



VOLUME IX / SUMMER 2026

INDUSTRY PARTNER NEWS

2026 ANNUAL MEETING

**September 11-13, 2026****The Austin Marriott Downtown, 304 East Cesar Chavez Street**

The AVAHO Annual Meeting 2026 will take place in vibrant Austin, Texas, bringing together healthcare professionals dedicated to serving veterans with cancer. This premier event offers a dynamic platform for sharing research, best practices, and innovations in oncology care within the VA system. Attendees can look forward to engaging educational sessions, collaborative networking opportunities, and the unique energy of Austin's cultural scene—all in support of advancing veteran health outcomes.

2026 MEETING INFORMATION

Strengthening the Community

GENERAL SESSIONS

- KeyNote: Challenges & Future Directions in HCC Surveillance
- Next Generation Navigation
- VA Research
- Head and Neck Tumor Board

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- Advanced Diagnosis and Management of Plasma Cell Dyscrasias
- ICI Toxicity: Screening, Recognition, and Management
- Obtaining & Maintaining COC Accreditation
- Symptom Burden & Available Treatments in Neuro-Oncology
- Determining Decisional Capacity in Patients with Cancer
- Pharmacogenomics Implications in GI Cancer
- Useful Clinical Resources
- Intersection of Psychiatry & Toxic Exposures in Veterans



POSTER SESSIONS

2 Poster Sessions will be offered this year
Friday Mid Morning & Saturday Afternoon

NETWORKING

Make the most of your AVAHO experience by networking

- during meals and scheduled breaks
- free time on Friday 4:30-6:30 and 4:30-7:00 on Saturday

IMPORTANT EXHIBITOR INFORMATION**EXHIBITS ARE SOLD OUT**

- All coordination for your company registration will be done by your Company Lead. Only Company Leads will be able to register exhibitors for badges.
- Only registered Exhibit staff and IRC Members will receive badges for the meeting.
- Exhibitors will receive the number of badges aligned with the exhibitor level sponsorship.
- We will NOT be selling any individual or additional badges to industry attendees.
- The AVAHO Room block at the Austin Marriott Downtown is sold out. There is an overflow block of rooms at the Hyatt House (901 Neches St, Austin, TX 78701). These are available first-come first-serve. Contact joann@avaho.org for access to the registration link.
- Do not wait to reserve your room. There is a big college rivalry football game in town the same weekend and we anticipate that they will go fast and cost more the closer we get to September.

A Special Preconference Opportunity

The Crossroads of Neurology and Oncology

Thursday, September 10, 4-7PM

Join Us!

Topics:**WHO Classification of Primary CNS Neoplasms Update**

Jadee Neff, MD PhD and Karra Jones, MD PhD
Pathology, Duke University

Targeted Therapy for CNS Tumors: Cases from a Military Practice Setting

Major Timothy Gregory, MD, Neuro-Oncology, Madigan Army Medical Center

Autoimmune Neurology of Cancer

Tammy Smith, MD Ph
University of Utah, Department of Neurology

Moderated by Margaret Johnson, Neuro-Oncology, Duke/Durham VA

AVANS will also provide a 1-hour session during the Annual Conference on Neurooncology

CRC REGIONAL

AVAHO's first 2-Day Regional October 23 & 24, 2026

Westin Milwaukee, 550 N Van Buren St.



Non-CE Industry Presentation Friday Evening

AVAHO will offer one presentation slot for a Non-CE symposium. This may be disease state or product-specific.

Interested companies must complete an application for review and approval.

Applications will be evaluated by the AVAHO committee based on the following criteria:

- The proposed topic is particularly relevant to the veteran population/VHA
- The program description adequately describes the content to be presented
- The learning objectives are clear, objective, and well-developed
- The program is relevant for a significant portion of AVAHO multi-specialty members

Applications are available now and due July 22, 2026.

AVAHO is hosting its first 2-day regional in October, 2026. This regional, focused on CRC, is hosted over 2 days to maximize the opportunity for our members to attend. Each day will feature unique topics so attendees will benefit from attending either day or both. This is a test format to help us determine the format for future regional meetings.

The expert faculty presenting at this regional meeting include:

- Dr. Jeremy Kratz
- Dr. Bhaumik Patel
- Dr. Berni Heron
- Dr. Jennifer Weiss
- Dr. Vinay Patel
- Dr. John Swietlik
- Dr. Christina Sanger
- Dr. Jennie Piccolo

These esteemed faculty will cover a variety of topics, including:

- Genetics & Hereditary Cancer Syndromes
- Epigenetic Regulation in CRC
- Screening & Prevention
- Surgical & Locoregional Management
- Nurse Navigation in CRC
- Clinical Pathways Update in Adjuvant Care
- Precision Oncology & Metastatic Disease
- Pharmacogenomics & Toxicity Management
- Case Study Presentation

We encourage exhibitors to register early (registration opens July 20th at noon Eastern) to ensure your spot.

CRC Regional Exhibit Registration Opens Monday, July 8, 2026 NOON EST

- There are a limited number of exhibits available on first-come, first-serve.
- All Exhibits are \$3,000 and come with 2 badges.
- IRC Members are welcome with registration.
- We will have a room block for industry. More information will be coming soon.
- Exhibitor registration will be available through a link on the AVAHO website [here](#).

The AVAHO 2027
Spring Regional Meeting
will focus on

CLINICAL TRIALS

Date and location TBD.
More information will be
available soon.


[LEARN MORE](#)

NEW PODCAST!

Dive into the minds of medical professionals sharing their valuable knowledge, touching stories, and expertise with veteran patients and studies pushing the boundaries on veteran care. Join AVAHO President Dr. Nick Burwick and Executive Director Julie Lawson as they invite guests to share their unique perspectives on timely topics relevant to AVAHO membership. This is education done with care.



The AVAHO Foundation is pleased to have awarded more than \$80,000 in scholarships and research support.

Several scholarships assisted our members in attending certification programs, trainings, and conferences that otherwise would have cost them out-of-pocket. (As a reminder, the VA allows very little professional development stipend to its employees and nearly cut it completely under DOGE in 2025/2026). AVAHO was able to help our members remain competitive in their care of veterans.

AVAHO also funded \$50,000 in research support to provide program supplies and staffing otherwise not afforded by the VA.

It is the Foundation's goal to remove financial barriers that otherwise might keep VA clinicians from providing the most cutting-edge, well-informed care to veterans with cancer. AVAHO looks forward to continuing its support of these important scholarships and awards.

To donate or for more information, contact Julie Lawson at julie@AVAHO.org.

The 2027 Prospectus is Now Available for 2027 Planning

Find out all about the 2027

- Annual meeting
- AVAHO news & updates
- Regional Meeting
- Sponsored Programs
- and more!

More information will be added in late 2026

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS](#)



AVAHO SCAM EMAIL Please beware-- this is not from us!

Help us avoid fraud!

If you have any question at all about an invoice or request for payment, please contact us.

Payment requests will come from JoAnn Wahl or Susan Lentz, and we are happy to confirm before you pay.

----- Forwarded message -----
 From: Mohamed Hussein <kathehanderson@gmail.com>
 Date: Tue, Jun 23, 2026 at 2:30 PM
 Subject: Request For Unpaid/Outstanding Invoices
 To:

I am the new Lead Accountant for AVAHO
 Requesting for all unpaid/outstanding invoices for our statements.

Your prompt response will be highly appreciated

Kind regards,
 Kate Alvin
 Lead Accountant
 AVAHO



Save the Date

AVAHO 2027 ANNUAL MEETING
November 5-7
Miami, FL



Industry-sponsored Non-CE Education Opportunities

AVAHO is open to working with Industry Partners to develop educational programs to benefit members, and to working with Industry to develop a better understanding of the VA landscape, priorities, practices, guidelines, and the needs/expectations of health care providers and patients and their caregivers. We have 2 programs that can help provide insights:

Expert Roundtable Discussions (non-CE)

A panel of AVAHO experts gathers to discuss specific cancer issues, patient challenges, treatment paradigms, barriers to care, problems and solutions. Practitioners will focus on the unique needs of patients, best practices, and resources available for practitioners and veterans. The 60-minute session will be video-taped, edited and prepared for on-demand viewing with a notation of support from the sponsor. The Roundtables will be promoted by AVAHO and will live in the Learning Center.

Industry/AVAHO Closed Discussions

AVAHO will pull together board representatives and subject matter experts for a closed, one-hour private discussion with industry executives on a specific topic. Industry prepares a list of questions and engages the faculty for their viewpoints, experience, observations and recommendations.

Please note that we may not be able to accommodate all requests for programs-- it will depend on the topic and availability of experts. Contact JoAnn@avaho.org to discuss.

For more information, contact JoAnn@avaho.org

[Click here to learn more about IRC membership.](#)

JOIN OUR INDUSTRY DIRECTORY!

The AVAHO [Industry Directory](#) provides easy, accessible contact information for our members to reach you about your products. This is a listing of company websites and primary contact information.

- NOTE: [You must complete this application](#) and supply the necessary information to be included in the directory.
- If any of your information changes, please complete a new application and the information will be updated on the site.

It is the responsibility of each company to keep the primary contacts updated with AVAHO. All other information will be linked to the company website and updated by the company in real time.

Industry Relations Council

Reserve your seat at the table

AVAHO invites interested companies to join our Industry Relations Council (IRC). The IRC is an advisory council of individuals representing a variety of corporations and non-profits whose products and services benefit veterans with cancer and hematological disorders. Members receive exclusive benefits and opportunities throughout the year.

Membership is by application and open to those who wish to participate in shaping AVAHO priorities and building ethical, meaningful relationships between industry representatives and medical professionals working with veterans. There is a modest fee to become an IRC member. Membership is from January 1- December 31 of the calendar year.

The form for 2026 new member registration and renewals is now available:

[CLICK HERE](#)

2027 IRC Registration will open in 4th quarter 2026

We are grateful to our Industry Partners for your support of AVAHO!