



**SURGICAL CARE OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SURGICAL COAP) &  
SPINE CARE OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SPINE COAP)**

**2026 Annual Conference –*Optimizing in a Time of Change***

Friday, May 29, 2026 | 8:00 AM – 4:15 PM

- 7:30 Registration Opens: EXHIBITS & NETWORKING, CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
- 8:00 **Welcome & Overview**  
**Nicholas J. Kassebaum, MD** – Medical Director, Surgical COAP & Spine COAP, FHCQ  
**Vickie Kolios, MSHSA, CPHQ** – Vice President, Clinical Quality, Foundation for Health Care Quality (FHCQ)
- 8:15 **Meeting the Patient Where They Are: Stephanie’s Story**  
**Chryssa V. Deliganis, JD** – Assistant Professor, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, WA
- 8:30 KEYNOTES: (P)rehabilitation, Optimization, and Standardized Recovery Pathways: Evidence and Opportunities  
**Evidence-Based Prehabilitation: Dissecting the Data, Defining the Future**  
**Daniel I. McIsaac, MD MPH FRCPC** - Professor and Vice Chair (Research & Innovation), Departments of Anesthesiology & Pain Medicine, The Ottawa Hospital and University of Ottawa  
**Updates in Preoperative Evaluation and Optimization**  
**Jeanna Blitz, MD, FASA** - Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, Wake Forest University School of Medicine; Medical Director, Noridian Healthcare Solutions
- 9:40 **BREAK**
- 9:55 **Spine COAP Updates: Cervical and Lumbar Fusion, Non-Fusion**  
**Jean-Christophe Leveque, MD** – Neurosurgeon, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle WA; Chair, Spine COAP Management Committee
- 10:15 **Intrawound Antibiotic Use and Postoperative Surgical Site Infection in Instrumented Spine Surgery**  
**Jean-Christophe Leveque, MD** – Neurosurgeon, Virginia Mason Medical Center, Seattle WA; Chair, Spine COAP Management Committee
- 10:25 **Investigating multimodal pain treatment administration practices and correlation with length of stay in elective spinal surgery**  
**Justin Lo, MD** – Resident, University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington
- 10:35 **Surgical Intelligence: Real-time insights from intraoperative data collection to maximize physician performance**  
**Gabriel Jones** – CEO, Proprio, Seattle, Washington
- 11:00 **From Variation to Value in the AI Era...From measurement to intelligence and the questions we must answer together**  
**Dr. Jim Weinstein, DO MS** – Vice President & Global Head of Microsoft Health Futures, Microsoft Research

**11:30 AI Considerations in Anesthesia Care: Preoperative Risk Stratification, Comparative Outcomes, and Implementation Risks**  
**Thomas Veda, PhD** – Associate Professor of Medical Education, Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, University of Nevada Las Vegas

**12:00 LUNCH**

**12:45 2025-2026 Surgical COAP Updates/Metrics Review: Small Bowel Obstruction, Colorectal Surgery, Appendectomy, Bariatric Surgery**  
**Vlad V. Simianu, MD, MPH FACS, FACRS** – Colorectal Surgeon, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health, Seattle, WA; Associate Medical Director, Colorectal SCOAP  
**COL (Ret) Robert M. Rush, Jr., MD, FACS** – Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Medical Director; General Surgeon, PeaceHealth St Joseph Medical Center, Bellingham, WA; Associate Medical Director Appendicitis SCOAP  
**Thien Nguyen, MD** – Surgeon, Overlake Hospital Medical Center, Associate Medical Director, Bariatric SCOAP  
**W. Scott Helton, MD, FACS** – General Surgeon, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health, Seattle, WA; Clinical Professor of Surgery, University of Washington; Associate Medical Director, Small Bowel Obstruction SCOAP

**2:15 BREAK**

**2:30 Surgical Optimization Panel Session**  
**Facilitators: Emily Nudelman, DNP, RN**, Director, Implementation and Outreach, FHCQ  
**Anemia and Glycemic Control KPIs in Surgical and Spine COAP:** Nicholas J. Kassebaum, MD, Anesthesiologist, Harborview Medical Center; Medical Director, Surgical COAP & Spine COAP, FHCQ  
**BREE Collaborative Recommendations; Primary Care Perspective:** Carl Olden, MD. Yakima Memorial Hospital  
**Perioperative Physician Perspective:** William C. Van Cleve, MD MPH, Anesthesiologist, University of Washington Medical Center Montlake  
**Insurer Perspective:** Ty Jones, MD, Regence BlueShield  
**Evaluation Framework for Bree Recommendations:** Karie Nicholas, MA GC GDip, Director of Evaluation and Impact, FHCQ

**4:00 What Else is Ahead for SCOAP & Spine COAP?**  
**Nicholas J. Kassebaum, MD** – Anesthesiologist, Harborview Medical Center; Medical Director, Surgical COAP & Spine COAP, FHCQ  
**RAFFLE & Adjourn**

**6.75 CATEGORY 1 CME CREDITS APPROVED through PROVIDENCE HEALTH CARE:**

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements of the Washington State Medical Association through the joint providership of Providence Health Care and Foundation for Health Care Quality. Providence Health Care is accredited by the WSMA to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Providence Health Care designates this live activity for a maximum of 6.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity meets the criteria for up to 6.75 hours of Category I CME credit to satisfy the relicensure requirements of the Washington State Medical Quality Assurance Commission.

**8.1 CNE CONTACT HOURS through DAVIS CONTINUING EDUCATION:**

Provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider Number CEP16359 for up to 8.1 contact hours.