



PORTAL 360

TIPS • INSIGHTS • SOLUTIONS

2026 PORTAL INTERVENTION SYMPOSIUM

September 25-27, 2026 | Chicago, IL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

7:00 am – 6:00 pm **Registration Open**

8:00 am – 9:10 am **Session 1: Intro to Portal Hypertension**

Moderators: Justin Boike, Lloyd Brown, Veronica Loy, Bartley Thornburg

8:00 am	Portal Hypertension: Overview of Etiologies Pathophysiology and Complications	Brett Fortune
8:10 am	Medical Management of Complications of Portal Hypertension	Nancy Reau
8:20 am	Overview of Interventional Therapies to manage Complications of Portal Hypertension	Osman Ahmed
8:30 am	Is there still a role for surgical interventions in managing portal hypertensive complications other than transplant?	Fran van der Schyff
8:40 am	Panel Case Discussion of a patient with ascites and variceal bleeding	Nassir Rostambeigi
8:50 am	Panel Case Discussion of a patient with hepatic encephalopathy and intermittent variceal bleeding	Michael Darcy
9:00 am	Q&A	All

9:10 am – 9:40 am **Networking Break with Exhibitors**

9:40 am – 10:40 am **Session 2: Introduction to TIPSS and RTO**

**Moderators: Jafar Golzarian, Maria Del Pilar Bayona Molano, Wael Saad,
Mohammed Shaker**

9:40 am	TIPS: Pre-procedure Planning and Portal Vein Targeting	Hector Ferral
9:50 am	TIPS: Shunt Creation and Technical Pearls	Jafar Golzarian
10:00 am	BRT0, CART0 and PART0: Step-by-Step Techniques	Merve Ozen
10:10 am	Advanced RTO Techniques	Amar Mukund
10:20 am	Panel Discussion	

10:40 am – 12:00 pm Session 3: Small TIPS (<8 mm): Game Changer?**Moderators: Bulent Arslan, Atoosa Rabiee, Wael Saad, Kei Yamada**

10:40 am	What is a Small TIPS and How Do You Create It? Technical Aspects	Bulent Arslan
10:50 am	Is Embolization of Every Portosystemic Shunt Necessary Prior to Small TIPS Creation?	Ulku Cenk Turba
11:00 am	Expanding Patient Selection with small caliber TIPS	Brett Fortune
11:10 am	Integrating Age into TIPS Planning in Era of Smaller diameter TIPS option	Aravind Arepally (Invited)
11:20 am	MELD >18-22 Outcomes and Potential Impact of Smaller Diameter TIPS	Nariman Nezami
11:30 am	Could Small TIPS Soften Cardiovascular Contraindications?	Atoosa Rabiee
11:40 am	Panel Discussion	

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Industry Lunch Symposium Sponsored by Gore**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Exhibits Open****1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Session 4: Portal Hypertension Case Based Panel****Case Presenters: Ron Gaba, Matt Johnson****Panelists: Talia Baker, George Behrens, Justin Boike, Brett Fortune, Fran van der Schyff****2:00 pm – 6:00 pm Hands on Workshop on TIPS using Fluoroscopy and ICE Guidance
Sponsored by Gore****2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Networking Break with Exhibitors****2:30 pm – 3:40 pm Session 5: Early Portal Vein Thrombosis****Moderators: Osman Ahmed, Bulent Arslan, Siobhan Flanagan, Arantxa Gelabert**

2:30 pm	Clinical Indications for Thrombolysis: Conservative Management and Areas of Controversy	Veronica Loy
2:38 pm	Access options for thrombolysis: Pros and cons of Transjugular, Transhepatic and Transsplenic	Varshana Gurusamy
2:46 pm	Indications and Techniques for Mechanical Thrombectomy, Access Planning Considerations	Vijay Ramalingham
2:54 pm	Challenging Thrombus management: When to consider TIPSS and/or embolization of varices/shunts?	Sundee Punamiya
3:02 pm	Optimizing Catheter-Directed Therapy for Acute PVT: Pharmacomechanical Strategies and Treatment Algorithms	Lisa Rauschert
3:10 pm	Outcomes of Catheter-Directed Therapy for Portal Vein Thrombosis	Maria del Pilar Bayona Molano
3:18 pm	Panel Discussion	

3:40 pm – 4:00 pm Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Session 6: Portal Hypertension and Oncology

Moderators: Mohamed Arabi, Talia Baker, Jafar Golzarian, Veronica Loy

4:00 pm	TIPSS in the Setting of Malignant Porto-Mesenteric Venous Occlusion	Nassir Rostambeigi
4:10 pm	Timing, Technical Considerations, and Outcomes of Portal Interventions (TIPS and/or Portal Vein Recanalization) in Patients with HCC	Ron Gaba
4:20 pm	Downstaging HCC for Transplantation or Surgical Resection in Cirrhotic Patients with Portal Hypertension	Riad Salem
4:30 pm	Liver Transplantation After Successful HCC Downstaging: Patient Selection and Outcomes	Laura Kulik
4:40 pm	Panel Discussion	

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Session 7: Challenging Cases Pushing the Envelope

Moderators: Bulent Arslan, Hector Ferral, Jafar Golzarian, Matt Johnson

5:00 pm	Challenging TIPSS in a shrunken liver	Sundee Punamiya
5:08 pm	Percutaneous Mesocaval Shunt: Technical Details	Rahul Patel
5:16 pm	Percutaneous Splenorenal Shunt: Tools and techniques	Kei Yamada
5:24 pm	Portal Vein Recanalization with retrograde access (SMV/IMV)	Riad Salem
5:32 pm	Portal Vein Recanalization with RF Wire	Bulent Arslan
5:40 pm	How to manage a mega shunt	Wael Saad
5:48 pm	Panel Discussion	

6:00-7:30 pm

Welcome Reception

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Registration Open

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Hands-On Workshop Sponsored by BD

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Session 8: Controversies in Portal Hypertension

Moderators: Brett Fortune, Brian Funaki, Gloria Hwang, Mohamed Shaker

8:00 am	Debate 1: Early PVT Non-Responsive to Anticoagulation Without Symptoms ▶ Catheter-Directed Therapy Should Be Offered Early John Kaufman ▶ Continue Anticoagulation and Observation Arantxa Gelabert
8:12 am	Debate 2: TIPSS in Patients with Active Alcohol Use ▶ Active Alcohol Use Is Not a Contraindication to TIPSS Justin Boike ▶ Active Alcohol Use Should Preclude TIPSS in Most Patients Atoosa Rabiee

8:24 am	Debate 3: TIPSS in the Outpatient Setting ▶ Same-Day Discharge TIPSS Is the Future Donna D'Souza ▶ TIPSS Patients Require At Least Overnight Observation Matt Johnson	
8:36 am	Debate 4: Management of Gastric Varices ▶ TIPSS Improves Outcomes Even After Gastric Variceal Obliteration Wael Saad ▶ TIPSS Is Unnecessary after Successful Gastric Variceal Obliteration Saher Sabri	
8:48 am	Panel Discussion	
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Session 9: Management of Varices	
	Moderators: Matt Johnson, John Kaufman, Shyamkumar Keshava, Sundeep Punamiya	
9:00 am	Medical Management and Optimal Resuscitation Targets for Acute Gastroesophageal Variceal Bleeding	Izzy Manhal
9:10 am	Embolization of Esophageal Varices During TIPSS or after TIPSS: Indications, Techniques, and Outcomes	Arun Gupta
9:20 am	Gelfoam Alone versus Sclerosant-Based Techniques for Gastric Variceal Obliteration: Are Sclerosants Still Necessary?—A Comparison of Outcomes	Christopher Molvar
9:30 am	Early TIPSS for Acute Gastroesophageal Variceal Bleeding: Latest Evidence and Outcomes	Fadi Youness
9:40 am	Panel Discussion	
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors	
10:30 am – 11:15 am	Session 10: Procedural Complications in Portal Hypertension	
	Moderators: Michael Darcy, Hector Ferral, Matt Johnson, John Kaufman	
10:30 am	Complications Related to TIPSS: Technical Challenges and Procedural Adverse Events	Jafar Golzarian
10:38 am	Complications Related to TIPSS: Clinical Sequelae, Prevention, and Management	Ron Gaba
10:46 am	Complications Related to Retrograde Transvenous Obliteration (#RTO)	Saher Sabri
10:54 am	Complications: How to avoid and manage complications during TIPS-PVR	Bartley Thornburg
11:02 am	Panel Discussion	
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	Session 11: Ascites Management: Patient Selection and Outcomes	
	Moderators: Brett Fortune, Brian Funaki, Gloria Hwang, Nikhilesh Mazumder	
11:15 am	6–7 mm TIPSS: Is “Refractory” in Refractory Ascites Obsolete?	Elizabeth Verna (Invited)
11:23 am	Frailty Index: Calculation, Clinical Utility, and Implications for Outcomes	Jennifer Lai

11:31 am	Sarcopenia: Assessment and Implications for Outcomes in Portal Hypertension	Andres Duarte-Rojo
11:39 am	"The Hernia": TIPSS for Flood Syndrome and the Risk of Hernia Incarceration After Portal Decompression	Brian Funaki
11:47 am	Panel Discussion	
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Industry Lunch Symposium Sponsored by BD		
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Exhibits Open		
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Session 12: Portal Clinic-Practice Development Panelists: Aravind Arepally (Invited), Talia Baker, George Behrens, Brett Fortune, Izzy Manhal and Wael Saad	
1:45 pm - 2:30 pm	Session 13: Chylous Ascites in Portal Hypertension Moderators: Bulent Arslan, Jafar Golzarian, John Kaufman, Atoosa Rabiee	
1:45 pm	Non-Traumatic Chylous Ascites: An Algorithmic Approach to Diagnosis and Evaluation	Bill Majdalany
1:55 pm	Management of Portal Hypertensive Chylous Ascites: Endovascular, and Surgical Options	Bill Majdalany
2:05 pm	TIPSS for Chylous Ascites: Indications, Outcomes, and Lessons Learned	Gloria Hwang
2:15 pm	Panel Discussion	
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm Hands-On Workshop on TIPS using Fluoroscopy Sponsored by Gore		
2:30 pm - 3:00 pm Networking Break with Exhibitors		
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Session 14: Portal Vein Embolization Moderators: Bulent Arslan, Brian Funaki, Jafar Golzarian, Gloria Hwang	
3:00 pm	Portal Vein Embolization Using Particles: Techniques and Outcomes	Mohamed Arabi
3:10 pm	Portal Vein Embolization Using Liquid Embolics: Techniques and Outcomes	Nariman Nezami
3:20 pm	Hepatic Venous Deprivation: Fact, Fiction, or the New Standard?	Jordan Tasse
3:30 pm	Modified Hepatic Venous Deprivation Using Glue Embolization of Both Portal and Hepatic Veins	Sameer Gadani
3:40 pm	Panel Discussion: PVE, HVD, and Beyond—How Do We Optimize Future Liver Remnant? ▶ Moderator: Jafar Golzarian ▶ Panelists: Ahmed Kamal Abdel Aal, Bulent Arslan Matt Johnson, Bill Majdalany, Vijay Ramalingham	

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Session 15: Emerging Technologies in Portal Hypertension Management	
	Moderators: Jafar Golzarian, John Kaufman, Constantino Pena, Ulka Cenk Turba	
4:00 pm	New 6-10 TIPS Stents: Engineering, Deployment & Application	Ziga Cizman
4:10 pm	A New 20-40mm Plug for Giant Shunts: Engineering & Deployment	Wael Saad
4:20 pm	Alpha Pump: An Update and Early US Experience	Rahul Patel
4:30 pm	Balloon Occlusion Guide-catheters for BRTO/PARTO	Ahmed Kamel Abdel Aal
4:40 pm	Panel Discussion	

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Session 16: Portal Interventions After Liver Transplantation	
	Moderators: Talia Baker, Edie Chan, Wael Saad, Fran van der Schyff	
5:00 pm	Portal Venous Stenosis: To Stent or not to Stent	Lisa Rauschert
5:10 pm	TIPS Outcomes in Liver Transplant Recipients	Nassir Rostambeigi
5:20 pm	BRTO and/or Shunt Closures in Liver Transplants	Slava Malov
5:30 pm	TIPS with and without PVR in Left Lobe Transplant Grafts	Wael Saad
5:40 pm	Panel Discussion	

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

7:00 am – 1:00 pm Registration Open

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Session 17: Portal Hypertension in Pediatric Population	
	Moderators: Shyamkumar Keshava, Constantino Pena, Wael Saad, Fran van de Schyff	
8:00 am	Pre-Hepatic Portal Hypertension	Theo Heller (Invited)
8:10 am	Management of Abernethy Malformation	Shyamkumar Keshava
8:20 am	BRTO in Pediatric Population	Rahul Patel
8:30 am	TIPS in Children: Do the new 6-10 Stents fit in?	Siobhan Flanagan
8:40 am	Panel Discussion	

9:00 am – 9:45 am	Session 18: Splenic Artery Embolization	
	Moderators: Brian Funaki, Jafar Golzarian, Gloria Hwang, Constantino Pena	
9:00 am	Partial Splenic Embolization in the new Era of Liquid Embolics	Bulent Arslan
9:10 am	Partial Splenic Embolization in the Management of Gastric Varices	Alexis Valin-Doyon
9:20 am	Partial Splenic Embolization in Managing Portal-HTN Ascites	Charles Sanyika
9:30 am	Panel Discussion	
	▶ Moderator: Jafar Golzarian ▶ Panelists: Michael Darcy, Gloria Hwang, Matt Johnson, Constantino Pena, Wael Saad	

9:45-10:00 Coffee Break

10:00 am – 11:00 am **Session 19: Controversies in Portal Hypertension**

Moderators: Brett Fortune, Jafar Golzarian, Jennifer Lai, Wael Saad

- 10:00 am Management of Bleeding Gastric Varices
- ▶ Endoscopy Should Remain First-Line Therapy for Bleeding Gastric Varices
Marvin Ryou (Invited)
 - ▶ Endovascular Therapy Should Be First-Line for Bleeding Gastric Varices
Constantino Pena
- 10:10 am Primary RTO for Gastric Varices (GVs)
- ▶ Should be reserved for symptomatic patients (bleeding/encephalopathy)
Osman Ahmed
 - ▶ Can be used to prophylactically to prevent bleeding and/or to preserve portal vein patency/size
Amar Mukund
- 10:22 am Sarcopenia & TIPS
- ▶ Sarcopenia is an indication for earlier TIPS
Andres Duarte-Rojo
 - ▶ Sarcopenia is a relative contraindication for TIPS
Jennifer Lai
- 10:30 am Post-TIPS Hepatic Encephalopathy
- ▶ Post-TIPS HE: TIPS needs to be reduced or closed
Nikhilesh Mazumder
 - ▶ Post-HE: TIPS does not need to be closed, other options
Arun Jesudian
- 10:42 am Panel Discussion
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11:00 am – 12:00 pm **Session 20: Emerging Indications for “Early TIPS”**

Moderators: Edie Chan, Brett Fortune, Jennifer Lai, Atoosa Rabiee

- 11:00 am Preoperative TIPSS: Ready for Prime Time? Doug Simonetto (Invited)
- 11:10 am TIPSS for Primary Prophylaxis of Gastric Varices: Michael Fallon (Invited)
Are We Ready?
- 11:20 am Earlier TIPSS for Ascites: Can We Prevent AKI Elizabeth Verna (Invited)
and Hepatorenal Syndrome?
- 11:30 am Can Portal Decompression Reverse Decompensated (Speaker Invited)
Cirrhosis?
- 11:40 am Panel Discussion
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12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Session 21: TIPS in the setting of Portal Vein Occlusion (Acute/Chronic)**

Moderators: Amar Mukund, Sundeep Punamiya, Wael Saad, Riad Salem

- 12:00 pm Pre-Procedural Work-Up and Imaging for Portal Vein Recanalization and TIPSS Osman Ahmed
- 12:08 pm Portal Vein Occlusion: How to manage and create TIPS-Technical details and early experience Mohamed Shaker
in the Middle East

12:16 pm	Chronic Portal Vein Occlusion: Technical Deep Dive from access to recanalization tools	Bulent Arslan
12:24 pm	Outcomes of Portal Vein Recanalization-TIPSS in Chronic Portal Vein Occlusion	Riad Salem
12:32 pm	Surgical Expectations and things to consider for transplantation after TIPS with PVR	Talia Baker
12:40 pm	Panel Discussion	

1:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Bulent Arslan, Jafar Golzarian, Wael Saad