Virtual Summit 2026

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Experience the high-quality learning and expert instruction you've come to expect from ACOEM in-person education – from the convenience of your home or office. The program for the 2026 Virtual Summit will cover Traditional OEM Foundations, Emerging Frontiers in OEM and Policy, Advocacy & the Future of Our Specialty. The full agenda is included on the following pages is subject to change.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The Virtual Summit is designed for physicians and other health care professionals who specialize in or have an interest in occupational and environmental medicine (OEM), including nurses, physician assistants, industrial hygienists, safety professionals, environmental health specialists, and human resource professionals.

ACCREDITATION AND CREDIT DESIGNATION STATEMENTS

The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 14.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

VIRTUAL SUMMIT PLANNING COMTEE

Melanie Swift, MD, MPH, FACOEM (Chair)
Aisha S. Chaudhry (COEAA Co-Chair)
Ahmed Aly Albadry Elsayed Ahmed, MBBCH, MSC, PhD, FACOEM
Pam Snyder, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC
Jeremy Berger, DO, MPH, MS
Sajjad Savul, MD, MS, FACOEM (COEAA Chair)
Melanie Hayes, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

Virtual Summit 2026

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, November 4 | Core/Foundations	
TIME (CT)	
10:00 – 10:05 AM	**Virtual Summit Presidential Welcome** ***Jill A. Rosenthal, MD, MPH, MA, MSQM, FACOEM*** ***ACOEM President***
10:05 – 10:45 AM	**Session 1: Fitness for Duty: Perils, Pitfalls and Procedures** ***Michael Berneking, MD***
10:45 – 11:00 AM	**Session 1 Q&A**
11:00 – 11:30 AM	**Session 2: Update on Occupational Bloodborne Pathogens and Post-Exposure Best Practices** ***Stephen Y. Liang, MD, MPHS***
11:30 – 11:45 AM	**Session 2 Q&A**
11:45 – 12:00 PM	**BREAK**
12:00 – 12:45 PM	**Session 3: Beyond the Workstation: Strategic Management of MSK Conditions in Dual-Exposure Petrochemical Environments** ***Mohannad Saeed, MD***
12:45 – 1:00 PM	**Session 3 Q&A**
1:00 – 1:45 PM	**Session 4: Review of Chromium Toxicity and Case Reports of Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent- Chromium** ***Nasrin Kazemi, MD, PhD, MPH***
1:45 – 2:00 PM	**Session 4 Q&A**
2:00 – 2:45 PM	**Session 6: Mercury: What the Occupational/Environmental Clinicians need to know and Do** ***Rose H. Goldman, MD, MPH***
2:45 – 3:00 PM	**Session 5: Q&A**

Virtual Summit 2026

Thursday, November 5 | Evolving Practice & Research	
TIME (CT)	
11:30 – 11:35 AM	**Welcome**
11:35 – 12:20 PM	**Session 1: Causation in Occupational Medicine: A Practical, Defensible Approach for Everyday Practice** ***Marco Britton, MD, MPH, CMLE***
12:20 – 1:00 PM	**Session 2: FAIR-A Transparent Framework for Individual Causal Attribution in Occupational Disease** ***Eytan Ellenberg, MD, MPH, PhD***
1:00 – 1:20 PM	**Session 1&2 Q&A**
1:20 – 1:30 PM	**BREAK**
1:30 – 2:15 PM	**Session 3: The Impact of Altering Spirometry Prediction Equations in Occupational Health** ***Mary C. Townsend, DrPH, MPH***
2:15 – 2:30 PM	**Session 3 Q&A**
2:30 – 3:15 PM	**Session 4: Beyond the Headlines: Strengthening Vaccine Confidence Through Evidence Review and Effective Communication** ***Amy J. Behrman***
3:15 – 3:30 PM	**Session 4 Q&A**
3:30 – 4:15 PM	**Session 5: Optimizing Worker Health, Safety, and Well-being – Implementing Lifestyle Medicine Within a Total Worker Health Framework** ***Annemieke De Wilde, MD, MPH, FACOEM, DipABLM, Mani Berenji, MD, MPH FACOEM, Robert K. McLellan, MD, MPH***
4:15 – 4:30 PM	**Session 5: Q&A**

Virtual Summit 2026

Friday, November 6 | Looking Ahead/The Future of OEM	
TIME (CT)	
11:30 – 11:35 AM	**Welcome**
11:35 – 12:15 PM	**Session 1: What the future of AI holds for Occupational Medicine*** ***Ismail Nabeel, MD, MPH FACOEM, Yohama A. Caraballo-Arias, MD, FACOEM***
12:15 – 12:30 PM	**Session 1 Q&A**
12:30 – 1:15 PM	**Session 2: How to construct an AI prompt: workshop*** ***Ismail Nabeel, MD, MPH FACOEM***
1:15 – 1:30 PM	**Session 2 Q&A**
1:30 – 1:40 PM	**Break**
1:40 – 2:25 PM	**Session 3: Integrating Climate, AI, NCD Prevention, Psychosocial Stress, and the Exposome in Modern OEM Practice*** ***Janvier Gasana, MD MPH PhD, Mani Berenji, MD MPH FACOEM, Rosandra Walker, MD, DipABLM***
2:25 – 2:40 PM	**Session 3 Q&A**
2:40 – 3:25 PM	**Session 4: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Substance Use Disorder in Occupational and Environmental Medicine*** ***Dominik S. Dabrowski, MD, MPH***
3:25 – 3:40 PM	**Session 4 Q&A**
3:40 – 4:25 PM	**Session 5: Training, Identity, and the Future of Occupational Medicine: Why We Need a Paradigm Shift, Not Paradigm Drift** ***Tufail Q. Shaikh, MD***
4:25 - 4:40 PM	**Session 5 Q&A & Wrap Up**

** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a new and evolving topic. This session will help facilitate engagement with the topic without advocating for, or promoting, practices that are not, or not yet adequately based on current science, evidence, and clinical reasoning.*

Virtual Summit 2026

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2026| Core/Foundations

10:00 AM– 10:05 AM CT

Virtual Summit Presidential Welcome
Jill A. Rosenthal, MD, MPH, MA, MSQM, FACOEM
ACOEM President

10:05 AM – 10:45 AM CT

Fitness for Duty; Perils, Pitfalls, and Procedures
Michael Berneking, MD

Discuss fitness for duty exams - what examiners can do and what they should not do.

Learning Objectives

1. Contrast Fitness for Duty, Post Offer, Impairment, and Return to Work physical exams.
2. Recall the relevant federal regulations regarding fitness for duty.
3. Evaluate a fitness for duty request and determine its appropriateness.
4. Relate the role of various agencies in enforcement of the legal standards.

Dr. Berneking is currently the Medical Director for Bronson ProHealth. In that capacity he works with local, regional, and national representatives of some of the nation's largest employers both providing medical care and consulting on a variety of occupational medicine, transportation, regulatory, and substance abuse testing topics. He has lectured at the national level about these same topics. Dr. Berneking has a special interest in sleep medicine particularly as it pertains to the transportation industry. He has worked with the American Academy of Sleep Medicine for over a decade advising and contributing to that organization to include developing position statements, legislative advocacy, and publications at a national level. Dr. Berneking has served in multiple leadership positions during his career including President of the Michigan Occupational and Environmental Medicine Association and Chair of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine's Transportation and Safety Task Force. He is presently serving as a Director on the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's Board of Directors. Aviation medicine is another significant area of his practice and has been a Senior Aviation Medical Examiner for the FAA for nearly 20 years. As

Lieutenant Colonel Berneking in the U.S. Army, Dr. Berneking has the privilege to serve as a Flight Surgeon. As such, he has contributed to the development of aviation medical standards for the Army. He has deployed multiple times and remains active in the military aviation community.

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM CT Session #1 Q&A

11:00 AM – 11:30 AM CT Update on occupational bloodborne pathogens and post-exposure best practices

Stephen Y. Liang, MD, MPHS

Exposure to bloodborne pathogens including HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C can occur in both healthcare and non-healthcare settings. The practicing OEM professional should be prepared to evaluate and manage a worker who has been exposed to a bloodborne pathogen and understand when and what post-exposure prophylaxis is indicated. Knowing how to counsel the exposed worker regarding the risk of infection and providing appropriate post-exposure testing can reduce anxiety and uncertainty. In the rare instance of seroconversion, OEM professionals should have a basic understanding of modern treatment strategies for HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C infection.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe indications for HIV post-exposure prophylaxis and identify an appropriate antiviral regimen based on recent changes in guidance.
2. Describe the post-exposure management of hepatitis C.
3. Describe the post-exposure management and prevention of hepatitis B.

Stephen Liang, MD, MPHS is a Professor of Medicine and Emergency Medicine at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. He serves as Medical Director for Occupational Health at Washington University in St. Louis as well as for the BJC HealthCare Body Substance Exposure Hotline. He works clinically as an infectious disease specialist and emergency physician at Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

11:30 AM – 11:45 AM CT Session #2 Q&A

Virtual Summit 2026

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM CT Break

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM CT Beyond the Workstation: Strategic Management of MSK Conditions in Dual-Exposure Petrochemical Environments

Mohannad Saeed, MD,

Process operators in petrochemical facilities face an underappreciated MSK risk profile. Unlike purely sedentary or physical workers, they alternate between prolonged control room monitoring and high-demand fieldwork - including manual valve operation, torque tool use, and ladder climbing - within 12-hour rotating shifts. This dual-exposure model compounds biomechanical and psychosocial risk in ways standard frameworks rarely address. Drawing on two clinical cases - mechanical low back pain and carpal tunnel syndrome in process operators - this session examines how MSK risk surges during planned plant shutdowns and why episodic workload escalation demands proactive, context-specific occupational health strategies. Attendees gain a practical framework for task analysis, psychosocial flag identification, fitness-for-work assessment, and regulatory compliance, applicable across energy, manufacturing, and utilities sectors.

Learning Objectives

1. Characterize the distinct MSK risk profile of dual-exposure industrial roles and explain why standard ergonomic frameworks may underestimate foreseeable risk during periods of operational surge.
2. Apply a context-sensitive occupational health assessment approach - including task analysis, psychosocial flag identification, and functional capacity evaluation - to process industry workers presenting with MSK conditions.
3. Justify a prioritized, shutdown-sensitive intervention strategy over generic manual handling training, with reference to regulatory duties, organizational barriers, and return-to-work planning principles.

Dr. Mohannad Saeed is an Occupational Health Physician and Head of Medical Services at S-Chem, Saudi Arabia, with extensive experience in occupational medicine, corporate healthcare leadership, and industrial health risk management within the petrochemical sector. He leads comprehensive occupational health

and onsite medical service programs, including health surveillance, fitness-to-work evaluations, emergency preparedness, chronic disease management, occupational rehabilitation, workplace risk assessment, and employee wellbeing initiatives in high-risk industrial environments. Dr. Mohannad holds an MRCGP-INT qualification in Family Medicine, a Diploma in Occupational Medicine (DOccMed) from the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, United Kingdom, and the Licentiateship of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine (LFOM) from the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. He is also certified in occupational hygiene through the International Certificate in Occupational Hygiene (ICertOHTA) and is currently pursuing an MSc in Occupational Medicine at The University of Manchester. Alongside his clinical and leadership responsibilities, he is actively engaged in advancing occupational health practice through health promotion campaigns, policy development, corporate medical governance, and interdisciplinary collaboration between occupational medicine, industrial hygiene, and HSE functions. His professional interests include occupational health strategy, workplace mental health, heat stress management, ergonomics, health surveillance systems, and the integration of evidence-based preventive medicine into corporate operations. Dr. Mohannad has contributed to multiple occupational health awareness initiatives, executive-level healthcare projects, and professional conferences focused on improving workforce health, operational resilience, and sustainable occupational health practices across industrial settings.

12:45 PM – 1:00 PM CT Session 3 Q&A

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM CT Review of Chromium Toxicity and Case Reports of Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent- Chromium

Nasrin Kazemi, MD.PHD, MPH

Hexavalent chromium is one of the most complex, persistent and challenging environmental contaminants, widely used in many industrial applications due to high corrosion resistance and hardness. Chromium can cause acute and chronic toxicity, affecting every organ system. Periodic examination of workers exposed to hexavalent-chromium, and early diagnosis of toxicity is critical to mitigate severe complications. Current presentation discusses case-based hexavalent-chromium toxicity; assesses

potential health effects on workers exposed to hexavalent chromium compounds in the workplace; and reviews recommendations to prevent and control these workplace exposures.

Learning Objectives

1. Differentiate between trivalent and hexavalent forms of chromium, the mechanism of action and the toxic effect of hexavalent chromium.
2. Describe different organs toxicities of hexavalent chromium, to list treatment options and multidisciplinary care required for acute and chronic chromium toxicity.
3. Describe OSHA hexavalent chromium standard and governmental guidelines to protect exposed worker.

Dr. Nasrin Kazemi brings over 26 years of experience in Internal Medicine and Preventive Medicine to her practice. She focuses on comprehensive adult healthcare, emphasizing both the treatment of current health concerns and the prevention of future medical issues. Her dual expertise allows her to provide thorough medical care while helping patients develop strategies to maintain optimal health and prevent disease. Dr. Kazemi completed her medical education at Fatemieh University of Medical Sciences. She practices across multiple locations throughout the San Bernardino and Loma Linda areas in California, including the Loma Linda University Occupational Medicine Center, Troesh Medical Center, Community Hospital of San Bernardino, and Saint Bernardine Medical Center. Her extensive network of practice locations ensures convenient access to quality healthcare for patients throughout the region.

1:45 PM – 2:00 PM CT Session 4 Q&A

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM CT Mercury: What The Occupational/Environmental Clinician Needs To Know And Do

Rose H. Goldman, MD, MPH

Using cases, this presentation will describe the different types of mercury (elemental, inorganic, organic), sources/circumstances of exposures, differences in toxicity, absorption, elimination and how that relates to the interpretation of biological (and air sampling) monitoring results. Also discussed will be reproductive risks. Key clinical manifestations will be described, along with useful physical exam tests,

and exposure levels usually associated with clinical signs (based upon research and poisoning data). Toxicity levels will be compared to population levels, risks and determination of references ranges. This session will provide a practical approach to the evaluation of people with mercury exposure (work and non-work) along with guidelines for exposure control and treatment strategies. It will also offer approach to patient counseling, noting that the level of methyl mercury from fish that is acceptable for a pregnant person or child, may be different than that for an older person with more cardiovascular concerns. Interpretation of air levels (work or home setting from elemental exposure) will also be included.

Learning Objectives

1. List the appropriate lab tests to order for a person with mercury exposure and describe how to interpret the results.
2. Describe the contamination and exposure issues related to elemental mercury spills and the approach to assessment, exposure containment and remediation.
3. Describe different approaches to evaluating and counseling a pregnant person about fish intake and mercury levels in contrast to an older person with cardiovascular concerns.

Dr. Goldman is Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Associate Professor of Environmental Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She started the occupational and environmental health clinic and program at Cambridge Hospital (now Cambridge Health Alliance) in 1981 and served as the founding Chief of the Division of Occupational & Environmental Medicine until 2010 when she transitioned to become the Department of Medicine's Director of Faculty Affairs. She was the founding Co-Director of the New England Pediatric Environmental Health Special Unit (PEHSU) and now serves as a consultant to the PEHSU. Her career combines clinical occupational and environmental medicine with public health and education. She has been practicing occupational and environmental medicine, with a focus on clinical environmental toxicology, particularly involving metals for over 40 years, and has authored numerous publications. As an ardent and experienced educator, she teaches residents and fellows, and students at Harvard Medical School and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, frequently using innovative teaching methods. Her most recent educational innovation involve teaching sessions regarding the

built environment and climate change through ecological field trips that also increase observational skills.

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM CT Session 5 Q&A

Virtual Summit 2026

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026|Evolving Practice & Research

11:30 AM – 11:35 AM CT Welcome

11:35 PM – 12:20 PM CT Causation in Occupational Medicine: A Practical, Defensible Approach for Everyday Practice

Marco Britton, MD, MPH, CMLE

Determining causation is one of the most critical—and challenging—responsibilities in occupational and environmental medicine. This session provides a practical, structured approach to evaluating causations in workplace and environmental exposures, with emphasis on musculoskeletal injuries and common real-world scenarios. Attendees will learn how to integrate mechanisms of injury, clinical findings, imaging results, and evidence-based principles—including application of the Bradford Hill criteria—into clear, defensible medical opinions. The session will highlight common pitfalls, such as overreliance on patient history vs imaging findings, and provide strategies to improve documentation, communication, and consistency in causation analysis. Case-based examples will demonstrate how to distinguish work-related conditions from pre-existing or non-occupational factors, equipping clinicians to produce more accurate, credible, and defensible opinions in both clinical and medicolegal settings.

Learning Objectives

1. Apply a structured framework to evaluate causation in occupational and environmental exposures, incorporating mechanism of injury, clinical findings, and diagnostic data.
2. Differentiate work-related conditions from pre-existing or non-occupational factors using clinical reasoning and evidence-based principles.
3. Utilize the Bradford Hill criteria to support consistent and defensible causation determinations.

Dr. Marco Britton is a board-certified Occupational & Environmental Medicine physician and Certified Medicolegal Evaluator with over a decade of experience at the intersection of medicine, law, and workplace health. He is a highly respected clinical practitioner. He has also performed several hundreds of independent medical examinations, peer reviews, and record

evaluations, and routinely provides expert opinions on medical causation, maximum medical improvement (MMI), permanent impairment, disability, and return-to-work considerations. As the founder of Insight Expert Solutions, Insight Injury Care, and a former Corporate Medical Director, Dr. Britton brings a unique blend of clinical expertise, regulatory knowledge, and real-world occupational health leadership. He is a sought-after speaker who delivers clear and practical insights on complex medical and medicolegal topics to audiences ranging from physicians and attorneys to insurers and corporate leaders.

12:20 PM – 1:00 PM CT

FAIR: A Transparent Framework for Individual Causal Attribution in Occupational Disease

Eytan Ellenberg, MD, MPH, PhD

The session will provide an update on occupational cancers. It will particularly discuss emerging trends in occupational cancers as well as cases studies of occupational cancers that have been approved by WC. I also am hoping to collaborate with a few OEM colleagues to discuss RTW challenges when cancer is diagnosed. I am waiting to hear about this.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the limitations of traditional population-attributable approaches for individual occupational disease attribution and explain the need for transparent, reproducible causal assessment methods.
2. Apply the FAIR framework to illustrative occupational disease cases to evaluate the proportional contribution of occupational and non-occupational risk factors.
3. Interpret structured causal attribution outputs in relation to occupational medicine practice, compensation evaluation, and medico-legal decision-making thresholds.

Dr. Eytan Ellenberg, MD, MPH, PhD, is a physician and researcher with expertise in occupational medicine, epidemiology, causal attribution, and medico-legal evaluation of occupational disease. His work focuses on developing transparent and reproducible methods for translating epidemiologic evidence into individualized occupational disease assessment. He is the developer of the FAIR framework (Filtering evidence, Association

quantification, Individual partitioning, and Reasoned interpretation), a structured methodology integrating evidence appraisal, quantitative risk estimation, and Shapley-based causal attribution for occupational medicine applications. His current research interests include occupational epidemiology, explainable causal inference, compensation medicine, and methodological innovation in occupational disease evaluation.

1:00 PM – 1:20 PM CT Session 1 & 2 Q&A

1:20 PM – 1:30 PM CT Break

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM CT The Impact of Altering Spirometry Prediction Equations in Occupational Health

Mary C. Townsend, DrPH, MPH

As widely known, spirometry results are affected by technical errors. However, interpretation of results has recently become less well-standardized. Occupational health evaluates workers for fitness for duty, for ability to tolerate a respirator, and for potential eligibility for disability. For decades, race-specific values have been used to determine how a person compares with average healthy non-smoking people with his/her same characteristics. Differences in lung function between races are large and still not fully understood. Some, e.g., have attributed the Black-White differences to Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) while others attribute the differences to geographical ancestry, when in fact both are probably important. Assuming that SDOH causes the differences, in 2023, an ATS workshop recommended changing how interpretation occurs, recommending using an average value of 4 racial groups included in the Global Lung Initiative (GLI) as a "race-neutral" alternative to describing healthy groups by using race-specific values. This talk illustrates the impact of adopting this approach in occupational health, as published in the JOEM in 2025.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the development of the varied Global Lung Initiative (GLI) equations and distinguish them from each other and from widely used race-specific equations like NHANES III.

2. Anticipate the impact on interpretation of worker spirometry results of changing from race-specific reference values to a composite reference value.
3. Describe the effects of racial groups as well as position in the normal range - 80%, 100%, or 120% predicted - on expected results.

Dr. Mary Townsend has been a Spirometry and Epidemiology Consultant for industrial, government, and research clients and an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh for decades. She consulted for OSHA's Directorate of Standards and Guidance, developing "Spirometry Testing in Occupational Health Programs: Best Practices for Healthcare Professionals Guidance" Document in 2013. She received the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) Award for Health Achievement in Occupational Medicine in 2013, is lead author of ACOEM's Position Statement on Spirometry in the Occupational Health Setting - 2020 Update and is developing the 2026 Spirometry Update. She has belonged to the American Thoracic Society (ATS) for 50 years. For decades, she has presented workshops and lectures on the interpretation and pitfalls of Spirometry in the Occupational Setting at annual ACOEM national meetings. She currently reviews manuscripts for the ATS blue journal AJRCCM Editorial Board. She is an experienced, enthusiastic teacher of NIOSH-Approved Spirometry and Spirometry Refresher courses, aiming to teach not only what the recommendations and requirements are for conducting tests and interpreting results, but also why the recommendations and requirements were developed. She has been course director for M.C. Townsend Associates, LLC for 35 years as well as for the Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health (ERC) for 20 years. For more than 30 years, she has taught health professionals how to conduct spirometry tests, designed spirometry quality assurance programs, and consulted for numerous clients, including Kimberly Clark, General Motors, BASF, Alcoa, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the U.S. Library of Congress. Prior to working as an Independent Consultant, she was a NIOSH Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Visiting Scientist and Research Epidemiologist, and an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh.

Virtual Summit 2026

2:15 PM – 2:30 PM CT Session 3 Q&A

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM CT Beyond the Headlines: Strengthening Vaccine Confidence Through Evidence Review and Effective

Amy J. Behrman, MD

The session will explore strategies to addressing current challenges affecting vaccine confidence, public trust, and evidence-based immunization practices in the United States. Using evidence and resources from the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy's Vaccine Integrity Project (VIP), participants will examine the impact of vaccine misinformation and the importance of transparent, science-driven communication. The session will describe the collaborative approach among professional medical organizations, public health leaders, policymakers, and community stakeholders to strengthen vaccine integrity and support informed decision-making. The session will highlight VIP evidence review findings for 2026-27 respiratory virus vaccines and ACOEM's role in that review process. Attendees will understand the current roles of professional organizations, including ACOEM, in developing population-specific recommendations for respiratory virus vaccines, and will enhance their own abilities to communicate effectively with their patients, organizations, and communities.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the role of the Vaccine Integrity Project in promoting evidence-based vaccine information and public trust.
2. Discuss the impact of vaccine misinformation on public health decision-making and identify VIP strategies to address inaccurate or misleading vaccine-related claims.
3. Explain the findings of evidence reviews, clinical guidance, and cross-sector collaboration in supporting informed immunization recommendations for healthcare professionals and the public.

Dr Behrman is a Professor in the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, where she serves as Division Chief for Occupational Medicine and Medical Director for the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Her practice and academic interests focus on healthcare personnel, occupational infections,

exposure management in healthcare and research settings, nosocomial infection prevention, and adult immunization programs. She appears to be a "lifer" at Penn where she completed medical school, residency and fellowship training, and was elected to the Academy of Master Clinicians in 2018. A fellow of both the American College of Physicians and the American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, she is a past Chair, current Board Member, and enthusiastic member of ACOEM's Medical Center Occupational Health Section. She is active in the Mid-Atlantic Regional College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (MARCOEM), and she represents ACOEM in the Vaccine Integrity Project's current Respiratory Virus Evidence Review (2026-27 Respiratory Season | Vaccine Integrity Project)

3:15 PM – 3:30 PM CT Session 4 Q&A

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM CT Optimizing Worker Health, Safety, and Well-being – Implementing Lifestyle Medicine Within a Total Worker Health Framework

Annemieke De Wilde, MD, MPH, FACOEM, DipABLM, Mani Berenji, MD MPH FACOEM, Robert K. McLellan, MD, MPH

When organizations bring together the right data, lifestyle medicine evidence, and the complementary expertise of Occupational Medicine experts in worker health, benefits leaders, and other organizational stakeholders, they create a powerful team-based approach to improving workforce health and productivity.

This session will review

• strategic blueprint to implement lifestyle medicine in the workplace using a Total Worker Health Framework. The blueprint was co-developed in 2026 with a team of lifestyle medicine and occupational medicine physicians, sponsored by ACOEM's section "Optimizing worker health" (previously Health and Productivity Management) and the American College of Lifestyle Medicine's special interest group "Lifestyle Medicine in the Workplace'.

• How to utilize this practical blueprint to translate the science and principles of lifestyle medicine and TWH into scalable, sustainable strategies and programs to shape organizational approaches to optimize working population's health.

• By linking interventions with metrics, the toolkit approach ensures credibility, consistency, and measurable impact.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe why this topic is so relevant for today's and the future workforce. Time will be dedicated to describing the current state of health among workers, how intervention is needed to change the direction of workers' health, and why workplaces are uniquely positioned to create this change.
2. Define what can be achieved when expertise from two disciplines combines with functional organizational expertise, adopt score frameworks and methodologies, and creates a strong culture of health.
3. List how 5 key design elements and 7 roadmap steps can be used to implement sustainable programs to change health.

Annemieke De Wilde, MD, MPH, FACOEM, DipABLM is a board certified Occupational and Lifestyle Medicine physician with global experience, applying systems-based approaches to deliver occupational health and optimize workforce health. She has led programs across diverse regulatory environments and industries at Fortune 500 companies, most recently as Chief Medical Officer for Dow. As a fractional Medical Director for multinational companies, she advances the quality and impact of their occupational medicine programs. Dr. De Wilde serves on ACOEM's "Optimizing Worker Health" Section focusing on embedding Lifestyle Medicine into health and productivity management within organizations. She volunteers in her local community to advance population health, including as chair of MyMichigan Health Systems' safety and quality committee and as champion of the Midland Area Wellbeing Coalition.

Dr. Berenji is a double board-certified physician specializing in Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Preventive Medicine. She is currently the Chief of Occupational Health at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System. She also leads the Environmental Health Clinic at VA Long Beach Healthcare System, conducting exposure assessments for veterans (including Agent Orange, Gulf War, and Open Burn Pit registry exams). She is co-Lead for AI with the VA Southwest regional healthcare network, helping to accelerate AI integration into clinical operations system-wide. She is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of

Occupational and Environmental Medicine at UC Irvine School of Medicine as well as an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Wen School of Public Health. She is the Lead of Academic and Community Partnerships with the University of California Center for Climate, Health and Equity, where she is spearheading efforts to enhance academic and industry partnerships; evaluating new methodologies to enhance emergency preparedness surrounding climate-related events; working with community leaders on identifying practical climate solutions; and developing climate curricula for medical students and residents. She is currently pursuing board eligibility in Clinical Informatics through the American Board of Preventive Medicine's Practice Pathway. She is also a certified medico-legal evaluator and qualified medical examiner in the state of California.

Robert McLellan is an Emeritus Professor at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth. He has over 40 years of experience as a consultant and clinician addressing environmental health issues at work and in the community. He has chaired several ACOEM committees, including the Environmental Medicine Committee, and helped create ACOEM's initial environmental medicine core curriculum. He served as the president of both ACOEM and NECOEM. Most recently, he retired as the Chief of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at Dartmouth Health. Dr. McLellan's work at the national and regional levels focuses on opportunities to understand and manage the relationships between work, the environment, and health. To further this work, he has served in several leadership roles, including as co-chair of the National Academy of Medicine Action Collaborative on Business Engagement in Building Healthy Communities and as one of the founders of the Society for Total Worker Health. He currently serves on the NH Governor's Advisory Council for the Recovery Friendly Workplace, ACOEM's Council on Government Affairs, the New Hampshire Healthy Climate Advisory Board, and the Faculty Advisory Board of the Irving Institute for Energy and Society at Dartmouth. Dr. McLellan has written extensively and lectured nationwide and internationally on various issues in occupational and environmental medicine and has taught environmental health courses at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth for 20 years. He is a co-author of the recently published Guidebook for Bringing Lifestyle Medicine into Workplaces. He has been the

Virtual Summit 2026

Principal Investigator of several occupational and environmental medicine grants and was a co-recipient of the NIOSH's NORA (National Occupational Research Agenda) award for innovative research. He is the recipient of numerous other awards, including ACOEM's Lifetime Achievement Award, the NIOSH Total Worker Health® Founder's Award, and the Harriet Hardy Award from NECOEM

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM CT	Session 5 Q&A

Virtual Summit 2026

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026 | Looking Ahead/The Future of OEM

11:30 AM – 11: 35 AM CT Welcome

11:35 AM – 12:15 PM CT What the future of AI Holds for Occupational Medicine*

Ismail Nabeel, MD, MPH FACOEM, Yohama A. Caraballo-Arias, MD, FACOEM

Artificial intelligence (AI) applications have exploded in recent years. We all interact with AI, intentionally or not. In this session we will explore and demonstrate several AI tools that are currently available for use in OEM practice. As we prepare for a future incorporating AI even more, we will consider the impact of AI on the health and wellbeing of workers, and the ethical and sustainability challenges we will face.

Learning Objectives

1. Examine practical applications of artificial intelligence (AI) in OEM clinical practice, academics and research, focusing on evidence-based clinical utility.
2. Analyze ethical, regulatory, and patient privacy considerations associated with implementing AI-driven tools in healthcare.
3. Evaluate the sustainability, feasibility, and resource allocation associated with deploying AI infrastructure to support OEM practice.

Dr. Nabeel is a professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine. He specializes in internal medicine, occupational and environmental medicine, clinical and bioinformatics, with a deep commitment to advancing the health and well-being of workers and diverse populations through innovative perspectives and solutions. A pioneer in integrating information technology into healthcare, Dr. Nabeel leverages artificial intelligence, large language models (LLMs), and unstructured data analysis from electronic health records to revolutionize clinical practices in occupational and environmental medicine. His groundbreaking work enhances diagnostic and treatment protocols, facilitating comprehensive, data-driven strategies to mitigate health risks in diverse work environments. Dr. Nabeel serves a clinical role at the Selikoff Center for Occupational Health and the WTC Health Program taking care of the first responders affected by

the World Trade Center tragedy. Additionally, he produces the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's podcast, "OccPod," which delves into a wide range of topics, from artificial intelligence to climate conversations—within the field of occupational and environmental medicine

Dr. Yohama Caraballo-Arias is an occupational physician, active member of the Council of Scientific Advisors of the American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine for the period 2019-2020, and currently actings as Coordinator of the Adhered Center of the Ibero-American Cochrane Network at Universidad Central de Venezuela. Appointed as the Venezuelan National Secretary by the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) for the triennium 2018-2021. Dr. Yohama is a lecturer, writer, and a former associate professor at Universidad Central de Venezuela (UCV). Staff member of the Learning and Development on Occupational Health (LDOH) Foundation. Received the National Award for Risk Prevention "Alberto Montaño" 2010. Yohama was an advisor to the Instituto Nacional de Prevención, Salud y Seguridad Laborales (INPSASEL). Founder of Mundo Ocupacional C.A.

12:15 PM – 12:30 PM CT Session 1 Q&A

12:30 PM – 1:15 PM CT How to construct an AI prompt: workshop*

Ismail Nabeel, MD, MPH FACOEM

Artificial intelligence (AI) applications have exploded in recent years, but the utility of these tools depends entirely on the quality of the input. To move beyond generic responses, healthcare providers must master "Prompt Engineering." In this interactive workshop, we will move from theory to practice, teaching OEM providers how to write high-quality prompts that yield clinically relevant and accurate results. By focusing on specificity, medical terminology, and iterative refinement, participants will learn to transform AI into a precision tool for their practice. We will conclude by discussing the "Human in the Loop" necessity ensuring that as AI evolves, the physician remains the ultimate authority on patient care and ethical oversight

Virtual Summit 2026

Learning Objectives

1. Apply advanced prompting frameworks to OEM clinical cases by incorporating specific practice backgrounds, detailed patient contexts, and precise medical terminology to increase output accuracy.
2. Develop a systematic workflow for "challenging the response," learning how to use iterative follow-up questions and verification techniques to audit AI-generated data and identify potential hallucinations.
3. Synthesize the role of "The Human in the Loop," evaluating the ethical balance between AI efficiency and the necessity of human clinical judgment and personal patient interaction in a future-state OEM practice.

Dr. Nabeel is a professor in the Department of Environmental Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine. He specializes in internal medicine, occupational and environmental medicine, clinical and bioinformatics, with a deep commitment to advancing the health and well-being of workers and diverse populations through innovative perspectives and solutions. A pioneer in integrating information technology into healthcare, Dr. Nabeel leverages artificial intelligence, large language models (LLMs), and unstructured data analysis from electronic health records to revolutionize clinical practices in occupational and environmental medicine. His groundbreaking work enhances diagnostic and treatment protocols, facilitating comprehensive, data-driven strategies to mitigate health risks in diverse work environments. Dr. Nabeel serves a clinical role at the Selikoff Center for Occupational Health and the WTC Health Program taking care of the first responders affected by the World Trade Center tragedy. Additionally, he produces the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's podcast, "OccPod," which delves into a wide range of topics, from artificial intelligence to climate conversations—within the field of occupational and environmental medicine

1:15 PM – 1:30 PM CT Session 2 Q&A

1:30 PM – 1:40 PM CT Break

Virtual Summit 2026

1:40 PM – 2:25 PM CT

Integrating Climate, AI, NCD Prevention, Psychosocial Stress, and the Exposome in Modern OEM Practice*

Janvier Gasana, MD MPH PhD, Mani Berenji, MD MPH FACOEM, Rosandra Walker, MD DipABLM

This virtual presentation explores how major global forces—climate change, extreme weather, environmental exposures, artificial intelligence, lifestyle-related NCDs, and psychosocial stress—are transforming risk assessment and prevention in Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM). Participants will examine how these emerging pressures interact with workplace conditions and worker vulnerabilities, and how AI and exposome-based exposure science can enhance surveillance, early detection, and NCD prevention. The session highlights practical, evidence-based OEM strategies to address unhealthy behaviors, reduce psychosocial stress, and integrate clinical, environmental, and organizational approaches to build a more resilient and health-promoting workforce.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe how emerging global forces - including climate change, extreme weather events, and environmental exposures - interact with workplace conditions to influence occupational and environmental medicine (OEM) risk profiles and worker health outcomes.
2. Explain the role of modern tools such as artificial intelligence (AI), exposome-based exposure science, and digital technologies in enhancing OEM practice, including surveillance, risk prediction, early detection, and prevention of NCDs.
3. Identify evidence-based strategies for addressing unhealthy lifestyle-related NCDs and psychosocial stress in diverse worker populations and outline practical OEM-driven interventions that integrate clinical, environmental, and workplace-based prevention approaches.

Professor Janvier Gasana is a triple-qualified expert (MD, MPH, PhD) in Environmental and Occupational Health/Medicine (EOH/M). As President/CEO of Florida-based GAPCI (Global Applied Prevention Center Inc.), he champions primordial

prevention globally. His leadership spans three continents, including founding EOH departments at Florida International University and Kuwait University. A veteran consultant for the WHO, World Bank, and USAID, he specializes in high-impact training like 1) the GHS/SDS modules, 2) Exposure Assessment through Exposomic Exposure Science, 3) ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance), and 4) Occupational, Environmental, Behavioral (OEB) Pathways that lead to NCDs (Non-Communicable Diseases). Recently honored by the Society of Occupational Medicine (2025) for outstanding global contributions, he remains a key influencer in EOH research and practice, presenting at ACOEM & ICOH to promote occupational health capacity building in the underserved areas of the globe. Demonstrating a deep personal commitment, Prof. Gasana practices a daily whole-body workout, successfully reducing his biological age by 10 years.

Dr. Berenji is a double board-certified physician specializing in Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Preventive Medicine. She is currently the Chief of Occupational Health at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System. She also leads the Environmental Health Clinic at VA Long Beach Healthcare System, conducting exposure assessments for veterans (including Agent Orange, Gulf War, and Open Burn Pit registry exams). She is co-Lead for AI with the VA Southwest regional healthcare network, helping to accelerate AI integration into clinical operations system-wide. She is an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine at UC Irvine School of Medicine as well as an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Wen School of Public Health. She is the Lead of Academic and Community Partnerships with the University of California Center for Climate, Health and Equity, where she is spearheading efforts to enhance academic and industry partnerships; evaluating new methodologies to enhance emergency preparedness surrounding climate-related events; working with community leaders on identifying practical climate solutions; and developing climate curricula for medical students and residents. She is currently pursuing board eligibility in Clinical Informatics through the American Board of Preventive Medicine's Practice Pathway. She is also a certified medico-legal evaluator and qualified medical examiner in the state of California.

Dr. Rosandra Walker is a transformational leader in health, safety, and well-being. She holds double board certification in Occupational & Environmental Medicine and Lifestyle Medicine and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Public Health (Total Worker Health®). Dr. Walker champions holistic and innovative solutions to workplace health, safety, and well-being. Her experience includes leadership roles for various organizations, such as the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM), American College of Lifestyle Medicine (ACLM), Association of Clinicians for the Underserved (ACU), and founding advisory board member of the Society for Total Worker Health. She been recognized with honors such as the ACU Excellence in Health Equity Award, ACLM H.E.A.L. Scholarship, Nathan Sostrin Unbeatable Mind Scholarship, Quality Improvement Research Award, Claude Organ Research Award, and several other academic and service awards. Her work spans internationally, including community health work in Haiti and medical capacity building in Vietnam. She is a sought-after speaker, presenting at venues nationally and internationally.

2:25 PM – 2:40 PM CT Session 3 Q&A

2:40 PM – 3:25 PM CT Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Substance Use Disorder in Occupational and Environmental Medicine*
Dominik S. Dabrowski, MD, MPH

AOHC 2026 had much to say about the future of OEM and how it will be impacted by Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI has capabilities of detecting Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and tracking progress of affected patients. In the context of the workplace, there is a potentially robust infrastructure of human and AI-led intervention to assure that detection, treatment and even prevention can be achieved. Employers and employees impacted by SUD both stand to benefit.

Learning Objectives

1. Identify emerging narcotic threats to public health.
2. Identify gaps in addiction treatment.

3. Familiarize with potential solutions to addiction treatment that can be driven by artificial intelligence for clinicians and companies

Dr. Dabrowski completed his Occupational and Environmental Medicine residency at HealthPartners in Minnesota. Afterwards he completed an Addiction Medicine fellowship at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He then worked at the Environmental Medicine department of Mount Sinai in New York City. He is currently the medical director of the Naval Nuclear Laboratory in capitol region of New York.

3:25 PM – 3:40 PM CT Session 4 Q&A

3:40 PM – 4:25 PM CT Training, Identity, and the Future of Occupational Medicine: Why We Need a Paradigm Shift, Not Paradigm Drift
Tufail Q. Shaikh, MD

Occupational medicine is not facing a crisis of need; it is facing a crisis of differentiation. As workplace hazards, regulatory demands, fitness-for-duty questions, disability issues, and emerging risks continue to evolve, the specialty's clinical core must become stronger—not more diffuse. This session examines how fragmented training, weak professional identity, and easy substitution by non-specialists may contribute to a decline in perceived relevance. It introduces an "irreplaceability test" for occupational medicine as a clinical specialty and explores how expansion into adjacent fields can lead to paradigm drift when the specialty's core is not reinforced. The session concludes with a framework for rebuilding occupational medicine's clinical core within the broader field of occupational health, including stronger specialist training and structured pathways for routine occupational health practice.

Learning Objectives

1. Describe how fragmented training and weak specialist differentiation may contribute to declining perceived relevance in occupational medicine.
2. Apply an irreplaceability framework to identify the clinical core functions of occupational medicine.

3. Discuss structural options to strengthen occupational medicine training, professional identity, and role differentiation.

Dr. Tufail Shaikh is board-certified in Preventive Medicine and Occupational Medicine and is a Fellow of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. His career includes clinical occupational medicine practice, medical education, occupational health program development, and healthcare leadership. He has held leadership roles in occupational medicine professional organizations and teaches at academic medical centers. His experience across corporate occupational health, academic medicine, and consulting provides a broad perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing occupational medicine today.

4:25 PM – 4:40 PM CT Session 5 Q&A & Virtual Summit Wrap Up

** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a new and evolving topic. This session will help facilitate engagement with the topic without advocating for, or promoting, practices that are not, or not yet adequately based on current science, evidence, and clinical reasoning.*

Program subject to change.

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Wed, Nov 4	Thu, Nov 5	Fri, Nov 6
5.75	4.75	5

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Faculty

**No relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.*

Mani Berenji, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Michael Berneking, MD
Marco Britton, MD, MPH, CMLE
Yohama Caraballo-Arias, MPH
Dominik Dabrowski, MD, MPH
Annemieke De Wilde, MD, MPH, FACOEM, DipABLM
Eytan Ellenberg, MD, MPH, PhD
Janvier Gasana, MD, MPH, PhD
Nasrin Kazemi, MD, PHD, MPH
Stephen Liang, MD, MPHS
Robert McLellan, MD, MPH
Ismail Nabeel, MD, MPH, FACOEM
Mohannad Saeed, MD
Tufail Shaikh, MD
Mary Townsend, DrPH, MPH

Amy Behrman, MD, FACOEM
Disclosure: Speaker: Medscape (ended); Consultant: Moderna (ended)

Rose Goldman, MD, MPH
Disclosure: Advisor: Satya Technologies; Royalties (or Patent beneficiary): UpToDate

Planning Committee

All planners have nothing to disclose for this activity.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thank you to the following planning committee members for their time and effort in developing the Virtual Summit program:

Melanie Swift, MD, MPH, FACOEM (Chair)
Aisha S. Chaudhry (COEAA Co-Chair)
Ahmed Aly Albadry Elsayed Ahmed, MBBCH, MSC, PhD, FACOEM
Pam Snyder, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC
Jeremy Berger, DO, MPH, MS
Sajjad Savul, MD, MS, FACOEM (COEAA Chair)
Melanie Hayes, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

enterprisehealth

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