



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE TUCSON

Otolaryngology -  
Head & Neck Surgery

# ENT in the Desert 2026

February 19 – February 21, 2026

**Hacienda del Sol Guest Ranch Resort**  
Tucson, AZ



## UPDATES IN OTOLARYNGOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

The 13th Annual ENT in the Desert Symposium offers practicing otolaryngologists lectures and interactive panels focused on general topics of Head and Neck Surgery, Laryngology, Otology, Pediatrics, Rhinology/Allergy and Facial Plastic Surgery. Taught by internationally renowned experts, the symposium is for general otolaryngologists, residents, physician extenders, and primary care physicians interested in otolaryngology. Many of the state's prominent academicians will be lecturing at this course.

## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, learners will be able to:

- Apply the latest clinical trial evidence for the management of head and neck cancer.
- Manage well-differentiated thyroid cancers using the latest guidelines from the American Thyroid Association.
- Utilize surgical or biologic therapies for the management of chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis.
- Counsel patients about the association between rhinosinusitis and asthma.
- Manage chronic cough with pharmaceutical, behavioral, and procedural therapies.
- Apply the use of new technologies and therapies for the management of dysphagia.
- Counsel patients and other providers regarding the indications for cochlear implantation in adults.
- Manage hearing loss in the pediatric population.

## ACCREDITATION

The University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson designates this live activity for a maximum of 17 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

## CME CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

The day after the conference ends, you will receive an email from the University of Arizona CloudCME system with instructions that explain how to access your CME certificate. The email will be sent to the address you used to create your CloudCME account when you registered for the course. It is recommended that you complete the course evaluation on a PC rather than a cell phone.

Alternately, you may sign into your CloudCME account at <https://cme.arizona.edu> and follow the steps below.

1. Click the red **MY CME** button at the top of the screen.
2. Click **EVALUATIONS & CERTIFICATES**.
3. Complete the course evaluation.
4. You will then be able to view, print, or download your CME certificate.

If you need help accessing your CloudCME account, you may email [uofacme@arizona.edu](mailto:uofacme@arizona.edu)

# SPEAKERS

## CONFERENCE CHAIRS



**Steven J. Wang, MD, FACS**

Professor and Chair,  
Department  
of Otolaryngology  
The University of Arizona



**Eugene Chang, MD, FACS**

Professor,  
Department of  
Otolaryngology  
The University of Arizona

## DISTINGUISHED FACULTY



**Dane Genther, MD, FACS**

Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery  
Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine



**Scharukh Jalisi, MD, MBA, MA, FACS**

Chief, Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Harvard Medical School Program



**Amber Luong, MD, PhD**

Professor and Vice Chair for Academic Affairs  
McGovern Medical School  
The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston



**Andrea Vambutas, MD, FACS**

Senior Vice President and Executive Director, Head and  
Neck Services, Northwell Health  
Professor & Chair of Otolaryngology, Zucker School of  
Medicine at Hofstra-Northwell

## UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA FACULTY

### **Avin Aggarwal, MBBS**

Assistant Professor, Gastroenterology

### **Audrey Baker, MD**

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Shethal Beareilly, MD**

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Jennifer Blanco Chavira, AuD, PASC**

Pediatric Audiologist,  
Banner University Medicine

### **Tara Carr, MD**

Professor, Medicine

### **Kathleen Cazzato, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-S**

Associate Clinical Professor, Speech,  
Language & Hearing Sciences

### **David Chen, MD**

Assistant Professor,  
Otolaryngology

### **Ricklie Julian, MD**

Associate Professor, Medicine

### **Christopher Le, MD**

Professor, Otolaryngology

## INVITED SPEAKERS

### **Devyani Lal, MD, FARS**

Professor of Otolaryngology  
Dean of Education, Mayo Clinic College  
of Medicine

### **Michael J. Marino, MD**

Associate Professor,  
Mayo Clinic College of Medicine

### **Jacob Martinez, MA, CCC-SLP**

Assistant Clinical Professor, Speech,  
Language & Hearing Sciences

### **Jeroold Olson, MD**

Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Otolaryngology

### **Jonnae Ostrom, MD**

Clinical Assistant Professor,  
Otolaryngology

### **David Parry, MD**

Assistant Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Robin Samlan, PhD, CCC-SLP**

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Jonathan Skirko, MD, MHPA, MPH**

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Helena Wichova, MD**

Assistant Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Helena Yip, MD**

Associate Professor, Otolaryngology

### **Hanwei Peng, MD**

Professor and Chief Surgeon  
Department of Head and Neck Surgery,  
Cancer Hospital of Shantou University  
Medical College

### **Shawn Stevens, MD, FACS**

Associate Professor  
Neurotology, Otology, and Lateral Skull  
Base Surgery  
Barrow Department of Otolaryngology  
and Skull Base Surgery

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This conference is also supported  
by an educational grant from Medtronic.

# ENT IN THE DESERT 2026

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2026

6:45 **Registration and Breakfast – Casa Luna Foyer**

7:20 – 7:30 **Course Welcome, Overview, and Introductions – Casa Luna Room**

Steven J. Wang, MD, FACS  
Eugene H. Chang, MD, FACS

### SESSION 1: HEAD & NECK CANCER: UPDATES (2 HOURS) – CASA LUNA

7:30 – 8:00 **Neoadjuvant Therapy for HNSCC**

Ricklie Julian, MD

8:00 – 8:30 **Outcomes in Geriatric Head and Neck Cancer**

Scharukh Jalisi, MD, MBA, MA, FACS

8:30 – 9:00 **Neoadjuvant Therapy for Cutaneous SCC**

Audrey Baker, MD

9:00 – 9:30 **H&N Tumor Board**

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Steven Wang, MD, FACS

Panel: Scharukh Jalisi, MD, MBA, MA, FACS

Ricklie Julian, MD

Audrey Baker, MD

Shethal Beareilly, MD

9:30 – 10:00 **Coffee Break with Exhibitors – Casa Feliz**

### SESSION 2: LARYNGOLOGY (2 HOURS) – CASA LUNA

10:00 – 10:30 **Updates on Cough**

Helena Yip, MD

10:30 – 11:00 **Incorporating HREM and EndoFLIP in Dysphagia Workup**

Avin Aggarwal, MBBS

11:00 – 11:30 **A Simple Approach to Hoarseness with a Normal Laryngoscopy**

Helena Yip, MD

11:30 – 12:00 **Interesting Cases of Dysphagia**

Panel Discussion

Moderator: Helena Yip, MD

Panel: Avin Aggarwal, MBBS

Jacob Martinez, MA, CCC-SLP

Kathleen Cazzato, MA, CCC-SLP, BCS-S

12:00 – 1:00 **Lunch and Non-CME Industry-Sponsored Talk – Historic Courtyard**

### **SESSION 3: RHINOLOGY: ADVANCING CARE IN CRS & SURGICAL TECHNIQUES (2 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

- 1:00 – 1:30      **Practical Personalized Strategies in CRS**  
Devyani Lal, MD, FARS
- 1:30 – 2:00      **New Biologics and Small Molecules in CRS**  
Amber Luong, MD, PhD
- 2:00 – 2:30      **Immunodeficiency in CRS**  
Tara Carr, MD
- 2:30 – 3:00      **Asthma and CRS Co-management**  
Panel Discussion  
  
Moderator: Eugene Chang, MD, FACS  
Panel: Devyani Lal, MD, FARS  
Amber Luong, MD, PhD  
Tara Carr, MD
- 3:00 – 3:30      **Coffee Break with Exhibitors – Casa Feliz**

### **SESSION 4: RHINOLOGY: COMPLEX CASES AND SURGICAL SAFETY (2 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

- 3:30 – 4:00      **Epistaxis and HHT Management**  
Michael Marino, MD
- 4:00 – 4:30      **Frontal Sinus Surgery**  
Christopher Le, MD
- 4:30 – 5:00      **Sinus Anatomy and How to Avoid Complications**  
Eugene Chang, MD, FACS
- 5:00 – 5:30      **Optimizing FESS Outcomes**  
Amber Luong, MD, PhD
- 5:30 – 7:30      **Welcome Reception – Historic Courtyard**

## **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2026**

7:00 – 7:30      **Breakfast – Casa Luna Foyer**

### **SESSION 5: HEAD & NECK: ENDOCRINE, EAGLES, AND MORE! (2 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

7:30 – 8:00      **Use of Energy Instruments to Optimize Efficiency of Neck Surgery**  
Hanwei Peng, MD

8:00 – 8:30      **Well-differentiated Thyroid Cancers: Updated Guidelines from ATA 2025**  
Shethal Beareilly, MD

8:30 – 8:45      **Primary Hyperparathyroidism: When to Operate**  
Steven Wang, MD, FACS

8:45 – 9:00      **Surgery for Eagle's Syndrome**  
Steven Wang, MD, FACS

9:00 – 9:30      **It Is What It Is—Using Business Acumen  
to Transcend Leadership Obstacles!**  
Scharukh Jalisi, MD, MBA, MA, FACS

9:30 – 10:00      **Coffee Break with Exhibitors – Casa Feliz**

### **SESSION 6: FACIAL PLASTICS (2.5 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

10:00 – 10:30      **Who Nose What You'll Find In There - Interesting Rhinoplasty Cases**  
David Chen, MD

10:30 – 11:00      **Contemporary Management of Facial Nerve Disorders**  
Dane Genther, MD, FACS

11:00 – 11:30      **Managing Patient Expectations**  
Jonnae Ostrom, MD

11:30 – 12:00      **Auricular Reconstruction**  
Jerold Olson, MD

12:00 – 12:30      **Surgical Repair of Nasal Septal Perforation**  
Dane Genther, MD, FACS

12:30 – 1:30      **Lunch and Non-CME Industry-Sponsored Talk – Historic Courtyard**

## **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026**

7:00 – 7:30      **Breakfast - Casa Luna Foyer**

### **SESSION 7: OTOLOGY (2.25 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

7:30 – 8:00      **Autoimmune Inner Ear Disease and  
Autoinflammatory Disease**  
Andrea Vambutas, MD, FACS

8:00 – 8:30      **Hearing Loss and Cognition**  
Andrea Vambutas, MD, FACS

8:30 – 9:00      **Expanding Indications for Cochlear Implants**  
Helena Wichova, MD

9:00 – 9:45      **Interesting Cases in Otology**  
Panel Discussion  
  
Moderator: Helena Wichova, MD  
Panel: Andrea Vambutas, MD, FACS  
Jennifer Blanco Chavira, AuD, PASC  
David Parry, MD  
Shawn Stevens, MD, FACS

9:45 – 10:15      **Coffee Break with Exhibitors – Casa Feliz**

### **SESSION 8: PEDIATRIC OTOLARYNGOLOGY (2.25 HOURS) – CASA LUNA**

10:15 – 10:45      **Pediatric Audiology for ENTs**  
Jennifer Blanco Chavira, AuD, PASC

10:45 – 11:15      **Pediatric Hearing Loss**  
David Parry, MD

11:15 – 11:45      **Pediatric Speech Disorders for ENTs**  
Robin Samlan, PhD, CCC-SLP

11:45 – 12:15      **Hypernasality Evaluation and Treatment**  
Jonathan Skirko, MD, MHPA, MPH

12:15 – 12:30      **Questions from Audience / Wrap-up**  
Panel Discussion  
  
Moderator: Jonathan Skirko, MD, MHPA, MPH  
Panel: David Parry, MD  
Robin Samlan, PhD, CCC-SLP  
Jennifer Blanco Chavira, AuD, PASC

## RELEVANT FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIPS STATEMENT

University of Arizona College of Medicine - Tucson Office of Continuing Medical Education adheres to the ACCME's Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education. Any individuals in a position to control the content of a CME activity, including faculty, planners, reviewers, or others are required to disclose all financial relationships with ineligible companies (commercial interests). The CME office reviewers have nothing to disclose. All relevant financial relationships have been mitigated prior to the commencement of the activity.

### THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN DISCLOSED:

- **Dr. Carr**

Consulting Fee-Pfizer (Any division) (Relationship has ended)|Consulting Fee-Apogee Therapeutics (Relationship has ended).

- **Dr. Chang**

Grant or research support - Sanofi S.A.

- **Dr. Julian**

Membership on Advisory Committees or Review Panels, Board Membership, etc.-Bristol-Myers Squibb Company (Relationship has ended)|Membership on Advisory Committees or Review Panels, Board Membership, etc.-AstraZeneca (Any division) (Relationship has ended)|Membership on Advisory Committees or Review Panels, Board Membership, etc.-Merck (Any division) (Relationship has ended).

- **Dr. Luong**

Advisor-AstraZeneca (Any division) (Relationship has ended)|Advisor-GlaxoSmithKline (Relationship has ended)|Advisor-Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Relationship has ended)|Advisor-Sanofi S.A.|Consulting Fee-Lyra Therapeutics|Consulting Fee-Maxwell Biosciences|Consulting Fee-Medtronic (Any division)|Consulting Fee-NeuroENT|Advisor-SoundHealth Systems|Consulting Fee-Stryker (Any division)|Grant or research support-Lyra Therapeutics (Relationship has ended)|Grant or research support-Sanofi S.A.|Grant or research support-NeurENT (Relationship has ended)|Grant or research support-Eli Lilly.

- **Dr. Vambutas**

Grant or research support-Sobi Pharmaceuticals.

All other individuals in a position to control the content of this CME activity have disclosed that they have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies that would constitute a conflict of interest concerning this CME activity.











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