



GEORGIA
CHAPTER

AMERICAN COLLEGE
of CARDIOLOGY®

**Wellstar Cardiac-
Cerebrovascular
Clinical Symposium:
Bridging the Divide**

July 25, 2026



BROCHURE

Renaissance Waverly ♦ Atlanta, GA

GREETINGS FROM THE PROGRAM

Program Committee

Rishi Gupta, MD
Amar Patel, MD, FACC
Natasha Mamdani, MD
Kaushang Gandhi, MD
Ahmed AlBadri, MD
Anita Johnson, MSN, RN, SCRNP
CJ Horn, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC
Raisa Martinez, MD
Susan Zimmerman, MSN, RN, CNRN,
SCRNP

ACC Staff

Hank Holderfield
Executive Director

Melissa Connor
Associate Executive Director

Kathi Davis, BSN, RN
Director of Education

Dear Sir or Madam:

Welcome to the 2026 Wellstar Cardiac Cerebrovascular Symposium: Bridging the Divide! This is our sixth symposium for Neurology and Cardiology. The Program Committee has worked hard to develop a curriculum encompassing relevant topics for your enjoyment.

Our one day format will have a moderated panel discussion followed by a case review and moderated commentary from our audience members. We hope this format will be exciting and informative.

Our five sessions will be:

- 1) Understanding the Complexities of Heart Disease in Women
- 2) Medical Intersection Between Cardiology and Neurology - Management and New Therapeutics
- 3) Syncope, Seizures, Spells, Oh My
- 4) Plugging the Appendage, Calming the Nerves, and Treating the Infection: A Multifaceted Approach
- 5) Optimizing Care Efficiency in the Neurovascular and Cardiovascular Space using Artificial Intelligence

Our goals for the Conference include:

- Provide a discussion on the management of challenging stroke patients secondary to a cardiac mechanism.
- Provide information that is relevant and practical to the care of our patients.
- Develop communication and relationships between our attendees and our industry partners.

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

The Sixth Annual Wellstar Cardiology and Neurology (WECAN) meeting was designed to promote multi-disciplinary discussion surrounding pertinent clinical topics that involve both cardiovascular and neurologic disease. Our highly experienced panel will cover timely topics over a wide array of daily clinical conundrums. We anticipate a lively discussion surrounding case reviews that highlight the intersection of both specialties. Physicians, Advanced Practice Providers, nurses, technologists, and other team members who care for patients with cerebrovascular and cardiovascular disease are invited to attend.

SCHEDULE - JULY 25, 2026

7:00 - 7:45am	Registration and Breakfast
7:45 - 8:00am	Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker <i>Barry Mangel, MD, FACC</i>
8:00 - 9:15am	Beyond Atypical: Understanding the complexities of Heart Disease in Women Moderator: Natasha Mamdani, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MINOCA: More Than Meets the Eye <i>Puja K. Mehta, MD</i>• CMD: The Unseen Culprit <i>Ryan Wilson, MD</i>• Beyond Breathlessness: Decoding Cardiac Red Flags in New Moms <i>Suchitra Chandrasekaran, MD</i>• Carotid Thrombus Due to Iron Deficiency Anemia <i>Rishi Gupta, MD</i>• Discussion
8:00 - 8:15am	
8:15 - 8:30am	
8:30 - 8:45am	
8:45 - 9:00am	
9:00 - 9:15am	
9:15 - 10:30am	Medical Intersection Between Cardiology and Neurology – Management and New Therapeutics Moderator: Ashis Tayal, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neurological and Cardiac Complications of Chemoimmunotherapy Agents <i>John French, MD</i>• Amyloidosis of the Brain and Heart <i>Archana Koganti, MD</i>• Resuming Therapeutic Anticoagulation After Ischemic Stroke and Hemorrhagic Stroke <i>Ashis Tayal, MD</i>• Heart Brain Axis – How stress, Dementia, Myopathy and Multiple Sclerosis Affect the Heart• Discussion
9:15 - 9:30am	
9:30 - 9:45am	
9:45 - 10:00am	
10:00 - 10:15am	
10:15 - 10:30am	
10:30 - 11:00am	Break
11:00am - 12:15pm	Syncope, Seizures, Spells, Oh My Moderator: TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First-Time Seizure? What Do We Do? <i>Julien Thomas, MD</i>• Dysautonomia – Pathophysiology & Management <i>Howard Snapper, MD</i>• Dizziness/Vertigo – Cardiovascular vs. Neurological Perspectives <i>Eric Appelbaum, MD</i>• Spells Evaluation / EEG Basics: Understanding Neurophysiology in Clinical Practice <i>Ammar Kheder, MD</i>• Discussion
11:00 - 11:15am	
11:15 - 11:30am	
11:30 - 11:45am	
11:45am - 12:00pm	
12:00 - 12:15pm	
12:15 - 1:15pm	LUNCH DISCUSSION: Lipid Talk
1:15 - 2:30pm	Plugging the Appendage, Calming the Nerves, and Treating the Infection: A Multifaceted Approach Moderator: Kaushang Gandhi, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion – Percutaneous and Surgical Considerations <i>Amar Patel, MD, FACC and Richard Myung, MD, FACC</i>• From Resistant to Controlled HTN; Where Renal Denervation Fits Today <i>Akshar Patel, MD</i>• Stroke in the Setting Valvular Infective Vegetations – The Value of Multidisciplinary Team Approach <i>Ahmed Albadri, MD and Richard Myung, MD, FACC</i>• Discussion
1:15 - 1:35pm	
1:35 - 1:55pm	
1:55 - 2:20pm	
2:20 - 2:30pm	
2:30 - 3:30pm	Optimizing Care Efficiency in the Neurovascular and Cardiovascular Space using Artificial Intelligence Moderator: William Humphries, MD <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is AI in Healthcare <i>Matthew Mell, MD</i>• Integration of AI in the Neurovascular <i>William Humphries, MD</i>• AI Applications in the Cardiovascular <i>Amar Patel, MD, FACC</i>• AI in Large Health Care Systems: What Does the Future Look Like? (Panelist Discussion) <i>Steve Cermak; Matthew Mell, MD; William Humphries, MD; Amar Patel, MD, FACC</i>
2:30 - 2:45pm	
2:45 - 3:00pm	
3:00 - 3:15pm	
3:15 - 3:30pm	
3:30 - 3:45pm	Closing Remarks and Adjourn <i>Rishi Gupta, MD</i>

SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

Registration for this meeting will be online. Registration will ensure you have a required badge for the Symposium.

Register Now at:

<https://bit.ly/2026-WECAN>

SYMPOSIUM FEE

- \$50 per person
- Includes breakfast, lunch, and end of conference Meet and Greet

The conference registration desk will be open Saturday from 7:00am - 1:30pm.

ATTIRE

Business Casual attire is appropriate throughout the Symposium.

SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

Renaissance Waverly
2450 Galleria Pkwy
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-953-4500

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

\$189.00 Room Rate + tax

To reserve a room please go to this link:

<https://bit.ly/2026-WECAN-hotel>

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Update our members on the latest developments in general and interventional cardiology, and issues affecting our clinical practice.
2. Describe a change in practice, based on most recent ACC/AHA Guidelines and recommendations, which leads to improved outcomes.
3. Discuss latest technologies in the clinical setting.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT

We are in the process of securing accreditation and will have more information to come.