

FINDING THE RIGHT RHYTHM

Supporting Pediatric Oncology Nurses in Longitudinal NF1 Management

Thursday, September 17, 2026
6:15–7:15 PM ET

Doors open: 6:00 PM ET
Renasant Convention Center
Ballroom AB

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Activity Description

Management of neurofibromatosis type 1-associated plexiform neurofibromas (NF1-PNs) has evolved rapidly and now includes indications across age groups. NF1 remains a complex, lifelong condition with diverse and evolving manifestations, requiring clinicians to maintain up-to-date knowledge of diagnostic criteria and clinical presentation. Early features in pediatric patients may be subtle and require longitudinal monitoring, particularly by hematology/oncology nurses. PNs occur in up to 50% of patients and impose substantial quality of life and clinical burdens, including pain, functional impairment, disfigurement, and complications involving critical structures. The advent of mitogen-activated protein kinases 1 and 2 (MEK1/2) inhibitors has transformed management and introduced new requirements for long-term monitoring, toxicity management, and patient education, especially in settings with limited access to specialized care. To improve patient outcomes, clinicians need practical education on how to effectively integrate MEK1/2 inhibitor-based approaches into practice.

In this CE Concepts live symposium, faculty will apply NF1 diagnostic and oncologic monitoring guidelines to support early recognition of NF1-PNs in pediatric patients. Learners will be shown how to incorporate MEK inhibitors in the management of NF1-PNs in pediatric patients within care pathways that extend into adult-focused settings through evidence-based monitoring and safety support. Faculty will model the application of interprofessional care coordination and continuity planning strategies in clinical practice to support consistent management of patients with NF1 across pediatric and adult care settings.

Target Audience

Pediatric hematology/oncology nurse practitioners (NPs) and nurses

Financial Support

This program is supported through independent educational grants from Alexion Pharmaceuticals and SpringWorks Therapeutics, Inc.

Learning Objectives

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

- Apply NF1 diagnostic and oncologic monitoring guidelines to support early recognition of NF1-PNs in pediatric patients
- Incorporate MEK inhibitors in the management of NF1-PNs in pediatric patients within care pathways that extend into adult-focused settings through evidence-based monitoring and safety support
- Apply interprofessional care coordination and continuity planning strategies in clinical practice to support consistent management of patients with NF1 across pediatric and adult care settings

Faculty

Andrea Gross
MD (Moderator)

Brian S. Na
MD, PhD

Victoria “Tori” McClosky
BA, BSN, RN, CBCN

Quentin J. Laret
NF Patient & Advocate

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Accreditation



Jointly Accredited Provider

In support of improving patient care, Creative Educational Concepts, LLC, is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Nurses (ANCC)

This activity is designated for 1.0 contact hours.

Pharmacotherapy: ANCC definition of pharmacotherapeutic content is that it may include but is not limited to drug specific information, safe prescribing practices, safe medication administration, prescribing methodologies, new regulations, or similar content.

Note to Nurse Practitioners: The content of this CNE activity pertains to Pharmacology.



Oncology Nursing Certification (ONCC) [ILNA]

This activity is designated for 1.0 contact hours. The program content has been reviewed by the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation (ONCC) and is acceptable for recertification points.

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Certificate of Participation

This activity was certified for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™.

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Faculty



Andrea Gross **MD (Moderator)**

Associate Professor, Division of Oncology
Director, Comprehensive Neurofibromatosis Center
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Andrea Gross, MD, is an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati in Ohio as well as Director of the Comprehensive Neurofibromatosis Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Gross has expertise in clinical trial design and implementation for neurofibromatosis and other rare diseases. Her ongoing research interests include the prevention of tumor-related problems in neurofibromatosis type 1, with particular focus on using mitogen-activated protein kinase (MEK) inhibitors for asymptomatic tumors in high-risk locations and improving surveillance strategies for malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumors.



Victoria "Tori" McClosky **BA, BSN, RN, CBCN**

Nursing Professional Developmental Specialist –
Goal Concordant Care
Houston, TX

Victoria "Tori" McClosky, BA, BSN, RN, CBCN, is a nursing professional development specialist. She leads interdisciplinary education initiatives focused on goal-concordant care (GCC) communication. With a clinical background in inpatient oncology, ambulatory breast cancer care, and a foundation in psychology, she brings a holistic, patient-centered approach to improving care delivery. Ms. McClosky has developed and implemented training for nurses, social workers, chaplains, and case managers to enhance values-based communication and support shared decision-making at the end of life.

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Faculty



Brian S. Na
MD, PhD

Co-Director, UCSF Comprehensive NF Center
AYA Lead for the Adult and Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program
University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Brian S. Na, MD, PhD, is a pediatric and adult neuro-oncologist at the University of California, San Francisco Brain Tumor Center. He is one of the few specialists in the country with an active practice treating both pediatric and adult brain and spinal cord tumors. He serves as Co-Director of the UCSF Comprehensive Neurofibromatosis Center, a Children's Tumor Foundation (CTF) NF Clinic Network member and part of the Neurofibromatosis Clinical Trials Consortium (NFCTC).

Dr. Na's research focuses on translational and clinical studies in neurofibromatosis and schwannomatosis, working to advance novel discoveries from the laboratory into clinical practice through clinical trials. With expertise in both pediatric and adult neuro-oncology, he is also dedicated to optimizing survivorship and the pediatric-to-adult transition of care.

Patient Advocate



Quentin J. Laret
Patient Presenter

NF Patient & Advocate
Columbus, OH

Quentin J. Laret is a recent graduate of the Career and Technology Education Centers of Licking County in Ohio. Diagnosed with NF1 and an inoperable plexiform neurofibroma at 18 months old, he has spent the past two years advocating for himself and others affected by neurofibromatosis. He has shared his experience at prominent conferences and medical forums and will join a delegation on Capitol Hill to advocate for increased federal funding for NF research.

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Disclosure Declarations

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Faculty

Dr. Gross reports the following financial relationships:

Research Support: Alexion/AstraZeneca

Ms. McClosky reports no financial relationships to disclose.

Dr. Na reports no financial relationships to disclose.

Mr. Laret reports no financial relationships to disclose.

Peer Reviewers

Alaa Bawaneh, MD, PhD—no disclosures to report.

Shirley Michelle Franks, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, PMC MSN Ed—no disclosures to report.

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All identified conflicts of interest have been mitigated.

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Instructions for Interactive Technology

Use one of the iPads provided at your table to answer polling questions, view onsite presentations, and submit questions to the faculty. Please see additional information below.

Ask Faculty a Question

Select the Ask Question tab below the slide viewer to submit a question. If your question is for a specific faculty member, please include their name. Your question will be shared with the faculty for the question-and-answer portion of the session.

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