



The Connecticut Society of Gastroenterology Nurses & Associates

Presents:

“Beyond The Scope”

The 33rd, Annual Educational Symposium



**September
27th,
2025**

6:30am to 3pm

**Doubletree
By Hilton
42 Century Drive
Bristol, CT 06010**

Welcome CTSGNA members,

I hope you all enjoyed a pleasant summer!

The CTSGNA board has been working hard on our fall conference Beyond the Scope. It will be held September 27, 2025 at the Doubletree by Hilton in Bristol, CT.

Our year has been quite busy with virtual CTSGNA meetings in February, March and April with contact hours. In June we had our dinner meeting with a contact hour. We are very pleased with our newsletters this year as well as our Facebook page, LinkedIn page and our website. These are critical for members to obtain accurate up to date information about our CTSGNA activities.

Elections are coming up in the Fall. We would like to mentor members to be a part of this team. If everyone does a small part, the Connecticut region will continue to thrive. One of the benefits of being on the board is that CTSGNA pays your SGNA membership dues. If you are on the Beyond the Scope committee your attendance fee is waived. This year all the board members were on the Beyond the Scope committee. We are looking for a president elect, secretary, two board members and two nomination and elections committee members. President elect is for one year then president for one year and past president for one year. Secretary and board members are for two years, and nominations and elections are for one year. The board would like members from various hospitals and outpatient settings to join us on the board. Please come and talk to one of us at the conference or email us at our email ctsgnaboard@gmail.com

As a reminder we have several scholarships members can apply for easily located on the www.ctsgna.com under documents.

After the fall conference we have one more virtual meeting and our November dinner meeting. At the November dinner meeting we will announce the 2026 to 2027 CTSGNA election results. On November 15, we will provide the Hands on ERCP workshop at Middlesex hospital. Flyers will be coming out soon.

Thank-you for attending BTS 2025.

Sincerely,

Kathy Vinci, RNC, CGRN
2025 CTSGNA President



CTSGNA 2025 Officers

President

Kathy Vinci, RNC, CGRN

President-Elect

Jinghong Yu, MSN, RN, CNE, CGRN, RN-BC

Treasurer

Holly Sanzo, BSN, RN, CGRN

Secretary

Barbara Comstock, BSN, RN, CGRN

Immediate Past President

Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN

Board of Directors

Mario Castiello, BSN, RN

Danielle Contente, MSN, RN-BC

Ann Russo, BSN, RN, CGRN

Carol Stevens, BSN, RN, CGRN

To Contact the Board Email:

ctsgnaboard@gmail.com



Beyond the Scope 2025 **Committee**

Event Co-Chairs:

Holly Sanzo, BSN, RN, CGRN
Dawn Kirschner, RN, CGRN

Nurse Planner:

Jinghong Yu, MSN, RN, CNE, CGRN, RN-BC

Committee:

Mario Castiello, BSN, RN
Barbara Comstock, BSN, RN, CGRN
Danielle Contente, MSN, RN-BC
Ann Russo, BSN, RN, CGRN
Kathleen Saunders, BSN, RN, CGRN
Carol Stevens, BSN, RN, CGRN
Gail Steele, LPN
Kathy Vinci, RNC, CGRN



(Google Images, 2019)

CTSGNA gratefully acknowledges the
Exhibitors

**for their generous support of our educational endeavors!
Their presence today allows opportunity for attendees to
obtain information on products used in GI practice.**



Boston Scientific

Castle Biosciences

CDx Diagnostics

ConMed

Cook Medical

3-D Matrix, Inc.

ERBE USA, Inc.

FujiFilm Medical Systems U.S.A., Inc.

Johnson and Johnson Innovative Medicine

Merit Medical Endotek

Steris

Stryker

Takeda



CTSGNA

**Gratefully Acknowledges our Sponsors
for their generous support of our educational endeavors!**



Gold Sponsors

Castle Bioscience, Inc.

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BTS ~ 2025 ~ Schedule

0630 - 0715	Registration
0715 - 0730	Welcome Kathy Vinci, RN, CGRN ~ 2025 CTSGNA President
0730 - 0830	Evolution of Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) Carol Petruff, MD
0830 - 0930	Inflammatory Bowel Disease Haleh Vaziri, MD
0930 - 1015	Vendor Break and Refreshments
1015 - 1115	Going Green in GI G. Avinash Ketwaroo, MD
1115 - 1215	GI Procedures & Anesthesia: A Safe Approach to Patient Care Matthew Mazurek, MD, MHA, MBA
1215 - 1245	Break – Lunch Box
1245 - 1345	Therapeutic Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS) Praneet Wander, MD
1345 - 1445	The Endoscope Movement: One Specialty at a Time Stacy Johnson, MSN, APRN, CNS, CNOR, CCSVP, CNS-CP(E) Clinical Education Consultant
1445	Closing Remarks & Evaluations 



American Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses

ABCGN's awards and scholarships program support its vision to lead and promote professional excellence in the practice of gastroenterology nursing.

The following awards are available through ABCGN:

Certified GI Professional of the Year: This award recognizes those who demonstrate a commitment to outstanding patient care and positive outcomes through the teaching and learning of high-performance standards, advocacy for the practice of gastroenterology nursing, and leadership within their unit and the broader GI nursing community.

Excellence in Professionalism Distinction: This distinction recognizes nurses who have demonstrated commitment to excellence by validation of qualifications through certification.

Outstanding Certified Region: This award recognizes the SGNA Regional Society most active in supporting ABCGN certification.

Certification Scholarship The ABCGN Certification Scholarship provides financial assistance for the certification exam.

Fall Exam: Application Window: June 1 - July 31 at 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time. Testing Window: October 1 - October 31, candidates will select their time and location through the Prometric website.	Spring Exam: Application Window: January 1 - February 28 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Testing Window: May 1 - May 31, candidates will select the time and location through the Prometric webs
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Re-certification Scholarship: The ABCGN Re-certification Scholarship provides financial assistance for recertification by contact hours. Applicants must apply the same year their recertification application is due.

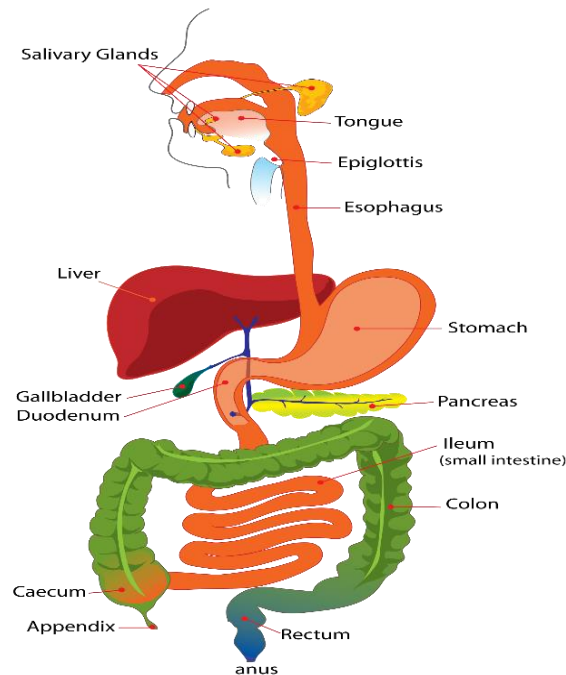
To ensure the application process is as easy as possible all forms can be filled out directly and saved to your PC. You can then complete your application and email it to info@abcdn.org.

For more information on these opportunities, please go to:
www.abcdn.org/Resources/Awards-Scholarships

Carol Petruff, MD

Evolution of ERCP

I will discuss how ERCP went from primarily a diagnostic procedure to one with powerful therapeutic capabilities. I will also talk about the advances in the procedure, present cases, and discuss the future of ERCP.



Chief of Gastroenterology Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford CT 2021-present

Associate Clinical Instructor in Medicine, UConn Medical Center, Farmington CT, 2000-present

Partner in Prime Healthcare Gastroenterology (Avon, Wethersfield, South Windsor), 2000-present

Interests: ERCP, IBD and Colon Cancer Screening

Haleh Vaziri, MD

UConn Health

UConn School of Medicine

Dr. Haleh Vaziri is a Professor of Medicine and Director of the Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD) Program in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at UConn Health. She is also the Program Director of the UConn School of Medicine Gastroenterology/Hepatology Fellowship Program. She is a graduate of Tehran University of Medical Sciences and completed her Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, and her GI Fellowship at Stony Brook University Medical Center. She is a fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) and is currently serving as a Member of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*. In addition to multiple peer-reviewed publications and national poster presentations, she has also published multiple textbook chapters on IBD, served as Co-Editor on a textbook on Diarrhea, and contributed to The Netter Collection of Medical Illustrations on the digestive system. Dr. Vaziri is passionate about teaching and mentoring residents and fellows. She has been the recipient of the UConn School of Medicine GI Fellowship Program's Outstanding Teacher Award **seven** times since 2011.

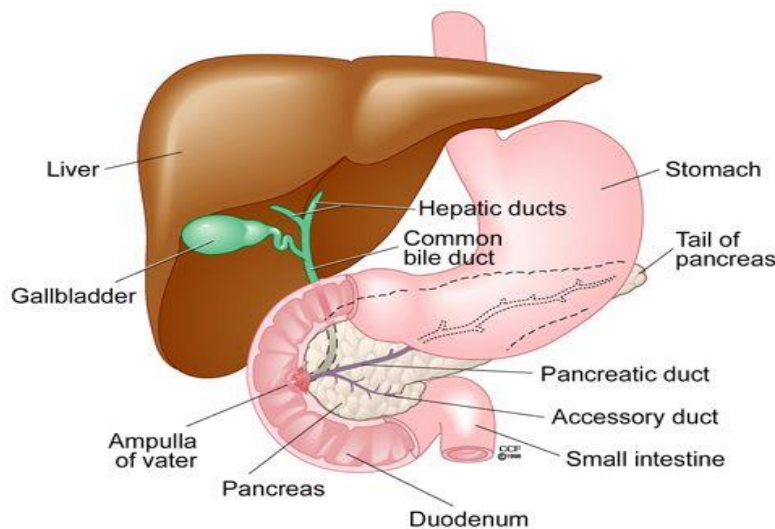


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Fellow, American College of Gastroenterology (ACG)
Member, Alpha Omega Alpha (ΑΩΑ) Honor Medical Society
Member, World Gastroenterology Organization
Member, American College of Gastroenterology

G. Avinash Ketwaroo, MD

Avinash Ketwaroo, MD MSc is the Director of Endoscopy at the West Haven VA and is an advanced endoscopist who specializes in Barrett's esophagus and pancreatic disorders. Originally from the Caribbean, he leads Global Health missions to enhance access to quality digestive care in this region.



BSc, Chemical Physics (honors), Brown University, Providence, RI

MSc, Theoretical Chemistry Oxford University, Oxford, England

MSc, Diagnostic Imaging (honors), Oxford University, Oxford, England

MD, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA/MIT, Cambridge, MA

Chief of Endoscopy, Gastroenterology, West Haven VA

Associate Professor Medicine, Digestive Diseases, YNHH

Vice Chief, Faculty Development, Digestive Diseases, YNHH

**Matthew Mazurek, MD, MHA, MBA,
CPE, FACHE, FASA, FAAPL**

**Assistant Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology
and Director of Quality and Safety at
St. Raphael's Campus of YNHH**



Dr. Mazurek has held numerous leadership positions over the past twelve years including Department Chair, Chief-of-Staff, and Medical Director in private practice settings. He completed his Master's in Healthcare Administration from Colorado State and is a Certified Physician Executive (CPE), Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE), and Fellow in the American Society of Anesthesiologists (FASA). He has provided clinical clerkships for medical students, CRNA students, and residents for six different medical schools and programs in Arizona and Minnesota. He has a keen interest in peri-operative patient management, ERAS, teaching and leadership education.

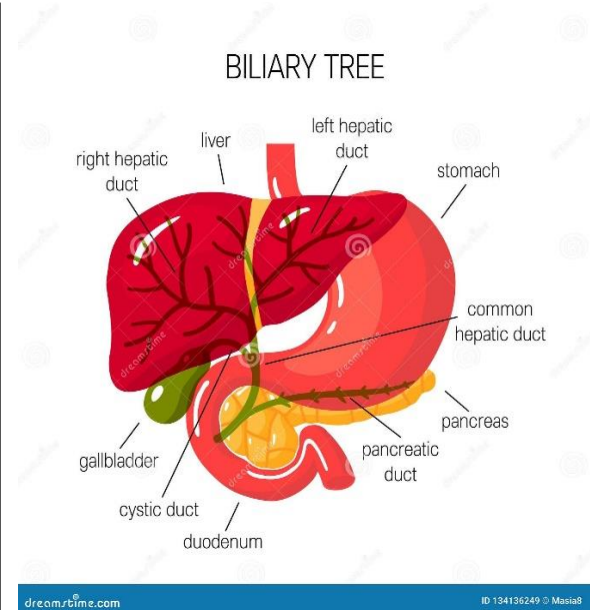


Praneet Wander, MD

Therapeutic Endoscopic Ultrasound (EUS)

Dr. Wander specializes in Therapeutic Endoscopy with Trinity Health of New England. Highly skilled in all facets of Gastroenterology, she has expertise in advanced endoscopic procedures, providing cutting edge treatment to patients with diseases of the pancreas and bile duct, GI cancers and large colon polyps. Dr Wander is also fluent in the spoken languages of Hindi and Punjabi.

"I have always found helping patients with gastrointestinal cancers to be a challenging, yet an extremely rewarding task. It requires both a well-coordinated, multidisciplinary team approach to develop an optimal care plan and advanced endoscopic skills to fully care for the patient. The breadth of skills, that one can utilize to truly impact upon a person's life, from securing a diagnosis to treating some of the most severe symptoms and even improving survival, in a minimally invasive manner are the aspects of advanced endoscopy that captures my imagination the most."



Professional Associations:

American College of Physicians (ACP)

American Gastroenterology Association (AGA)

American College of Gastroenterology (ACG)

New York Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (NYSGE)

American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ASGE)

**Anastasia (Stacy) Johnson, MSN, APRN,
ACNS-BC, CNOR, CCSVP, CNS-CP(E)
Clinical Education Consultant, Advanced
Sterilization Products**



Anastasia (Stacy) M. Johnson is a Clinical Education Consultant for Advanced Sterilization Products providing clinical support and training for high level disinfection and sterilization systems. She worked as an RN for 20 years in surgery and procedural care, with 10 of those years as a Clinical Nurse Specialist. As a CNS nurse leader, she supported OR and peri-anesthesia evidence-based nursing practice within acute care surgery departments. She is experienced in facilitating connections between OR, Peri-anesthesia, Sterile Processing and Endoscopy departments to work together to implement and sustain quality improvement for surgical patient care and staff safety.



CTSGNA Beyond the Scope 2025 Education Disclosures

This nursing continuing professional development activity was approved
(Approval # 203306123) for 6 contact hours by the Georgia
Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing
Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Criteria for successful completion includes attendance at the entire event and
completion/submission of post conference evaluation form.

Stacy Johnson, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNOR, CCSVP, CNS-CP(E), faculty for this
educational event, is a Clinical Education Consultant of Advance Sterilization Products
(ASP). The relevant financial relationship listed for this individual has been mitigated
and there are no other relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies for those
with the ability to control the content of this activity.

**The above education disclosures will be provided to learner prior to the learning
activity via agenda and presentation slides.**



Notes



**Thank-you for attending
CTSGNA's
33rd
Beyond The Scope Program**



www.ctsgna.org

To contact us email: ctsgnaboard@gmail.com