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*V. Raman Muthusamy, MD, MAS, FACG*

## RESPONSIBILITIES AS STATED IN THE ACG BYLAWS

This Committee shall be responsible for all Postgraduate educational activities of the College including the Annual Postgraduate Course and the Scientific Program for the Annual Meeting of the College (including the solicitation of abstracts, the selection and invitation of special guest speakers, and the printing and distribution of the final Scientific Program). It shall be responsible for reviewing and approving all continuing education courses submitted to the College for approval or co-sponsorship, and enforcing all administrative and financial guidelines for the conduct of such courses. The Director of the Annual Postgraduate Course of the College shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Develop the final program for the Annual Scientific Meeting, including clinical symposia, bonus (formerly breakfast) sessions, and abstract presentations.
2. Develop CME and MOC activities, including Regional Postgraduate Courses, one-day Courses/Schools, Self-Assessment Tests, Virtual Grand Rounds, etc.
3. Curate and archive current content and develop new content for the Education Universe.
4. Evaluate and endorse international meetings to address the needs of our international members.

## COMMITTEE REPORT

The Educational Affairs Committee is committed to maintaining ACG's role as a leading provider of high quality continuing medical and professional education for digestive disease health care providers. The Committee continues to establish state-of-the-art educational activities in a variety of venues and formats to allow ACG members and others to be lifelong learners regarding the prevention, treatment, and cure of digestive diseases. The Committee does so by soliciting suggestions and recommendations from our distinguished members and Fellows, as well as reviewing member-based needs assessment data, and data analyses of attendee evaluations from past meetings. The Committee looks forward to and will continue to bring quality CME to clinicians in the field of gastroenterology.

The Educational Affairs Committee and its Subcommittees met on three occasions over the last year. The full committee met in October to discuss the past and upcoming year. The Annual Meeting Program Planning Subcommittee met in January 2026 to plan the educational offerings for the 2026 Annual Meeting. ACG 2026 is being offered as a hybrid event both live in Nashville and with virtual components in October 2026. The Abstract Selection Subcommittee then met in June 2026 to select oral presentations, poster presentations, and abstract awards for the 2026 meeting.

### ACG 2026

The Abstract Selection Subcommittee met in June 2026. Over 8,100 abstracts were submitted, and 69 of the top-rated abstracts were selected for oral presentation.

For the fourteenth year, the College offered an Endoscopy Video Forum abstract category. Video abstracts focusing on endoscopic techniques, as well as challenging or unique cases, were invited for submission. Six abstracts were selected for presentation at the 14th Annual Endoscopy Video Forum. Authors of accepted videos will present their videos in person and answer questions from the judges and the audience. During the session, the audience, along with the judges, will vote to select the best video of ACG 2026.

Forty-five of the top abstracts were identified as award recipients, with $45,000 to be distributed among award winners, including: 3 ACG Auxiliary Awards, 2 *ACG Case Reports Journal* Awards, 30 Outstanding Research Category Awards (15 specifically for Trainees), 1 Outstanding Research Award by an APP, 5 ACG Governors Awards for Excellence in Clinical Research (2 specifically for Trainees), 1 Radhika Srinivasan Gender-Based Research Award, 1 Health Equity Research Award, 1 International Award, 1 Lawlor Resident Award, and 1 Medical Student Award. This year was also the second time ACG awarded 3 International Travel Grants to presenting authors from countries classified by the World Bank as Lower to Lower-Middle Income (LLMI). The goal of these grants is to encourage research in gastroenterology in LLMI countries and inspire researchers to present their research at the ACG Annual Meeting. In addition, late breaking abstracts of exceptional scientific merit were considered for oral presentation at the Annual Meeting.

The final program for the ACG 2026 Annual Scientific Meeting was developed collaboratively after extensive discussion with the Educational Affairs Committee, chaired by V. Raman Muthusamy, MD, MAS, FACG, with input from ACG President William D. Chey, MD, MACG, and the ACG Board of Trustees. The program includes 8 ignite sessions (formerly breakfast) sessions, 12 clinical symposia, nearly 70 oral presentations, and over 6,700 poster presentations. Experts and College leaders will once again be asked to select the top presenter from their assigned categories and award them with an Outstanding Poster Presenter designation, distinguished by a red ribbon on the poster in Nashville as well as a certificate of recognition following the meeting.

**New for 2026 – What's New in GI Pharmacology Course** – led by Course Co-Directors Brooks D. Cash, MD, FACG, and Shailja C. Shah, MD, MPH, will be offered only as an on-demand course.

On Friday, October 9, 2026, six additional educational offerings are available:

1. **Joint ASGE/ACG Endoscopy Course** – led by Course Co-Directors Shivangi T. Kothari, MD, FACG, FASGE, V. Raman Muthusamy, MD, MAS, FACG, FASGE, and Heiko Pohl, MD, FASGE, will feature live and streaming sessions from 7:25 am – 5:30 pm Central Time.
2. **GI Pathology and Imaging Course** – led by Course Co-Directors Sita S. Chokhavatia, MD, MACG, and Phillip K. Henderson, DO, FACG, will feature live and streaming sessions from 7:00 am – 12:30 pm Central Time.

***Educational Affairs Committee** (cont.)*

3. **WISE GI: Women's Initiative for Success and Elevation in Gastroenterology Course** – led by Course Co-Directors Calley H. Levine, MD, FACG, and Alana B. Persaud, MD, will feature live sessions from 1:00 pm – 5:50 pm Central Time, with on-demand sessions available following the course.
4. **Advanced Practice Provider Leadership Summit** – led by Sarah M. Enslin, PA-C, MS, Amy L. Stewart, FNP-C, and Dayna S. Early, MD, FACG, will feature live sessions from 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm Central Time, with on-demand sessions available following the course.
5. **Practice Management Summit: "Research to Reality: Enriching Clinical Practice"** – led by Course Co-Directors Kunjali Padhya, MD, FACG, and Drew Triplett, DO, will feature live sessions from 1:30 pm – 6:45 pm Central Time, with on-demand sessions available following the course.
6. **ACG Guide to the Guidelines Course** – led by Course Co-Directors Brennan Spiegel, MD, MSHS, FACG, and Hetal A. Karsan, MD, FACG, will feature live sessions from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Central Time, with on-demand sessions available following the course.

On October 10 – 11, 2026, the Postgraduate Course will be held under the leadership of Course Co-Directors Shrinivas Bishu, MD, FACG, and Darren M. Brenner, MD, FACG. The Self-Assessment Test, prepared under the direction of Amol Sharma, MD, MSc, FACG, with content from the Postgraduate Course faculty and Educational Affairs Committee members, will be distributed once again in booklet form to all in-person Postgraduate Course attendees; online access will be provided for ALL Postgraduate Course attendees.

After completion of the SAT, learners will receive:

- A personalized scoring profile, including overall and category scores as well as comparison data to their peers.
- Detailed answers and explanations.
- Supporting references with links in the online version to PubMed for further study.
- An evaluation form to obtain *AMA PRA Category 1 credits™* and ABIM MOC points.

Access to courses on the digital platform will be available to both live and virtual attendees until March 31, 2027.

**ACG Online Self-Assessment Test**

The 2024 through 2026 Self-Assessment Tests (SAT) are available online, with each test featuring 300 multiple choice questions organized by organ system. The online SAT tracks user responses, provides overall/category scores and comparison data to other test-takers, as well as detailed explanations for each answer, and linked references for further study. This user-friendly study tool is an excellent choice for members who are preparing for the board/recertification exam, need CME/MOC credits, or are simply looking for a way to keep current in gastroenterology.

**Additional Educational Initiatives/Projects**

***Live Educational Offerings***

In addition to planning this year's Annual Meeting educational activities, the Educational Affairs Committee has continued to work on the following future educational initiatives and projects:

2026 Meetings

**ACG's Obesity and Metabolic Disorders School & Southern Regional Postgraduate Course**
December 4-6, 2026
Hyatt Regency Louisville
Louisville, KY

2027 Meetings

**ACG's Functional GI and Motility Disorders School & Western Regional Postgraduate Course**
February 5-7, 2027
Mandalay Resort
Las Vegas, Nevada

**ACG's Esophagus School & ACG/FGS Spring Symposium**
March 5-7, 2027
Signia Hilton Naples Grande Beach Resort
Naples, FL

**ACG's Obesity and Metabolic Disorders School & ACG/LGS Regional Postgraduate Course**
March 19-21, 2027
The Higgins Hotel New Orleans
New Orleans, LA

**ACG's IBD School & ACG/OGS Midwest Regional Postgraduate Course**
August 27-29, 2027
Hilton Columbus at Easton
Columbus, OH

**ACG's Hepatology School & ACG/VGS/MASGNA Regional Postgraduate Course**
September 10-12, 2027
The Williamsburg Lodge
Williamsburg, VA

**ACG 2027**
October 22-27, 2027
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas

***Navigating the ABIM's MOC Program***

The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) continues to update the requirements for its Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. ACG strives to do everything it can to make ABIM's MOC process *as easy as possible* to fulfill.

ACG continues to offer ABIM MOC points for all live meetings including the regional postgraduate courses, Friday Schools, as well as all the courses and bonus sessions at ACG 2026.

***ACG Education Universe***

The ACG Education Universe is an online, self-directed CME program that provides a way for all gastroenterologists to access outstanding tools in preparing for the GI boards, recertification, or obtaining CME credits outside of the ACG meetings. Users can choose the topics they want to learn about, the format of the information, and how much time they want to devote to learning any given topic. A wide variety of educational materials including lectures, journal articles, and learning modules allow the user to cater to his or her needs and interests. The system also tracks how much CME users earn and can print certificates, or a statement of CME credits completed.

The ACG Education Universe also hosts a "Training Pathway" available to GI Program Directors and fellows that provides educational materials (lectures, journal articles, and self-assessment test questions) organized into categories that align with the GI Core Curriculum. Program Directors can assign homework to their GI trainees, comprised of content of their choosing, and monitor the trainees' progress and completion of assignments.

The Training Pathway also includes "A Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Director's Toolkit: Utilizing Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) to Teach and Evaluate Fellows' Performance in Communication, Professionalism, and Other Key ACGME Competencies." ACG worked with NYU Langone School of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, to develop and make this Toolkit available. It includes all of the necessary instructions, materials, and templates needed for a training program to offer a comprehensive OSCE program. The materials include detailed clinical scenarios with evaluation objectives and related ACGME milestones; OSCE station set-up instructions; in-depth character profiles and dialogue cues for the standardized patients or professionals; instructions for the participating fellows; checklists to assist the standardized patient and faculty observers in providing verbal feedback to the fellows; sample fellow report cards and evaluation surveys; and instructions on how to use these materials. Importantly, each clinical case is developed with the goal of evaluating the fellows' performance in accordance with designated ACGME milestones.

***Virtual Grand Rounds***

ACG began offering Virtual Grand Rounds in March 2020. These weekly webinars are offered on Thursdays from 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm Eastern and are rebroadcast from 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm Eastern. They are open-access and offered on a variety of clinical GI topics. Registration for this popular activity has surpassed 100,000 clinicians. The College plans to continue offering these Virtual Grand Rounds as a valuable element of ACG's educational programming. The majority of Virtual Grand Rounds are offered for both CME and ABIM MOC points. If you are not able to join the Virtual Grand Rounds live, they are all archived on the ACG Education Universe (**education.gi.org**).

***International Webinar Series***

The OPGE (Pan American GI Society) Webinar series was initiated in March 2019. Starting in March 2021, this opportunity was opened up to all international GI societies. Past and future topics can be accessed at **gi.org/education/international-virtual-grand-rounds**.

***International Endorsed Courses***

In an effort to expand the ACG's educational offerings to our international members, the Committee approved the following 2026 international courses for endorsement by the College:

**Egyptian Society of Digestive Endoscopy (ESDE) 2026**
January 23-24, 2026
Cairo, Egypt (Online)

**Live Digestive Endoscopy Workshop (DEW-2026)**
February 13-15, 2026
Chennai, India
Orlando, Florida

**International Webinars on Gastroenterology**
**An Initiative of MedIndia Academy & Hospital**
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (India time)

January 29, 2026
1. Gastroenterology & Master Health Checkup
2. Pre-cancerous Lesions in Gastroenterology

March 12, 2026
Debate – Grey Areas in Gastroenterology:
1. Physician's Perspective
2. Surgeon's Perspective

April 22nd, 2026
1. Neuro Endocrine Tumours (NET) – Classification & Management
2. Gastro-Intestinal Stromal Tumours (GIST) – Diagnosis & Management

May 27th, 2026
1. Selection & Optimisation before Liver Transplants
2. Post Liver Transplant Care – Physician's Perspective

June 24th, 2026
1. Diarrhoea in Immune-Compromised Host – Algorithmic Approach
2. Irritable Bowel Syndrome – Art & Science of Management

July 22nd, 2026
1. How Did I Arrive at the MELD Score – The Journey & Impact
2. Clinics in Alcohol-Associated Liver Disease

August 26th, 2026
1. Ulcerative Colitis – Management in 2026
2. Crohn's Disease – Management in 2026

September 16th, 2026
1. Dysbiosis & GI Diseases
2. Antibiotics – Right Choice and Rationale in GI infections, Pancreatitis, & Liver Diseases

October 7th, 2026
1. Acute Pancreatitis – Natural History, Complications, & Management
2. Chronic Pancreatitis – Natural History, Complications, & Management