

# 10TH ANNUAL SOUTH TEXAS **COMPREHENSIVE**

STROKE CARE SYMPOSIUM

**MAY 1-2, 2026**

Hilton Garden Inn

South Padre Island

7010 Padre Blvd, South Padre Island, TX 78597

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For additional information please contact Lisa Evans at [lisa.evans@valleybaptist.net](mailto:lisa.evans@valleybaptist.net) | 956-389-6741

Join us for a chance to hear from the best and brightest minds in our field, network and be a part of a community that is dedicated to advancing Stroke and Neuroscience care.





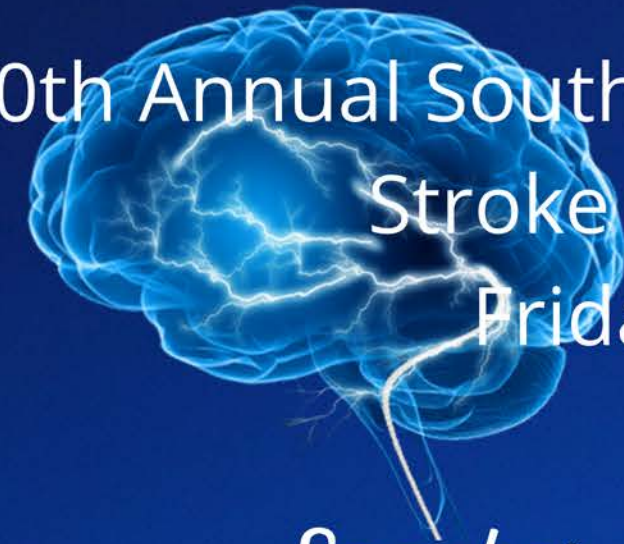
# 10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive Stroke Symposium

## *Symposium Overview*

Stroke is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States and still the number one cause of long term adult disabilities. The deep South Texas population is close to 90% Hispanic, six times the national average; the percent of people with diabetes and hypertension in the area are significantly above national average. These statistics place our population at risk for stroke and it is important to address their increased risk as well as treatment options. This two-day conference provides a forum in which to present current advances on the standard of care of acute stroke intervention, including state of the art endovascular treatment, ischemic stroke prevention, acute management and in-hospital treatment of subarachnoid and intracerebral hemorrhage, and impact of nursing care on patient outcomes and aspects of stroke rehabilitation and recovery.

Important updates this year will focus on topics such as non-contrast CT vs. CTP for selection of patients who are eligible for mechanical thrombectomy, endovascular embolization as treatment of chronic recurrent subdural hematoma and minimally invasive surgery for removal of intracerebral bleed. Advances in the diagnosis and treatment of stroke continue to evolve on an almost daily basis and continued education of primary providers is an absolute priority to improve patient care in South Texas. **Target Audience:** This symposium is geared for physicians, mid-level practitioners, therapists, nurses, EMS personnel, students and other allied healthcare professionals that share our passion for improving stroke care in South Texas.

10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Friday, May 1



*Speaker Information*

8:15 AM-8:45 AM



**Stroke Triage**

Dr. Sofia Janjua

*Interventional Neurologist, Pomona Valley  
Hospital Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA*

8:45 AM-9:15 AM



**Prehospital Stroke Care**

Rene Perez, RN

*Director of Patient Transport Services, South Texas  
Emergency Care Foundation, Harlingen, TX*

9:15 AM-9:45 AM



**Mobile Stroke Units: Redefining  
Pre-Hospital Stroke Care**

Dr. M. Shazam Hussain

*Interventional Neurologist, Director, Cleveland*

9:45 AM-10:15 AM



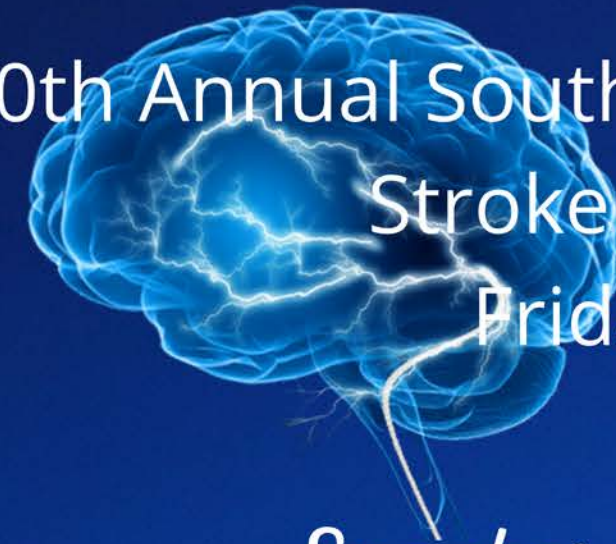
**Direct to Angio and Why We Don't  
Need CT Perfusion**

Dr. Qaisar Shah

*Interventional Neurologist, Winchester Medical  
Center, Winchester, VA*

*Speakers subject to change*

10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Friday, May 1



*Speaker Information*

Mid-Morning Break  
10:45 AM-11:00 AM

10:15 AM-10:45 AM



**When the Doctor Goes to the Patient  
and Fellowship Lessons with Dr.  
Adnan Qureshi**

Dr. Mikayel Grigoryan  
*Neurointerventional Director, Adventist Health Glendale  
Comprehensive Stroke Center, Los Angeles, CA*

11:00 AM-11:30 AM



**Best Stroke Triage Models: Lessons  
from Catalonia's Hub- and-Spoke  
System**

Dr. Marc Ribo  
*Interventional Neurologist, University Hospital Vall  
d'Hebron, Spain*

11:30 AM- 12:00 PM



**The Microbiome and Stroke: A New  
Frontier in Cerebrovascular Medicine**

Dr. Mario Cerdan  
*Vascular Neurologist, Valley Baptist Medical Center-  
Brownsville, Clinical Associate, Department of  
Neurology, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine*

12:00 PM-12:30 PM



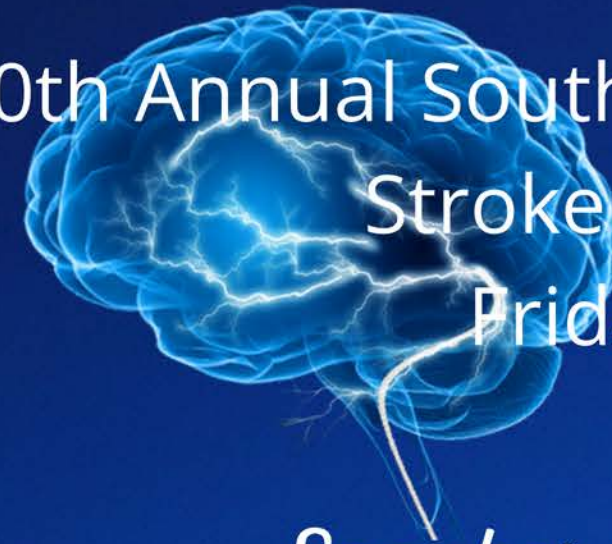
**Two Decades of Stroke Therapy:  
Device Evolution and Where We're  
Headed Next**

Dr. Ameer Hassan  
*Head of Neuroscience, Valley Baptist Medical Center-  
Harlingen, TX, Professor of Neurology & Radiology  
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley*

*Speakers subject to change*

# 10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive Stroke Symposium

Friday, May 1



Lunch: 12:30-1:00 PM

## Speaker Information

1:00PM-1:30PM



### Late Window Stroke Treatment: What's Next Beyond Current Trials

Dr. Amrou Sarraj  
*Director, Cerebrovascular Center and Comprehensive Stroke Center, UH Cleveland Medical Center*

1:30PM-2:00PM



### Stroke Therapies on the Horizon: Innovations Driving the Next Decade

Dr. Rakesh Khatri  
*Interventional Neurologist, Lutheran Health Network, Fort Wayne, IN*

2:00PM-2:30PM



### Sleep Apnea and Stroke: The Overlooked Risk Factor

Dr. Raza Khan  
*VBMC Neurology Clinic  
Director, Valley Baptist Medical Center - Harlingen*

2:30PM-3:00PM



### Neuroprotection in Stroke: Translating Promise into Practice

Dr. Jawad Kirmani  
*Director, Neuroendovascular Service, Marcus Stroke & Neuroscience Center*

*Speakers subject to change*



10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Friday, May 1

*Speaker Information*

Mid-Afternoon Break  
3:30 PM-3:45 PM

3:00 PM-3:30 PM



**Basilar Artery Occlusion:  
Strategy, Timing, and Outcomes**  
Dr. Diogo C. Haussen, MD  
*Director, Neuroendovascular Service, Marcus  
Stroke & Neuroscience Center, Atlanta, GA*

3:45 PM-4:15 PM



**Carotid Stenting and Tandem  
Occlusions: Adapting to Evolving  
Challenges**  
Dr. Santiago Ortega  
*Endovascular Neurologist & Associate Professor of  
Neurology, Radiology & Neurosurgery, University of  
Iowa*

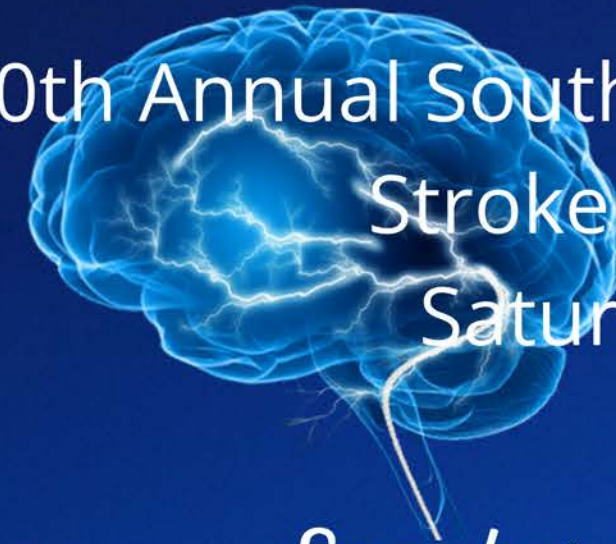
4:15 PM-4:45 PM



**MEVOs and DEVOs: Expanding the  
Scope of Mechanical  
Thrombectomy**  
Dr. Alberto Maud  
*Fellowship Program Director, Interventional  
Neurology, Texas Tech University Health Science  
Center of El Paso, TX*

*Speakers subject to change*

10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Saturday, May 2



*Speaker Information*

8:00 AM-8:30 AM



**Endovascular Advances in  
Cerebrospinal Fluid Disorders:  
Lessons from Mayo Clinic**

Dr. Waleed Brinjikji

*DiagnosticNeuroradiology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester,  
MN*

8:30 AM-9:00 AM



**Aneurysm Treatment in  
Transition: Optimizing Outcomes  
with Emerging Endovascular**

Dr. Farhan Siddiq

*Associate Professor, Director Neurological Surgery  
Residency, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO*

9:00 AM-9:30AM



**Tackling CTOs in  
Neurointervention: Challenges,  
Strategies, and Future Directions**

Dr. Samantha Miller

*VascularNeurologist, Christus Trinity Clinic Spohn  
Neurosciences Center, Corpus Christi, TX*

9:30 AM-10:00 AM



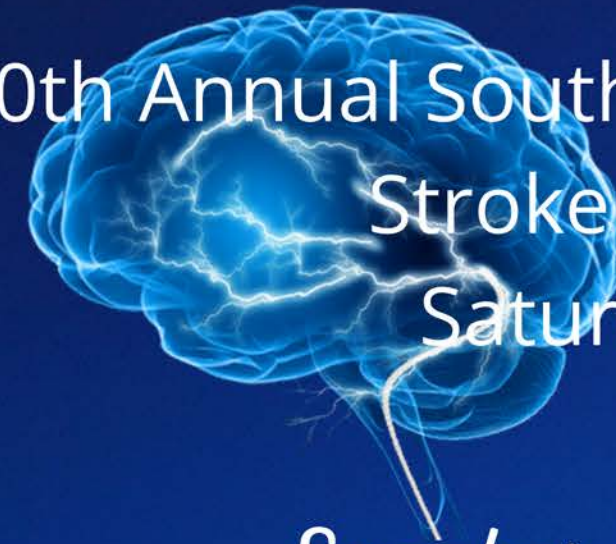
**Anatomy Matters: Navigating  
Complex Neurovascular  
Procedures**

Dr. Eytan Raz

*Chief of Neurointerventional Radiology, NYU  
Brooklyn, NY*

*Speakers subject to change*

10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Saturday, May 2



*Speaker Information*

Mid-Morning Break

10:00 AM-10:15 AM

10:15 AM-10:45 AM



**Acute Ischemic Stroke Innovation:  
Moving Beyond Traditional  
Management**

Dr. Max Mokin

*Professor and Vice-Chair, Neurology Department at  
Texas Tech University Health Science Center*

10:45AM-11:15AM



**Subarachnoid Hemorrhage  
Guidelines in Transition: Practical  
Updates from the Neurocritical Care  
Society**

Dr. Jose Suarez

*Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD*

11:15 AM-11:45AM



**Headache in Interventional  
Neurology: Future Directions from a  
Pioneer in Stroke and Endovascular  
Care**

Dr. Adnan Qureshi

*Endovascular Neurology, Professor of Neurology,  
Neurosurgery & Radiology, University of Missouri*

11:45AM-12:15PM



**Meningioma Management:  
Evolving Endovascular Strategies**

Dr. M. Fareed Suri

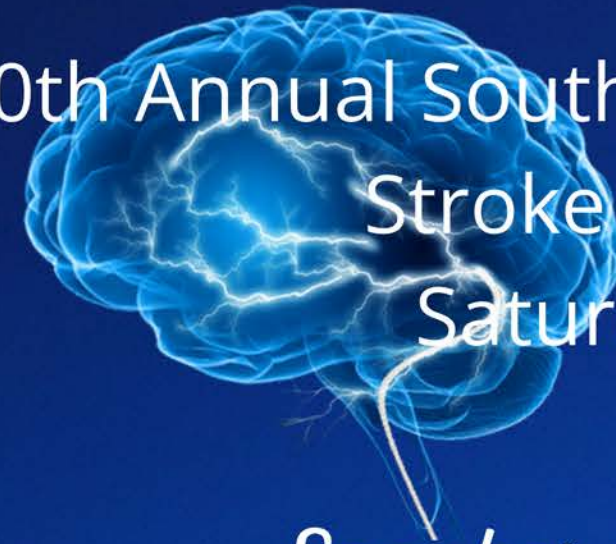
*Interventional Neurologist, Aspirus St. Luke's Stroke  
Center, Duluth, MN*

*Speakers subject to change*



# 10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive Stroke Symposium

Saturday, May 2



Lunch: 12:15 PM-12:45 PM

## Speaker Information

12:45PM-1:15PM



### Vasospasm Therapy Reimagined: New Frontiers in Treatment and Monitoring

Dr. Gustavo Rodriguez  
*Professor and Vice-Chair, Neurology Department at Texas Tech University Health Science Center*

1:15PM-1:45PM



### Surgical Decision-Making in Neurovascular Disease: Trends and Innovations

Dr. Bradley Stephens  
*Neurological Surgery, Neurosurgery Medical Director Valley Baptist Medical Center - Harlingen, TX*

1:45PM-2:15PM



### AI in Neurointervention: From Algorithms to Clinical Impact

Dr. Sunil Sheth  
*Neurology, University of Texas at Houston*

2:15PM-2:45PM

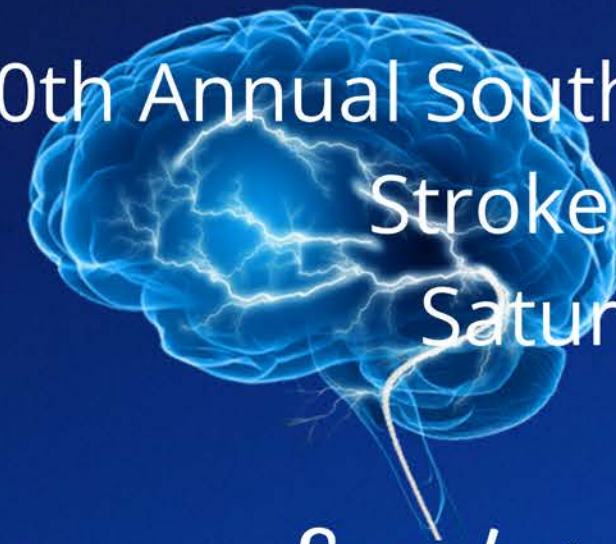


### TNK in Large Stroke Hubs: Long-Term Results and Practical Lessons

Dr. Jefferson Miley  
*Endovascular Neurology, University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School*

Speakers subject to change

10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
Saturday, May 2



*Speaker Information*

2:45 PM-3:15 PM



**Chronic Subdural Hematomas in 2025: Modern Endovascular and Surgical Approaches**

Dr. Harabalos Zacharatos

*Endovascular Neurologist JFK NJ Neuroscience Institute, Edison, NJ*

3:15 PM-3:45 PM



**Endovascular Techniques for Subdural Evacuation and Future Directions**

Dr. Osman Kozak

*Endovascular Neurologist, Jefferson Abington Hospital, Abington, PA*

3:45PM-4:15PM



**MMA and Intractable Headache**

Dr. Muhammad W. Khan

*Endovascular Neurologist, Valley Baptist Medical Center - Harlingen, TX*

*Speakers subject to change*



10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium

**Early Bird Registration through April 1, 2026.  
Registration after April 1 will increase by \$50 for each day.**

**Physicians**

Single Day: \$225  
Both Days: \$250

**NPs/PAs/Nurses**

Single Day: \$100  
Both Days: \$125

**EMS/Technicians/ Non-  
Clinical**

Single Day: \$75 Both Days: \$100

**Students**

Single Day: \$25 Both Days: \$50



10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
May 1 & May 2

## CME Overview

**Physicians:** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Texas Medical Association (TMA) through the joint providership of Valey Baptist Medical Center-Harlingen (VBMC) and the Stroke Research and Education Foundation. VBMC is accredited by the TMA to provide continuing medical education for physicians. VBMC designates this live activity for a maximum of 14.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Registered Nurses:** Application has been approved for continuing nursing education through the California Board of Registered Nursing, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation for 7.5 contact hours to be awarded to participants who successfully complete day 1 and 7 contact hours to be awarded to participants who successfully complete day 2 of the activity. Successful completion includes signing-in, attending the entire activity and submitting an activity evaluation at the conclusion of the activity. Partial credit will not be awarded. **Pending approval.**



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May 1 & May 2

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*Registration Form*

**Please Click Here to  
Register**



10th Annual South Texas Comprehensive  
Stroke Symposium  
May 1 & May 2

*Register*

Scan Cash App barcode below to make payment



Stroke Education Research Foundation

\$strokeref

**Hilton Garden Inn South Padre Island Hotel Reservations:**  
<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/brospgi-sks26-6e56f741-bccd-4c68-90a4-941b4309ff1c/>

**For questions, please contact Lisa Evans**  
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[ltmretana1@gmail.com](mailto:ltmretana1@gmail.com)