirational Speaker, New Delhi, India

Shashank Chauhan—Additional Professor, Department of Plastic, Reconstructive & Burns Surgery, All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

Nikhil Chawla—Assistant Professor; Director for Quality & Safety, Surgical Intensive Care Unit, Anesthesiology, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

Sanjiv Chopra—Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School; Senior Consultant in Hepatology, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, MA

M.K. Devi—Associate Professor, Colorectal Surgery, University of Utah Health, Salt Lake City, UT

Ruchika Goel—Wesly Endowed Chair of Hematology, Professor, Internal Medicine and Pediatrics, SIU SOM, Associate Vice Chair, Research and Adjunct Faculty, Johns Hopkins University SOM

Aditi Gupta—Professor, Nephrology and Hypertension, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Ashwani Gupta—Electrophysiologist, Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic, Langhorne, PA

Gaurav Gupta—Chief, Division of Nephrology, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Mallika Gupta—Assistant Professor, Transplant Nephrology, Nephrology and Hypertension, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Nikhil Gupta—Endocrinologist, Diabetes & Metabolism Institute, Brampton & Markham, Ontario, Canada

Snigdha Jain—Assistant Professor, Pulmonary & Critical Care, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT

Rajesh Kabra—Cardiac Electrophysiologist; Director of Clinical Operations, Kansas Heart Rhythm Institute; Overland Park, KS

Ganesan Keerthivasan—Founder and CEO, ZealStrat LLC, Foster City, CA

Sahil Khanna—Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Turaga Kiran—Professor; Division Chief, Surgical Oncology, Surgery, Yale University, New Haven, CT

Vibhor Krishna—Associate Professor, Neurosurgery, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

CONFERENCE FACULTY (CONTINUED)

Shaji Kumar—Professor, Research Chair, Division of Hematology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Sumit Kumar—Nephrologist, Department of Internal Medicine, Texas Kidney Institute, Dallas, TX

Sunil Kumar—Professor & Head, Surgical Oncology, All India Institute Of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India

Pankaj Madan—Medical Director, Adult Congenital Heart Disease Program, University of Texas Health, San Antonio, TX

Malini Madhavan—Cardiac Electrophysiologist, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Anirban Maitra—Professor of Pathology; Associate Director of Translational Research, Perlmutter Cancer Center, NYU Langone Health, New York, NY

Anurag Mehta—Assistant Professor, Cardiology, Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Jayashree Mitra—Shareholder at Carlton Fields, New York Metropolitan Area

Amit Noheria—Professor, Cardiovascular Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Ambarish Pandey—Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Behram Pastakia—Radiologist, VA Hospital and Medical Center, Washington, DC

Kanika Puri—Assistant Professor, Clinical Pediatrics, Assistant Director, Nutrition Support Team, Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition, Riley Hospital for Children, Indianan University Health, Indianapolis, IN

Varun Puri—Professor, Chief, Thoracic Surgery, Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, MO

Ravi Rao—Medical Oncologist-Hematologist, California Cancer Associates, Fresno, CA

Sanjeev Saksena—Professor, Cardiac Electrophysiology; Founder, Electrophysiology Research Foundation, Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ

Roopina Sangha—Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

Saurabh Sethi—Gastroenterologist & Influencer, saurabhsethimd.com, Fremont, CA

Virender K. Sharma—Gastroenterologist; Founder, AZ Center For Digestive Health, Abrazo Medical Group, Gilbert, AZ

Hardeep Singh—Professor; Co-Chief, Health Policy, Quality and Informatics (HPQI), Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Houston, TX

Preetpaul Singh—Hematologist-Oncologist, Springfield Clinic, Springfield, IL

Siddharth Singh—Gastroenterologist, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ

Saurabh Singhal—Program Director and Head of Department, Center for Liver-GI Diseases & Transplantation (CLDT), New Delhi, India

Puneet Sood—Professor, Medical Director, Kidney Transplantation, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA

Geetika Srivastava—Oncologist—Hematologist; Project Lead, FDA Oncology Center of Excellence (OCE) Project Asha, Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Washington, DC

Abhinav S. Verma—Resident, Psychiatry, MetroHealth, Cleveland, OH

Narayan Verma—Neurophysiologist, Henry Ford Warren Hospital, Warren, MI

Pankaj Vij—Physician; Author; Founder, Crack the Wellness Code, Kaiser Permanente, Pleasanton, CA

Sai Yendamuri—Thoracic Surgeon; Chief Strategy Officer, Senior Vice President of Strategy, Business Development and Outreach, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY