

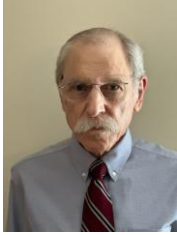
November 13, 2026 “Passion for Pain Management” Speaker Information, presentations, objectives, bios

Time	Presentation Title/Learning Outcome/Objectives	Speaker/Credentials/Short bio
8:10-9:00 am	Compassion & Pain Management: The Heart of Healing Objectives: • Understand differences between compassion and empathy • Describe evidence linking compassion to improved patient outcomes • Appreciate the benefits of compassion for the well-being of healthcare providers • Identify strategies that foster compassionate care	 Leelach Rothschild, MD Short bio: Dr. Leelach Rothschild is an Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology in the Department of Anesthesiology at University of Illinois College of Medicine, where she practices pediatric anesthesiology. In 2021, Dr. Rothschild completed a year-long certification in Cognitive-Based Compassion Training through Emory University’s Center for Contemplative Science and Compassion Based Ethics, which simultaneously nurtured and launched her interest in physician wellbeing. Dr. Rothschild leads wellbeing initiatives across a variety of local and national spheres. At the UIC COM, she developed and now leads the wellbeing curriculum for medical students. She serves her colleagues as Chair of the Medical Staff Wellbeing Committee at the University of Illinois Hospital, where she works on creating organizational changes to support medical staff wellbeing. Nationally, she Chairs the Society for Pediatric Anesthesia’s Committee on Physician Wellbeing where she co-developed a national wellbeing curriculum for trainees. Dr. Rothschild leads from the heart and hopes to change the face of medicine one medical student at a time.
9:15-10:15 am	Compounding Pharmacy in Pain Management Objectives: • Introduce and discuss compounding key aspects • Explain options for pain management using compounded medications • Answer any questions or concerns regarding compounding pharmacy	 Dr. Isabella Rodriguez, Rph. PharmD Short bio: Dr. Rodriguez has over 20 years of experience in pharmacy ranging from retail pharmacy, teaching, and leadership/management. She joined compounding pharmacy in Jan 2024.

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10:45-11:45 pm	Navigating Grief & Loss in Chronic Pain Care Objectives: • Recognize the overlap between chronic pain and grief • Understand shared neurobiological and stress mechanisms • Identify signs of prolonged or disenfranchised grief in pain clients • Strengthen therapeutic alliance with medically complex clients • Integrate relational and meaning-centered interventions	 Rachel A. Zentner, LPC, MSE, SAS Short bio: Rachel Zentner, MSE, LPC, SAS, is a licensed professional counselor practicing in Wisconsin and serves as Director of Mental Health and Support at the U.S. Pain Foundation. Her work focuses on the intersection of mental health, chronic and acute conditions, grief, trauma-informed care, and relational approaches to healing. Living with overlapping chronic health conditions has provided Rachel with firsthand insight into the gaps in mental health and support systems. She integrates both personal experience and professional expertise to help individuals navigate complex pain conditions using evidence-informed and compassionate approaches.
12:45-1:30 pm	Us Pain Foundation – Peer-led Support Groups Objectives: • Discuss the US Pain Foundation role to empower, educate, connect, and advocate for persons with chronic pain • Identify resources and peer support groups for persons with chronic pain including veterans • Explore availability of resources for pediatric chronic pain population including Kids Camp	 Rachel A. Zentner, LPC, MSE, SAS Short bio: See above

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1:30-2:30 pm	The Treatment of Tic Douloureux or Trigeminal Neuralgia By Way of Microvascular Decompression Objectives: • Understand the anatomy of the trigeminal nerve and brain stem. • Understand trigeminal neuralgia and hemifacial spasm and their surgical intervention. • Understand the pros and cons of the sitting position for posterior fossa surgery.	 Julian “Sandy” Chestnut, BS chemE, DVM, DO, FACA, DABA Short bio: Julian “Sandy” Chestnut is an anesthesiologist and has over 50 years of experience in the medical field. He graduated from Midwestern University in 1974. He has a B.S. chemE, D.V.M., D.O., F.A.C.A., D.A.B.A, with added qualifications in pain management by the A.B.A.
2:45-3:45 pm	Leveraging Humor as a Healthcare Survival Tool Objectives: • Learners will be able to describe the possibilities of humor as an intervention for patients and providers in the area of pain management • Learners will be able to apply improvisation principles to collaborative activities • Learners will be able to incorporate principles of improv into their professional life as an educator, researcher, and/or clinician	 Justin Drogos, PT, DPT, NCSe Short bio: Justin Drogos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy & Human Movement Sciences at Northwestern University, and a Board Certified Neurologic Clinical Specialist Emeritus. Dr. Drogos earned his doctorate in physical therapy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is currently a PhD Candidate at Rush University. He has nearly 20 years of experience in clinical and academic settings, and over 25 years of experience in improvisational comedy. His research interests include upper extremity recovery in the stroke population, and the benefits and potential applications of improvisation on health professions education and practice