

PACKED WITH TIPS FOR YOUR OR, CLINIC, & PRACTICE

SPONE

BASE to SUMMIT

JANUARY 16-19, 2026 / GRAND HYATT VAIL



PROGRAM CHAIRS



GREGORY
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PROGRAM DIRECTORS



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BROADWATER

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PROGRAM DIRECTORS

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Overland Park, KS

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Scripps Clinic Medical Group
La Jolla, CA

EVEN AFTER MORE THAN 30 YEARS of being rated as one of the best meetings spine surgeons attend, we've packed this year's program with new content that:

- Is full of take-home points for your OR and practice.
- Addresses Business & Lifestyle topics that you encounter daily.
- Highlights changes coming to the field, from AI to AR and more.

Several leading surgeons are joining the faculty, in addition to Dana Jacoby, a national expert on business and financial issues that impact every spine surgeon.

INVITED FACULTY

Hyun W. Bae, MD

The Spine Institute
Center for Spinal Restoration
Santa Monica, CA

Sigurd H. Berven, MD

University of California,
San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Ernest E. Braxton Jr., MD, MBA

Vail-Summit Orthopaedics
& Neurosurgery
Vail, CO

Mohamad Bydon, MD

University of Chicago Medicine
Chicago, IL

Peter Derman, MD

Texas Back Institute
Plano, TX

Robert Eastlack, MD

Scripps Clinic Medical Group
La Jolla, CA

Roger Härtl, MD

Och Spine at NewYork-
Presbyterian at the Weill
Cornell Medicine Center
for Comprehensive Spine Care
New York, NY

Han Jo Kim, MD

Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Joseph M. Lombardi, MD

Columbia University
Medical Center
New York, NY

Michael H. McCarthy, MD, MPH, FAAOS

Indiana Spine Group
Carmel, IN

Venu Nemani, MD, PhD

Virginia Mason Medical Center
Seattle, WA

Frank Phillips, MD

Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush
Chicago, IL

Sheeraz Qureshi, MD, MBA

Hospital for Special Surgery
New York, NY

Rick Sasso, MD

Indiana Spine Group
Carmel, IN

Christopher I. Shaffrey, MD

Duke University Medical Center
Durham, NC

Vincent Traynelis, MD

Rush University Medical Center
Chicago, IL

Alexander R. Vaccaro, MD, PhD, MBA

Rothman Orthopaedic Institute
Philadelphia, PA



REGISTER EARLY

The course and
hotel will fill
very rapidly!

**NEW: Surgical
Snippet Videos
With
Take-Home Tips**

GUEST SPEAKER DANA JACOBY

Dana Jacoby is a national thought leader regarding the future of healthcare. Her work consulting on billions of dollars in merger and acquisitions make her one of the most sought-after healthcare and business specialists in the country.

Dana's experience bridges both large corporate healthcare companies as well as individual providers. This has included positions with General Electric Healthcare, Johnson & Johnson, and Allergan. Her work has included integration strategies, market analysis, design implementation, and service delivery in medical practices, hospitals, and health systems in nearly every state in the United States and internationally in Asia, Europe, and Canada.

She is a regular Keynote Speaker at major national medical society meetings and consultants extensively throughout the field of healthcare.



DANA JACOBY
*CEO/Founder
Vector Medical Group*

“The course continues to evolve and improve each year. The audience, participation and dialogue amongst speakers is excellent.”

—PAST PARTICIPANT

NEW ► LIVE AI DEMO

EARLY CAREER SURGEON GRANTS

Senior residents, fellows, and surgeons who have been in practice for 5 or less years are invited to apply for an Early Career Surgeon Grant. Up to twenty surgeons will be selected and will each receive complimentary registration to the meeting and a grant of \$750.

Requirements: To receive complimentary registration and the \$750 grant, recipients will be required to attend the Saturday and Sunday afternoon sessions, a breakfast workshop on Saturday or Sunday, and participate in an Early Career Surgeons' dinner sponsored by a medical company.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Friday, November 14, 2025



**APPLY
ONLINE**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

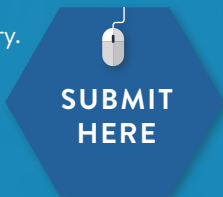
This year's program includes time for the presentation of several Free Papers. The presenting authors of the selected papers will receive \$250 off their registration fee.

FORMAT

Abstracts can address any subject directly relevant to spine surgery. The abstract must include title, authors, text of up to 400 words, and up to two images.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: October 27, 2025

AUTHORS NOTIFIED: November 10, 2025



**SUBMIT
HERE**



QUESTIONS

Pam Scianna | Email: pscianna@broad-water.com
Phone: (630) 681-1040 ext. 313

January 16–19, 2026 | Grand Hyatt Vail, Vail, CO 3

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

3:30 pm Registration & Exhibits

4:00 Welcome

SESSION 1

Cases: Debates, Discussions & Disagreements

Debate: 84 y/o with central cord syndrome after a fall with near full recovery. To operate or not?

- Dude the patient recovered...*Do not operate!* ...the patient will be fine.
- The risk of progressive neurologic injury is too high. Operate and save the patient!

- Cases:**
- Young female, had a C6-7 ACDF followed by C5-6 for ASD. Now, has a pseudarthrosis at C5-6 and adjacent segment at C4-5. What now?
 - L5-S1 isthmic spondy. What's the hook? Variance in treatment.
 - Severe lumbar stenosis above a previous L4-5 fusion. Decompression alone or fusion?
 - Disc osteo after lumbar interbody fusion.
 - My worst case in the last year and *what you can learn*.

The Lifestyle & Business of Spine

- Spine surgeon compensation models and succession planning. What needs to change for a productive future?

6:15–7:15 Welcome Reception



"This is the BEST spine meeting in the spine surgical field!"

—PAST PARTICIPANT

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17

6:30 am Breakfast, Exhibits, and Breakfast Workshop

7:00 Welcome

SESSION 2

Techniques & Technology

- Endoscopy—The Far East vs. the West. Why the difference in adoption? Why would I build it into my US practice?

Debate: Interbody—L4-5 Degenerative Spondylolisthesis

- I'm Anti-TLIF—here's why!
- I'm Anti-OLIF/LLIF—here's why!

Debate: PEEK vs Titanium

- PEEK = Performance
- Titanium = Metal beats plastic every day of the week.

Image-Guided Surgery

- Robotics: The next generation systems are coming. What's on the surgeon's wish list?
- Augmented Reality: Beyond traditional navigation. How AR will transform the OR.
- Image-guided bony resection.

My Worst Case in the Last Year and What You Can Learn

- Cases:**
- There was so much blood! Vascular injury during LLIF/OLIF at L4-5.
 - I swear it was a facet cyst! Iatrogenic nerve root injury during L5-S1 facet cyst resection.

Patient Optimization & Protocols

- Diagnosis of metabolic bone disease: What are the limitations of DEXA? Are there other ways to measure bone health?
- Bone health optimization: Screening, pre-treatment, and implementing a metabolic bone health program for better surgical outcomes.
- Malnutrition: The silent killer of patient outcomes.
- Spine ERAS in 2026: How do I implement an evidence-based program?
- Strategies to optimize my outpatient surgery experience: Looking beyond my skill, and understanding the elements of success!

PROGRAM

SATURDAY MORNING, CONT., JANUARY 17

The Lifestyle & Business of Spine

- Peak Performance: Finding your groove at work without sacrificing your personal life.

Video Highlights—Surgical Snippets with Take Home Tips

- **Video** | MIS TLIF: My efficient and complete disc preparation
- **Video** | LLIF: Tips and tricks to avoiding subsidence

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

4:00 pm Après Ski

4:10 Welcome

SESSION 3

Cases: Debates, Discussions & Disagreements

Walking Trauma: Cervical, TL & Lumbar

Debate: TLICs 4, L2 burst fracture, neuro intact.

- Burst fractures have become an excuse to place perc screws, non-op is the way to go
- MIS treatment of burst fractures has been a game changer for my patient

- Cases:**
- Unilateral facet fracture/dislocation treated non-op, now with pain +/- deformity
 - Type 2 odontoid fracture in the elderly with delayed union
 - To brace or not to brace? Elderly woman with an osteoporotic TL compression/burst Fx with TL kyphosis
 - To brace or not to brace? 75 y/o AS or DISH with TL burst and with intact posterior column

The Emperor of All Maladies: Spine Mets

- Cases:**
- 40 y/o female with breast CA and thoracic mets with mild myelopathy
 - 60 y/o male with plasmacytoma with thoracic kyphosis
 - The Day It All Went South: The case that has been revised so often it put my kids through college...and med school

SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 18

6:30 am Breakfast, Exhibits, and Breakfast Workshop

7:00 Welcome

SESSION 4

Spine Odyssey—2031: Where Will Our Field Be in The Near Future?

AI

- *AI Live demonstration:* Degenerative spondylolisthesis in 2031. How will our management change?
- Practical ways to integrate AI into my everyday practice and what are the boundaries? What can't AI do?
- Will AI and big data overtake RCTs as the gold standard in evidence-based care?
- Strategies to manage patients who are using AI to help navigate their spine care

Spine Pain is Gain (ing): How Will Emerging “Spine Fellowships” in Pain Management Impact Our Field?

- Spine surgery as we know it is at an existential threat: We must stand up and *own the spine*.
- The future of spine surgery *must* involve our collaboration and sharing of the spine field.
- We need to put ourselves in their shoes: What I've learned from my pain management colleagues.
- It's time to secede! As ortho & neuro spine continue to converge, when will dedicated spine residency training become a reality?

It's ALL Deformity Surgery Whether You Like It or Not

- Analyzing the sagittal plane: Software, measurements, parameters, spinal shape & distribution
- L4-S1 is key for long-term success. Get it right the first time!
- Know your limits: Big Deformity Belongs in High Volume Centers

The Lifestyle & Business of Spine

- Private equity, hospitals, family offices and strategic partners: Who, what, and how? Making the most of collaborative partners.

PROGRAM

SUNDAY MORNING, CONT., JANUARY 18

Video Highlights—Surgical Snippets with Take Home Tips

- **Video** | My technical pearls to minimal blood loss in open spine surgery
- **Video** | Robotics in the OR—Setup, workflow, registration, and screw execution.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

4:00 pm Après Ski

4:10 Welcome

SESSION 5

Cases: Debates, Discussions & Disagreements

Deformity for Degen. Surgeons

Debate: Big deformity belongs in high volume centers

- Yes! Be real and know your limits.
- No! Letting deformity patients go out of my practice is an egregious disservice to my community.

- Cases:**
- Treating the fractional curve only in adult deformity. Genius or ignorant?
 - 70 y/o with adjacent segment disease after a degen. fusion. Is this really a deformity or an expected degeneration?
 - *Doc fix me, my curve got worse and I want to Heli Ski.* Progressive deformity without pain
 - Peri operative sacral fracture after ALIF in a patient with osteoporosis
 - My worst case in the last year and *what you can learn*
 - The Day It All Went South: The case that has been revised so often it put my kids through college...and med school

The Lifestyle & Business of Spine

- Complication management: Strategies to mitigate the anxiety and shame we feel as surgeons when things go awry.

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

6:30 am Breakfast, Exhibits, and Breakfast Workshop

7:00 Welcome

SESSION 6

Motion is Lotion: Progress and Pitfalls in Motion Preservation Surgery

- Cervical Arthroplasty: What are the long-term consequences of expanding indications for cervical arthroplasty?

Debate: Multilevel DDD with stenosis—What's the future?

- Multilevel (3+) CDR
- Multilevel ACDF

- Lumbar Arthroplasty: Have we been looking at the wrong side? Replace the facets not the disc.

Debate: Lumbar facet arthroplasty: The future or another marketing ploy?

- It makes sense, why am I the only one that sees it this way?
- This is ridiculous! Why are we subjecting patients to more unindicated experimental surgery?

- Revision of fusion to arthroplasty, and revision of multilevel arthroplasty to long construct fusion

Special Lecture

- Tips from my 8-hour major deformity case that can help you in your next 2-hour adult degen. case.

What's New and Why it Matters to Your Practice

- Is pelvic fixation enough? When and why to include SI joint fusion in thoracolumbar deformity
- Rethinking the workhorse: Can ACDF outcomes be improved?
- Which SPECT is better at identifying back pain generators: CT, MRI, or neither?

Hit and Runs

- When I'll do surgery on 80 (or 90) year-olds.
- Arthroplasty and Insurance: Understanding the pressure points
- Occipital fixation: Avoid it if you can
- How direct spinal cord monitoring has changed IMSCT surgery

10:00 Adjourn

HOTEL

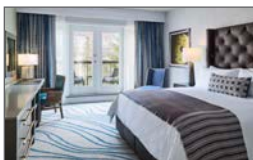


GRAND HYATT VAIL

Situated at the base of Vail Mountain along the banks of picturesque Gore Creek, The Grand Hyatt Vail is a deluxe resort in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. The Grand Hyatt Vail's on-property chairlift provides Vail's only true ski-in/ski-out luxury resort, with onsite rentals and ticket office, aided by a world-class ski concierge. Luxuriously appointed guest rooms feature contemporary décor and offer a lovely respite from time well spent in the mountains.



ROOM RATE



Standard category rooms are 350 square feet and sleep up to 4 people. The hotel does have a limited number of suites for an additional fee per night.

\$499 plus \$40 resort fee and taxes per night for a standard category room. Standard category rooms are 350 square feet and

RESERVATION PROCEDURE



[Click Here](#)

Phone: 1-800-420-2424

Please mention you are with the **Spine: Base to Summit** group or mention BroadWater to receive the discounted room rate when making your reservation over the phone.



DEADLINE

It is recommended that participants book their hotel rooms as soon as possible. After **December 9, 2025** the group room rate will no longer be available.

EXTEND YOUR STAY

The Grand Hyatt Vail is honoring the discounted group rate 3 days before and 3 days after the meeting.

COURSE REGISTRATION

Fast, Easy, and Secure Online Registration



REGISTER NOW!

REGISTRATION

*\$100 discount on registrations received by November 14, 2025**

Register early as the limited space will fill very rapidly!

Surgeons	\$945
Fellows/Residents/Allied Health	\$695
Guests—Adult	\$150
Guests—Children Ages 5–12	\$95

- Registration fee includes daily buffet breakfast, après-ski refreshments, welcome reception, and course materials
- Guest registration fee includes daily buffet breakfast, après-ski refreshments, and welcome reception

**Does not include Guest registrations.*

SKI INFORMATION

Lift tickets may be directly purchased from **Epic Pass®**

For the best pricing, purchase your Epic Pass(es) before arriving in Vail.

- **Private Ski Valet**—There will be a complimentary private ski valet at the Grand Vail Hyatt specifically serving the Base to Summit meeting attendees. This is a true luxury ski-in/ski-out experience where you will be greeted with a warm beverage, toasty boots, fireplace, and lounge. You'll never carry your skis to and from the chair lift.



QUESTIONS

Please call BroadWater at (630) 681-1040 x313
or email pscianna@broad-water.com



CME ACCREDITATION

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This advanced course is for orthopaedic and neurological surgeons, fellows, and residents who include spine surgery in their practices.



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Medical Education Resources (MER) and BroadWater. MER is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

PHYSICIAN DESIGNATION

Medical Education Resources designates this live activity for a maximum of 7.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Participants will also receive access to the meeting's complimentary online CME modules, to further boost the number of CME credits available to registrants.

DISCLOSURE OF RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS

Medical Education Resources ensures balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all our educational activities. In accordance with this policy, MER identifies relevant financial relationships with its instructors, content managers, and other individuals who are in a position to control the content of an activity. Reported relevant financial relationships are mitigated by MER to ensure that all scientific research referred to, reported, or used in a CE activity conforms to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, and analysis. MER is committed to providing learners with high-quality CE activities that promote improvements or quality in health care and not the business interest of an ineligible company. All disclosure information will be provided in the online syllabus.



REGISTER NOW!

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Describe the indications, techniques, and outcomes for the surgical management of degenerative, deformity, trauma and tumor spine cases.
- Discuss ways to avoid and/or manage spine surgery complications.
- Discuss new surgical techniques and technologies and how to apply them in practice.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

- Full refund less \$150 administrative fee if cancelled prior to December 12. No refunds after December 12.
- Other costs incurred by the registrant, such as airline or hotel penalties, are the responsibility of the registrant.

JOINT PROVIDERSHIP

This activity is jointly provided by Medical Education Resources, Inc., a non-profit medical education company and BroadWater, LLC.