

REGISTRATION



MARCH 21, 2026
8AM-4PM

MD Anderson Cancer
Prevention Center
1155 Pressler Street,
8th Floor,
Houston, TX

AGENDA

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

- 8:00 AM** **REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**
- 8:50 AM** **WELCOME FROM SUMMIT FACULTY**
Neeta Somaiah, MD, *Professor and Chair of the Sarcoma Medical Oncology Department, Division of Cancer Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*
- 9:00 AM** **GIST 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS RARE CANCER**
Neeta Somaiah, MD, *Professor and Chair of the Sarcoma Medical Oncology Department, Division of Cancer Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*
- 9:30 AM** **THE STORY YOUR TUMOR TELLS: MUTATIONS, MONITORING & WHAT THEY MEAN FOR YOU**
Ping Chi, MD, PhD, *Sarcoma Medical Oncologist, Clinical Trial Investigator, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, New York*
- 10:00 AM** **SURGERY IN 2026: PRECISION APPROACHES, TIMING, AND THE EVOLVING ROLE OF THE SURGEON**
Heather Lyu, MD, MBI, *Assistant Professor, Surgical Oncology, Director, Dept. of Surgical Oncology Clinical Research Informatics Program, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*
- 10:30 AM** **QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION**
- 10:45 AM** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:00 AM** **GIST DRUG DEVELOPMENT: NEW TARGETS, NEW APPROACHES**
Mike Heinrich, MD, *Sarcoma Medical Oncologist, Professor of Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine, OHSU Knight Cancer Center, Portland, Oregon*
- 11:30 AM** **GIST DRUG DEVELOPMENT: THE NEXT WAVE OF THERAPIES, TRIALS & TRANSLATIONAL DISCOVERIES**
Jonathan Trent, MD, PhD, *Professor, Associate Director, Clinical Research, Director, Sarcoma Medical Research Program, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, Miami, Florida*
- 12:00 PM** **LUNCH, GROUP PHOTO AND MINGLING**
- 1:00 PM** **NAVIGATING CLINICAL TRIALS: A CONVERSATION WITH A RESEARCH COORDINATOR AND A TRIAL PATIENT & CAREGIVER**
Meng Gao, MD, PhD, *Senior Clinical Studies Coordinator, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*; Mark Ellison, *Patient*; Robin Ellison, *Caregiver*

AGENDA continued

1:30 PM ASK THE EXPERTS: PHYSICIAN PANEL

2:15 PM SNACKS & ROUNDTABLES

MANAGING GIST AS A CHRONIC DISEASE: TOOLS FOR LONG-TERM SURVIVORSHIP

Ginger Wick, *GIST Summit International*

NUTRITION

Muqarrab Rashid, *MS, RD, LD, Clinical Dietitian, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*

PSYCHO-SOCIAL/CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Annie Berly, *APRN, NP, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*; Margarita Tovbin, *APRN, NP, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*

SIDE EFFECT MANAGEMENT

Cissimol Joseph, *APRN, NP, Sarcoma Medical Oncology, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*; Juliana Thomas, *APRN, NP, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas*

PATIENT ADVOCACY SERVICES

Sara Rothschild, *Executive Director*; Brian Morello, *Director of Development, The Life Raft Group*

4:00 PM CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURN