



3rd Annual Robotic Surgery for Pediatric Surgeons: Program Development and Beyond

August 20 to 22, 2025

*Nationwide Children's Hospital Conference Center
Columbus, OH*



**Endorsed by
International Pediatric Endosurgery Group**



NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S®
When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

Conference Location

Nationwide Children's Hospital Conference Center
520 Butterfly Gardens Drive
Columbus, OH 43215

Intended Audience

This continuing medical education program is designed to meet the educational needs of pediatric general and thoracic surgery, pediatric urology and perioperative staff.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this activity, participants should be able to:

- Provide a comprehensive overview of clinical case scenarios amenable to the use of robotic technology
- Review programmatic logistics including institutional support, personnel training, credentialing and quality control
- Review multidisciplinary team building

Conference Planning Committee

Co-Chairs

Karen Diefenbach, MD

Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA

Erica Rey, BSN, RN, CPN

Jennifer Smith, BSN, RN, CNOR,
RNFA

Tracy Sferra, MS

Katelynn Watts

Robert Shepherd, BA

Additional Information

Tracy Sferra, MS Lead

Tracy.Sferra@NationwideChildrens.org

(614) 355-0682

Accreditation

In support of improving patient care, Nationwide Children's Hospital 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.

Credit Designation Statement

The Nationwide Children's Hospital designates this live activity for a maximum of *7.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*[™]. Physicians should claim only credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Faculty Disclosure

Nationwide Children's Hospital requires individuals in a position to control content of an educational activity to disclose to the learners all relevant financial relationships that they have with any commercial interest. The intent of this policy is to ensure accredited activities promote quality and safety, are effective in improving medical practice, are based on valid content, and are independent of control from commercial interests and free of commercial bias. All relevant conflicts were mitigated prior to participation in the activity. In addition, all faculty were instructed to provide balanced, scientifically rigorous, and evidence-based presentations.

Registration



NationwideChildrens.cloud-cme.com/ROBOTICS25

Early Bird Discount

Register by July 1 for early bird registration rates.

Group Discount 20% discount for groups of 3 or more registrants (virtual or in person day 1) from a single institution; please contact RoboticSurgeryConference@NationwideChildrens.org for more information.

REGISTRATION CLOSES WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations received in writing no less than 20 days before the course will be refunded, less a 20% administrative fee. No refunds will be made on cancellations received after that date. Please send cancellation requests to IPCE@NationwideChildrens.org.

Co-Chairs



Karen Diefenbach, MD*

Professor of Clinical Surgery and Pediatrics
The Ohio State University, College of Medicine
Director, Minimally Invasive Surgery
Associate Director, Center for Robotic Surgery
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio



Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA*

Professor of Clinical Surgery and Pediatrics
The Ohio State University, College of Medicine
Surgical Director, Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition Director,
Center for Robotic Surgery
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio

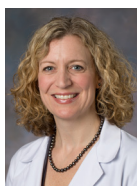
Keynote



Steven Rothenberg, MD

Chief of Pediatric Surgery
Rocky Mountain Hospital For Children
Professor of Clinical Surgery
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons
Denver, Colorado

Faculty



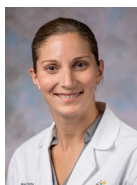
Jennifer Aldrink, MD

Professor of Clinical Surgery and Pediatrics
The Ohio State University, College of Medicine
Director of Surgical Oncology
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio



Daniel DaJusta, MD

Clinical Associate Professor of Urology
The Ohio State University, College of Medicine
Director of Urology- Center for Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio



Molly Fuchs, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor of Urology
The Ohio State University, College of Medicine
Director, Clinical Operations – Pediatric Urology
Center for Colorectal and Pelvic Reconstruction
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio



Carroll (Mac) Harmon, MD, PhD

John E Fisher Professor of Surgery
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
Chief of Surgery, Kaleida Health, Surgeon-in-Chief, John R. Oishei
Children's Hospital, Buffalo, New York



Jonathan Hills-Dunlap, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Surgery
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Director, Robotic Surgery Center
Children's Hospital Colorado
Aurora, Colorado



John Meehan, MD

Associate Professor of Surgery
University of Washington School of Medicine
Director, Robotic Surgery Center
Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle, Washington



Jennifer Smith, BSN, RN, CNOR, RNFA*

Robotics Coordinator, Operating Room
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, Ohio



Irving Zamora, MD, FACS

Assistant Professor
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee

*Planning Committee Member

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

7:15 - 8:00 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast
7:45 - 8:00 a.m.	Course Introduction <i>Karen Diefenbach, MD</i> <i>Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA</i>
8:00 - 8:15 a.m.	History of Robotic Surgery in Pediatrics <i>Carroll (Mac) Harmon, MD, PhD</i>
Clinical Case Presentations	
8:15 - 8:40 a.m.	Obesity Surgery <i>Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA</i>
8:40 - 9:15 a.m.	Foregut Surgery <i>Karen Diefenbach, MD</i>
9:15- 9:35 a.m.	Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery <i>Irving Zamora, MD, FACS</i>
9:35-10:05 a.m.	Panel Discussion
10:05-10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15-10:35 a.m.	Thoracic Surgery <i>Jennifer Aldrink, MD</i>
10:35-10:50 a.m.	Abdominal Wall/Inguinal Hernia Repair <i>Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA</i>
10:50 - 11:10 a.m.	Management of IBD <i>Jonathan Hills-Dunlap, MD, MPH</i>
11:10-11:35 a.m.	GU for the General Surgeon <i>Daniel DaJusta, MD</i> <i>Molly Fuchs, MD</i>
11:35 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion
12:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Keynote Address: Robotic Integration Into An Advanced MIS Practice <i>Steven Rothenberg, MD</i>
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch

Program Building and Development

1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Infinite Possibilities <i>John Meehan, MD (non-CME talk)</i>
2:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Program Development: Training, Credentialing, Institutional Support <i>Karen Diefenbach, MD</i> <i>Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA</i>
2:30 - 2:50 p.m.	Room Setup Efficiency and Personnel <i>Jennifer Smith, BSN, RN, CNOR, RNFA</i>
2:50 - 3:10 p.m.	Considerations for Robotics in the Pediatric Patient <i>Karen Diefenbach, MD</i>
3:10 - 3:40 p.m.	Panel Discussion
3:40 - 3:50 p.m.	Break
3:50 - 4:10 p.m.	What Does the Future Hold <i>Carroll (Mac) Harmon, MD, PhD</i>
4:10 - 4:30 p.m.	Final Discussions and Closing Remarks <i>Karen Diefenbach, MD</i> <i>Marc Michalsky, MD, MBA</i>

Hands-on Lab Sessions (choose one lab session):

University Laboratory - The Ohio State University - Wiseman Hall
400 W. 12th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210

Wednesday, August 20

- 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Friday, August 22

- 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Operative Case Scenarios

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Equipment Orientation
(Port Placement, Docking,
Instruments) | 3. Esophagomyotomy |
| 2. Cholecystectomy | 4. Fundoplication |
| | 5. Splenectomy |





Nationwide Children's Hospital
700 Children's Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43205

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