

HEAD AND NECK CANCER



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Innovating Head and Neck Cancer Treatment through Multidisciplinary Collaboration

July 18-22, 2026 | Menino Convention and Exhibition Center (formerly known as the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center) | **Boston, Massachusetts**

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2026

INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES AND PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES

7:30 AM-5:00 PM	AHNS Head & Neck and Endocrine Surgery Ultrasound Course
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	AI Pre-Course
8:00 AM-12:00 PM	How to Build a Research Program Pre-Course (non-CME)
8:00 AM-5:00 PM	The AHNS Head & Neck Surgery Symposium for Residents & Fellows (non-CME)
8:00 AM-5:00 PM	Endocrine Pre-Course (non-CME)
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 01: Challenges with Management of Advanced Skin Cancers Around the Globe
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 02: Robots vs Endoscopes vs Cold Steel: Surgical Strategies to the Infratemporal Fossa and Parapharyngeal Space
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 03: Evidence Based Management of Low Grade Salivary Malignancy
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 04: Diagnostically Challenging Oral Cavity Cancers and Oral Potential Malignant Lesions
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 05: Virtual Surgical Planning - Tricks for Optimization
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 06: Opportunities and Uncertainties in Applying KN-689 and NIVOPOSTOP Findings in Clinical Practice
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 07: Multidisciplinary Management of Osteoradionecrosis (ORN): From Minimally Invasive to Maximal Reconstruction
10:00 AM-11:00 AM	Instructional Course 08: Updates in Management of Head and Neck Lymphedema and Fibrosis - The Role of the Multidisciplinary Team
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 09: Surgical Management of Minor Salivary Gland Cancers: Transoral and Open Approaches
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 10: Multidisciplinary Approach to Management of Early-stage Skin Cancers (Melanoma and NMSC) - How to Partner Effectively with Mohs Surgery
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 11: Craniofacial and Maxillectomy Ablation and Reconstruction with Virtual Planning and Reconstruction - How I Do It
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 12: Complications in Skull Base Surgery

11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 13: TORS in the Work-up of Unknown Primary SCC
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 14: Identifying and Managing HPV+ OPCs at High-risk of Treatment Failure
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 15: Multidisciplinary Management of Lymphedema: An Integrated Approach to Patient Care
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Instructional Course 16: Skin Cancer Management and Reconstruction
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	Lunch on Own
12:30 PM-5:00 PM	Advanced Practice Providers Symposium
1:00 PM-5:00 PM	Head and Neck Cancer Alliance Survivorship Symposium (non-CME)
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 17: Preserving and Restoring Salivary Gland Function in Head and Neck Cancer - Where are We Now and Where are We Going?
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 18: Optimizing Speech and Swallowing Outcomes After Subtotal Glossectomy
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 19: Challenges and Evidence Surrounding Response Adjusted Surgery in Head and Neck Surgery - Learning from the Experience of Other Disease Sites
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 20: Osteoradionecrosis and Carotid Blowout - Multidisciplinary Management for a Dreaded Complication
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 21: Reconstruction of the Head and Neck - War and Reconstruction
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 22: NCI-Funded Clinical Trials Update: New Concepts, Emerging Data
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 23: Defining the Role of the Physician in Patient and Public Education - Preparing for a Lifelong Journey of Survivorship
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	Instructional Course 24: Parathyroid
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 25: Use of Telehealth in Head and Neck Cancer - Optimizing Clinic Efficiency, Multidisciplinary Clinic, and Remote Surveillance
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 26: Interprofessional and Multidisciplinary Approaches to Management of Dysphagia After HNC
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 27: Functional Outcomes After Treatment for Early-stage HPV Associated Oropharynx Cancer
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 28: Surgery for Cutaneous Malignant Melanoma in the New Age of Systemic Therapy
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 29: Multidisciplinary Strategies for Orbital and Organ Preservation in Sinonasal Cancer
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 30: Introduction to Writing Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) & Clinical Consensus Statements (CCSs)
2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 31: Challenges in Young-onset Oral Cavity Cancer - Epidemiology, Outcomes, and Management Controversies

2:30 PM-3:30 PM	Instructional Course 32: Clicks, Crics, and Credibility - Digital Marketing, Social Media, and Head and Neck Surgery
3:30 PM-4:00 PM	Afternoon Break
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 33: The Role of HPV in Sinonasal and Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma and Why This Matters
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 34: Like Buying a House - Finding the Next Job
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 35: Ablative Surgical Pearls to Maximize Functional Outcomes for Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Oral Cavity
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 36: Advancing Head and Neck Cancer Early Detection Research (AHEAD)
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 37: The Value Checkpoint: Clinical, Economic, and Policy Perspectives on Neoadjuvant/Adjuvant Immunotherapy for Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 38: Head and Neck Paragangliomas: Multidisciplinary Management Indications & Strategies
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 39: Treatment Updates in Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Instructional Course 40: Dr. ChatGPT Will See You Now: What Your Head & Neck Patients Are Learning Before They See You



SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026

7:00 AM-8:00 AM	Fellowship Information Session
8:15 AM-9:30 AM	Opening Ceremony
9:30 AM-10:15 AM	John J. Conley Lecture
10:15 AM-10:45 AM	Morning Break
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	Concurrent Session: The Surgeon as Immunotherapist
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	Concurrent Session: State of the Art and Future Directions in the Multidisciplinary Management of Nasopharyngeal Cancer
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Choose Your Own Adventure: Multidisciplinary Management of Advanced Stage Salivary Cancers
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	Concurrent Session: RFA in the Management of Thyroid Patients
10:45 AM-12:15 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
12:15 PM-1:45 PM	Lunch On Own
1:45 PM-3:15 PM	Concurrent Session: What's New in Thyroid Care: Updates from the American Thyroid Association Guidelines
1:45 PM-3:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Reconstructive Considerations in the Management of Head and Neck Skin Cancers
1:45 PM-3:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Circulating Tumor DNA for HPV+ and HPV - Head and Neck Cancer: When, Why, How
1:45 PM-3:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Lessons from Global Surgery
1:45 PM-3:15 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
3:15 PM-3:45 PM	Afternoon Break
3:45 PM-5:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Population Science, Early Detection and Prevention
3:45 PM-5:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Multidisciplinary Management of Advanced Thyroid Cancer
3:45 PM-5:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Women In AHNS Panel: Academic Medicine – The Balancing Act
3:45 PM-5:15 PM	Concurrent Session: Top 5 Reconstructive Challenges and Tips to Address Them
3:45 PM-5:15 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
5:15 PM-5:45 PM	Women in AHNS Reception
5:15 PM-6:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Welcome Reception

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026

7:30 AM-8:30 AM	Jatin Shah Symposium: The Great Thyroid Debate
8:30 AM-9:15 AM	Global Medicine Keynote
9:15 AM-10:00 AM	Presidential Address
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	Special Keynote
10:30 AM-11:00 AM	Morning Break
10:30 AM-4:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Open
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Sinonasal Cancers – Innovations in Multidisciplinary Management and Research
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Management of HPV-Negative Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: Regional Practice Patterns and Evidence-Based Discussion
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Keynote 689
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Salivary Gland Tumor Board
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
12:30 PM-2:00 PM	New Member Induction and Awards Ceremony
12:30 PM-2:00 PM	Product Theater
12:30 PM-2:00 PM	Lunch On Own
2:00 PM-3:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Thyroid Tumor Board
2:00 PM-3:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Life After AHNS Presidency - Tales and Tips
2:00 PM-3:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Perineural Invasion and Facial Reanimation
2:00 PM-3:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Best of Basic & Translational Science
2:00 PM-3:30 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
3:30 PM-4:00 PM	Afternoon Break
4:00 PM-5:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Advancing the Quality and Value of Head and Neck Cancer Care in 2026: Emerging Opportunities to Elevate Treatment
4:00 PM-5:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Neoadjuvant Approaches for HNSCC
4:00 PM-5:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Melanoma Tumor Board
4:00 PM-5:30 PM	Concurrent Session: Best of Basic & Translational Science (non CME)
4:00 PM-5:30 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Poster Session and Reception
7:00 PM-10:00 PM	President's Reception

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

7:30 AM-9:00 AM	Milton J. Dance Symposium: Survivorship in Young Adult Head and Neck Cancer Patients - Addressing Long-Term Challenges
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	Hayes Martin Lecture
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	Morning Break
10:00 AM-4:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Open
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Giovana Thomas Lecture Addressing Head and Neck Cancer Health and Healthcare Opportunities
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Session: ENE and Controversies in Imaging PET vs MRI
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Navigating the Neck in Early-Stage Oral Cavity Cancer: Choosing the Right Tools for the Trail Ahead
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Postoperative Radiation Therapy: Challenges, Barriers, and Interventions
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	Product Theater
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	Lunch On Own
12:15 PM-1:15 PM	AHNS Business Meeting
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Concurrent Session: What is the Modern-day Role of Total Laryngectomy - Chondrosarcoma Management
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Outside Influences: Microvascular Tips from Other Specialties for the Head and Neck Surgeon
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Concurrent Session: SLN in Head and Neck Cancer
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Integrating into Cancer Service Lines
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Asian Society of Head and Neck Society Session
1:30 PM-3:00 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
3:00 PM-3:30 PM	Afternoon Break
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Concurrent Session: The Great Debate: Deintensification Approaches for HPV-associated Oropharynx Cancer
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Tumor Board: Larynx
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Concurrent Session: ENE Imaging and Treatment
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Concurrent Session: Surviving and Thriving: Overcoming Challenges
3:30 PM-5:00 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions
5:30 PM-6:30 PM	Shark Tank (non CME)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

7:30 AM-8:15 AM	Research Awards Ceremony
8:15 AM-8:30 AM	Closing Comments
8:30 AM-9:15 AM	Christopher O'Brien Lecture
9:15 AM-9:30 AM	Morning Break
9:30 AM-11:00 AM	Concurrent Session: The Future is Now: Technology Integration in Head and Neck Cancer Surgery
9:30 AM-11:00 AM	Concurrent Session: How I Do It: Large Volume Reconstruction
9:30 AM-11:00 AM	Concurrent Session: Scary Cases
9:30 AM-11:00 AM	Concurrent Session: How I Do It Video Session: Scarless Thyroid Surgery
9:30 AM-11:00 AM	Proffered Papers Sessions
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions: Hope or Hype? Dissecting Alternative and Complementary Cancer Therapies
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions: History of the Neck Dissection - Through the Ages
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions: VSP Around the World
11:00 AM-12:30 PM	Proffered Papers Sessions