

VANCOUVER, CANADA

MAY 17-21, 2026



TRANSFORMING REHABILITATION - CONNECTING WORLDS



**PRELIMINARY
PROGRAM**

REGISTER NOW
TO SAVE AT
ISPRM2026.COM

Join Us for This Special 20th Anniversary of the ISPRM World Congress

ISPRM 2026 is the premier event for leaders and rising stars of physiatry and rehabilitation around the world. Share, discover, and connect at this joint Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (CAPM&R) and International Society of Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) World Congress.

TIPS:

The Educational & Social Event of the Year

With over 1,500 attendees, 1,000 poster and paper presentations, 60 educational sessions & workshops, signature networking events, and a packed exhibit hall, you'll discover groundbreaking science and career-growth at every step of your ISPRM 2026 experience.

Get Your Best Rate

Become a member of the CAPM&R or ISPRM and register by March 12 to enjoy significantly reduced registration rates. Learn more by visiting ISPRM2026.com.

Apply for Your Visa Early!

If you need a visa to travel to Canada, we recommend you apply as early as possible—as visa processing times may vary. International attendees can find a letter of invitation, links for your visa and/or passport, and other resources and important information at ISPRM2026.com.

Get Social with our Global Community

Connect with your peers and other leaders face-to-face, hear from speakers and presenters, exchange diverse insights and opinions, and stay on top of the event's latest news using #ISPRM2026, our official event hashtag.



Register Now

- Visit ISPRM2026.com
- Call +1 (410) 654-1000
(credit card payments only)

REGISTER BY
MARCH 12, 2026
TO SAVE!

Welcome to the 20th ISPRM World Congress held in conjunction with the 74th Annual Meeting of the CAPM&R!

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is with great warmth and enthusiasm that we welcome you to the 20th ISPRM World Congress, held in conjunction with the 74th CAPM&R Annual Meeting in the beautiful coastal city of Vancouver, Canada, May 17–21, 2026. On behalf of ISPRM and the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (CAPM&R), we are delighted to gather with you for this milestone congress as we celebrate the **20th Anniversary of the ISPRM World Congress**.

Our theme, “Transforming Rehabilitation, Connecting Worlds,” reflects both the scientific advances that unite our field and the deeper human connections that bring us together across borders, cultures, and nations. In Vancouver—on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations—this theme takes on special meaning. **Here, connecting worlds also means connecting nations, honoring relationships between peoples and embracing Indigenous worldviews that value balance, community, respect for the land, and holistic, whole-person healing—principles that beautifully reflect the spirit of physiatry.** Indigenous perspectives and cultural elements will be thoughtfully woven throughout the program.

ISPRM 2026 promises to be an inspiring global gathering, with delegates from more than 70 countries and a rich scientific program featuring over 60 workshops and sessions spanning the full breadth of rehabilitation medicine. We are especially excited to host more than 1,000 posters showcasing outstanding research and case reports, presented in a lively, interactive format—complete with wine and cheese.

Beyond the scientific program, we invite you to explore our exhibit hall, enjoy our networking and social events, and take advantage of countless opportunities to connect and collaborate—both inside the convention center and while biking, hiking, and exploring Vancouver’s beautiful harbor, mountains, and ocean just outside the doors. **Whether this is your first ISPRM Congress or one of many, we hope you will feel welcomed, inspired, and energized.**

We look forward to sharing an unforgettable week of learning, culture, and community and invite you to share your diverse perspectives and expertise—this is where we learn, grow, and return home inspired with new ideas to improve our research, education, and the lives of our patients. Together, let us transform rehabilitation—and truly connect worlds and nations.

Warmest Regards,

The ISPRM 2026 Congress Leadership

Larry Robinson, MD
ISPRM 2026 President



Ranita Manocha, MD
CAPM&R President



Gerard Francisco, MD
ISPRM President



ISPRM 2026 World Congress – Overview & Learning Objectives

The International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) World Congress is recognized as the premier global forum uniting over 2,000 rehabilitation physicians, researchers, and allied professionals from more than 70 countries. This international gathering showcases the diversity and depth of physiatry worldwide, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange across borders.

As the host society, the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (CAPM&R) brings Canada's national specialty leadership to the forefront. Representing over 400 physiatrists across the country, CAPM&R ensures that this World Congress also reflects Canadian priorities, standards, and patient-centered values. Educational programming is accredited under the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's Maintenance of Certification Program, ensuring activities meet the highest standards of scientific integrity, objectivity, and balance.

Together, ISPRM and CAPM&R are proud to welcome a truly global audience while highlighting the Canadian specialty's commitment to improving patient outcomes and advancing the practice of PM&R at home and abroad.

This program has been developed to align with the CanMEDS Physician Competency Framework and supports the development of competencies across the roles of Medical Expert, Communicator, Collaborator, Leader, Health Advocate, Scholar, and Professional.

This activity is an Accredited Group Learning Activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and approved by the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (CAPM&R).

Through an agreement between the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and the American Medical Association, physicians may convert Royal College MOC credits to AMA PRA Category 1 Credits.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. **Analyze** recent global advances, research findings, and emerging evidence in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine and **integrate** relevant updates into clinical or academic practice.
2. **Evaluate** international approaches to strengthening rehabilitation within health systems and **formulate** strategies applicable to their local, national, or global contexts.
3. **Apply** evidence-based, person-centered rehabilitation practices to improve care for individuals with disability across diverse settings.
4. **Assess** the impact of new and emerging technologies (e.g., AI, robotics, digital health) and **determine** how they can be appropriately incorporated into PRM practice.
5. **Collaborate** effectively with multidisciplinary and international colleagues to **advance** global rehabilitation initiatives, research partnerships, and clinical innovation.
6. **Advocate** for equitable, accessible, and inclusive rehabilitation services by **identifying** systemic barriers and **proposing** actionable solutions.

Welcome to Vancouver



Vancouver, Canada, is a vibrant and beautiful coastal city, and for good reason! With stunning natural scenery, world-class dining, and a thriving arts and culture scene, your time with your CAPM&R and ISPRM families will be unforgettable. Here are some of the unique experiences Vancouver has to offer:

EXPLORE THE GREAT OUTDOORS along the seawall, in Stanley Park, or on nearby Grouse Mountain: hike, bike, kayak, or even try ziplining with breathtaking views of the city and mountains.

SAVOR CULINARY DELIGHTS from award-winning restaurants with celebrity chefs to bustling food markets and farm-to-table eateries.

DISCOVER ARTS AND CULTURE at the Vancouver Art Gallery, Granville Island, and the Museum of Anthropology, or catch live performances at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

STROLL THROUGH DYNAMIC DISTRICTS like Gastown and Yaletown, where boutique shopping, craft breweries, lively music venues, and cozy cafés abound.

CONNECT WITH NATURE just outside the city: ski, snowboard, or relax at nearby Whistler, or explore the scenic coastline and nearby islands.



BUILD YOUR TRIP AT
[DestinationVancouver.com](https://www.DestinationVancouver.com)

 **Airport Code: YVR**

 **Currency: CAD**

 **Time Zone: PST**

Schedule at a Glance

SATURDAY, MAY 16 - PRECONFERENCE DAY 1

(additional ticket)

8:00 am-12:00 pm

Spasticity: ABCD ISPRM Spasticity Curriculum - Module B: Multimodal Treatment Approaches

1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Spasticity: Cryoneurolysis for Adults and Children with Spasticity and Complex Pain

**8:00 am-4:00 pm
(Saturday-Sunday)**

Ultrasound: Ultrasound Guidance for Procedures (Two-Day Course)

SUNDAY, MAY 17 - PRECONFERENCE DAY 2

(additional ticket)

8:00 am-12:00 pm

Pain: Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain - Case-Based, Guideline-Informed Workshop

Global Health: Low-Cost Interventions to Address Disability Worldwide

1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Sarcopenia: Hands-On Workshop: Detection of Sarcopenia and Physical Fitness in the Clinic

8:00 am-4:00 pm

Spasticity Interventions: Most Effective Interventions for Treating Spasticity

Leadership: Strengthening Academic Leadership

Ultrasound: Ultrasound Guidance for Procedures (Two-Day Course)

REGISTRATION OPEN DAILY
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

MONDAY, MAY 18 - MAIN CONGRESS BEGINS

8:00 am-10:00 am

Educational Sessions

9:45 am - 10:15 am

Break

10:15 am- 11:30 am

Opening Ceremony

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Lunch & Learn or Lunch on your own

1:15 pm-2:15 pm

Keynote Presentations

2:30 pm-6:00 pm

Educational Sessions

6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Welcome Reception in Expo

TUESDAY, MAY 19 - DAY 2

7:00 am-8:00 am

Breakfast Symposia

8:00 am-9:00 am

Keynote Presentations

9:15 am-9:45 am

Refreshment Break & Demo Pods in Expo

10:00 am-12:00 pm

Educational Sessions/ Workshops

12:00 pm-1:30 pm

Lunch & Learn or Lunch on your own

1:30 pm-2:30 pm

Keynote Presentations

2:45 pm-6:00 pm

Educational Sessions

3:45 pm-4:15 pm

Refreshment Break & Demo Pods in Expo

6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Poster Gallery Reception in Expo

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 - DAY 3

7:00 am-8:00 am

Breakfast Symposia

8:00 am-9:00 am

Keynote Presentations

9:15 am-9:45 am

Refreshment Break & Demo Pods in Expo

10:00 am-12:00 pm

Educational Sessions/ Workshops

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Lunch & Learn or Lunch on your own

1:30 pm-2:30 pm

Keynote Presentations

2:45 pm-6:00 pm

Educational Sessions

3:45 pm-4:15 pm

Refreshment Break & Demo Pods in Expo

6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Poster Gallery Reception in Expo

7:30 pm-9:30 pm

Networking Event - Spirit of the Land Reception (ticket required)

THURSDAY, MAY 21 - DAY 4

7:00 am-8:00 am

Breakfast Symposia

8:00 am-11:00 am

Education Sessions

11:15 am-11:45 am

Refreshment Break & Farewell to Exhibitors

11:45 am pm-12:15 pm

ISPRM Awards Ceremony

12:15 pm-12:45 pm

Sydney Licht Lecture

12:45 pm-1:30 pm

Closing Ceremony & ISPRM 2027 World Congress

Keynote Speakers

These thought leaders are sharing bold ideas that can shape your research, elevate your education, advance your practice, and propel your career.



ELEFThERIA ANTONIADOU

Greece/Luxembourg
Aging With a Disability



ABDERRAZAK HAJJIOUI

Morocco
Strengthening Rehabilitation in Health Systems Through Sustainable Workforce Development in Low-Resource Settings



MARK BAYLEY

Canada
The Role of Exercise in Stroke Recovery



COLLEEN O'CONNELL

Canada
Understanding Rehabilitation in Public Health Emergencies



MICHAEL BERGER

Canada
Nerve Transfers to Promote Function



NAM-JONG PAIK

Korea
Advanced Neuromodulation in Neurorehabilitation



YUDITH CHIVATA

Columbia
Low-Tech Solutions for Amputees



PETE SKELTON

United Kingdom
Integrating Rehabilitation into Disaster Preparedness



JAMES COTTON

USA
The Future of Artificial Intelligence in Rehabilitation Medicine



ROSS ZAFONTE

USA
Managing Traumatic Brain Injury as a Chronic Disease

Networking & Social Events

Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception

MONDAY, MAY 18 | 10:15 AM IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

Kick off ISPRM 2026 by joining colleagues from around the world for our Opening Ceremony, celebrating the start of the congress and the rich diversity of our global rehabilitation community. Immediately following, enjoy the Welcome Reception—free for all attendees—with local artists, light refreshments, mingling, and the perfect opportunity to reconnect with old friends and meet new collaborators in a warm, inclusive atmosphere.

SPECIAL CANADIAN WELCOME

Delivered by Rick Hansen, C.C., O.B.C., a six-time Paralympic medalist, and a Canadian icon best known as the “Man In Motion” for undertaking an epic 26-month, 40,000 km journey around the world in his wheelchair. He is the Founder of the Rick Hansen Foundation, an organization committed to inspire, create and deliver innovative solutions that accelerate a global movement to remove barriers to inclusion for people with disabilities.



Spirit of the Land Reception *(additional ticket)*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 | 6:30 PM-9:30 PM

Experience an unforgettable evening of networking at the Spirit of the Land Reception, set against the breathtaking backdrop of Vancouver Harbor. Enjoy local cuisine and beverages, live music, and Indigenous cultural performances, which may include hoop dancers, drumming, and other traditional artistic presentations. Connect with colleagues from over 70 countries in a lively, festive atmosphere that celebrates community, culture, and collaboration—a perfect way to build relationships while immersing yourself in the vibrant spirit of the Pacific Northwest.



Connect & Collaborate

Connect with psychiatry and rehabilitation experts from over 70 countries through curated events designed to build your career and expand your professional network.

Poster Gallery Receptions

TUESDAY, MAY 19 & WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

Explore innovative research and case studies while connecting with PM&R residents and top researchers. With over 1,000 posters on display, you'll leave inspired, with fresh ideas and new opportunities for collaboration. Refreshments will be served.

Pop-Up Presentations & Round Table Discussions

Build connections, share ideas and get insights into challenges that lie ahead in our informal pop-up presentations and round table discussions.

Exhibit Hall Refreshments & Demo Pods

Get to know institutions and organizations that are offering innovative programs, services, and products. Grab a snack and learn more about how to improve education and patient care with our exhibitors at our demo pods and refreshment breaks.

Lunch Symposia

Feed your curiosity—and your appetite—at our sponsored lunch symposia. Topics and times will be announced soon. Space is limited, so be ready to reserve your spot.

Designed for Connection

All educational and networking activities will take place within the Vancouver Convention Centre, creating a seamless and engaging experience for delegates. Purpose-built spaces with floor-to-ceiling windows overlook Vancouver's iconic harbour, the North Shore Mountains, and active seaplane traffic, offering a distinctly West Coast setting for connection and collaboration. By keeping all activities on site, the program maximizes accessibility, convenience, and value—eliminating the need for offsite travel while fostering organic networking in an inspiring, world-class venue.



Preconference Workshops - Overview

ISPRM 2026 will offer a range of **optional pre-conference courses** on Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17, prior to the start of the main Congress. These courses provide focused, in-depth learning opportunities across key clinical, procedural, and leadership themes.

REGISTRATION & FEES

Pre-conference courses on Saturday and Sunday are not included in the main Congress registration. Additional registration and fees apply for all pre-conference courses.

All scientific sessions and workshops held Monday through Thursday are included with your conference registration.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

SPASTICITY

(Morning | 8:00 am-12:00 pm)

ABCD ISPRM Spasticity Curriculum - Module B: Multimodal Treatment Approaches for Spasticity

SPASTICITY

(Afternoon | 1:00 pm-5:00 pm)

Cryoneurolysis for Adults and Children with Spasticity and Complex Pain

ULTRASOUND

(All Day | Saturday-Sunday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm)

Ultrasound Guidance for Procedures (two-day course)

SUNDAY, MAY 17

PAIN

(Morning | 8:00 am-12:00 pm)

Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain: Case-Based, Guideline-Informed, Hands-On Workshop

LOW-COST INTERVENTIONS

(Morning | 8:00 am-12:00 pm)

Low-Cost Interventions to Address Disability Worldwide

SARCOPENIA

(Afternoon | 1:00 pm-5:00 pm)

Hands-On Workshop: Detection of Sarcopenia and Physical Fitness in the Clinic

SPASTICITY INTERVENTIONS

(All Day | 8:00 am-4:00 pm)

Most Effective Interventions for Treating Spasticity

LEADERSHIP

(All Day | 8:00 am-4:00 pm)

Strengthening Academic Leadership

TRAVEL PLANNING GUIDANCE

- Delegates wishing to attend Saturday pre-conference courses should plan to arrive on Friday.
- Delegates wishing to attend Sunday pre-conference courses should plan to arrive on Saturday.
- Delegates attending the main Congress only may plan to arrive on Sunday.

ISPRM 2026: Precon Workshops

Two-Day Workshop:

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 16 & 17, 2026

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Ultrasound Guidance for Procedures

Directors: Levent Özçakar

Price: \$499 for members; \$549 for non-members

This two-day intensive workshop will provide comprehensive, hands-on training in the use of ultrasound guidance for musculoskeletal and interventional procedures. Led by internationally recognized expert Dr. Levent Özçakar, the course combines focused didactic instruction with extensive practical scanning and needle-guidance experience. Participants will review essential ultrasound principles, optimize image acquisition, and develop proficiency in sonoanatomy relevant to common procedural targets. Emphasis will be placed on real-time ultrasound-guided techniques to enhance procedural accuracy, safety, and clinical outcomes. Interactive, small-group sessions will allow participants to practice ultrasound-guided interventions under expert faculty supervision, making this workshop ideal for clinicians seeking to build or refine procedural ultrasound skills for everyday practice.



SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

ABCD ISPRM Spasticity Curriculum: A Novel Educational Program to Enhance International Spasticity Education

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Directors: Rajiv Reebye, FRCPC, MD, Stefano Carda, MD, Mary Elizabeth Nelson-Biersach, DNP, Rita Pane, MD, Mary Elizabeth Nelson-Biersach, PhD

Price: \$149 for members; \$199 for non-members

This workshop will describe the novel modular ABCD spasticity educational program developed by the ISPRM Spasticity SIG, its educational impact from the Indonesian pilot of the program and its ability to be adapted to other countries. As well, this workshop will build on the success of the hands-on component of module A in Marrakesh ISPRM 2025 on pathophysiology and identification of spasticity, by focusing on module B for ISPRM 2026 on multi modal treatment of spasticity. Small group, interactive, case-based sessions will reinforce the application of module A and application of module B teaching for multimodal treatment of spasticity.

Cryoneurolysis for Adults and Children with Spasticity and Complex Pain

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Directors: Paul Winston, MD, Ibrahim Ali, MD, Mahdis Hashemi, MD, Fraser MacRae, BSc, Vova Joshua, MD, Romain David, MD, Anton Pick, MD, Eve Boissonnault, MD, Ana Melendez Laborda, MD, Alfredo Rodriguez Perez, MD, Jose Alexandre AC Pereira, MD, Guynn Clay, MD

Price: \$149 for members; \$199 for non-members

Cryoneurolysis is a revolutionary new method to treat spasticity via a drug-free percutaneous treatment that offers long-lasting surgical-like results. Cryoneurolysis is the first major advancement in spasticity care in decades and is growing rapidly from its nascence in Canada. We will outline the novel idea of pre-screening with ultrasound-guided nerve blocks. Due to its wide application on nerves, cryoneurolysis can reduce spasticity, increase range of motion and treat pain, and has shown significant improvement in patients who have plateaued on other treatments. Cryoneurolysis offers the developing world a far more accessible long lasting treatment due to huge cost savings.

ISPRM 2026: Precon Workshops (cont.)

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026

Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain: A Case-Based, Guideline-Informed, Hands-On Workshop for Prescribers and Learners

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Directors: Nagina Parmar, PhD, Andrea Furlan, MD

Price: \$149 for members; \$199 for non-members

In North America, opioid-related harms continue to lead to significant drug-related mortality, partly due to variable prescribing practices despite national guidelines. Educational interventions are essential for improving knowledge and adherence. The Opioid Self-Assessment Program (SAP) workshop is a 3-hour accredited CME program designed to enhance understanding of the Canadian Guideline for Safe and Effective Use of Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain. It will cover areas like non-opioid treatment optimization, opioid dosing, prevention of misuse, and safe tapering. There will be pre- and post-assessments, with participants eligible for Royal College Section 3 credits, incorporating engaging presentation styles like demonstrations and discussions.

Low-Cost Interventions to Address Disability Worldwide

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Director: Roger De la Cerna-Luna, MD

Price: \$149 for members; \$199 for non-members

This workshop will explore low-cost, high-impact interventions aimed at reducing disability and improving functional outcomes in resource-limited settings worldwide. Drawing on global rehabilitation experiences and real-world examples, participants will examine practical strategies that leverage locally available resources, community-based approaches, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Topics will include scalable rehabilitation interventions, task-shifting models, assistive technologies, and innovative solutions that promote access and sustainability in low- and middle-income countries. Through interactive discussion and case examples, attendees will gain insights into adapting evidence-informed rehabilitation practices to diverse cultural, economic, and health system contexts, with a focus on improving equity and global rehabilitation capacity.

Most Effective Interventions for Treating Spasticity

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Director: Paul Winston, MD

Price: \$249 for members; \$299 for non-members

This full-day workshop will provide a comprehensive, practical overview of evidence-based interventions for the management of spasticity across a range of neurologic conditions. Participants will review current concepts in spasticity assessment and goal setting, followed by an in-depth discussion of pharmacologic, interventional, and rehabilitative treatment options. Emphasis will be placed on selecting the most appropriate interventions based on patient presentation,

functional goals, and clinical context. Case-based discussions and interactive sessions will highlight real-world decision-making, multimodal treatment planning, and strategies to optimize outcomes. This workshop is designed for clinicians seeking to strengthen their clinical approach to spasticity management using contemporary, effective, and patient-centered strategies.

Strengthening Academic Leadership

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Director: Francesca Gimigliano, MD; John Chae, MD, ME

Price: \$249 for members; \$299 for non-members

Take your leadership skills to the next level! ISPRM is collaborating with the Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP) to bring a sneak-peek of the highly-successful Program for Academic Leadership (PAL). Designed as a highly interactive experience, the course will introduce participants to essential leadership skills including emotional intelligence, leadership styles, effective communication, team building, and advocacy within academic and clinical environments. Through a blend of targeted didactic content, real-world case discussions, and small-group activities, attendees will gain insight into their own leadership strengths, learn how to adapt communication strategies to different personalities and situations, and develop practical approaches to managing difficult conversations and leading high-performing teams. The workshop will also emphasize advocacy skills needed to champion patients, collaborate across specialties, and influence decision-makers within academic institutions. This course is ideal for early- to mid-career faculty and clinician-educators seeking foundational tools to lead with confidence and impact in academic physiatry and rehabilitation medicine.

Detection of Sarcopenia and Physical Fitness in the Clinic: Hands-On Workshop

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Directors: Pavel Loeza, PhD, Héctor Ricardo Quezada González, MSc, Rubén Darío Reyes Hernández, MD, Sergio Montoya Calderón, MD, Laura Beatriz Salas López, MD, Ana Román Álvarez, MD, Lezly Elizabeth Alcalá Morales, MD, Delia Daniela Fernández Carapia, MD

Price: \$149 for members; \$199 for non-members

A hands-on workshop will be conducted through standardized procedure stations to carry out a short battery of physical tests (SARC-F, handgrip dynamometry, gait speed, 1-minute step test, seat & reach, ultrasound assessment, and 30-second chair stand test). These assessments will allow for the clinical diagnosis of sarcopenia, evaluation of flexibility, submaximal cardiorespiratory fitness, and lower body power. Test interpretation will be followed by exercise prescription based on results.

CAPM&R Day

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

CAPM&R members, please be sure to join us for our special day for our community:



Workshops:

The Interdisciplinary Clinic for Peripheral Nerve Injury – From Bench to Bedside (Morning – 4 hours)

Chair and Faculty – chaired by Thomas A. Miller, MD, this workshop features an international, multidisciplinary faculty including Colin Franz, MD, PhD; Jenna Senger, MD; Chris Doherty, MD; Mike Berger, MD; Ming Chan, PhD; and Sarah Smith, MD, bringing expertise across physiatry, surgery, imaging, and translational science.

Peripheral nerve injury remains a common and challenging condition requiring coordinated, interdisciplinary care. This workshop provides a practical overview of modern diagnostic tools, surgical decision-making, rehabilitation strategies, and emerging adjunct therapies, bridging basic science discoveries with bedside implementation. Using case-based, interactive discussions, participants will explore personalized approaches to prognosis, procedural selection, and recovery across the spectrum of nerve and spinal cord injury. The session highlights how integrated electrodiagnostics, neuromuscular ultrasound, reconstruction techniques, and rehabilitation can improve functional outcomes.

Advancing the Rehabilitation Workforce Goals: Grassroots Case Studies (Afternoon – 2 hours)

Chair and Faculty – course directed by Heather Dow, CAE, CPhT, CPC(HC) with faculty including Peter Cassidy, FACHE; Colleen O’Connell, PhD; and Britney Soll, BSc, bringing expertise in rehabilitation leadership, workforce development, education, and international collaboration.

Rehabilitation workforce shortages remain a critical global challenge, with one-third of the world’s population expected to require rehabilitation during their lifetime. This interactive workshop presents three grassroots case studies aligned with the WHO Rehabilitation Competency Framework and World Rehabilitation Alliance Objective 2, including innovative programs from Mauritius and Ukraine. Through brief evidence reviews, case-based discussions, live polling, and small-group

design activities, participants will explore scalable, context-appropriate models for workforce training, mentorship, and capacity building beyond formal academic pathways. The session highlights practical strategies for international collaboration, competency-based upskilling, and community-driven initiatives that strengthen rehabilitation systems and expand access to care worldwide.

Award Presentations & Annual General Meeting

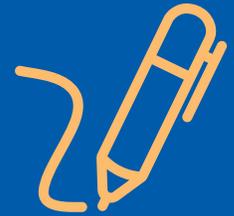
Join colleagues in celebrating excellence within the Canadian rehabilitation community during the CAPM&R Award Presentations. This special gathering will recognize recipients of two of the Association’s most distinguished honours:

The **CAPM&R Award of Merit** recognizes a member whose career has demonstrated outstanding leadership and sustained contributions to the advancement of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Recipients are honoured for their impact across areas such as clinical care, research, education, mentorship, advocacy, and service to the profession at regional, national, or international levels.

Meridith Marks Award for Excellence in Education, established by the Canadian Physiatrists Research and Development Foundation (CPRDF) in partnership with CAPM&R, honours a physiatrist who has made exceptional contributions to medical education. Named in memory of Dr. Meridith Marks – a respected national leader in rehabilitation education – the award recognizes innovation in teaching, curriculum development, learner mentorship, and the advancement of educational scholarship within PM&R.

Immediately following the award presentations, the CAPM&R and the CPRDF will convene their respective Annual General Meetings of the Members. The session will conclude with an educational opportunity open to attendees. Additional details regarding AGM agendas and the educational program will be shared as they become available.

Design Your ISPRM Experience



ISPRM 2026 will feature stimulating educational sessions designed to engage a diverse audience and advance the field of physiatry. Hear from expert speakers presenting world-class research, cutting-edge insights, and the latest developments in everything from administration and patient care to new technology and trainee education—and much more!

Simultaneous Translation

Simultaneous translation will be provided for all keynotes and other sessions taking place in the main plenary room using Wordly, an AI-powered live translation platform. Attendees will be able to access real-time translation on their personal devices in multiple languages.

Curate Your Experience

ISPRM26 offers a robust program with sessions spanning the full scope of rehabilitation medicine. Reviewing the preliminary program now allows you to identify and mark priority sessions in advance, helping you plan a focused and meaningful conference experience. Take time to explore what's ahead and prepare to engage with the content most relevant to your work and interests.



Visit ISPRM2026.com to get the most up-to-date schedule, view speaker bios and more on the Itinerary Planner and keep an eye out for the launch of our conference app ahead of the event so you can stay up to date on any changes that happen during the week in real time.



Scan for
Most Up to
Date Info &
Schedule

Bridging the Gap: Rehabilitation for an Ageing World

Taslim uddin, MD, Vanessa Seijas, PhD, Omer Jamshed Khan, MD, Abena Yeboaa Tennor, MD, Rumaisah Hasan, PhD, Mohamed Sakel, MD, Tom Haig, MSc, Yukio Mikami, PhD, Reynaldo Rey-Matias, MD, Iffat Islam Khan, MD, Fatema Nawaz, MBS, Raju Dhakal, MD

Join this multinational scientific workshop to explore strategies to strengthen rehabilitation for ageing populations worldwide. This interactive 2-hour session features expert speakers, a consumer representative, and evidence-based discussions on accessibility, community-based care, and innovative solutions, with panel dialogue, participant engagement, and a live consensus poll to identify global and local priorities.

9th Annual Workshop on Global Approaches to the Rehabilitation of Cancer Patients

Ady Correa, MD, Vishwa Raj, MD, Birgit Leibbrand, MD, Franchesca Konig, MD, Evelyn Qin, MD, Jae Yong Jeon, MD, PhD, Sammy Wu, MD, Terrence C. Carolan, MSPT, Juan Guillermo Montoya Chica, MD, Jesuel Padro-Guzman, MD, Monica Pinto, MD, Raquel S. Salinas Gonzalez MD, Amy Ng, MD, Michael Fediw MD

As more people live longer after cancer, many face physical and functional challenges that affect independence and quality of life. This workshop brings together leading experts to discuss rehabilitation strategies addressing cancer-related impairments and survivorship, including program development, exercise precautions in cancer, shoulder dysfunction in breast cancer, bone metastasis, and rehabilitation after CAR-T therapy. Presenters from all over the world will share evidence-based approaches, highlighting the role of interdisciplinary care in improving outcomes and quality of life.

A Physiatric Approach to Gender and Sports Equity: Girls' and Women's Empowerment in PMR Practice Functioning and Disability

Yetsa Tuakli-Wosornu, MD, Uma Pandiyan, MD, Catherine Stratton, MPH, Nora Newcomb, MD

Gender-based violence affects roughly 1-in-4 women in society and 1-in-2 women in sports, leaving many physiatrists feeling ill-equipped to respond. Leveraging a team-oriented, interdisciplinary approach, this workshop—developed in partnership with UN Women and UNESCO—engages the ISPRM community through a strengths- and community-based participatory model to raise awareness, synthesize local experiences, and empower physiatrists to address gender-based violence among sportswomen.

A Role Play Game in Practice: A Day in the Life of a General Physiatrist

Carley Trentman, MD, Laurenie Louissant, MD

Have you ever read a “choose your own adventure” book or played a RPG? This interactive session uses role playing

to boost retention as you step into the shoes of a general physiatrist and experience a day in practice, learning key clinical and board-related concepts in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

A Whole Person Approach to Describing the Clinical Spectrum and Symptom Burden of Unexplained Chronic Myofascial Pain

Lynn Gerber, MD, Siddhartha Sikdar, PhD, John Srbely, PhD, Antonio Stecco, MD, Secili DeStefano, PT, Jay Shah, MD

This session identifies a core set of evaluations to assess the presence and severity of cMP using clinical assessments and patient-reported measures. It examines relationships among MTrPs, detailed pain history, and contributing factors, analyzing how multidomain variables interact to influence pain. This network-based approach aims to improve understanding of pain burden, inform evaluation strategies and treatments, and clarify potential cMP mechanisms.

Ultrasound Guided Chemoneurolysis with Phenol: A Low Cost Alternative for Spasticity Management Therapeutics

Abhishek Srivastava, MD, Navita Purohit Vyas, MD

The delegates will learn new skills of using phenol for spasticity management and gain practical knowledge of ultrasound guided neurolysis technique.

I'm an Adult Rehab Doctor, Get Me Out of Here: Aging Considerations for Adults with Childhood-Onset Disability

Kavita Nadendla, MD, Anisa Tatini, MD, John Fox, DO, Stephanie Van, MD

Individuals with childhood-onset disabilities often experience premature aging, with early health, functional, and psychosocial challenges driven by biological, environmental, and healthcare barriers. This session highlights the role of PM&R physicians in addressing secondary complications and managing premature aging through holistic, interdisciplinary care. Participants will explore evidence-based strategies to optimize function, quality of life, and community engagement for this growing population.

Adjustable, Immediate-Fit Prostheses: The Solution to Worldwide Lower Limb Loss Disability

Timothy Dillingham, MD

This hands-on workshop showcases Prosthetics' innovative, adjustable lower-limb prosthetic sockets—clinically tested devices that can be shipped without a prosthetic lab and adjusted by the patient. Designed to address global shortages in prosthetic care, particularly in low-resource settings, the session includes a lecture on development and clinical outcomes followed by a live fitting using only hand tools, offering rehabilitation professionals insight into the impact of adjustable prosthetics.

Advancing the Rehabilitation Workforce Goals: Grassroots Case Studies

Heather Dow, Peter Cassidy, FACHE, MBA, PT, Colleen O'Connell, PhD, Britney Soll

Rehabilitation for All requires rapid workforce growth—one-third of people will need rehab in their lifetimes, yet capacity falls short. This evidence-informed session presents three grassroots models—an equine-assisted program in Mauritius and a Ukraine–North Carolina knowledge-transfer partnership—aligned with the WHO Rehabilitation Competency Framework and WRA Objective 2. Participants will engage in case lessons, interactive competency mapping, and practical upskilling tools to expand access and strengthen local teams.

Annual Scientific Session 2026: Emergency Rehabilitation Committee

Farooq Rathore, MD, Prof. Abderrazak Hajjioui, MD, Colleen O'Connell, MD, Anas Hasan, MBBS, Maria Paul, FRCP(U.K), FAFRM, AFRACMA, Taslim Uddin, MBBS, Fatema Nawaz, MBS, Eric Weerts, BA, PT, Maya Newman, MD, Alaeldin EIMalik, FAFRM RACP, MBBS

This two-hour workshop brings together rehabilitation experts from seven regions affected by disasters and conflicts. Using real examples from Morocco, Palestine, Bangladesh, the U.S., Ukraine, Sudan, and global humanitarian operations, participants will explore emergency rehab responses, long-term system building, and climate change impacts on persons with disabilities, with practical lessons, interactive discussion, and action planning to strengthen disaster preparedness in their own settings.

Beyond Pain, Toward Recovery: The Diagnosis and Management of Musculoskeletal and Neurologic Pain Conditions in the Peripartum Period

Rebecca Titman, MD, Sarada Sakamuri, MD, Ginette Moores, MD, Lisa Murphy, MD, Olivia Drodge, MPT

Healthcare provider discomfort and limited research contribute to under-recognition and under-treatment of pain during pregnancy and postpartum. This workshop outlines the role of PM&R specialists in assessing and managing common musculoskeletal and neurologic pain conditions—including lumbopelvic pain, radiculopathies, nerve entrapments, and headaches—that impact function and quality of life in this population.

Bone Health Management in Spinal Cord Injury and Multiple Sclerosis – What You Need to Know: Screening, Diagnosis, and Drug and Rehab Therapies

Cathy Craven, BA, MSc, MD, FRCPC, Philemon Tsang, MPT, PhD, Saina Aliabadi, PhD, Kristin Musselman, BSc, BScPT, MSc, PhD

This interactive clinical workshop examines bone health in individuals with spinal cord injury (SCI) and multiple sclerosis (MS), covering pathophysiology, clinical assessment tools,

and interdisciplinary management strategies. Through case discussions and audience engagement, participants will explore prevention and management using drug and rehabilitation therapies, including anti-resorptive therapy, neuromuscular electrical stimulation (NMES), and reactive balance training, enhancing application of bone health guidelines in these neurological populations.

Breaking the News in Motor Neuron Disease/Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Colleen O'Connell, MD, Melinda Kavanaugh, PhD, Angela Genge, MD, Cathy Cummings, MBA

The conversation around diagnosis in conditions such as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) sets the stage for the rest of a person's life—done poorly, the patient may never forgive you; done well, they may never forget you. Delivering difficult news is a clinical skill that can be learned and improved. This session introduces a practical step-wise protocol, helping participants explore personal perceptions of illness, death, and dying, identify team roles in difficult conversations, and build confidence while supporting interdisciplinary team well-being.

Bridging Functional Evaluation and Therapeutic Strategy: Evolving Approaches from Japan

Yoko Inamoto, PhD, Eiichi Saitoh, MD, Masahiko Mukaino, MD, Junichi Ushiba, PhD

This session highlights Japan's advances in treatment-oriented evaluation, integrating imaging, motion, and neural analyses to link functional measurement with therapeutic mechanisms. Using examples from swallowing CT, 3D gait analysis, and brain-computer interface-based motor assessment, participants will gain practical insights into using quantitative evaluation to guide individualized rehabilitation, with a unified framework and adaptable templates for mechanism-driven clinical practice.

Building a Platform for Standard Care for People with Cerebral Palsy

Heakyung Kim, MD, Gessica Della Bella, MD, Yoko Matsumoto, MD, Teerada Ployetch, MD, Roger De la Cerna-Luna, MD, Hyunee Shin, MD

This symposium addresses global inconsistencies in cerebral palsy (CP) care and aims to build a platform for standardized practice. Pediatric physiatrists will review differences in finance, resources, education, and healthcare systems, covering diagnosis timing, therapy access, spasticity management (botulinum toxin, surgery), specialist and equipment availability, pharmacological interventions, and tube feeding. Comparing international practices, the session seeks to develop guidelines to improve lifelong function, reduce complications, and enhance quality of life for individuals with CP and their families.

Cancer Rehabilitation Across the Lifespan

Jesuel Padro-Guzman, MD, Franchesca Konig, MD, Hanna Hunter, MD

This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the age-specific challenges and psychiatric management strategies for cancer survivors across three critical life stages: Young Adulthood, Established Mid-Life, and the Geriatric Years. By examining the unique physical, cognitive, vocational, and psychosocial needs of each demographic, attendees will gain evidence-based insights into optimizing functional outcomes and quality of life for contemporary cancer survivors.

Cancer Rehabilitation in PMR: Building Bridges Between Oncology and Rehabilitation

Raktim Swarnakar, MD

With rising cancer survival rates, rehabilitation is essential in comprehensive oncology care. This session highlights the role of PMR in addressing functional impairments across the cancer care continuum. Evidence-based interventions, case examples, and adaptable models for high- and low-resource settings will be presented. Attendees will gain practical strategies, outcome measurement tools, and guidance to integrate cancer rehabilitation into practice and expand PMR's leadership in oncology survivorship.

CAPM&R Amputee SIG 2026

Michael WC Payne, MD, Amanda Mayo, MD

The Canadian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (CAPM&R) Amputee Special Interest Group (SIG) session will present findings from a national environmental scan of amputee rehabilitation programs, highlighting variations in care across Canada. Pre-submitted challenging cases may be discussed to explore best practices. Participants will collaborate to identify key priorities and guide the Amputee SIG in strengthening amputee care and outcomes nationwide.

Cardiac Rehabilitation and Artificial Intelligence: Technology, Wearables, and the Future of Connected Care

Matthew Bartels, MD, MPH, Marta Supervia, MD, PhD, Reynaldo Rey-Martias, MD, Catarina Aguiar-Branco, MD, Monica Rincon-Roncancio, MD

Digital transformation is reshaping cardiac rehabilitation worldwide. Artificial intelligence, wearable sensors, and cloud-based tools enable remote monitoring, personalized exercise prescriptions, and expanded access in low-resource settings. This interactive session explores technology integration and access, highlighting applications in urban and rural settings to enhance care for patients with cardiopulmonary diseases globally.

Cardiovascular Health After Traumatic Brain Injury

Shanti Pinto, MD, Simon Driver, PhD

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is increasingly recognized as a chronic condition affecting health across the lifespan, with evidence linking it to higher cardiovascular disease risk. This symposium highlights research on the intersection of cardiovascular health and TBI, discussing impacts on brain health, reasons for elevated cardiovascular risk and mortality, and a novel lifestyle intervention to improve cardiovascular outcomes after TBI.

Climate Change and Disability: Resources and Approaches for Rehabilitation Professionals Now and in the Future

Steven Faux, MBBS, Emma-Leigh Synott, MBBS, Fary Khan, MD, Sumitha Gounden, MBBS, Colleen O'Connell, PhD

Climate change, extreme weather events, and their social and health impacts, affect people with living with disabilities (PLWD) significantly, however they often remain an afterthought in adaptation efforts or policy development and planning for climate change preparedness. In this workshop skills in identifying the impacts of climate change on PLWD are presented together with ways of discussing and teaching preparedness.

Connecting Worlds: Bridging Pediatric and Adult Approaches in Acquired Brain Injury Management and Transition of Care

Simra Javaid, DO, Eboni Reed, MD

This case-based session explores how pediatric and adult rehabilitation intersect in managing acquired brain injury (ABI) across the lifespan. Presenters will highlight similarities and differences in care philosophies, treatment priorities, and outcomes, offering evidence-based strategies to support developmental recovery, functional independence, and successful transitions to adult systems. Participants will gain practical tools and insights to improve continuity of care and collaboration, optimizing lifelong outcomes for individuals with ABI.

Creating a Medical Education Track to Foster the Next Generation of Educational Leaders

Karen Barr, MD, Kevin Franzese, DO, Haylie Lecker, DO, Kylie Johnson, MD

Special tracks teaching medical education skills are growing in residency programs to prepare the next generation of educators and academic leaders. This session describes how to design a clinician educator track, drawing on literature and experience, and invites participants to reflect on adapting it to their local context. A recent graduate and a current participant will share how the track benefited their development.

Digital Fabrication and 3D Printing of Prosthetics and Orthotics to Improve Rehabilitation Care

Amanda Mayo, MD

Traditionally, prosthetics and orthotics (P&O) devices are made using labor-intensive manual casts, plaster molds, and layered socket materials. Emerging digital fabrication technologies—digital scans, computer-aided design, and 3D printing—improve access, reduce costs and labor, shorten fabrication time, and lower environmental impact. This session reviews the benefits and challenges of digital P&O fabrication with case examples from Canada and Ukraine using FDM and fusion jet 3D printing.

Early Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation and Parental Education for Preterm Infants: From NICU to Home

Eun Jae Ko, MD, PhD, Kyung Yong Choi, PT, In Jin Yoon, Sae Mi Hong, PhD

This session highlights early multidisciplinary rehabilitation and parental education for preterm infants. A team of MD, PT, OT, and SLP will address functional limitations and present evidence supporting early intervention. It covers individualized assessment and strategies across physical, occupational, swallowing, and speech-language therapies, plus parent education programs. Participants will gain practical insights into implementing family-centered rehabilitation from the NICU to home.

Equalizing Access to Rehabilitation and Health Care Opportunities for our Patients Living in Suburban and Rural Communities

Adalberto Loyola Sanchez, MD, Audrey Yap, MD, Gustavo Bocca, MD, Adriana Mariscal, PhD, Mary Silvia Querevalú, MD, Pavel Loeza, PhD, Victoria Jackman, MD, Gabriela Legorreta Ramirez, MD

This session introduces learners to the WHO Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) strategy and how to integrate it into their practice. Drawing on diverse expert experiences from academic, research, and public health settings, participants will explore CBR principles and develop plans to apply its multi-sectoral, multidisciplinary approach in their roles as residents, faculty, staff, or administrators.

Experiences of a Sexual Health Rehabilitation Service

Stacy Elliott, MD, Kate McBride, RN, MSN, Shea Hocaloski, RN, Sarah Simms, MD, Viet Vu, DO, Andrei Krassioukov, MD, PhD

This workshop demonstrates how to establish and run a successful sexual and fertility rehabilitation service in clinical and research settings. It covers basic physiology of sexual and fertility changes after neurological disease, multidisciplinary management using the Sexual Health Rehab Framework with patient examples and established clinical and research findings with resources for clinicians and patients. Future research to improve outcomes, including neuromodulation, will also be discussed.

Exploring Fluid Biomarkers in Diagnosis and Prognosis in Mild Traumatic Brain Injury Across the Age Spectrum

Chantel Debert, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Cheryl Wellington, PhD, Sandy Shultz, PhD

Over the past 10 years, research has explored fluid biomarkers as tools for diagnosing and prognosticating mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI). A variety of biomarkers have been identified to help assess injury and predict outcomes. Though still in the research stage, understanding of their potential utility in mTBI care continues to grow.

Fatigue and Rehabilitation Medicine

Joao Pinheiro, MD, Jorge Lains, MD, Renato Nunes, MD, Catarina Aguiar-Branco, MD

Fatigue is a common, disabling symptom that affects function, participation, and recovery in rehabilitation. This course provides an evidence-based, multidisciplinary overview of its mechanisms, assessment, and management across neurological and musculoskeletal conditions. Participants will learn to apply validated tools and individualized strategies, combining expert presentations with interactive discussion to integrate current evidence and promote personalized, patient-centered rehabilitation.

First Aid for Gait Aids: How to Ensure Safe Walking Aid Use

Ranita Manocha, MD, Félix Nindorera, PhD, Jasmeet Sekhon, BSc, Abby Oldford, MSc, Donald Golden, BHPT, Evan Knox

In this interactive session, members will learn the risks associated with walking aid use and factors that increase injury. Using a novel video feedback app, participants will practice fitting walking aids, assisted gait patterns, and navigating stairs and chairs in pairs. The session also guides reflection on applying this tool to teach patients, trainees, and clinicians about safe walking aid use in their own settings.

From Blueprint to Impact: A Low-Cost, Scalable Toolkit for Establishing and Expanding PRM Training in Africa

Abena Tannor, MD, Prof. Abderrazak Hajjioui, MD, Sinforian Kambou, MD, Francesca Gimigliano, MD

Join the African PRM Alliance to gain a low-cost, scalable toolkit for developing or expanding PRM training programs. Learn strategies to secure government funding by demonstrating Return on Investment (ROI), adapt international curricula, implement Tele-Mentorship, and use Decentralization for rapid growth. Discover how to build a strong applicant pipeline through medical student engagement and social media advocacy, leaving with a practical blueprint for sustainable workforce development.

From Neuroinflammation to Neurogenic Heterotopic Ossification: Translational Insights and Clinical Perspectives

Marjorie Salga, MD, PhD, François Genêt, PhD, Vincent Carpentier, MD

Neurogenic heterotopic ossification (NHO) is ectopic bone formation following central nervous system injury, causing pain and loss of mobility despite rehabilitation advances. Surgery is the only curative option but is complex and high-risk. Emerging therapies target inflammatory and osteogenic pathways. This workshop provides a translational overview—from mechanisms and early detection to prevention and surgical management—highlighting new therapeutic approaches bridging research and clinical practice.

From Prototype to Patient: Wearable Soft Robotics for Stroke Rehabilitation

Joan Stilling, MD, Cindy Kao, PhD, Michael O'Dell, MD

Explore how wearable technologies are transforming stroke rehabilitation in this interactive session. Presenters will cover the evolution from traditional exoskeletons to flexible, soft robotic systems for home-based recovery. Participants will learn how engineering, human-computer interaction, and clinical science combine to create patient-centered tools. The session features a soft, wearable robotic textile designed to support hand edema mobilization and highlights future directions for integrating accessible, evidence-based wearable technologies into neurorehabilitation practice.

Ghosts in the Machine: Enhancing Awareness of Disorders of Consciousness with New Program Standards

Terrence Carolan, MSPT, MBA

Despite advances in critical care increasing the number of individuals with Disorders of Consciousness (DoC), access to specialized programs remains limited. Recent evidence offers guidance on care, minimal competency, timing of life-saving treatment withdrawal, recovery outcomes, and covert awareness. CARF International has developed standards for transdisciplinary DoC rehabilitation programs to support quality improvement, advocate for individuals with DoC, and demonstrate the value of services to stakeholders.

Global Landscape of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation: Results and Insights from the ISPRM Global Survey

Matthew Bartels, MD, MPH, Marta Supervia, MD, PhD, Azusena Rodriguez Garcia, MD

This session presents findings from the ISPRM Global Survey on Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation, examining global trends, availability of all rehabilitation phases, and Physiiatric involvement by country. Participants will network, explore ways to increase patient and provider participation, and engage in a roundtable discussion on future opportunities and collaborations to expand Physiiatric involvement in cardiopulmonary rehabilitation worldwide.

Hamstring Cheat Sheet: Evaluation of Posterior Thigh and Hamstring Pain Syndromes with Musculoskeletal and Neuromuscular Sonographic Correlations

Lester Duplechan, MD

This didactic lecture, featuring 2–3 patient cases and a live demonstration, will cover common causes of posterior thigh and sciatic pain, focusing on differential diagnosis in exercisers. Posterior gluteal and thigh anatomy will be reviewed to clarify the hamstring-sciatic nerve relationship. Practical tips on transducer use and machine settings will also be provided.

Incorporating Low-Cost Visual Art Strategies in Stroke Neurorehabilitation: Impact on Patient Communication, Therapy, and Neuroplasticity

Lexia Bao, Rajiv Reebye, FRCPC, MD, Asmaa Mahmoud, MBBCh, MSc, PhD, Cadyn Leung

This interactive, hands-on workshop will explore how visual art—an accessible, low-cost, and patient-centered approach—can be effectively incorporated into stroke neurorehabilitation. The session will combine evidence-based lectures, live demonstrations, and small-group creative exercises designed to translate theory into clinical practice.

Innovation in Assistive Health Technology: Bridging the Gap between Medicine and Technology

Gita Handa Thukral, MD, Ravinder Singh, PhD, Suman Badhal, MD

High-end technologies often fail to meet their intended purpose and overlook varied socioeconomic contexts. This course will spark your innovation and guide you through bringing a product to market. Emphasizing user involvement from the start, participants will learn to influence product effectiveness and navigate the device development journey.

Innovation in Advanced Management of the Post Stroke Spastic Hemiplegic Shoulder: From Early Intervention to Contracture

Paul Winston, MD, Mahdis Hashemi, MD, Eve Boissonnault, MD, Fraser MacRae, BSc, Romain David, MD, Guynn Clay, MD

Hemiplegic shoulder pain (HSP) is the most common post-stroke pain disorder, affecting 30–70% of patients, often within the first week. It impairs function, rehabilitation, and quality of life, with causes ranging from spasticity and capsular stiffness to glenohumeral pathology or complex regional pain syndrome. With contractures in up to half of patients, careful assessment—including diagnostic nerve blocks—is essential. This program offers scientific background, clinical evidence, case discussions, and skills demonstrations for professionals, advocates, and the public.

Innovations Across the Lifespan: Advancing Mobility in Frail Older Adults and Pediatric Neurorehabilitation

Thitiporn Phakdepiboon, MD, Jirapa Champaiboon, MD, Ratcharin Kongkasuwan, MD

This session will examine innovations across the lifespan in rehabilitation medicine, focusing on mobility enhancement in frail older adults and emerging advances in pediatric neurorehabilitation. The session will highlight key developments in Robotics, Virtual Reality, and AI-assisted therapies, emphasizing clinical application, current evidence, and translation into practice.

Integrating a Patient's Voice in Care Delivery: Implementing Patient Reported Outcomes (PROM's) into an Outpatient Amputee Clinic

David Crandell, MD, Brian Hafner, PhD, Anne-Sophie Cauchon, MD

Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROM's) are the “new axis” in healthcare outcomes. By incorporating PROM's, rehabilitation teams can better understand and then improve patient's functional outcomes, the “outcomes that matter the most to the patient.” This session will review the PROM development and workflows to assign, collect, display and report from experience of two different outpatient amputee clinics utilizing the Plus-M and other selected metrics.

Integrating Biomarkers into Management of Vascular Cognitive Impairment

Qing Mei Wang, MD, PhD, Xin Wang, PhD, Yuan Peng, MD, PhD, Xun Luo, MD, Haijie Liu, MD, PhD

This session explores the use of biomarkers in managing vascular cognitive impairment (VCI). Participants will learn about key imaging, serum, and emerging multi-omic biomarkers that support diagnosis, risk stratification, and treatment planning. Expert speakers will present MRI markers, blood-based indicators like neurofilament light chain, and novel multi-omics approaches. Case studies and interactive discussions will demonstrate applying biomarker data in clinical decision-making, highlighting current research, future directions, and practical strategies to improve VCI care.

Integrating Cognitive and Musculoskeletal Health Across the Lifespan

Antimo Moretti, MD, Giovanni Iolascon, MD, Francesca Gimigliano, MD

This educational session explores the link between musculoskeletal and cognitive health across the lifespan. Experts will discuss shared pathways connecting osteoporosis, sarcopenia, and cognitive decline, and present evidence-based pharmacological and rehabilitation strategies to preserve mobility and cognition. Participants will gain practical insights into multidomain interventions that support functional independence and healthy aging.

Isokinetics in Disability

Pavel Loeza, PhD, Ana Belem Dávila Tejeida, MD, Ana Román Álvarez, MD, Sergio Montoya Calderón, MD, Maryely Villeda Sánchez, MD, Delia Daniela Fernández Carapia, MD

This symposium presents applications of various isokinetic training modalities in the context of disability. Exercise and isokinetics experts with international teaching experience will discuss practical models and review specific clinical cases.

ISPRM Academic Forum

Francesca Gimigliano, MD, Stefano Negrini, PhD, Walter Frontera, MD, Fary Khan, MD, Heakyung Kim, MD, Jorge Lains, MD, Gerold Stucki, PhD

This session examines the global landscape of academic leadership in PRM, identifying gaps, highlighting its importance for advancing the field and improving patient outcomes, and recognizing stakeholder roles in fostering leadership. Lectures will review regional variations and present models for developing academic PRM programs.

Lessons I Wish I Knew from the Med Ed SIG

Celina Lin, MD, Jackie Kraushaar, MD

This interactive workshop is for participants at any career stage interested in Medical Education. Early-career attendees can discuss goals, promotion, mentorship, and administrative challenges, while mid- and late-career participants share lessons and successes. Through facilitated discussions and group sessions, participants will explore the educator role, align personal values with institutional expectations, and leave with practical strategies for navigating medical education.

Making Good Adults from Children with Cerebral Palsy: Taking Research into the Clinic

Edward Hurvitz, MD, Mark Peterson, PhD

Adults with cerebral palsy (CP) face unique health challenges, including pain, higher chronic disease risk, and early functional decline. This session will present research on how lifespan-related changes in growth and development alter anatomy, physiology, and function, contributing to “early aging.” Clinical and policy approaches to address these issues, including challenges in preventive care and healthcare access, will also be discussed.

Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation in the PICU: From Principles to Practice

Eun Jae Ko, MD PhD, Kyung Yong Choi, PT, In Jin Yoon, Sae Mi Hong, PhD

This session highlights the importance of timely, targeted, and comprehensive rehabilitation for children in the PICU. A multidisciplinary team will present common functional limitations, evidence supporting PICU rehabilitation, and practical approaches across physical, occupational, swallowing, speech-language, and pulmonary therapies. Real-world cases—including post-lung and heart transplantation and cancer—illustrate benefits and challenges, giving participants insights into patient characteristics, rehabilitation strategies, and implementation issues.

Neuromodulation and Biomarkers in Central Fatigue: Advances and Clinical Applications

Qing Mei Wang, MD, PhD, Xun Luo, MD, Xin Wang, PhD

This session explores emerging science and clinical strategies for managing central fatigue in conditions such as Long COVID, Lyme IACI, ME/CFS, multiple sclerosis, post-concussive syndromes, and stroke. Participants will review serum and neuroimaging biomarkers to identify fatigue mechanisms and guide treatment, as well as non-invasive neuromodulation techniques (rTMS, tDCS, and VNS) and their evidence base. Case-based discussions and interactive engagement provide practical tools for integrating biomarkers and neuromodulation into patient care and research.

Neurotrauma in the Aging Population

Jehane Dagher, MD, BSc, FRCPC, Julio Furlan, MD, PhD, MSc, FRCPC, Geraldine Jacquemin, MD

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI) are growing concerns in the aging population. As life expectancy rises, neurotrauma among older adults increases, posing challenges for healthcare and rehabilitation. This session explores the interplay of neurotrauma and normal aging, covering epidemiology, healthcare impact, and rehabilitation implications. Cognitive impairments—memory, attention, and executive function deficits—often increase dependency, reduce activities of daily living (ADL) ability, and diminish autonomy. Neurotrauma in older adults is linked to longer hospital stays, higher long-term care transfers, and increased mortality.

New Advances in Non-Invasive Brain Stimulation for Stroke Recovery

Sheng Li, MD, PhD, Pablo Celnik, MD, Wayne Feng, MD

We will review the current status of non-invasive brain stimulation (TMS, tDCS and tACS) and their applications in stroke recovery and share new research findings from our research laboratories.

New Technologies for Detecting and Diagnosing Dysphagia: AI, Swallowing CT, and Respiratory Monitoring

Yoko Inamoto, PhD, Byung-Mo Oh, MD, Eric Verin, MD, Marlis Fernandez Gonzalez, MD

This course showcases emerging technologies for improving dysphagia detection and diagnosis. It covers AI pipelines for screening, automated MBS anomaly detection, voice-based risk flagging, and auto-reporting; demonstrates Swallowing CT for 3D/4D kinematic analysis and validation of 2D MBS measures; and updates respiratory monitoring for dysphagia in conditions like COPD and OSA, including practical signal acquisition and interpretation. Attendees receive a one-page handout summarizing key algorithms, device setups, safety notes, and first-week clinical workflows.

Obesity in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation: From Recognition to Action

Matthew Bartels, MD, MPH, Marta Supervia, MD, PhD, Catarina Aguiar-Branco, MD, Areeerat Suputtitada, MD, Jonathan Whiteson, MD

Obesity is a major global health challenge and a key contributor to disability and chronic disease. Rehabilitation professionals help address functional limitations, promote behavior change, exercise adherence, and metabolic health. This session explores obesity in cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, covering assessment strategies, evidence-based interventions, and integrating lifestyle changes using the cardiac rehabilitation model. The role of new medications (GLP-1) in supporting rehabilitation for obesity and disability will also be discussed.

Pain Management in Pediatric Cancer Rehabilitation

Ana Carolina Méndez-Silva, MD, Ilse Joadán Santiago-Escamilla, MD, Alejandra Mancilla Ramírez, MD, Gabriela Legorreta Ramirez, MD

This session will clearly outline the different tools available to efficiently manage pain in pediatric cancer within the field of rehabilitation, as well as the scientific evidence supporting each of these options.

Palliative Medicine: The New Domain in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

Navita Purohit Vyas, MD, Abhishek Srivastava, MD

This session raises awareness among health professionals about Palliative Medicine and its role in improving quality of life. It covers Oncopalliative Care, Neuropalliative Care, and End-of-Life Care, highlighting their importance in managing life-limiting conditions. The session also explores opportunities for PRM physicians to pursue Palliative Medicine as a subspecialty and why PRM is well-suited for integrating palliative care.

Pathways to Sustainable Rehabilitation Medicine: Mobilizing Knowledge for Resource Stewardship

Ramona Neferu, MD, MSc, Christian Fortin, BSc, JD, MD, MHSc, Meiqi Guo, MD, MSc, FRCPC, E. Ali Bateman, MD, MSc, Arjun Ghuman, MD, MSc

This interactive session provides clinicians and healthcare leaders with practical tools to reduce waste, optimize resources, and improve patient care. Through case examples, collaborative activities, and knowledge mobilization strategies, participants will learn to apply resource stewardship principles in their clinical and organizational contexts to drive sustainable change.

Patient Safety Rounds Reimagined: A Fresh Spin on Morbidity and Mortality Rounds to Foster Learning and Drive Quality in Rehabilitation

Ramona Neferu, MD, MSc, Celina Lin, MD, Lauren O'Malley, MD, Vivian Huang, MD, Maxwell Goodwin, MD

This interactive workshop introduces Patient Safety Rounds—a modern take on M&M conferences—as a tool for learning from adverse events and near misses in rehabilitation. Using real-world cases, participants will explore systems thinking, cognitive biases, and equity-informed analysis to foster a non-punitive learning culture, reduce harm, and drive meaningful change. Attendees will learn how to implement Patient Safety Rounds in their own settings and gain insights from others' experiences.

Physicians' Role in Developing the Multidisciplinary Team and Rehabilitation Nursing in Rehabilitation Medicine

Mary Elizabeth Nelson-Biersach, PhD, Andrew Haig, MD, Abena Tannor, MD, Rajiv Reebye, MD, FRCPC, Taslim Uddin, FCPS, Virginia Wilson, MD, Klemen Grabljevec, MD

This interactive workshop explores how physicians can lead multidisciplinary rehabilitation teams, highlighting the essential role of rehabilitation nursing. Within the WHO Rehabilitation 2030 framework, participants will examine challenges and successful team-building models in low- and middle-income settings. Through case discussions and group exercises, attendees will identify barriers, define roles, and design strategies to strengthen collaboration, leadership, and nursing capacity, leaving with actionable plans to enhance teamwork and integrate rehabilitation nursing into patient-centered care.

POTS, Long COVID, and Autonomic Dysfunction: A New Frontier for Rehabilitation Medicine

Kavita Nadendla, MD, Tae Chung, MD, Raouf Gharbo, DO, Manoj Sivan, PhD

This session highlights the role of physiatrists in managing POTS and long COVID-related autonomic dysfunction in adults and children. Presenters will review clinical features, management strategies, exercise intolerance, and rehabilitation approaches integrating autonomic regulation with functional recovery. The program emphasizes the expanding use of autonomic testing in psychiatric practice, providing practical insights into emerging strategies and collaborative care models for these complex conditions.

Quality Improvement Made Simple: A Workshop for Rehabilitation Specialists

Meiqi Guo, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Amanda Mayo, MD, Christian Fortin, BSc, JD, MD, Alexander Lo, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Quality improvement (QI) doesn't have to be complicated! This interactive workshop introduces physiatrists and rehabilitation professionals to QI fundamentals, focusing on practical tools for clinical, academic, and administrative work. Through real-world examples and hands-on activities, participants will learn to identify high-impact projects, use

QI tools like process maps, and design small-scale projects relevant to their practice—building confidence to make meaningful changes in rehabilitation care.

Rehab Robotics: Game Changing Technology

Abhishek Srivastava, MD, Navita Purohit Vyas, MD

Robotics in rehabilitation offers a promising approach to motor recovery. Early devices focused on repetitive tasks, while modern systems use feedback-based training to enhance neuroplasticity. Robotic rehabilitation supports the intensive, repetitive practice needed for recovery and is categorized by body part (upper/lower limb), function (therapeutic/assistive), and design (exoskeletons, end-effector systems, wearable robotics).

Restoring Rhythm: Adaptive Dance and the Global Narrative of Inclusion in Rehabilitation Medicine

Niña Carmela Tamayo, DO, Robbie Badillo, DO, Alyson Galanga, MD

This session explores adaptive dance as a therapeutic intervention and cultural movement in rehabilitation medicine. From community programs to adaptive sport, adaptive dance promotes inclusion, self-expression, and function for persons with disabilities. Participants will learn about clinical applications, common injury patterns, and physiatric management, while considering alignment with WHO Rehabilitation 2030 goals. Using literature, case studies, and real-world examples, the session highlights adaptive dance as a model where movement serves both medicine and advocacy.

Rewiring Recovery: Nerve Transfers in Cervical Spinal Cord Injury

Brandon Lieu, MD, Jana Dengler, MD

This session explores the use of nerve transfers to improve arm and hand function in cervical spinal cord injury. Participants will learn to identify candidates, make timely referrals, and understand expected outcomes. The session reviews current practices and provides practical knowledge on this transformative intervention through expert discussion and case examples.

Rewiring to Relief: Practical Tools from Innovative Pain Psychology Interventions to Transform Chronic Pain

Kristen Slater, PhD, Heather Poupore-King, PhD

Chronic pain often persists despite medical and physical care, with psychological factors—fear, avoidance, hypervigilance, and unresolved emotion—playing a key role. This session introduces evidence-based approaches, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Emotional Awareness and Expression Therapy (EAET), and Pain Reprocessing Therapy (PRT). Attendees will gain practical tools to address pain's psychological drivers, enhance outcomes, and help patients reduce distress, restore function, and re-engage in meaningful activities.

Safe at a Distance: Advancing Safety Standards in Interdisciplinary Telerehabilitation

Carl Froilan Leochico, MD, Mark Bayley, MD, Meiqi Guo, MD, MSc, FRCPC, McKyla McIntyre, MD, Angie Andreoli, BSc(PT), MSc, Brenda Colella, MA, Robin Green, PhD, Ailene Kua, MSc, PMP

Organized by the Canadian Telerehab Community of Practice, this 60-minute interactive session explores safety in telerehabilitation, drawing on recent studies and ongoing projects at Toronto Rehab – University Health Network, Canada. Combining research findings with clinical insights, participants will gain practical tools and confidence for safe, effective virtual care. The session includes knowledge translation, audience participation, and a panel discussion on best practices and decision-making in telerehab safety.

Selective Neurectomy for Functional Treatment of Lower Limb Spasticity: An Interdisciplinary Approach

Hanneke van Duijnhoven, MD, Tim de Jong, MD, Lotte van de Venis, PhD, Danique Ploegmakers, MD

This session introduces an interdisciplinary approach of selective neurectomy as an emerging surgical intervention for functional treatment of focal lower limb spasticity.

Skeletal Muscle at the Crossroads of the Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems

Ismael Carneiro, MD, Sofia Meixedo, MD

Recognizing skeletal muscle not merely as an effector of cardiovascular function but as an integral partner in health and disease raises important implications for CR. Routine assessment of skeletal muscle could improve risk stratification, enable more personalized exercise prescriptions, and identify targets for adjunctive interventions, including nutritional and pharmacological strategies.

Spasticity Management Across the Lifespan in Cerebral Palsy: A Longitudinal Perspective

Heakyung Kim, MD, Hana Azizi, MD, MPH, Amanda Stubbs, DO

The adult population with cerebral palsy (CP) is growing, yet lifelong spasticity management remains limited. Many adult providers are unfamiliar with CP, leading to misdiagnosis, delayed treatment, and functional decline. Interventions often stop after skeletal maturity, causing pain, reduced mobility, and early arthritis. This course reviews lifelong spasticity management, focusing on aging-related challenges, intervention selection, dosing, and orthopedic strategies to maintain function and prevent decline, including chemoneurolysis, intrathecal baclofen, and surgery.

Stepping Towards Innovation: New Approaches for Addressing Common Challenges Impacting the Mobility of Aging US Veterans

Jonathan Bean, MD, David Morgenroth, MD

Mobility is a major priority for age-friendly health systems like the US Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Limb loss and frailty are two leading causes of mobility problems among aging Veterans. This symposium highlights VA-funded research innovations addressing these populations, sharing care advancements, lessons learned, and implications for both Veterans and Civilians, along with next steps for research and clinical implementation.

Stop Wasting Peoples Time: Learn How to Create and Deliver Great Presentations

Farooq Rathore, MD, Muhammad Tawab Khalil, FCPS

Many healthcare presentations fail to engage audiences despite valuable content. This interactive workshop will teach participants how to design visually appealing PowerPoint slides and deliver compelling, audience-centered presentations. Through demonstrations, gamified activities, and reflective exercises, attendees will learn to apply design principles, use PowerPoint's advanced features, and communicate effectively with confidence. Participants will leave with practical tools to transform their teaching and professional presentations.

Strategies for Selecting Research Topics in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency

Raktim Swarnakar, MD

This session provides PM&R residents with practical strategies for selecting meaningful research topics. Attendees will learn to identify clinically relevant questions, review literature gaps, and design high-impact projects. Through case examples and reflective exercises, participants will develop stepwise frameworks to focus ideas, assess feasibility, and align projects with patient care and residency resources, leaving with actionable tools to start impactful research in rehabilitation medicine.

Stroke Neurorehabilitation from Acute Care to Community Integration

Sanjay Kumar Pandey, MD, Ravi Gaur, MD, Harshanand Popalwar, MD, Anil Gupta, MD

Stroke neurorehabilitation is a dynamic process that begins immediately after a stroke and extends long-term, aiming to restore function and reintegrate the individual into society. This 60-minute session will explore the journey from acute hospital care to Community Integration, highlighting key phases and interventions.

T.E.C.H. Talk: Technology Everyone Can Handle to Enhance Functional Outcomes in Rehabilitation

David Crandell, MD, Paolo Bonato, PhD, Lou Awad, PhD, Peter Wayne, PhD

This T.E.C.H. talk explores how novel technology can overcome technical and geographic barriers to improve outcomes in rehabilitation and telerehabilitation. The session will showcase available technologies and their applications across diverse rehabilitation populations.

Tailoring Rehabilitation to Also Fit Rare Disease Populations: Challenges and Solutions

Ariane Kwiet, MD, Trine Bathen, MHS, Anne-Mette Bredahl, PhD

This session explores the challenges individuals with rare diseases face in rehabilitation and how these can hinder effective care. Participants will review literature, case studies, patient surveys, and a feasibility study on integrating rare disease patients into existing programs, along with a stakeholder-developed model. Interactive discussions will highlight barriers and opportunities, providing evidence-based knowledge, practical strategies, and reflective engagement to improve rehabilitation outcomes for this underserved population.

Task-Oriented Gait Training

Yang-Soo Lee, MD, Seong-Hun Kim, MD

Gait training is key for improving motor disabilities, but traditional methods can be physically demanding for providers, especially in severely impaired patients. While forced use is common for the upper limb, it is rarely applied to the lower limb. This session presents practical techniques using a sliding tilt table and foot plate to enable lower limb forced use. By combining task-oriented training with forced use, clinicians can maximize walking function and help patients regain a normal gait.

Teacher, Teach Thyself: A Hands-On Workshop for Identifying and Investigating Areas for Disability-Focused Education in Health Professions Training

Catherine Stratton, MPH, Nora Newcomb, MD, Abderrazak Hajjiou, MD, Uma Pandiyan, MD, Mark Peterson, PhD, Yetza Tuakli-Wosornu, MD, Samantha Finkelstein, MD, Colette Piasecki-Masters, MD, Chantal Nguyen, MD

People with disabilities (PWD) face persistent health disparities, partly due to limited provider education and the lack of standardized disability curricula. This workshop explores disability-focused education (DFE) within the global Rehabilitation 2030 initiative, highlighting international collaboration, community engagement, and technology-enhanced teaching. Participants will review DFE modalities from Canada, the United States, and Morocco, engage in brainstorming to identify integration opportunities, and collaboratively develop strategies to strengthen DFE at their institutions worldwide.

The “Big Picture” of Stroke Rehabilitation Clinical Research: A Unique and Innovative Database of Over 3,700 Stroke Rehabilitation Motor-Cognitive Randomized Controlled Trials

Robert Teasell, FRCPC

This session examines the “big picture” of a systematic review of over 3,700 stroke rehabilitation motor-cognitive randomized controlled trials. Topics include: the most commonly used outcome measures (from 850+), how large datasets enable network meta-analyses, the predominance of chronic-phase studies, the rise of research in low- and middle-income countries, and female recruitment remaining under 40%. Understanding these trends is critical for integrating individual studies and improving knowledge translation.

The UN, WRA, and WHO: The Role of the International Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in Policy, Advocacy, and Interventions

Matthew Bartels, MD, MPH, Heakyung Kim, MD, Merce Avellanet, MD, PhD, Gerard Francisco, MD

This session focuses on advancing rehabilitation globally by improving access, advocacy, and quality of services. It highlights ISPRM’s role with the United Nations, World Rehabilitation Alliance, and World Health Organization in promoting disability rights and policy change for one-sixth of the world’s population. The Association of Academic Physiatry (AAP) Global Academic Physiatry Subcommittee (GAPS) is presented as a model for enhancing education amid limited resources and international engagement.

Transcranial Pulse Stimulation in Rehabilitation: From Osteoarthritis Pain to Neurodegenerative Disorders

Gilson Shinzato, MD, Marta Imamura, MD, PhD, Leandro Yoshioka, MD, Sabrina Uchiyama, MD, Linamara Battistella, PhD

This session explores Transcranial Pulse Stimulation (TPS) as an emerging neuromodulation therapy in neurorehabilitation. Evidence on TPS applications for chronic pain, progressive neurodegenerative diseases (Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s), and post-stroke recovery will be presented, highlighting neuroplasticity enhancement. Participants will learn about biological mechanisms, recent clinical findings, and ongoing trials, with interactive discussion, providing a practical perspective on TPS’s potential in neurological rehabilitation.

Transforming Neurorehabilitation with AI-Based Brain and Human-Computer Interfaces

Qing Mei Wang, MD, PhD, Xun Luo, MD, Haijie Liu, MD, PhD, Yuan Peng, MD, PhD

Discover how cutting-edge technologies are transforming neurorehabilitation. This interactive session explores the use of brain-computer interfaces and human-computer interaction systems in assessment and treatment. Through evidence-based presentations, real-world case studies, participants will learn how to integrate AI-driven tools into clinical practice. Ideal for rehabilitation professionals, researchers, and clinicians seeking innovative, tech-enabled approaches to care.

Translation and Cross-Cultural Adaptation of Functional Indexes and Questionnaires: Methodology, Equivalences and Validation Issues

Sofiane Ghorbal, MD, Mohamed Guermazi, MD

Measurement scales are often developed within specific cultural and social contexts, requiring adaptation for use in different settings. This session covers translation methodology and cross-cultural adaptation, emphasizing conceptual equivalence while accounting for cultural nuances. Participants will learn how to develop and adapt tools that are scientifically robust and culturally sensitive, improving patient care and research outcomes in diverse populations.

Trunk Control in Spinal Cord Injury: From Clinical Assessment to Technological Innovation

Jimena Quinzaños, MD, PhD, Alberto Pérez-SanPablo, PhD, Marlene Rodríguez-Barragán, MD, MSc

Trunk control is key to independence and complication prevention after spinal cord injury (SCI), yet often under-assessed in rehabilitation. This session covers assessment strategies from clinical tools to instrumented and smartphone-based evaluations, evidence from the Clinical Trunk Control Test, and innovative interventions including technology-assisted training, kayak ergometry, and virtual reality. It concludes with an interactive discussion on global challenges and strategies to translate research into practice.

Ultrasound Identification of Neck Muscles for Dystonia Injections

Fahim Anwr, MBBS, MRCS, Sarah Razaq, FCPS, MSc

This workshop introduces ultrasound use in dystonia treatment, reviewing neck muscle anatomy and key dystonia-related muscles. Participants will observe a live scanning demonstration and practice hands-on ultrasound with instructor guidance. The session concludes with discussion of challenges, clinical integration, and case applications.

Understanding the Anatomical Basis of Hand Pathologies: A Novel Interactive Approach

Lalith Satkunam, MD, FRCPC, Eve Boissonnault, MD, FRCPC, Anne Agur, BSc(OT), MSc, PhD

This hands-on workshop provides an interactive approach to hand anatomy and biomechanics for PM&R. Using a pre-printed Anatomy Glove and colored markers, participants will build musculotendinous structures while viewing cadaveric dissection videos. The session links anatomy to pathology and clinical presentations, covering grasp/release, neural control, and complex hand deformities to enhance rehabilitation understanding.

Unique Challenges in Concussion Care for Older Adults

Mack Hancock, BSc, Chantel Debert, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Joseph Abinader, MD, FRCPC, Zahra Goodarzi, MD, MSc, FRCPC

This interactive session addresses concussion in older adults, highlighting how falls, comorbidities, cognition, and mood affect outcomes. Participants will review current evidence, practical screening and management strategies, and clinical case insights. Through discussion and reflection, clinicians and researchers will gain actionable knowledge to apply multidisciplinary approaches and improve care for aging patients with concussion.

Updates on the Epidemiology, Pathophysiology, Diagnosis and Management of Individuals with Degenerative Cervical Myelopathy

Julio Furlan, MD, PhD, MSc, FRCPC, Vanessa Noonan, MSc, PhD, PT

This unique instructional course will provide an overview on the current evidence-based literature on the epidemiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of patients with degenerative cervical myelopathy, the most common non-traumatic spinal cord injury in the world. Furthermore, this course will review the results of the RECODE-DCM, an international and multidisciplinary scientific initiative focused on the identification of the current knowledge gaps and top 10 research priorities for DCM.

Vagus Nerve Stimulation for Chronic Ischemic Stroke Survivors: Advancing Neuroplasticity and Upper Extremity Recovery

Trevor Persaud, DO

This intermediate-level lecture explores vagus nerve stimulation (VNS) paired with rehabilitation to enhance upper extremity recovery in chronic ischemic stroke survivors. Participants will review neuroplasticity mechanisms, clinical trial evidence, patient selection, and implementation strategies. Interactive cases and polling will demonstrate how to apply this FDA-approved therapy to extend recovery beyond the traditional rehabilitation window and improve functional outcomes.

Why Are We Accommodating? Why Can't We Create Accessible Systems From The Beginning?

Audrey Yap, MD, Ranita Manocha, MD, Adalberto Loyola Sanchez, MD, Victoria Jackman, MD, Elizabeth Condliffe, MD

This session explores barriers to inclusion and accessibility in clinical and educational settings, guided by the WHO's Social Model of Disability and relevant national Human Rights laws. Participants will examine common challenges and discuss practical strategies to create more equitable, inclusive, and accessible environments for patients, learners, and staff.

A Looming Crisis in Academic Rehabilitation Medicine in the Asia Oceania Region

Steven Faux, MBBS, Fary Khan, MD

This session addresses the global shortage of academic posts in rehabilitation medicine, focusing on the Asia Oceania region, home to over half of the world's population living with disabilities. Speakers from across the world will present strategies to expand professorship appointments, strengthen research, and coordinate efforts to address this crisis.

Digital Health, AI, and Technology in Geriatric Rehabilitation: Current Status and Future Directions

Walter Frontera, MD, PhD, Francesca Gimigliano, MD, Anne (Felicia) Ambrose, MD, Mooyeon Oh-Park, MD, Der-Sheng Han, MD, PhD, Paolo Capodaglio, MD, Carmen Terzic, MD, Marta Supervia, MD, PhD

This session explores technology-based tools for supporting older adults' health, independence, and daily functioning. Participants will learn about digital health, AI-based care models, and assistive technologies (AT) for chronic disease management, mobility and fall prevention, cognitive support, social connectedness, and caregiver support. The session covers current technologies, their effectiveness, target populations, implementation barriers, and strategies for meaningful use, including privacy, ethical, and affordability considerations. Attendees will also discuss opportunities for healthcare providers to collaborate with the tech sector to advance impactful, user-centered solutions for aging populations.

Electrodiagnosis and Rehabilitation of Pelvic Floor Disorders: Cutting-Edge Approaches and Clinical Applications

Naglaa Gadallah, MD

This session provides practical insights into the assessment and rehabilitation of pelvic floor disorders. Participants will review pelvic floor anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology; learn electromyography techniques, pudendal nerve conduction, and sacral reflex testing; and explore rehabilitation strategies for various pelvic floor conditions. Case-based learning and visual schematics will equip clinicians with evidence-based, culturally sensitive tools to enhance diagnostic accuracy and therapeutic outcomes.

Post-Crash Rehabilitation Readiness: A New Frontier for Road Safety and Health Systems

Abderrazak Hajjiou, MD, Farooq Rathore, MD, James Middleton, MBBS, PhD, Fary Khan, MD, Walter Frontera, MD

This session addresses the global impact of road traffic injuries, a leading cause of death and disability worldwide. Experts will discuss integrating rehabilitation into post-crash care—from emergency response to community reintegration—highlighting evidence, policy models, and

strategies to strengthen systems, workforce, and financing. The session emphasizes early rehabilitation within Post-Crash Response frameworks to improve recovery, restore function, and enhance participation for survivors.

Transitioning Patients with Cerebral Palsy into Adulthood: What Do We Know Now?

Rajashree Srinivasan, MBBS, Amy Hiller, DO, Mara Martinez Santori, MD, Maya Newman, MD

This session examines the care of adults with cerebral palsy (CP), highlighting the transition from pediatric to adult rehabilitation. Participants will explore mobility-related risks, preventive screening gaps, and strategies from diverse clinical and community settings. The session also discusses integrating transition-focused curricula into PRM training, establishing dedicated providers for young adults, and implementing screening protocols to address preventable conditions.

Learning from Mentors in Rehabilitation Medicine: Perspectives around the Globe

Muhammad Tawab Khalil, FCPS

Participants will gain a deeper appreciation for the pivotal role mentors play in the education and professional development of rehabilitation medicine residents. They will leave with actionable insights and strategies to enhance mentorship programs in their own institutions, ultimately elevating the quality of patient care in rehabilitation medicine worldwide.

Strengthening Spinal Cord Injury Services across the Continuum of Care: The ISCoS Standards Toolkit: Putting Research in Action

James Middleton, MBBS, PhD, Fiona Barr, MD, Mohit Arora, PhD

This workshop introduces the ISCoS Standards Toolkit, providing practical guidance to strengthen organizational, technical, and human resource capacity for high-quality spinal cord injury (SCI) rehabilitation. Participants will explore Toolkit content, apply it to national, facility, and patient-level scenarios, reflect on current SCI service provision, and use implementation strategies to enhance rehabilitation, community reintegration, and long-term well-being for individuals living with SCI worldwide.

Ultrasound and Fluoroscopic Guidance in Interventional Management of Cervicogenic Headache: Techniques and Pitfalls

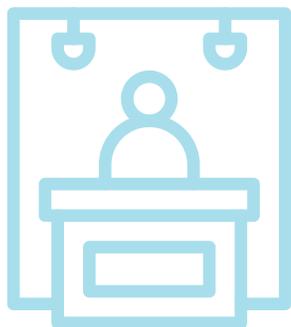
Mohan Radhakrishna, MD, FRCPC, Christopher Mares, MD, Sarah Razaq, FCPS, MSc, Taylor Burnham, DO, Nasir Mansoor Sahibzada, FCPS(PMR), MCPS(HPE), MSc

Using case studies, this session will describe ultrasound and fluoroscopic techniques for managing cervicogenic headache.

Join Us as an Exhibitor or Sponsor

Our partners are essential members of the ISPRM community, fully engaged in the congress experience from start to finish.

Showcase your organization to rehabilitation professionals and leaders from over 70 countries at ISPRM 2026 in Vancouver. The dynamic exhibit hall offers unparalleled opportunities to connect, collaborate, and highlight your products, services, and innovations. Sponsorship and exhibition packages provide visibility and engagement across multiple platforms—from lunch & learns and hands-on demonstrations to branding opportunities and recognition in the program and digital channels. Join us and be part of transforming rehabilitation and connecting worlds!



Registration

Two Ways to Register



VISIT: ISPRM2026.com



CALL: +1 (410) 654-1000 (credit card payments only)

Register by March 12, 2026 to save.



Registration Pricing

Category	Early Bird Rate (by March 12, 2026)		Standard Rate (after March 12, 2026)	
	ISPRM, CAPM&R, AAP Members	Non-Members	ISPRM, CAPM&R, AAP Members	Non-Members
Physician (Canada, US & International)	\$890 USD	\$1,190 USD	\$1,040 USD	\$1,340 USD
Resident/ Fellow* (Canada, US & International)	\$645 USD	\$845 USD	\$795 USD	\$995 USD
Medical Student (Canada, US & International)	\$355 USD	\$505 USD	\$505 USD	\$655 USD
Health Professional/ Researcher	\$675 USD	\$775 USD	\$825 USD	\$925 USD
Low & Middle Income Countries - International	\$675 USD	\$775 USD	\$825 USD	\$925 USD
Industry		\$1,000 USD		\$1,000 USD
One-Day	\$500 USD	\$750 USD	\$750 USD	\$900 USD
Guest	\$300 USD		\$500 USD	
Social Event	\$75 USD		\$150 USD	

Pre-Conference Workshops

Ultrasound Guidance for Procedures (two-day course)

• \$499 for Members, \$549 for Non-Members

Most Effective Interventions for Treating Spasticity

• \$249 for Members, \$299 for Non-Members

Strengthening Academic Leadership

• \$249 for Members, \$299 for Non-Members

ABCD ISPRM Spasticity Curriculum – Module B: Multimodal Treatment Approaches for Spasticity

• \$149 for Members, \$199 for Non-Members

Cryoneurolysis for Adults and Children with Spasticity and Complex Pain

• \$149 for Members, \$199 for Non-Members

Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain: Case-Based, Guideline-Informed, Hands-On Workshop

• \$149 for Members, \$199 for Non-Members

Low-Cost Interventions to Address Disability Worldwide

• \$149 for Members, \$199 for Non-Members

Hands-On Workshop: Detection of Sarcopenia and Physical Fitness in the Clinic

• \$149 for Members, \$199 for Non-Members

ADD-ONS

SOCIAL EVENT (\$75 USD)

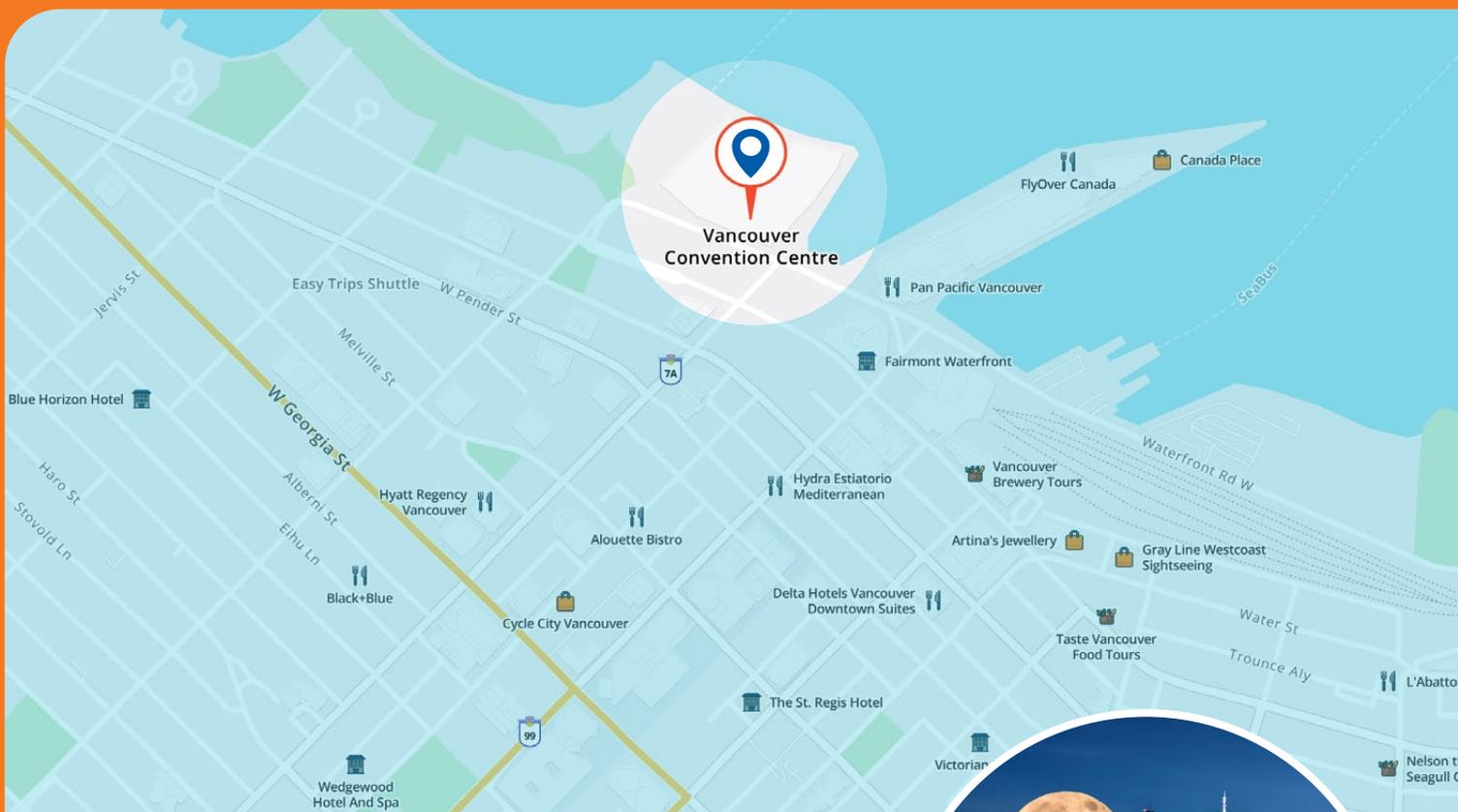
Join us for
our Signature
Networking
Event - the
Spirit of the
Land Reception



CONTACT US - WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

For assistance with group registration or any other registration questions, please contact the ISPRM 2026 team at isprm2026@physiatry.org.

Venue & Hotel Information



Book Your Room Now!

ISPRM 2026 will be held at the Vancouver Convention Centre: an award-winning world-class venue in downtown Vancouver, British Columbia. The Convention Centre sits right on the waterfront, steps from hotels, dining, transit, and the vibrant city that makes this region one of Canada's most compelling destinations.

The Vancouver Convention Centre is approximately 15–16 km from Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Delegates can conveniently travel via the Canada Line rapid transit, which provides direct service to downtown Vancouver in approximately 25 minutes. Taxi and rideshare options are also readily available, with travel times typically ranging from 20–30 minutes depending on traffic.

OFFICIAL ISPRM 2026 HOTEL BLOCKS

Rooms are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Be sure to mention your ISPRM 2026 affiliation when booking to receive the discounted rate. Rates are only available through official booking channels.

- Pan Pacific Vancouver – CAD 409/night (~2 min walk from the Convention Centre)
- Hyatt Regency Vancouver – CAD 415/night (~3 min walk)
- Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel – CAD 359/night (~6 min walk)
- University of British Columbia – alternative option (~26 min transit/drive)

Please book early to guarantee availability in this high-demand city – securing your room now helps keep your travel planning smoother.

Visit [ISPRM2026.com](https://www.isprm2026.com) to browse hotel options.



Acknowledgements

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has made ISPRM 2026 possible. This congress would not be achievable without the dedication, expertise, and passion of our scientific and organizing community.

ISPRM 2026 Congress President & Scientific Committee Chair

Lawrence Robinson, MD

Congress Scientific Committee Local Members

Colleen O'Connell, MD

Ranita Manocha, MD

Chantel Debert, MD

Mohan Radhakrishna, MD

Mike Berger, MD, PhD

Adalberto Loyola Sanchez, MD, PhD

Chester Ho, MD

Paul Winston, MD

Andrei Krassioukov, MD, PhD

International Members

Reynaldo Rey-Matias, MD (*Philippines*)

Raju Dhakal, MBBS, MD (*Nepal*)

Witsanu Kumthornthip, MD (*Thailand*)

Gwendolyn Sowa, MD, PhD (*USA*)

Pablo Celnik, MD, PhD (*USA*)

Roger de la Cerna, MD (*Peru*)

Maria Gabriella Ceravolo, MD, PhD (*Italy*)

Catherine Dziri, MD, PhD (*Tunisia*)

Sinforian Kambou, MD (*Cameroon*)

ISPRM Leadership

Gerard Francisco, MD

ISPRM President (2024-2026)

Fary Khan, MD

ISPRM President-Elect (2024-2026)

Chairs, Congress Scientific Committee - ISPRM Congresses

Mario Prieto, MD, PhD - *ISPRM 2023*

Steven Faux, MBBS - *ISPRM 2024*

Ali Otom, MD - *ISPRM 2025*

CAPM&R Board of Directors & Administrative Team

The Congress gratefully acknowledges the leadership and operational support of the Canadian Association of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (CAPM&R) Board of Directors and Administrative Team for their contributions to the planning and delivery of the ISPRM 2026 World Congress.

Administrative Team

Heather Dow - *Executive Director*

Samantha Haynes - *Sponsor Coordinator*

Maya Haynes - *Membership Coordinator*

William Wilkins - *Information Technology (IT) Lead*

Congress Management Partners

Association of Academic Physiatrists (AAP)

We are deeply grateful to this extraordinary group of leaders, educators, and clinicians, whose vision, guidance, and tireless efforts ensure that ISPRM continues to advance global rehabilitation, foster collaboration, and connect worlds.





THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR
THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT



THERAPEUTICS

abbvie

GET SOCIAL WITH #ISPRM2026!

Register by March 12, 2026 and become
an active member for the lowest rates!

isprm2026.com