2026 Think Tank
Program Schedule
July 29 –31, 2026 | Denver, CO | Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center
Collaborating to Create Better Todays and More Tomorrows

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

10:00 – 4:00 **Registration Check-In**

3:30 – 4:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks** with BCAN CEO Meri-Margaret Deoudes and Co-founder Diane Zipursky Quale; Chair Max Kates, MD, Johns Hopkins and Co-Chair Parminder Singh, MD, Mayo Clinic

4:00 – 5:15 **Patient Voice Panel** with Diane Zipursky Quale

"Beyond Survival: What Patients Need to Thrive" – a discussion with BCAN patient advocates: Gail Dykstra, Gigi Gray, Chris Parente, James Stewart, and Sandy Weicher.

5:15 – 6:15 **Meet the 2026 John Quale Travel Fellows**

6:30 – 7:30 **Happy Hour – Meet and Greet**

7:30 – 9:00 **Welcome Dinner**

Thursday, July 30, 2026

7:00 – 8:00 Breakfast

8:00 – 9:30 **BCAN 2024 Young Investigator Awardee** with introduction by Scientific Review Group Chair, Neelam Mukherjee, PhD, University of Texas Health Center San Antonio

- Aditi Gupta, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: *Identifying Biomarkers of Response and Mechanisms of Resistance to Enfortumab Vedotin with and without Pembrolizumab in Metastatic Urothelial Cancer*

BCAN 2025 Young Investigator Awardees with introduction by Scientific Review Group Chair, Neelam Mukherjee, PhD, University of Texas Health Center San Antonio

- Meera Chappidi, MD, MPH, University of California, San Francisco: *Optimization and External Validation of a Histopathology-based, Machine Learning*

Biomarker to Predict Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy Response in Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer

- Mohamed Osman, MBBCh, Weill Medical College of Cornell University: *Higher Burden of Extrachromosomal DNA in African Americans Drives Worse Clinical Outcomes in Bladder Cancer*
- Patrick McGilivray, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: *Deconvolving the Drivers of Differentiation and Treatment Resistance in Micropapillary Urothelial Carcinoma at Single-Cell Resolution*

9:30 – 10:00 **Networking Break**

10:00 – 12:00 **EV + Pembrolizumab in Urothelial Cancer: Key Questions in a Changing Treatment Landscape**

Co-Chairs: Vadim Koshkin, MD, University of California San Francisco and Josh Meeks, MD, PhD, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine

As EV + pembrolizumab transforms patient outcomes in bladder cancer, it also challenges long-standing treatment paradigms. Questions around the necessity of cystectomy, the role of bladder preservation strategies and the optimal duration and intensity of treatment are increasingly at the forefront of clinical decision-making.

This interactive session will be structured around two major areas of debate: optimal use of EVP for patients with muscle invasive disease, and optimal treatment duration and approach for patients with metastatic disease. Through a point–counterpoint format, speakers will examine competing approaches, incorporating biomarker data, toxicity considerations and patient perspectives.

Rather than presenting a single standard of care, this session will highlight the diversity of current practice, explore key tradeoffs and identify critical knowledge gaps that should guide future clinical trials.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- Pooja Ghatalia, MD, Fox Chase Cancer Center
- Ashish Kamat, MD, MBBS, FACS, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Abhinav Khanna, MD, Mayo Clinic
- Nataliya Mar, MD, University of California Irvine
- Sima Porten, MD, MPH, University of California, San Francisco
- Jonathan Rosenberg, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

- Jon Treffert, BCAN Patient Advocate

12:00 – 2:00 **Lunch and Rapid Research Session: Access, Inclusion and Patient Experience in Bladder Cancer Care and Trials** – moderated by Parminder Singh, MD, Mayo Clinic Arizona

Think Tank Title Sponsor Speakers:

- Sushant Hardikar, MD, Medical Head of GU Oncology, AstraZeneca: "*PATAPSCO: Rethinking Phase 3b Evidence Through a Real-World lens*"
- Ekta Kapadia, MD, Tyra Biosciences: "*Recruiting Urologic Cancer Patients in Global Phase 2 Studies*"
- Michael Louie, MD, MPH, MSc, Chief Development Officer, UroGen Pharma: "*UGN-103 Development Program: Incorporating Patient Input and Patient-Centric Endpoints*"
- Josh Meeks, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Urology, Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine for Johnson & Johnson: "*A Real-World Evidence Study Assessing the Prevalence and Prognostic Value of FGFR Alterations in Patients With Intermediate-Risk Non–Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer*"
- Sarah Psutka, MD, MSc, Professor of Urology, University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center for CG Oncology: "*Expanded Access and Compassionate Use of Cretostimogene in BCG-Unresponsive NMIBC*"
- Dharanija Rao, PhD, Senior Medical Director, Bladder & Kidney Cancer, Pfizer Oncology: "*Real World Evidence in first-line treatment patterns for patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma utilizing the Flatiron database*"
- Daniel Shoskes, MD, MSc, FRCS(C), Vice President, Global Medical Affairs, Uro Oncology, Ferring Pharmaceuticals: "*A Real-World Case Series of Re-Induction with Nadofaragene Firadenovec in Patients With Carcinoma in Situ with or without Papillary Non–Muscle-Invasive Bladder Cancer*"

2:00 – 4:00 **Breakout sessions** (see page 5 for full descriptions)

4:00 – 4:30 **Networking Break**

4:30 – 6:00 **2026 John Quale Travel Fellow Poster Session and Happy Hour**

** Dinner on your own*

Friday, July 31, 2026

7:00 – 8:00 **Breakfast**

8:00 – 8:30 **BCAN 2022 Career Development Awardee**

- Roger Li, MD, Moffitt Cancer Center: *Oncolytic Immunotherapy with Nivolumab in Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer*

8:30 – 9:30 **BCAN 2024 Bladder Cancer Research Innovation Awardees** with introduction by Scientific Review Group Chair: Liudmila Prokunina-Olsson, PhD, National Cancer Institute

- Bishoy Faltas, MD, Weill-Cornell Medical College: *Bio-Digital Avatars for Personalized Sequencing of Bladder Cancer Therapies*
- Alexander Wyatt, PhD, University of British Columbia: *Clinical Phenotyping of Metastatic Urothelial Cancer from Plasma Cell-free Histones*

9:30 – 10:00 **Networking Break**

10:00 – 12:00 **Breakout Sessions** (see page 10 for full descriptions)

12:00 – 1:00 **Networking Lunch**

1:00 – 3:00 ***AI in Bladder Cancer: What's Real, What's Next, and What to Watch Out For***
Chair: Irbaz Riaz, MD, MS, MBI, PhD, Mayo Clinic

Artificial intelligence is rapidly reshaping cancer care, but understanding where it is delivering meaningful impact—and where important gaps and risks remain—is essential. This panel will explore the current and emerging role of AI across bladder cancer care, from patient communication and clinical workflows to diagnostics and real-world applications.

The session will open with a patient advocate perspective on expectations for AI, followed by presentations on LLM (large language model)-enabled communication and workflows, multimodal AI integrating pathology, imaging, laboratory and EHR data and applied tools already entering clinical practice.

The session will conclude with a synthesis of the current evidence, highlighting practical impact, key limitations, and what a credible path forward may look like over the next decade.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- David Klaus, BCAN Patient Advocate
- Long Le, MD, PhD, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Vivek Natarajan, Google DeepMind

- Travis Zack, MD, PhD OpenEvidence

3:00 **Closing Remarks**

Thursday Breakout Discussion Sessions Descriptions:

1. **Closing the Gap: Implementation Science and Quality Improvement**
   Chairs: Matthew Mossanen, MD, MPH, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School; and Parminder Singh, MD, Mayo Clinic Arizona

   Despite well-established guidelines, meaningful gaps persist in how bladder cancer care is delivered across practice settings. This breakout will examine current adherence to evidence-based recommendations, including BCG maintenance, surveillance strategies, and imaging workflows, and explore sources of practice variation. The session will also highlight persistent gaps in care and outcomes for women with bladder cancer, where differences in prognosis continue despite similar treatment paradigms, underscoring the need for targeted implementation strategies. Speakers will discuss national quality initiatives, practical QI methodologies and innovative care models, such as home-based therapies, while highlighting real-world examples from multidisciplinary teams. The session will provide practical frameworks and multidisciplinary perspectives to help clinicians design, implement and evaluate real-world interventions that improve care delivery.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Whitney L. Archer, DNP RN OCN, Mayo Clinic
   - Peter Clark, MD, Atrium Health, Levine Cancer Institute
   - Jennifer L. Ridgeway, PhD, Mayo Clinic
   - Minhaj Siddiqui, MD, University of Maryland School of Medicine

2. **You Are What You Drink: Arsenic Exposure and Bladder Cancer Risk**
   Chairs: Philip Abbosh, MD, PhD, Fox Chase Cancer Center; and Robert Schreiber, BCAN Patient Advocate

   This breakout session will highlight two research efforts currently being discussed within the Bladder Cancer and Arsenic Working Group (BCaWG), both focused on arsenic exposure through drinking water and its relationship to bladder cancer risk.
   Project 1 centers on a well-characterized arsenic-exposure cohort in Chile with a high incidence of bladder cancer and includes ongoing genomics and epigenetics investigations.
   Project 2 explores how best to leverage collaboration with the groundwater profession and regulatory community, along with the knowledge of the geographic prevalence of

arsenic in groundwater supplies, toward successful protection of water well users from the threat of arsenic in groundwater.
Together, these discussions will frame key questions about how drinking water–related environmental exposures contribute to cancer risk and identify areas for future research and collaboration.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- Mario Fernández, MD, Clínica Alemana Universidad del Desarrollo
- Steve Wilson, MS, Illinois State Water Survey at the University of Illinois

3. **Trimodality Therapy 2.0: Radiation & Multi-Modal Bladder Preservation Advances**
   Chairs: Omar Mian, MD, PhD, Fred Hutch Cancer Center; Sameer Jhavar, MD, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine; and Rick Bangs, BCAN Patient Advocate

   This breakout will explore evolving radiation-based strategies in urothelial cancer, with a focus on bladder preservation and curative-intent care. The session will begin with patient selection and defining the optimal candidate, including the role of reTURBT, MRI, and emerging biomarkers for selection and surveillance, drawing on insights from the ARCHER trial.

   Advances in radiation for muscle invasive bladder cancer will then be reviewed, highlighting innovations in technology, ongoing clinical trials and reconsideration of induction chemotherapy, including perspectives from the BRIGHT trial. The integration of systemic therapies—checkpoint inhibitors and antibody–drug conjugates—as radiosensitizers in the curative and consolidative setting will be discussed in the context of the RAD-SG trial.

   Finally, the role of consolidative radiotherapy in advanced urothelial cancer will be addressed, including emerging data from the REINFORCE trial, followed by a multidisciplinary panel discussion with a patient advocate perspective.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:

   - Leslie Ballas, MD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
   - Scott Delacroix, MD, FACS, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center
   - Shilpa Gupta, MD, Cleveland Clinic
   - T. Martin Ma, MD, PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center

4. **From Legacy to Discovery: Rapid Autopsies & the Metastatic Blueprint**
   Chairs: Petros Grivas, MD, PhD, University of Washington Medicine; and Hikmat Al-Ahmadie, MD, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

This follow-up session builds on the Think Tank 2024 discussion and provides an updated, practical and science-forward look at rapid research autopsy programs in bladder cancer. The session will highlight new learnings from multi-site efforts, including insights into tumor heterogeneity, clonal evolution and how molecular and histologic subtypes shape metastatic spread and tumor microenvironments. Speakers will share emerging data and state-of-the-art analytic approaches to better understand the metastatic landscape and treatment-driven evolution. The session will also explore how rapid autopsy initiatives enable new Patient-Derived Xenograft and other model systems, especially from patients treated with antibody-drug conjugates and will feature perspectives from multiple centers on program logistics, workflows, and cross-institution collaboration.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- Andrew C. Hsieh, MD, Fred Hutch Cancer Center
- Hung-Ming Lam, PhD, University of Washington
- Rohit Mehra, MD, University of Michigan
- Dave Wold, BCAN Patient Advocate

5. **Advancing Bladder Cancer Research Through Integrated Human-Relevant Animal Models**

Chairs: Burles A. Johnson III, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins Medicine; and Karin Allenspach, DVM, MS, PhD, DECVIM-CA, University of Georgia

Bladder cancer research relies on diverse animal models, yet these systems often operate in isolation. This breakout will examine how canine, rat, mouse and complementary experimental platforms can work together to strengthen translational discovery.

Speakers will present advances in canine immunotherapy and organoid models, murine cell lines and variant histology systems and the N-methyl-N-nitrosourea rat model of NMIBC. Discussion will focus on when each model is most closely aligned with human bladder cancer pathogenesis and how integrating insights across species can improve preclinical rigor and therapeutic development.

The session will conclude with a forward-looking discussion on collaboration, resource sharing and coordinated infrastructure to accelerate progress from animal models to clinical impact.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- John Cheville, MD, Mayo Clinic, Rochester
- Deborah W. Knapp, DVM, MS, DACVIM, Purdue University

- Leonardo Oliveira Reis, MD, MSc, PhD, MBA, Pontificia Universidade Católica de Campinas (UNICAMP)

6. **Operationalizing ctDNA in Bladder Cancer Clinical Trials**
   Chairs: John Sfakianos, MD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; and Laura Bukavina, MD, MPH, Cleveland Clinic

   As ctDNA technologies mature, attention is shifting from validation to implementation. This session will examine how circulating tumor DNA and related biomarkers can be embedded into trial infrastructure, including adaptive designs, risk stratification and measurable residual disease endpoints. Speakers will discuss real-world challenges in assay standardization, timing of testing and regulatory alignment, with dedicated discussion of NMIBC biomarker strategies.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Kent Mouw, MD PhD, Harvard Medical School
   - Peter Z. (Zach) Schiller, BCAN Patient Advocate
   - Alan Tan, MD, Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

7. **Overcoming Biases in Bladder Cancer Decision Making**
   Chairs: Biren Saraiya, MD, Rutgers Cancer Institute; and Pooja Ghatalia, MD, Fox Chase Cancer Center

   Treatment recommendations in bladder cancer are shaped not only by clinical evidence but by clinician cognition, personal experience and communication patterns. This session brings together specialists, behavioral scientists, and patient advocates to dissect how implicit and explicit biases influence discussions about treatment pathways including cystectomy, surgery, trimodality therapy, or presentation of clinical trials. Through case-based analysis and facilitated interpretation by a psychologist, participants will examine the roots of various biases in the moments where treatment decisions are made. The goal is to generate strategies for improving clarity, reducing bias, and enhancing patient satisfaction with the choices they ultimately make.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Ronald D. Ennis, MD, Rutgers Cancer Institute
   - Login S. George, PhD, Rutgers Institute for Health
   - John Morley, BCAN Patient Advocate
   - Debasish Sundi, MD, The Ohio State University
   - Erin K. Tagai, PhD, MPH, Fox Chase Cancer Center

8. **Awareness to Action in Delivering Affordable Bladder Cancer Care**
   Chairs: Ruchika Talwar, MD, MMHC, Vanderbilt University Medical Center; and Nikita Baclig, MD, MPH, University of California, Los Angeles

   As bladder cancer treatment complexity and costs continue to rise, improving care access, affordability and sustainability requires structured, implementation-focused solutions. This session will examine cost-effectiveness data in bladder cancer and explore practical approaches to integrating financial counseling, navigation programs, and workflow redesign into clinical practice. Panelists will also cover advocacy and policy solutions to help improve patient-facing and overall healthcare costs. Emphasis will be placed on scalable strategies that promote high-quality, patient-centered and financially sustainable care.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Hiba Khan, MD, MPH, University of Washington, Fred Hutch Cancer Center
   - Amanda Myers, MD, MS, University of Iowa
   - Kristen Skinner, BCAN Patient Advocate

Friday Breakout Discussion Sessions Descriptions:

1. **Sexual Health and Intimacy in the Era of Modern Bladder Cancer Care**
   Chairs: Armine K. Smith, MD, Johns Hopkins Medicine; and Asia McCoy, MSN-CRN, RN, OCN, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

   Building on the highly engaged "Difficult Conversations" session from Think Tank 2025, this breakout will focus on sexual health, intimacy and fertility implications across the full spectrum of bladder cancer care for both men and women, including cystectomy, radiation, intravesical therapies, immunotherapy and antibody-drug conjugates. Speakers will address persistent gaps in guidance for patients receiving newer systemic therapies, review evidence-based counseling and management strategies, and provide practical tools clinicians can use to proactively address intimacy, sexual function, and reproductive health throughout treatment and survivorship.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Heather Goltz, PhD, LCSW-S MEd, MPH, University of Houston-Downtown
   - Gigi Gray, BCAN Patient Advocate
   - John Mulhall, MD MSc FECSM FACS FRCSI, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
   - Polina Reyblat, MD, Kaiser Permanente
   - Xinglei Shen, MD, MS, University of Kansas Medical Center

2. **From Surviving to Thriving: Next-Gen Supportive Care and Lifestyle Optimization in Bladder Cancer**
   Chairs: Sarah Psutka, MD, MSc, University of Washington; and Stacy Loeb, MD, NYU Langone Health

   Bladder cancer outcomes are shaped not only by surgical and systemic treatment decisions, but by a patient's ability to recover, adapt and remain well-supported through often demanding care pathways. This breakout session will focus on next-generation "wraparound" services—the supportive, preventive, and ancillary care resources that often fall outside routine clinic visits but can meaningfully impact treatment tolerance, recovery, long-term health and quality of life.

   The session will address practical, scalable approaches to closing gaps in supportive care, including nutrition before and after cystectomy, prehabilitation strategies (including virtual and home-based options), genetic counseling integration, smoking cessation programs, the six pillars of lifestyle optimization and telehealth-enabled models of care delivery. Through short expert talks and an interactive discussion, attendees will explore how to build sustainable supportive care pathways that optimize patients beyond the clinic, with an emphasis on implementation across diverse practice settings.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- Natasha Gupta, MD, NYU Langone Health
- Kenneth Jacobsohn, MD, Medical College of Wisconsin
- Lydia Saravis, BCAN Patient Advocate

3. **Cracking the HER2 Code: Bench Insights to Bedside Impact in Bladder Cancer**
   Chairs: Terence Friedlander, MD, University of California, San Francisco; and Funda Meric-Bernstam, MD, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

   This bench-to-bedside breakout session will examine HER2 as an evolving therapeutic target in bladder cancer. Invited experts will review the development of HER2 as a target in breast cancer and the current landscape of HER2-directed therapies to provide perspective on how these agents may best be developed and positioned in bladder cancer, focusing on patient selection, toxicity and mechanisms of response and resistance. The session will then focus on the history of targeting HER2 in bladder cancer, review ongoing clinical trials and discuss the future clinical and research landscape.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:

   - Virginia Borges, MD, UCHealth, University of Colorado Anschutz
   - Gopa Iyer, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

4. **Improving Clinical Trials and Clinical Trial Conduct in Bladder Cancer: From Protocol to Patient**
   Chairs: Tom Jayram, MD, Urology Associates PC; and Yair Lotan, MD, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

   Clinical trials in bladder cancer have increased remarkably in number and scope over the past decade. This breakout session will focus on practical, real-world strategies to improve trial conduct (design, enrollment and inclusion) and will highlight three important aspects of contemporary clinical trials: i) what makes a trial attractive and feasible for an investigator/patient, ii) lessons learned from recent clinical trial activity and results, iii) how to improve the performance of your research site to meet the changing landscape. The session will also address patient viewpoints regarding trial participation and conduct. The goal is to equip investigators with actionable tools to design and run trials that enroll faster, more equitably, and more effectively.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:

   - Patrick Hensley, MD, University of Kentucky
   - Seth Lerner, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
   - Jonathan Rosenberg, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

5. **Less Is More: De-Escalation Strategies in Bladder Cancer Care**
   Chairs: Timothy N. Clinton, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital; and Stephanie Berg, DO, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

   As treatment options expand, there is growing interest in identifying when less intensive therapy may provide equivalent outcomes with fewer burdens for patients. This session will explore evidence and emerging strategies for de-escalation in bladder cancer, including tailoring intravesical maintenance therapy, post-EVP management and using biomarkers such as ctDNA to guide treatment intensity. Speakers will discuss where de-escalation is supported by data, where uncertainty remains and how clinicians can safely individualize care.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Abhinav Khanna, MD, Mayo Clinic
   - Kriti Mittal, MD, MS, University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center
   - Darrell Nakagawa, BCAN Patient Advocate
   - Steven Seyedin, MD, University of California, San Francisco
   - Bicky Thapa, MD, MS, FACP, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

6. **Unlocking Bladder Cancer Risk Signals Through AI-Enhanced Pathology**
   Chairs: Kun-Hsing Yu, MD, PhD, Harvard Medical School; and Beatrice Knudsen, MD, PhD, University of Utah

   This breakout will focus on AI-assisted analysis of H&E slides and digital pathology platforms to enhance tumor subtyping, biomarker quantification and prediction of recurrence and treatment outcomes. Speakers will discuss how machine learning models are developed, validated and incorporated into risk stratification frameworks, with attention to interpretability, reproducibility and clinical translation.

   By concentrating on pathology-based modeling and quantitative risk assessment, this session will provide a focused scientific complement to the broader afternoon panel on AI applications across the bladder cancer care continuum.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Gabriele Campanella, PhD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
   - Sumati Gupta, MD, University of Utah's Huntsman Cancer Institute
   - Yuming Jiang, MD, PhD, Wake Forest University School of Medicine
   - Anirudh Joshi, MS, Co-Founder and CEO of Valar Labs
   - Joshua Warrick, MD, Yale School of Medicine

7. **Who's Left Behind? Closing the Gaps in Bladder Cancer Progress**
   Chairs: Jeannie Hoffman-Censits, MD, Johns Hopkins Medicine; and Andrea Apolo, MD, National Institutes of Health

   Despite major therapeutic advances in bladder cancer, not all patients are benefiting equally. This multidisciplinary breakout session will focus on three areas where unmet needs remain high: patients with disease refractory to enfortumab vedotin + pembrolizumab (EV/P), the role and optimization of perioperative systemic therapy for upper tract urothelial carcinoma (UTUC) and rare bladder tumors and uncommon histologic variants. Through a cross-specialty lens spanning medical oncology, urology and radiation oncology, speakers will examine biologic and clinical drivers of resistance, patterns of relapse and practical management challenges, while highlighting actionable strategies and research priorities, from treatment sequencing after EV/P failure to trial designs and care pathways better suited to rare and under-studied populations. The goal is to accelerate equitable progress by extending effective options to the patients most often left behind.

   Invited Discussion Leaders:
   - Jonathan Coleman, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
   - Catherine Fahey, MD, PhD, University of North Carolina School of Medicine
   - Petros Grivas, MD, PhD, University of Washington Medicine
   - Burles A. Johnson III, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins Medicine
   - Vadim Koshkin, MD, University of California San Francisco
   - Nicholas Simon, MD, MSc, Medstar Georgetown University Hospital / Washington Hospital Center
   - Nancy Vincent, BCAN Patient Advocate

8. **Somatic Mutations Before Cancer: Early Detection & Risk Biology**
   Chairs: Eugene Pietzak, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; and Debasish Sundi, MD, The Ohio State University

   This session will explore how somatic driver mutations arise and expand in "normal" urothelium, shaping bladder carcinogenesis long before clinical disease. Building on emerging evidence of sex- and smoking-associated mutation patterns, with special focus on gender-associated differences that may contribute to distinct risk, biology and outcomes in women, we'll discuss implications for early detection, biomarker development and personalized medicine—including integration with urinary tumor DNA (utDNA) strategies. The goal is to connect mutation ecology and next-generation sequencing approaches to actionable translational and clinical advances.

Invited Discussion Leaders:

- Max Diehn, MD, PhD, FASCO, Stanford University
- Sean Li, PhD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Rosa Ana Risques, PhD, University of Washington