

# ACHD

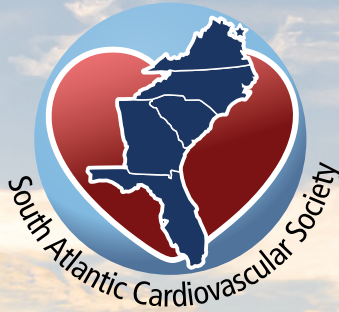
## SYMPOSIUM

# 2026

**SOUTH ATLANTIC CARDIOVASCULAR SOCIETY**  
ALONG WITH  
**ADVOCATE HEALTH**

PRESENT  
**ADVOCATE HEALTH SACS ACHD SYMPOSIUM**  
July 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**OMNI AMELIA ISLAND RESORT, FL**





## AN INVITATION FROM THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR ACHD

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that the Organizing Committee invites you to participate in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Advocate Health SACS ACHD Symposium, to be held July 17–18, 2026, at the beautiful Omni Amelia Island Resort in Amelia Island, Florida.

This year's symposium will focus on critical and evolving areas in the care of adults with congenital heart disease, featuring case-based, interactive sessions designed to stimulate discussion, deepen clinical understanding, and support multidisciplinary collaboration.

Featured topics for 2026 include:

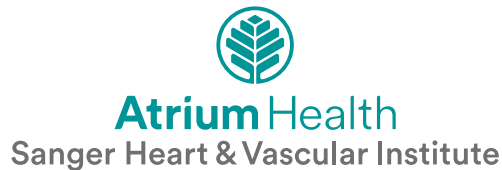
- ACHD Electrophysiology
- ACHD High-Risk Surgery

Each session will center around complex ACHD cases that highlight real-world challenges and evolving best practices. Our goal is to enhance clinical expertise, strengthen team-based approaches, and foster a collaborative community committed to improving outcomes for adults with congenital heart disease.

We look forward to your presence and contributions at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Advocate Health SACS ACHD Symposium on Amelia Island in 2026!

Jorge Alegria, MD (Chairman)  
Randy Bryant, MD  
Michael G. Earing, MD  
Alexander Ellis, MD  
Arwa Saidi, MB

# 2025 Atrium Health SACS ACHD Symposium Supporting Institutions



## Chicagoland Children's Health Alliance



## ACHD Luncheon Sponsors



If you would like to support the ACHD Meeting through a sponsorship or grant, please reach out to Heather Mahaffey at [heather@sacsconference.com](mailto:heather@sacsconference.com) or 404-933-2816.



Outside of the educational sessions, the social activities are a very important part of the conference, providing opportunities for families to come together in a relaxed, laid-back setting.



## CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT INFORMATION CE ACCREDITATION

In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Amedco LLC and South Atlantic Cardiovascular Society (SACS). Amedco 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.

Amedco Joint Accreditation #4008163.



JOINTLY ACCREDITED PROVIDER™  
INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

## ABOUT SACS

The South Atlantic Cardiovascular Society (SACS) is a not-for-profit, professional organization that works to promote the advancement of current knowledge and skills in the field of cardiovascular care, and improve cardiac patient care.

We accomplish this by providing an environment at our Atrium Health SACS ACHD Symposium which encourages cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, and APPs to engage in discussions regarding the optimal treatment of cardiac conditions – whether medical or surgical. SACS is governed by a Steering Committee of distinguished cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, and advanced practice providers. When developing each year's program, the committee strives to identify and address the challenges cardiac care professionals face in their daily work, balancing this with a look for a future filled with evolving technologies.

The core of the organization is comprised of cardiac-care professionals in the South Atlantic states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and the District of Columbia. However, SACS is open to all cardiac healthcare professionals.



# ADVOCATE HEALTH SACS ACHD SYMPOSIUM

Tentative; subject to change

## FRIDAY, JULY 17<sup>TH</sup>

12:20pm – 1:20pm  
Lunch Symposium

1:20pm – 1:25pm  
Welcome  
Jorge Alegria, MD &  
Michael Earing, MD

1:25pm – 1:50pm  
ALCAPA in the Adult  
Speaker: Frank Cetta, MD  
(Advocate Chicago)  
Moderators: Thomas Maxey, MD  
(Sanger/Levine) &  
Jorge Alegria, MD (Sanger/Levine)

1:50pm – 2:20pm  
Perioperative Risk in Adults  
with Congenital Heart Disease  
Undergoing Cardiac Surgery  
Speakers: Fernando Baraona, MD  
(BACH) & Chris Valle, MD (BACH)  
Moderators: James Monaco, MD  
(Advocate Chicago);  
Angela Weingarten, MD (Vanderbilt)  
& Ziv Beckerman, MD (Vanderbilt)

2:20pm – 2:50pm  
Robotic Cardiac Surgery for  
Congenital Heart Defects  
Speaker: Mac Felmy, MD (MUSC)  
Moderators: Pedro del Nido, MD  
(Boston) & David Bichell, MD  
(Vanderbilt)

2:50pm – 3:00pm  
Refreshment Break

3:00pm – 3:30pm  
Arrhythmia Management & ICD  
Use in ACHD  
Speaker: Frank Zimmerman, MD  
(Advocate Chicago)  
Moderators: Ron Kanter, MD  
(Nicklaus Children's Hospital) &  
Mohammed Al-Mousily, MD (UF)

3:30pm – 4:00pm  
Complex Ascending Aorta  
Replacement in ACHD  
Speaker: Luca Vricella, MD  
(Advocate Chicago)  
Moderators: Matt Lisi, MD (Wake  
Forest); John Frederick, MD  
(Sanger) & Umar Boston, MD (UVA)

4:00pm – 4:25pm  
Device and Ablation Strategies  
in Complex ACHD Patients  
Speaker: Mitch Cohen, MD (NOVA)  
Moderators: Mohammed  
Al-Mousily, MD (UF) &  
Frank Fish, MD (Vanderbilt)

4:25pm – 4:50pm  
Should all TOF Patients Have  
EP Study Prior to PVR?  
Speaker: Ron Kanter, MD (Nicklaus  
Children's Hospital)  
Moderators: Frank Fish, MD  
(Vanderbilt); Mike Earing, MD  
(Advocate Chicago) &  
Alexander Ellis, MD (Children's  
Hospital of The King's Daughters)

4:50pm – 5:00pm  
Brief Break

5:00pm – 5:30pm  
ACHD Cardio Obstetrics  
Speakers: Anne Marie Valente, MD  
(Boston) & Kathy Economy, MD  
(Boston)  
Moderators: Arwa Saidi, MB (UF);  
Andrew Schwartz, MD (Levine/  
Sanger) & Alexander Ellis, MD  
(Children's Hospital of the King's  
Daughters)

5:30pm – 5:35pm  
Closing Remarks  
Jorge Alegria, MD



# ADVOCATE HEALTH SACS ACHD SYMPOSIUM

Tentative; subject to change



## SATURDAY, JULY 18<sup>TH</sup>

12:15pm – 1:15pm  
Lunch Symposium

1:20pm – 1:25pm  
Welcome

Arwa Saidi, MB (UF) &  
Alexander Ellis, MD (Children's  
Hospital of The King's Daughters)

1:25pm – 2:10pm  
Thinking Differently About  
the Fontan Procedure

Speaker: Pedro del Nido, MD  
(Boston Children's Hospital)  
Moderators: David Bichell, MD  
(Vanderbilt); Thomas Maxey, MD  
(Sanger/Levine) &  
Umar Boston, MD (UVA)

2:10pm – 3:00pm  
Transplantation in the Adult  
Fontan – Lessons Learned

Speakers: David Bichell, MD  
(Vanderbilt) & Ziv Beckerman, MD  
(Vanderbilt)  
Moderators: Luca Vricella, MD  
(Advocate Chicago); Alexander  
Ellis, MD (Children's Hospital of The  
King's Daughters) & Mike Earing,  
MD (Advocate Chicago)

3:00pm – 3:10pm  
Refreshment Break

3:10pm – 3:30pm  
Interesting ACHD Case

Speakers: Christina Thaler, MD  
(Emory) & Rusty Rodriguez, MD  
(Emory)  
Moderators: Richard Krasuski, MD  
(Duke) & Benjamin Peeler, MD  
(Ochsner)

3:30pm – 4:00pm  
Role of Endovascular  
Interventions in Congenital  
Aortic Arch Anomalies

Speaker: Frank Arko, MD (Sanger)  
Moderators: Ranjan Banerjee, MD  
(Sanger/Levine); Luca Vricella, MD  
(Advocate Chicago) &  
Andrew Schwartz, MD (Levine/  
Sanger)

4:00pm – 4:30pm  
ACHD EP: Abandon or  
Extract?: Lead Management  
in ACHD, a Case-Based  
Approach

Speaker: Mohammed  
Al-Mously, MD (UF)  
Moderators: Mitch Cohen, MD  
(INOVA) & Frank Zimmerman, MD  
(Advocate Chicago)

4:30pm – 5:00pm  
Transvenous and Leadless  
Pacing in the Extracardiac  
Fontan

Speaker: Frank Fish, MD (Vanderbilt)  
Moderators: Alexander Ellis, MD  
(Children's Hospital of The King's  
Daughters); Ron Kanter, MD  
(Nicklaus Children's Hospital) &  
Frank Zimmerman, MD (Advocate  
Chicago)

5:00pm – 5:10pm  
Brief Break

5:10pm – 5:40pm  
What's New in EP? New  
Devices and Technologies  
in Congenital/ACHD EP  
(Case-Based Presentation)

Speaker: Mitch Cohen, MD (INOVA)  
Moderators: Angela Weingarten, MD  
(Vanderbilt);  
Richard Krasuski, MD (Duke) &  
Frank Fish, MD (Vanderbilt)

5:40pm  
Closing Remarks

Jorge Alegria, MD (Sanger Heart &  
Vascular Institute, Levine Children's  
Hospital, Atrium Health)  
Michael Earing, MD (Advocate  
Chicago) & Thomas Maxey, MD  
(Sanger/Levine)

# 2026 VENUE: OMNI AMELIA ISLAND RESORT

To receive the discounted rate for SACS, you can use the booking links below OR you may call the Reservations Desk at 1-800-843-6664 and state you are with the South Atlantic Cardiovascular Society Meeting.

**Hotel - SACS Annual Meeting 2026 | Omni Amelia Island Resort & Spa | Omni Hotels & Resorts**

**Villas - SACS Annual Meeting 2026 | The Villas of Amelia Island | Amelia Island Vacation Rentals**

## HOTEL

Oceanfront Hotel Guestroom	\$289
Oceanfront Hotel Executive Suite	\$589

## VILLAS

Oceanfront Villa Guestroom	\$289
Oceanfront One-Bedroom Villa	\$329
Oceanfront Two-Bedroom Villa	\$469
Oceanfront Three-Bedroom Villa	\$539
Resort View Guest Room	\$244
Resort View One-Bedroom Villa	\$269
Resort View Two-Bedroom Villa	\$429
Resort View Three-Bedroom Villa	\$539

*Please note the rates above do not include taxes or Resort Fee.*

*Please make your housing reservations as soon as possible. The deadline is June 23, 2026, but we expect our block to sell out before then.*

## OCEANFRONT EXECUTIVE SUITE BEDROOM





OCEANFRONT BEDROOM



## REGISTRATION

Click [HERE](#) to Register to Attend or visit [www.sacsconference.com](http://www.sacsconference.com).  
If you have questions please contact [heather@sacsconference.com](mailto:heather@sacsconference.com).



END SUITE SITTING AREA