Agenda

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

11:30am **REGISTRATION OPENS** — San Juan Ballroom Foyer

1:00-1:10pm **OPENING REMARKS** — San Juan Ballroom

Kaitlin Sylvester, MPA, *Strategic Director, ACS NCCRT*

1:10-2:25pm **PANEL: ADVANCING COLORECTAL CANCER (CRC) SCREENING: NAVIGATING GUIDELINE CHANGES** — San Juan Ballroom

This session will explore emerging evidence shaping CRC screening recommendations and the implications for providers, health systems, and screening programs. Panelists will discuss risk-based screening, implementation challenges, screening capacity, and the potential impact on outcomes and health equity.

Moderator: **Laura Makaroff**, DO, *Senior Vice President, Cancer Prevention, ACS; ACS Chair, ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

Speakers:

- **Robert A. Smith**, PhD, *Senior Vice President, Cancer Screening, ACS; ACS NCCRT Senior Scientific Advisor*
- **Thomas Imperiale**, MD, *Professor of Medicine, Indiana University Medical Center*
- **Pascale White**, MD, MBA, MS, FACG, *Associate Professor of Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; Co-Founder, The Association of Black Gastroenterologists and Hepatologists; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

2:25-3:35pm **PANEL: BIOMARKERS IN CRC: CURRENT APPLICATIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS** — San Juan Ballroom

CRC treatment is becoming increasingly personalized, driven by advances in biomarker testing and precision medicine. This session will provide an overview of current CRC treatment approaches, explore the role of biomarkers in guiding care decisions, and examine ongoing efforts to expand access to biomarker testing and precision care. Attendees will gain a better understanding of how biomarker-driven care can improve treatment selection and patient outcomes.

Moderator: **Christopher Lieu**, MD, *Professor of Medicine, Division of Medical Oncology; Associate Director for Clinical Research; University of Colorado School of Medicine; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

Speakers:

- **Michael D. Iglesia**, MD, PhD, *Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina School of Medicine*
- **Anjee Davis**, MPPA, *CEO, Fight Colorectal Cancer*

3:35-3:50pm **NETWORKING BREAK**

3:50-5:00pm **PANEL: RISK ASSESSMENT IN CRC SCREENING: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND NEXT STEPS** — **San Juan Ballroom**

This session will explore advancements in CRC risk assessment, including the implementation of the new ICD-10 code for Lynch syndrome and other hereditary cancer syndromes, and their potential to improve identification, care coordination, and outcomes. Panelists will also examine ongoing barriers to implementation and discuss opportunities to strengthen risk assessment across healthcare systems to maximize its impact on patient care and health outcomes.

Moderator: **Peter Liang**, MD, MPH, *Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine and Population Health, NYU Grossman School of Medicine; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

Speakers:

- **Swati Patel**, MD, MS, *Associate Professor and Director, Gastrointestinal Hereditary Cancer Program, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Center; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*
- **Heather Hampel**, MS, CGCC, *Associate Director, Division of Clinical Cancer Genomic, City of Hope; ACS NCCRT Priority Team Co-Chair*
- **Danielle Ripley-Burgess**, *Survivor, Advocate, Consultant*

5:00-6:00pm **WELCOME RECEPTION** — **San Juan Ballroom & Foyer**

Light appetizers. Dinner on your own.

6:30-8:30pm **ACS LEADERSHIP DINNER**

Open to ACS Volunteer Leadership only.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:00-8:00am **REGISTRATION & NETWORKING BREAKFAST** — **San Juan Ballroom**

8:00-8:05am **OPENING REMARKS** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Kaitlin Sylvester, MPA, *Strategic Director, ACS NCCRT*

8:05-8:25am **AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY WELCOME** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Shane Jacobson, M.Ed, *CEO, American Cancer Society*

8:25-9:00am **ACS NCCRT CHAIR KEYNOTE** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Steven Itzkowitz, MD, FACP, FACG, AGAF, *Professor of Medicine and Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; Chair, ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

9:00-10:15am **PANEL: ENSURING TIMELY FOLLOW-UP COLONOSCOPY: CAPACITY, BARRIERS, AND SOLUTIONS** — **San Juan Ballroom**

This session will explore the systems, processes, and partnerships needed to improve follow-up colonoscopy completion, highlighting current data and trends, a real-world case study from Fred Hutch, and findings from the American College of Gastroenterology's GI workforce capacity analysis. Attendees will gain practical insights into addressing barriers, strengthening care coordination, and improving outcomes across screening programs and health systems.

Moderator: **Thomas Imperiale**, MD, *Professor of Medicine, Indiana University Medical Center*

Speakers:

- **David Lieberman**, MD, *Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Oregon Health and Science University*
- **Neil Stollman**, MD, *Physician, East Bay Center for Digestive Health*
- **Rachel Issaka**, MD, MAS, *Associate Professor and Director, Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center and University of Washington; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Honoree*

10:15-10:35am **NETWORKING BREAK & MOVE TO CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

10:35-11:50am **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

▷ **Trust as an Implementation Strategy: Building Quality Community Partnerships Across the CRC Continuum** — **Espada A**

This interactive session will explore how trust can serve as a powerful implementation strategy for advancing CRC prevention, screening, treatment, and survivorship efforts through meaningful community partnership. Speakers will share practical frameworks and real-world examples demonstrating how trusted relationships can improve implementation, navigation, and equitable outcomes across the CRC continuum.

Moderator/Facilitator: **Charles R. Rogers**, PhD, MPH, MS, MCHES, *Founder and President, Colorectal Cancer Equity Foundation*

Speakers:

- **Jonathan Gardner**, CNP, *Data Architect II, ScreeND Program, Mountain Pacific; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Grand Prize Winner*
- **Nikki Medalen**, MS, BSN, RN, CPHQ, *Quality Improvement Advisor II, ScreeND Program, Mountain Pacific; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Grand Prize Winner*
- **Carolyne Tufte**, LPN, *ScreeND Program, Mountain Pacific; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Grand Prize Winner*
- **Ari Bell-Brown**, MPH, *Collaborative Science Manager, Fred Hutch Cancer Center; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Honoree*

Transforming the Patient Experience Through Navigation Across the CRC Continuum — **Espada B**

This session will explore the critical role of patient navigation in improving experiences and outcomes across the CRC continuum, from screening through treatment and survivorship. Panelists will highlight national standards, implementation frameworks, and practical strategies for developing sustainable navigation programs that address barriers to care. Through real-world examples, attendees will learn how navigation programs can improve access, coordination, and outcomes while advancing more patient-centered and equitable care.

Moderator: **Carlton Allen**, MS, CHW, MCHES, *Senior Program Manager for Prevention, Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)*

Speakers:

- **Sally Werner**, BSN, MSHA, *Chief Executive Officer, Cancer Support Community*
- **Andrea (Andi) Dwyer**, MPH, *Director of the Colorado Cancer Screening Program, University of Colorado Cancer Center; Chair, ACS National Navigation Roundtable*
- **Ashley Ramos**, MSW, *Cancer Prevention Patient Navigator, CommUnity Care Health Centers*
- **Marianne Pearson**, MSW, LCSW, *Vice President, Cancer Care, Colorectal Cancer Alliance*

Reaching Populations with the Greatest Need: Screening and Treatment Programs That Improve Outcomes — **Meeting Room D**

This session will highlight successful CRC screening initiatives that are improving outcomes in populations facing significant barriers to care. Panelists will share real-world examples of how navigation, community partnerships, culturally responsive approaches, and implementation strategies have increased access to screening and treatment services. Attendees will gain practical insights into building sustainable programs that advance equity and improve outcomes for populations with the greatest need.

Moderator: **Anne Gaglioti**, MD, MS, FAAFP, *Vice President, Implementation Science, American Cancer Society; ACS Chair, ACS National Breast Cancer Roundtable*

Speakers:

- **Cara Brown**, RN, MSN, MBA, *Population Health RN, Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation*
- **Rona Schwartz**, MD, *Physician, Unity Health Care*

Collaborative Forum: Policy Action — **Meeting Room A**

This interactive session will bring ACS NCCRT members together to discuss recent CRC policy achievements, current developments, and emerging opportunities to advance CRC prevention and control. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, share ideas and experiences, and learn from one another about policy approaches being implemented across diverse settings. Through facilitated discussion, attendees will help identify priorities and opportunities for collective action that can accelerate progress across the CRC continuum.

Facilitators:

- **Cori Chandler**, MPA, *Director, State & Local Campaigns, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)*
- **Heather Dacus**, DO, MPH, *Director, Bureau of Cancer Prevention and Control, NYS Department of Health*
- **Molly Roberts**, *Vice President of Advocacy, Fight Colorectal Cancer; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

Collaborative Forum: Community Engagement — Meeting Room C

This interactive session will bring together advocates and partners to share best practices, lessons learned, and successful strategies for raising awareness about CRC prevention, screening, and early detection. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, exchange ideas, and learn from one another's experiences engaging communities, building trust, and inspiring action. Through facilitated discussion, attendees will identify opportunities for collaboration and collective action to strengthen public awareness and community engagement efforts nationwide.

Facilitators:

- **Melinda M. Conklin**, MS, MEd., *Founder/Executive Director, Hitting Cancer Below the Belt; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*
- **Erin Peterson**, *Senior Director, Advocacy & Patient Education, Colon Cancer Coalition*

11:50-12:30pm **NETWORKING LUNCH** — San Juan Ballroom

12:30-1:40pm **LIVED EXPERIENCE CONVERSATION: THROUGH THE LENS OF CRC SURVIVORS AND CAREGIVERS** — San Juan Ballroom

This session will provide an opportunity for CRC survivors and caregivers to share their personal experiences and perspectives. Through their stories, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the real-world experiences, costs, and burdens associated with CRC for patients, caregivers, and families. The conversation will help inform more patient-centered approaches to prevention, screening, treatment, survivorship, and supportive care while elevating the experiences of those most directly affected by this disease.

Moderator: **Amber Mike**, *Patient Advocate*

Speakers:

- **Julie Saliba Clauer**, *Director of Education, Colontown*
- **Rebeca Clay-Flores**, *Bexar County Commissioner, Precinct 1*
- **Mary Beth Kropp**, MA, Ed.D., *Cofounder and President, Big Mike's Bottom Line*
- **Terry Wong**, *Blood Bros BBQ*

1:40-2:00pm **BREAK AND MOVE TO PRIORITY TEAM WORKSHOPS**

2:00-4:00pm **PRIORITY TEAM WORKSHOPS**

These interactive workshops will bring together ACS NCCRT members and Roundtable leadership to advance discussions aligned with the goals and priorities of the ACS NCCRT's three-year Strategic Roadmap. Participants will have opportunities to share best practices, exchange ideas, identify challenges, and explore opportunities to improve CRC outcomes across our five Priority Areas. The discussions and insights generated during these workshops will help inform the ACS NCCRT's priorities, activities, and workplan for the coming year while fostering coordinated action to reduce CRC mortality and disparities.

Health Equity: Mobilize National and Community-Level Efforts That Will Lead to Health Equity Across the CRC Continuum — **Meeting Room A**

This workshop will serve as the founding session of our Health Equity Priority Team and will focus on identifying and prioritizing key drivers of disparities across the CRC continuum. Participants will explore opportunities for collective action and help shape the team's future priorities and direction.

Facilitators:

- **Dionne Christopher**, PMP, *Director of Prevention, Colorectal Cancer Alliance; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*
- **Keith Winfrey**, MD, MPH, FACP, *Founder/Principal Investigator, Nova Fortis Clinical Research, LLC*

Family History & Early-Age Onset CRC: Improve Timely Action for Early-Age Onset CRC Signs and Symptoms — **Espada A**

This workshop will focus on opportunities to improve the identification and management of individuals at increased risk for CRC due to family history, hereditary cancer syndromes, and early-age onset CRC. Participants will identify priorities, gaps, and opportunities for action, with the goal of generating ideas for future Roundtable initiatives, resources, and collaborative efforts that advance risk identification, timely evaluation of signs and symptoms, and appropriate follow-up care.

Facilitators:

- **Heather Hampel**, MS, CGCC, *Associate Director, Division of Clinical Cancer Genomic, City of Hope*
- **Paul Schroy**, MD, MPH, *Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Boston University School of Medicine*

On-Time CRC Screening: Support On-Time Screening as Soon as Eligible and Continued Participation Per Screening Recommendations — **Meeting Room D**

Members will focus on improving both on-time initiation of CRC screening and ongoing adherence to recommended screening intervals. Participants will share best practices, explore barriers and solutions, and identify strategies that support regular screening participation across diverse populations and care settings. Together, attendees will identify actionable opportunities to help more people get screened on time and stay current with recommended screening over time.

Facilitators:

- **David Greenwald**, MD, *Professor of Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Director of Clinical Gastroenterology and Endoscopy, Mount Sinai Hospital in New York*
- **Xavier Llor**, MD, PhD, *Medical Director of Cancer Screening and Prevention, Co-Director of the Cancer Genetics and Prevention Program, Medical Director of the Colorectal Cancer Prevention Program, Yale Cancer Center*

Follow-Up Colonoscopy: Promote Timely Colonoscopy Follow-Up to Positive (Abnormal) Non-Colonoscopy Screening Tests — Espada B

This workshop will work to identify barriers and opportunities for improving timely follow-up colonoscopy after a positive non-colonoscopy screening test, with a particular focus on serving populations experiencing the greatest barriers to care in FQHC and safety-net settings. Participants will share best practices, discuss implementation considerations, and explore scalable strategies that can improve follow-up colonoscopy completion while advancing health equity.

Facilitators:

- **Stacie Miller**, MSN, MPH, RN, *Oncology Clinic Manager, Moncrief Cancer Institute, UT Southwestern, ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*
- **Cindy Yoshida**, MD, AGAF, *Professor, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, UVA Health*

Access to Quality Treatment: Identify Areas to Ensure Timely Initiation of Quality Cancer Treatment — Meeting Room C

This workshop will serve as the inaugural meeting of the Access to Treatment Priority Team, bringing together members to identify barriers and opportunities related to timely initiation of quality CRC treatment. Participants will share experiences, discuss gaps, and explore practical solutions to improve access to care and patient outcomes.

Facilitators:

- **Christopher Lieu**, MD, *Professor of Medicine, Division of Medical Oncology; Associate Director for Clinical Research; University of Colorado School of Medicine; ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*
- **Marielle McLeod**, MHA, *Patient Advocate*

4:00-4:15pm **BREAK AND RETURN TO MAIN SESSION**

4:15-5:00pm **2026 ACS NCCRT DISTINGUISHED NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD** — San Juan Ballroom

James Hotz, MD, MACP, *Founder, Clinical Services Director, Albany Area Primary Health Care (AAPHC)*

5:00-6:30pm **NETWORKING RECEPTION** — Historic Outdoor Courtyard

Light appetizers. Dinner on your own.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

7:00-8:00am **REGISTRATION & NETWORKING BREAKFAST** — San Juan Ballroom

8:00-8:05am **OPENING REMARKS** — San Juan Ballroom

Kaitlin Sylvester, MPA, *Strategic Director, ACS NCCRT*

8:10-8:40am **LEADING WITH EQUITY: ELEVATING CRC AND HEALTHCARE EQUITY ON THE NATIONAL AGENDA** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Richard C. Wender, MD, *Chair of Family Medicine and Community Health, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; ACS NCCRT Chair Emeritus*

8:40-9:45am **COMPLETING THE CRC SCREENING PROCESS** — **San Juan Ballroom**

This session will explore the development and significance of the new NCQA follow-up colonoscopy quality measure, highlight best practices for improving follow-up completion through patient navigation, care coordination, and data exchange, and discuss strategies for identifying and addressing patient risk. Panelists will also share a real-world example of a successful, long-standing program that has improved follow-up care and outcomes through a coordinated systems-based approach.

Moderator: **Elizabeth Ciemins**, PhD, MPH, MA, *Chief Research Officer, AMGA*

Speakers:

- **Brenna Lin**, PhD, *Applied Research Scientist, Population Health, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)*
- **Christina Wang**, MD, *Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, Mount Sinai Hospital*
- **Kevin Rank**, MD, *Chief Medical Officer, MNGI; 2026 National Achievement Award Honoree*

9:45-11:00am **ARMCHAIR CONVERSATION ON CRC HEALTH EQUITY: BARRIERS AND SOLUTIONS TO REACHING LATINO & HISPANIC COMMUNITIES** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Improving colorectal cancer outcomes in Latino and Hispanic communities requires approaches that recognize the diversity of cultures, experiences, needs, and barriers across populations. This session will explore common misconceptions, examine unique challenges and promising strategies from communities across the United States, and discuss how community-driven, culturally responsive efforts can advance health equity and improve CRC prevention, screening, and care.

Moderator: **Gloria Coronado**, PhD, *University of Arizona; Vice Chair, ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*

Speakers:

- **Amelie Ramirez**, DrPH, *Professor and Chair of the Department of Population Health Sciences, UT Health Science Center San Antonio*
- **Rebecca Jones**, PhD, *Assistant Director of Community Outreach and Engagement, Mays Cancer Center, UT San Antonio*
- **Marielle McLeod**, MHA, *Patient Advocate*

11:00-11:15am **NETWORKING BREAK**

11:15am-12:15pm **PANEL: EARLY-AGE ONSET CRC AT A TURNING POINT: WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT'S NEXT** — **San Juan Ballroom**

This session will examine current epidemiologic data, including the birth cohort effect, highlight a real-world example of an innovative multidisciplinary program delivering evidence-based care for younger patients, and introduce the newly updated ACS NCCRT Advanced Polyp Brief.

Moderator: **Manju George**, PhD, MVSc, Chair, Mississippi Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, Assistant Professor, John D Bower School of Population Health, University of Mississippi Medical Center

Speakers:

- **Caitlin Murphy**, PhD, MPH, Professor of Pediatrics and Public Health Sciences, The University of Chicago
- **Y. Nancy You**, MD, MHSc, FACS, Professor of Surgery, Co-Lead Colorectal Service Line, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; 2026 ACS NCCRT National Achievement Award Honoree
- **Tala Mahmoud**, MD, University of Virginia

12:15-12:30pm **ENDING ON A HIGH NOTE** — **San Juan Ballroom**

Steven Itzkowitz, MD, FACP, FACG, AGAF, *Professor of Medicine and Oncological Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; Chair, ACS NCCRT Steering Committee*