

BWH Skull Base & Cerebrovascular Symposium 2026

DAY 1

Time	#	Title / Speaker	Min
07:00-07:30		Registration and breakfast	30
07:30-07:39		Welcome	10
07:40-08:00		★ Introduction	20
Section 1: Excellence by Design: Concept			
08:01-08:10	1.1	★ KEYNOTE From Individual Excellence to High-Performing Teams: Building Organizations Where Excellence Thrives.	10
08:11-08:13		Tone setting	2
8:14-8:24	1.2	★ KEYNOTE From individual brilliance to reproducible excellence: How does excellence become legacy?	10
08:25-08:34	1.3	Why excellence must be intentional	10
08:35-08:44	1.4	Complexity as the true test of a program	10
08:45-08:54	1.5	The modern neurosurgical center of excellence	10
08:55-09:04	1.6	Building the next generation neurosurgeon	10
09:05-09:06		Audience poll	2
09:07-09:15		Discussion	10
Section 2: Technical Craft: The Foundation			
09:16-09:19		Tone setting	2
09:20-09:29	2.1	Mastering skull base surgery – how mastery is developed	10
09:30-09:39	2.2	How mastery performs under pressure	10
09:40-09:49	2.3	How teams amplify technical excellence	10
09:50-09:59	2.4	Why does a surgeon error, and how can the surgeon prevent error	10
10:00-10:09	2.5	How technical mastery is transferred to others	10
10:10-10:19	2.6	Innovation through mastery: how great surgeons responsibly redefine operations	10
10:20-10:29	2.7	Maintaining excellence over a career	10
10:30-10:39		Audience poll	2
10:40-10:50		Discussion	8
10:51-11:00		Break	15
Section 3: Judgment: The Highest Form of Skill			
11:01-11:03		Tone setting	2
11:04-11:13	3.1	Predicting the future / understanding the disease before choosing treatment	10
11:14-11:23	3.3	The operation you do not perform	10
11:24-11:33	3.2	Case selection as the first decision	10
11:34-11:43	3.4	Knowing when enough is enough in endovascular interventions	10
11:44 - 11:53	3.5	Knowing when to stop acoustics	10
11:54-12:03	3.6	Mental flexibility to change course during an operation	10
12:04-12:13	3.7	Pursuit of cure vs acceptance of risk	10
12:14-12:23	3.8	Timing the intervention: acting under an uncertain future	10
12:24-12:33	3.9	The weight of responsibility – who owns the decision?	10
12:34-12:43	3.10	Video Display of technical judgement	10
12:44-12:53		Discussion	20
12:55-14:00		Lunch	30
14:00- 14:20		★ KEYNOTE Keynote: Excellence in craft	20
Section 4: Building High-Performance Programs			
14:21-14:24		Tone setting	2

14:25–14:45		★ Keynote:	20
		Risk-adjusted outcomes in complex disease	
14:46–14:55	4.1	Integrated neuroscience institute models	10
14:56–15:05	4.2	Building Disease Centered Neurosurgical Programs: How integrated service lines removes barrier to excellence	10
15:06–15:15	4.3	Multidisciplinary alignment	10
15:16–15:25	4.4	Culture as a driver of outcome	10
15:26–15:35	4.5	Referral pathways for complex disease	10
15:36–15:45	4.6	Access to excellence when you can't pay	10
15:46–15:55	4.7	Pathways for Global access	10
15:56–16:05	4.8	Using systems to produce quality	10
16:06–16:15	4.9	Building it better: how would you do it?	10
16:16–16:25		Audience poll	2
16:26–16:40		Discussion	20
16:40–17:00		Reflections	

DAY 2

Time	#	Title / Speaker	Min
Section 5: The Surgeon Within the System			
07:30–07:32		Tone setting	2
07:32–07:42	5.1	When the plan fails: intraoperative crisis	10
07:42–07:52	5.2	Salvage surgery and bailout strategies	10
07:52–08:02	5.3	Case selection and referral as surgical decisions	10
08:02–08:12	5.4	Making rare, complex surgery reliable (skull base)	10
08:12–08:22	5.5	Training and simulation for real-world performance	10
08:22–08:32	5.6	Feedback that actually improves surgeons (the Japanese system)	10
08:32–08:42	5.7	Team performance under stress: fatigue, pressure, and decision-making	10
08:42–08:52	5.8	Resident training in the health system: does the resident help or hurt outcomes?	10
08:52–08:54		Audience poll	2
08:54–09:09		Discussion	15
09:09–09:24		Break	15
Section 6: Measuring What Matters			
09:24–09:26		Tone setting	2
09:26–09:36	6.1	Measuring performance in high-risk surgery	10
09:46–09:56	6.2	Cost vs patient outcome: how do we buy the right outcome?	10
09:56–10:06	6.3	The smart OR for surgeons (AI)	10
10:06–10:16	6.4	Can literature answer questions about measurement? What does the meta-analysis solve, and what's next?	10
10:16–10:26	6.5	Long-term outcomes and durability of cure	10
10:26–10:36	6.6	NYU Dashboard design	10
10:36–10:46	6.7	Decision making using outcomes / STAR	10
10:46–11:08		Discussion	12
11:08–11:28		★ KEYNOTE Keynote: Building [Title TBD]	20
Section 7: Technology in the Service of Surgery			
11:28–11:30		Tone setting	2
11:30–11:40	7.1	Technology as cognitive support in surgery	10
11:40–11:50	7.2	Robotics and automation in the operating room	10
11:50–12:00	7.3	Devices to make a great surgeon even better	10
12:00–12:10	7.4	When technology helps—and when it harms: dilemma of dual training	10
12:10–12:20	7.5	Technology: faster, safer, but is it better? Educational effects	10
12:20–12:30	7.6	Training the next generation in a digital era (sim lab)	10

12:30-12:40	7.7	AI-driven pulling of volume instead of referrals	10
12:40-12:51		Discussion	11
12:51-13:36		Lunch	45
Section 8: Global Impact and the Future of Excellence			
13:36-13:38		Tone setting	2
13:38-13:48	8.1	Exporting systems, not just techniques	10
13:48-13:58	8.2	Training from a system globally in a sustainable way	10
13:58-14:08	8.3	Creating bilateral value in global partnerships	10
14:08-14:18	8.4	Innovation through international collaboration	10
14:18-14:28	8.5	Expanding access to complex care	10
14:28-14:38	8.6	Ethics of using another country's data for research	10
14:38-14:48	8.7	Defining the next generation of neurosurgical leadership	10
14:48-15:03		Discussion / Reflections	15
15:03-16:03		Panel: What do we already agree on, and how do we expand common ground?	60
► Day 2 ends at 16:03 Panel discussion: 60 minutes (scheduled)			