

3RD ANNUAL

PLEURAL COURSE



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026 | 8AM-4PM

Northwestern University Simulation Lab
240 East Huron, Chicago, IL 60611
Basement Level

8:00 am **REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

8:20 am **COURSE OVERVIEW & WELCOME**
Momen Wahidi, MD, MBA

MORNING SESSION

8:25 am **Pleural Anatomy and Physiology Overview**
Momen Wahidi, MD, MBA

8:45 am **Ultrasounding the Pleural Space**
Chris Kapp, MD

9:05 am **Diagnostic Pathway of Exudative
Pleural Effusion**
Sean Smith, MD

9:25 am **BREAK**

9:45 am **The Malignant Pleural Effusion Management**
Jessica Johnson, MD

10:05 am **The Infected Pleural Space**
Jeremy Jung-Soo Kim, MD

10:25 am **BREAK**

10:45 am **Management of Pneumothorax and
Persistent Air Leak**
Jamie Rowell, MD

11:05 am **VATS Decortication and Surgical Management**
Justin Karush, DO

11:30 am **LUNCH BREAK**

HANDS-ON STATIONS

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

— STATION 1:

– Valves for Air Leak

— STATION 2:

– Case Discussion and Management of Pleural
– Evacuation Chambers

— STATION 3:

– Ultrasound Guided Thoracentesis

— STATION 4:

– Chest Tube Placement

— STATION 5:

– Tunneled Pleural Catheter (TPC) Placement

— STATION 6:

– Medical Thoracoscopy

4:00 pm **ADJOURN**





FACULTY



Firas Darawshi, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



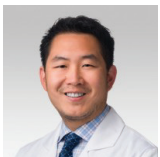
Abby Ford, DNP, APRN
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Sara Greenhill, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Jessica Johnson, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Jeremy Jung-Soo Kim, MD
UC Davis Health



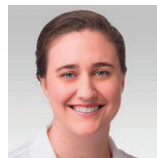
Chris Kapp, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Justin Karush, DO
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



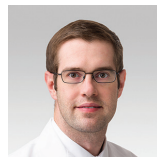
Tim Rowe, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Jamie Rowell, MD
Northwestern University
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Dean Schraufnagel, MD
Northwestern University
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Sean Smith, MD
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine



Momen Wahidi, MD, MBA
Northwestern University
Feinberg School of Medicine

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this activity, participants will be able to:

1. Undiagnosed Exudative Pleural Effusion

- Explain the diagnostic approach to an undiagnosed exudative pleural effusion, including interpretation of pleural fluid chemistries, cytology, and microbiologic testing.
- Identify when to escalate evaluation with advanced procedures such as thoracic ultrasound, image-guided thoracentesis, or medical thoracoscopy to establish a diagnosis.
- Differentiate key disease processes (malignancy, infection, inflammatory etiologies, systemic disease) based on clinical presentation and pleural fluid characteristics.

2. Parapneumonic Effusion and Empyema

- Apply evidence-based risk stratification tools to classify parapneumonic effusions and determine when drainage is required.
- Select appropriate management strategies for pleural infection, including antibiotic selection, chest

tube drainage, intrapleural fibrinolytics, and timing of surgical consultation.

- Recognize clinical signs of treatment failure and outline next-step interventions to minimize morbidity and shorten hospitalization.

3. Malignant Pleural Effusion (MPE)

- Tailor management of malignant pleural effusion by balancing symptom burden, underlying malignancy, patient goals, and preference for outpatient vs. inpatient care.
- Compare therapeutic options—including repeated thoracentesis, tunneled pleural catheters, pleurodesis, and combined approaches—and select the modality that best aligns with patient needs.
- Communicate effectively with patients to support shared decision-making and ensure care plans reflect prognosis, quality-of-life priorities, and procedural burden.

TARGET AUDIENCE

SPECIALTIES: Pulmonary Disease

PROFESSIONS: Nurse, Physician, Physician Assistant, Student

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

CREDIT DESIGNATION STATEMENT

The Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 5.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Northwestern University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all events and programs. Accommodations such as sign language interpreters, accessible seating, and presentation materials in alternate formats are provided upon request. Please contact Rita Guzman at rita.guzman@nm.org at least one month prior to the course date. Every reasonable effort will be made to implement accommodations in an effective and timely manner.

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REGISTER

LOCATION: Northwestern University Simulation Lab
240 E. Huron | Basement Level | Chicago, IL, 60611
8:00 am - 1 pm | Breakfast, Morning Lectures, Lunch
1 pm - 4 pm | Hands-On Stations

PRICE: \$150 for physicians
\$75 for APPs/other clinicians
\$75 for non-Northwestern trainees

Cook County Trainees:
Contact Rita Guzman | rita.guzman@nm.org

Northwestern Trainees:
Contact Rita Guzman | rita.guzman@nm.org

REGISTER: <https://northwestern.cloud-cme.com/course/courseoverview?P=0&EID=123415>

HOTEL OPTIONS

**Hyatt Centric Chicago
Magnificent Mile**
(Northwestern Medicine preferred)
633 North Saint Clair Street
312.787.1234

**Homewood Suites
Chicago Magnificent Mile**
160 East Huron Street
312.585.9333

Hotel EMC2
228 East Ontario Street
312.915.0000

**Fairfield Inn & Suites Chicago
Downtown/Magnificent Mile**
216 East Ontario Street
312.787.3777

Doubletree, Chicago Magnificent Mile
300 East Ohio Street
312.787.6100

