

2025
EUGENE AND BETTY CASEY

Cardiovascular Conference

April 10, 2025

7 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Winchester Medical Center
Conference Center

1888 Amherst St., Winchester, VA

(adjacent to the Clyde A. Smith Heart & Vascular Center)

This event is an excellent opportunity for physicians, nurses and technicians to receive concentrated, comprehensive information on the latest trends and techniques in the care of heart patients presented by a multidisciplinary team of cardiovascular professionals.

**Fully funded by the
Winchester Medical Center
Foundation**

Honoring Eugene and Betty Casey

As a longtime supporter of the Winchester Medical Center Foundation, Mrs. Betty Casey wished to make a gift in memory of her late husband, Mr. Eugene Casey. He had been a patient with cardiovascular needs at WMC. Her initial gift has helped to fund equipment, educational needs of our health care professionals and staff, and other heart related programs. In 2012, Mrs. Casey once again gave a substantial gift, this time designated for our long-standing annual cardiovascular conference, planned by dedicated staff each year.

AGENDA

7:00–7:45 A.M. Registration and Breakfast

7:45–8 A.M. Announcements

8:00 A.M. Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery
Jeffrey Cope, MD

9:00 A.M. Renal Denervation for Hypertension
Poghni Peri-Okonny, MD

10:00-10:15 A.M. Morning Break

10:15 A.M. Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Reduction
Shashank Sharma, MD

11:15 A.M. Thoracic Cancer
Percival Buenaventura, MD

12:15 – 1:00 P.M. Lunch Break

**1:00 P.M. Cultivating an Intentional Care Unit Through
Multidisciplinary Collaboration**
Hillary Bowen, MSN, RN, ACCNS-AG, CCRN, CEN
Garry Gellert, PT, DPT
Brett Mitchell PT, DPT
Ashley Wade, BSN, RN, CCRN-K (UVA)

2:00 P.M. ECMO Comes to the Field
Andrew Stern, DO

3:00 P.M. Conclusion

PRESENTERS

Percival Buenaventura, MD

Dr. Buenaventura is a cardiothoracic surgeon with Valley Health Cardiothoracic Surgeons. He attended medical school at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway, New Jersey. He then went on to complete his general surgery, cardiothoracic surgery and minimally invasive surgery fellowship training at the University of Pittsburgh. Before joining Valley Health, he was on the staff at Wellspan Health in central Pennsylvania and also has served on the academic staff at both the University of Pittsburgh and West Virginia University. Dr. Buenaventura is board certified in cardiothoracic surgery, with clinical interests in General thoracic surgery, Lung cancer, Thoracic outlet syndrome, Pulmonary pathology, Benign and malignant esophageal and foregut disease, Mediastinal diseases, Pleural diseases, Hyperhidrosis, and Chest wall deformity.

Jeffrey T. Cope, MD

Dr. Cope is a cardiothoracic surgeon with Valley Health Cardiothoracic Surgeons. He completed his medical education at Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, followed by residency and fellowship, both at University of Virginia Health Sciences Center. Dr. Cope has performed more than 5,000 adult cardiac operations in his career to date, having offered the full gamut of cardiac surgical procedures in Pennsylvania for 22 years before joining Valley Health. He is board certified in cardiothoracic surgery with clinical interests in all-arterial coronary artery bypass grafting, complex mitral valve repair, minimally invasive approaches to valve surgery, and surgery for atrial fibrillation.

Poghni Peri-Okonny, MD

Dr. Peri-Okonny is a general and interventional cardiologist with Winchester Cardiology and Vascular Medicine | Valley Health. He completed medical school at Rush University Medical College; residency at UR Strong Memorial Hospital; and fellowships at Yale University, Mid America Heart Institute/University of Missouri-Kansas City, and University of Texas, Southwestern. Dr. Peri-Okonny is board certified in cardiology, with clinical interests in coronary artery disease, chest pain, peripheral artery disease, carotid disease, hypertension, and cardiovascular risk factors.

Shashank Sharma, MD

Dr. Sharma is a vascular surgeon with Valley Health Vascular Surgeons. He attended medical school at the Medical College of Virginia and completed his internship and residency at the Cleveland Clinic. He completed his fellowship at the DeBakey Heart and Vascular Center in Houston, TX. Dr. Sharma's clinical interests include critical limb threatening ischemia, open and endovascular aortic surgery, carotid and cerebrovascular surgery, complex dialysis access, and spine exposure.

Andrew V. Stern, DO

Dr. Stern is a full-time intensivist at Winchester Medical Center with the Valley Health Intensivist Group and independent contractor with the Blue Ridge Emergency Group. He completed his medical education at NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine. He then went on to complete a combined residency in Emergency and Internal Medicine, followed by an accelerated fellowship in Critical Care at East Carolina Medical Center in Greenville, NC. He is board certified in Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine and Critical Care Medicine. His clinical interests include ECMO, Emergency Department Critical Care units, EMS and education.

PRESENTERS FROM UVA MEDICAL CENTER

Hillary Bowen, MSN, RN, ACCNS-AG, CCRN, CEN

Hillary Bowen is the Clinical Nurse Leader of the Thoracic Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (TCV-ICU) at UVA Medical Center. As one of the inaugural CNLs for UVA Medical Center, she's helped model the unit for the rest of the hospital. Hillary's nursing career began in the Emergency Department, where she became interested in critical care. While working in the TCV-ICU, she fell in love with the patient population and now focuses on evidence-based practice to improve patient outcomes.

Garretson J. Gellert PT, DPT

Garry is a physical therapist at UVA Medical Center, primarily serving patients in the critical care areas. He earned a MSPT degree from Nazareth College, followed by a DPT degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. Although Garry has served in various capacities throughout the health care continuum, he is passionate about developing, implementing and providing safe, evidence-based collaborative care for patients in the ICU. Most recently Garry has been appointed to the Society of Critical Care Medicine's ICU Liberation Committee and Congress Program Committee.

Brett Mitchell PT, DPT

Brett is a Clin IV physical therapist at UVA Medical Center with clinical focus in ICU rehabilitation. He earned his DPT at Shenandoah University in 2013 and has been employed as an inpatient physical therapist at UVA since 2014. Brett functions as a clinical specialist in hospital beds institutionally and is the PT representative on the Falls Coalition at UVA.

Ashley Wade, BSN, RN, CCRN-K

Ashley Wade is the nurse manager of the Thoracic Cardiovascular ICU at UVA Medical Center. As the leader of a high acuity ICU, she finds that every day provides differing challenges and responsibilities. In her role, she manages a 28-bed unit, more than 100 staff members, and leads many performance improvement initiatives. She also enjoys working on projects regarding nursing retention, preventing hospital acquired pressure injuries, and facilitating real

REGISTRATION

Go to valleyhealthlink.com/cvconference to register.

Fees: \$99 individual and physician rate
\$50 EMS personnel rate
\$25 fulltime healthcare student
Free for Valley Health employees

Providers: Contact Stephanie Edwards or Madison See, Winchester Medical Center Continuing Medical Education Office, at mdraper@valleyhealthlink.com or 540-536-4742 to register and/or inquire about professional credits.

Professional Credits Awarded by Valley Health

Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants: The Winchester Medical Center is accredited by the Southern States CME Collaborative (SSCC) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The Winchester Medical Center designates this live educational activity for a maximum of 6.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: Valley Health Professional Development is approved as a provider of continuing nursing professional development (CNPD) by the Virginia Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This program has been awarded 6.0 contact hours.