

**Special Symposium: Advancing Practice
Across the Military and VA Health Systems**
Wednesday, November 4, 2026 | Tampa, FL



Start	End	Content Description	Speaker(s)
1:00 pm	6:00 pm	Welcome & Symposium Overview	Elias Veizi, MD, PhD; C. Ryan Phillips, MD, MBA
1:00 pm	2:00 pm	Session 1: Pain Systems, Rehabilitation, and Behavioral Health	
1:00 pm		Landscape of Pain Management and Organization of Pain Teams in the VA and DOD	Friedhelm Sandbrink, MD; Harold Gelfand, MD
1:20 pm		Rehabilitation-Based Approaches to Treating Chronic Pain	Jody Young, MD
1:40 pm		Psychology of Chronic Pain: Comorbidities to Self-Management	Radinka Samardzic, PhD
<i>2:00 pm</i>	<i>2:10 pm</i>	<i>Break</i>	
2:10 pm	3:10 pm	Session 2: Trauma, Ablation, and Spine Interventions	
2:10 pm		Trauma and Injury-Related Pain: Post-Amputee Phenotyping, Ablations, Neuromodulation, and Regeneration	David E. Reece, DO
2:30 pm		Ablative Procedures: Spine, Large Joints, and Sacroiliac Joint	C. Ryan Phillips, MD, MBA
2:50 pm		Indirect Decompressive Procedures for Neurogenic Claudication	Jennifer Lee, MD
3:00 pm		Panel Discussion and Open Forum	
<i>3:10 pm</i>	<i>3:20 pm</i>	<i>Break</i>	
3:20 pm	4:20 pm	Session 3: Opioid Stewardship and Neuromodulation	
3:20 pm		Opioids in Service Members and Veterans: Safe Prescribing and Buprenorphine Experience	Timothy J. Atkinson, PharmD
3:40 pm		Neuromodulation Utilization in the VA Population: Evolving Landscape	Elias Veizi, MD, PhD
4:00 pm		The Role of CBT-CP as an Adjunctive Therapy as Part of a Multidisciplinary Treatment Plan	Melissa Echevarria Baez, PsyD
<i>4:20 pm</i>	<i>4:30 pm</i>	<i>Break</i>	
4:30 pm	5:30 pm	Session 4: National Pain Programs and Initiatives	
4:30 pm		National VA PMOP Programs: National Resource Hub Model	Aditya Arya, FNP-BC
4:50 pm		Regenerative Therapies in Chronic Pain Treatment: Applications and Opportunities	Mazhar Rasul, MD
5:10 pm		Pain-PTSD and Stellate Ganglion Block: Clinical Trial Outcomes	Steve Rodriguez, MD
<i>5:30 pm</i>	<i>5:40 pm</i>	<i>Break</i>	
5:40 pm	6:00 pm	Open Discussion, Q&A, and Closing Remarks	
6:00 pm	7:00 pm	Symposium Reception – Generously supported by SPR	