

25th ANNUAL UPENN DIGESTIVE AND LIVER CENTER SYMPOSIUM

Fibrosis and Wound Healing Across the Spectrum of Digestive and Liver Disease

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 2025

GAULTON AUDITORIUM, BRB II/III

9:00AM- 5:30PM

8:30AM - 9:00AM LIGHT BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION

9:00AM - 9:20AM INTRODUCTION - Rebecca Wells, MD

9:20AM - 11:00AM SESSION I: UNDERSTANDING AND DEFINING THE ECM IN FIBROSIS

Natalie J. Török, MD, MSc, Stanford

Matrix remodeling in steatohepatitis

Claudia Loebel, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Local photo-crosslinking of native tissue matrices to probe cell mechanosensing

TBD Abstract Presentation

Peggi Angel, PhD, Medical University of South Carolina

Decoding fibrosis through ECM-targeted spatial proteomics

11:00AM - 11:20AM BREAK

11:20AM - 12:50PM SESSION II: FIBROSIS ACROSS ORGAN SYSTEMS

David M. Merrick, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Structural dynamics of adipose tissue in obesity and weight loss

Eleanna Kaffe, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Decoding human liver fibrosis through humanized rodent models

Florian Rieder, MD, Cleveland Clinic

TBD

TBD Abstract Flash Talks

12:50PM - 2:00PM LUNCH and POSTER SESSION

2:00PM - 3:50PM SESSION III: NEW HORIZONS IN UNDERSTANDING, DIAGNOSING, AND TREATING FIBROSIS

Seema Aceves, MD, PhD, University of California, San Diego

Immunofibrosis driven tissue remodeling in eosinophilic esophagitis

Jacob S. Brenner, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

DNA-loaded lipid nanoparticles (DNA-LNPs): a platform technology to control gene expression in the liver and GI tract

Walter R. Witschey, PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Advancing digestive and liver disease care through multimodal AI

Jonathan A. Epstein, MD, University of Pennsylvania

Treating cardiac fibrosis with mRNA and CAR-T cells

3:50-4:00 ABSTRACT PRIZES and WRAP UP

4:00-5:30 HAPPY HOUR

All are welcome!

REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACTION SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 29TH, 2025

Abstracts may also be submitted by emailing Lillian Chau at Lillian.Chau@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

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