

 Platelet Disorder Support Association  
**ITP CONFERENCE 2024**

July 26 -  July 28  
**San Antonio, TX**  
*The premier patient event.*

Join us for our 24<sup>th</sup> national patient conference  
at The Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio

**You are invited to...**

- Learn about the most up-to-date ITP information
- Talk face-to-face with the world's top ITP doctors
- Share experiences with others in the ITP community

Find more information at [www.pdsa.org](http://www.pdsa.org)

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# Invitation To Participate

This year, PDSA will host its 24th annual update on immune thrombocytopenia (ITP) for patients, caregivers and the medical community in San Antonio, TX, July 26-28. This year's patient conference will take place at the The Westin Riverwalk, on the iconic San Antonio Riverwalk. Each year the ITP conference provides opportunities to hear the latest information about ITP, meet others who are coping and living with ITP and receive answers to your medical questions. You will also have the opportunity to ask your questions to PDSA's Medical Advisors, who are some of the most experienced ITP doctors in the world. You don't want to miss out on this tremendous opportunity to hear and talk with these world-renowned experts.

In addition to the educational program and social events, our conference will feature several small group sessions to give you an opportunity to get to know other patients and caregivers in an intimate environment. We will also offer programs for children at our Kids Kamp for children ages 5-12. Like conferences in the past, this year's conference will provide a separate track for teens and young adults.

We have scheduled time with our exhibitors so you can meet directly with the companies who are providing new treatments and conducting clinical trials. We guarantee what you will learn about the nature of ITP, its diagnosis, treatment, and management will make a positive difference in your own or your loved one's health.

I hope you and your family can join us this July at **The Westin Riverwalk** in San Antonio, TX. Our 24th annual ITP conference promises to be a weekend of education and inspiration. We look forward to seeing you there!



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caroline Kruse".

Caroline Kruse  
President and CEO

# About the Speakers



## **James Bussel, MD**

Dr. James Bussel is Professor of Pediatrics, Medicine, and Obstetrics at the Weill Medical College of Cornell University in New York City. His training was initiated at Yale, continued at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, then he completed a Pediatric Residency at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, and a Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the combined Cornell/Memorial Sloan Kettering program. The great majority of Dr. Bussel's publications are centered around diagnosis and especially management of patients with ITP, including children with ITP, adults with ITP, pregnant women with ITP, HIV infected patients with thrombocytopenia, and fetuses affected by autoimmune and alloimmune thrombocytopenia. He has worked with IVIg, IV anti-D, rituximab, and most recently the thrombopoietic agents.



## **Aroteem Choudhury, PhD**

Aroteem Choudhury is dedicated to applying mind-body medicine to enhance health outcomes for individuals facing illness, chronic diseases, behavioral health challenges, and communities experiencing collective trauma. As Director of the Greater Houston Healing Collaborative (GHHC) at the Institute for Spirituality and Health, Aroteem utilizes his clinical expertise to support innovative public health initiatives targeting health ministries, veterans, caregivers, and the bereaved.

With a decade of experience in biomedical and clinical research, Aroteem emphasizes evidence-based mind-body skills to unlock our innate healing potential. Notably, he pioneered the first Mind-Body Interventionist role at Texas Children's Hospital in Houston, TX, providing holistic care to patients, families, and clinicians. He actively participates in interdisciplinary projects promoting clinician wellness and combating burnout across the Texas Medical Center and Greater Houston community.

Aproteem's dedication extends to training and mentoring emerging practitioners of mind-body medicine, particularly those from traumatized communities such as Ukraine and Uvalde, TX. He played a key role in developing a two-year program supporting frontline healthcare providers and community leaders following the Robb Elementary School Shooting tragedy.



### **Nichola Cooper, MD**

Dr. Nichola Cooper is a Senior Lecturer and Honorary Consultant Haematologist and at Hammersmith Hospital, Imperial College, London, UK. She completed her undergraduate degrees at Cambridge University and Barts and the London Hospital Medical College, University of London, UK. During her haematology training, Dr Cooper undertook a research fellowship at Cornell Medical School, New York Presbyterian Hospital, USA with Jim Bussel, investigating the clinical and laboratory impact of treatments such as rituximab and anti-D immunoglobulin in patients with ITP. She also studied at Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital, London, where she gained further experience in both paediatric and adult immunodeficiency disorders. Dr. Cooper runs a clinical and laboratory research programme investigating the causes of haematological autoimmunity. She has authored many papers published in international, peer-reviewed journals including *Nature Immunology*, *Blood* and the *British Journal of Haematology*.



### **Annemarie Fogerty, MD**

Dr. Annemarie Fogerty is a Hematology Specialist in Boston, MA with over 18 years of experience. She graduated from New York University School of Medicine in 2003, then went on to internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She completed her fellowship training at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. She currently serves as the Clinical Director for Hematology and Director of Reproductive Hematology at both Massachusetts General Hospital and Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Her particular areas of clinical expertise and research focus on thrombocytopenia and thrombosis in the pregnant patient.



### **Terry Gernsheimer, MD**

Dr. Terry Gernsheimer is Professor of Medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine, Medical Director of the Platelet Antibody Laboratory at the Puget Sound Blood Center, and Director of Transfusion Services at the University of Washington Medical Center and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. Dr. Gernsheimer's major research interests include the diagnosis, treatment and pathophysiology of autoimmune platelet disorders as well as several aspects of transfusion medicine and medical education.



### **Rachael Grace, MD, MMSc**

Dr. Rachael Grace is a Pediatric Hematologist at the Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center and an Associate Professor at Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. She is the Medical Director of the Hematology Clinical Research Program at Boston Children's Hospital and is recipient of the Blanche P. Alter Investigatorship in Hematology. Dr. Grace received her MD from Brown University and received her Masters in Medical Science from Harvard Medical School. She completed her pediatrics residency at Boston Children's Hospital and pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship at the Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center. She is the director of the pediatric ITP Consortium of North America (ICON), a collaboration of more than 50 sites in North America focused on improving ITP care for children. She is a leading investigator for multiple observational and interventional research studies for children with ITP and is involved in national ITP guideline initiatives. Dr. Grace's clinical and research interests are focused on improving outcomes of children with immune cytopenias and rare congenital hemolytic anemias.

*“This was an amazing experience. The community for ITP patients and caregivers is beyond amazing and I didn't ever know this existed! Wish I would have found PDSA years ago!”*



**Craig Kessler, MD**

Dr. Craig Kessler, Professor of Medicine and Pathology, is the Director of the Hemophilia and Thrombosis Comprehensive Treatment Center and Director of the Division of Coagulation in the Department of Laboratory Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, DC. His research interests include development and analysis of treatment strategies for bleeding disorders such as hemophilia, von Willebrand disease, and ITP. Dr. Kessler has also designed and participated in numerous clinical trials to study the pathophysiology and treatment of thrombophilic states, such as venous thromboembolism and cancer. He has written over 250 papers and chapters and is co-editor of a popular authoritative textbook on consultative hemostasis.



**David J. Kuter, MD, DPhil**

Dr. David Kuter is Chief of Hematology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. He earned a research doctorate (DPhil) at Magdalen College of Oxford University and a medical degree at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Kuter is Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. In addition, Dr. Kuter sits on numerous national and international ITP committees and is board certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology, and Medical Oncology. He has dedicated years of effort to researching coagulopathies, anticoagulation, and platelet disorders. In recent years, Dr. Kuter has conducted groundbreaking research into the development of effective thrombopoietic agents.

*“Thanks to the team that organized this event!  
It is comforting to be around other patients.”*

*“Been to many conferences professionally, this was above and beyond.  
Well organized, structured so everyone’s needs were met.  
Very impressed!”*

*“I’m so very grateful for PDSA. Thank you.  
It was beyond anything I imagined.”*



**Howard A. Liebman, MD**

Dr. Howard Liebman is Professor of Medicine and Pathology at the University of Southern California’s (USC) Keck School of Medicine, Los Angeles, CA. He serves as Medical Director of the Special Hemostasis Laboratory at USC’s Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and is Director of the fellowship program in hematology. Dr Liebman received his medical degree from USC and completed his postgraduate training including a residency in internal medicine and fellowships in medical oncology and hematology at Los Angeles County – University of Southern California Medical Center. Dr Liebman completed a research fellowship at Tufts University – New England Medical Center, Boston, MA and held faculty positions at Tufts University and Boston University, before returning to USC. Dr Liebman’s research interests include clinical management and characterization of haemostatic and thrombotic disorders, management of autoimmune blood disorders and clinical therapy of HIV and AIDS. He has authored or co-authored 85 peer-reviewed publications and 26 reviews and chapters.



**Diane J. Nugent, MD**

Dr. Diane Nugent is a Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of California, Irvine School of Medicine. She currently serves as Chair, Hematology, CHOC Children’s Hospital of North Orange County, Orange, CA; Medical Director, Hematology and Blood and Donor Services CHOC Children’s; and Division Chief, Hematology, CHOC Children’s Specialists. Dr. Nugent is a nationally-recognized expert in pediatric hematology who specializes in blood disorders, bone marrow failure, bleeding and clotting disorders, anemias, and immune deficiencies. She is involved in clinical trials for rare blood disorders and is a principal investigator for regional hemophilia programs. Dr. Nugent has coauthored more than 100 journal articles and book chapters. She chairs review subcommittees at the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLB) at NIH in hematology. Dr. Nugent also participates in the Pediatric ITP Consortium of North American (ICON), a group of pediatric hematologists dedicated to improving the understanding, treatment and quality of life (QOL) of pediatric ITP patients.



### John W. Semple, PhD

Dr. John Semple received his PhD in Immunology from Queen's University in 1986 and trained as a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Banting and Best Department of Medical Research of the C.H. Best Institute, University of Toronto from 1986-1990. He joined St. Michael's

Hospital in 1990 as Director of Transfusion Medicine Research of the Toronto Platelet Immunobiology Group. He joined Lund University in 2016 as a Professor of Transfusion Medicine of St. Michael's Hospital. His research activities include several areas including anti-platelet T cell responses in patients with acute and chronic ITP, the analysis of how platelet antigens are recognized by the immune system, and how platelets may act as immune-like cells that are responsible for initiating and perpetuating their own autoimmune demise.



### Michael Tarantino, MD

Dr. Michael Tarantino is a Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine-Peoria and Medical Director of the Bleeding & Clotting Disorders Institute. He received a doctoral degree in medicine from the University of Wisconsin School of

Medicine in 1987. He completed an internship and residency at the University of Arizona Health Sciences Center and a Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine. Dr. Tarantino first became interested in ITP during his residency in 1988. Since that time, he has designed and/or participated in numerous clinical investigations related to ITP and other platelet disorders. He has authored numerous publications relevant to the diagnosis and management of ITP, especially as it occurs in children. He is also active in hemophilia and other bleeding disorders research.

## 2023 ITP Conference At A Glance

**287 Attendees • 10 Speakers**

**Separate Teen/Young Adult Track • 6 Exhibitors**

**Small group sessions with ITP specialists/Medical Advisors**

# Conference Agenda

## Friday, July 26

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM	REGISTRATION / EXHIBITS OPEN
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	WELCOME
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	NATURAL HISTORY OF ITP: NAVIGATING THE JOURNEY
6:00 PM – 6:15 PM	BREAK
6:15 PM – 7:15 PM	SOBI SPONSORED DINNER PROGRAM Highlighting Your Voice – The Value of Shared Decision Making in cITP
7:15 PM – 8:30 PM	INQUIRE & INSPIRE Patients Ask the Experts and Share Personal Journeys (Small Group Sessions)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canadian Patients &amp; Caregivers</li> <li>• For Teens Only</li> <li>• Other groups based on geographic location</li> </ul>

## Saturday, July 27

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION / CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST EXHIBITS OPEN
9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	EVOLUTION OF ITP TREATMENT AND GUIDELINES
10:15 AM – 10:30 AM	BREAK
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	INQUIRE & INSPIRE Patients Ask the Experts and Share Personal Journeys (Small Group Sessions)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rare Bleeding Disorders during Adolescence, Pregnancy, and Menopause</li> <li>• ITP and Aging: Addressing the Unique Challenges</li> <li>• ITP and Children</li> <li>• General ITP Questions</li> </ul>
11:30 AM – 11:45 AM	BREAK

\*Breakout session assignments will be listed in the back of name badges

## Saturday, July 27 continued

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM	IS THERE MORE TO ITP THAN JUST LOW PLATELETS AND BLEEDING?
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	LUNCH BREAK WITH PDSA MEDICAL ADVISORS
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM	HOW DO EMERGING TREATMENT STRATEGIES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO TRANSFORM PATIENT OUTCOMES?
3:00 PM – 3:15 PM	BREAK
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	ITP IN ADULTS Q&A AN UPDATE ON PEDIATRIC ITP: DIFFERENTIATING PRIMARY ITP, IPD, AND PID
4:15 PM – 4:30 PM	BREAK
4:30 PM – 5:15 PM	BARRIERS TO CARE
5:15 PM – 5:30 PM	ANNOUNCEMENTS
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	AMGEN DINNER PROGRAM
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM	FAMILY FUN EVENT

## Sunday, July 28

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATORS' BREAKFAST (Pre-Registration Requested)
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	KEYNOTE – MEETING THE HEALER WITHIN: SELF CARE WITH MIND BODY MEDICINE
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM	LIVING WITH ITP: PATIENTS SHARE THEIR STORIES
12:30 PM – 12:45 PM	CLOSING REMARKS

- NOTES:**
- A separate track for teens and young adults will run Friday and Saturday
  - Agenda and speakers subject to change

*“Always amazing, thank you for the attention to detail and accommodating everyone!”*

### More Information

Website: [www.pdsa.org](http://www.pdsa.org)  
Phone: (440) 746-9003  
Email: [pdsa@pdsa.org](mailto:pdsa@pdsa.org)



## Conference Location

All meeting activities will be held at **The Westin Riverwalk in San Antonio, TX**. Situated on the Riverwalk's quiet end, our upscale hotel is near the Pearl District, home to downtown restaurants, bars, shopping and entertainment. Walk to the historic Alamo or the Spanish Governor's Palace to admire its white adobe architecture. After an eventful day take a swim in the outdoor heated pool near the 24-hour WestinWORKOUT® Fitness Studio. Pet-friendly hotel rooms and suites feature pillow-top mattresses, marble bathrooms and room service.





If you plan to stay at **The Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio**, please reserve your room as soon as possible to receive our special conference rate of \$169 a night (king or double/double), plus tax. **This rate is for 2 adults or a family of 4 with children under age 18.** This special PDSA rate is also available for conference attendees three days before and three days after the conference. This special rate applies to reservations that are made by **July 3, 2024, as long as rooms at the hotel are available.** We encourage you to make your conference registration early to ensure hotel space is available.

***Hotel reservations cannot be made until your conference registration is finalized.***

### Saturday Evening Family Fun Event

Join us on Saturday evening for a narrated river cruise introducing you to the iconic sights, wonders, and culture of San Antonio. The cruise will pick up and drop off outside The Westin Riverwalk hotel. We will gather in the lobby at 7:30 pm and make our way to the boat dock. Boats will leave from the hotel at 8:00 pm and return around 9:50 pm. Space is limited and registration is required.

See <https://pdsa.org/2024-conf-family-event.html>



## Registration Form

**Register online at [www.pdsa.org/conferences](http://www.pdsa.org/conferences) or mail this form to:  
PDSA 8751 Brecksville Road, Suite 150, Cleveland, OH 44141**

### General Registration Information\* – person attending conference

(see additional lines for guest names below)

**Full payment is due at time of registration.**

(Mr./Ms./Mrs./Dr.) First Name Last Name Suffix

Address

City State/Province ZIP Code Country

Phone (Home, Business or Mobile) Email

### Additional guests or family members

**Please include name and city/state/country for each additional guest for their name badge**

Guest name Guest name Guest name

City State/Province Country

### Applying for a partial scholarship

I would like to apply for a partial scholarship to be applied toward conference registration for two (2) and hotel accommodations for two (2) nights.

**Please see the Registration Information page following this form for information and instructions on how to apply.**

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE >**

\*DISCLAIMER: I recognize that various photographs, video recordings and other media will be taken during the event. By registering for ITP Conference 2024, I grant permission to PDSA (Platelet Disorder Support Association) and/or other agents authorized by them to use any photographs, video recordings and other media or record of this event for any purposes.

# Registration Information

### Total fees and payment

Registration includes all sessions, receptions, continental breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday and Saturday lunch.

If you are not already a member of PDSA, you can become one by choosing to pay the \$25 membership fee and then choosing the discounted cost of the Conference under the Member Price column. By becoming a member, you will receive our 28-page quarterly newsletter, *The Platelet News*, and discounted rates for the annual ITP Conference, among other exclusive benefits.

PDSA Membership (\$25, \$50, \$100 or more) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Early Bird Registration: Through July 3, 2024** After July 3, 2024 registration prices will increase.

	MEMBER PRICE	NON-MEMBER PRICE	
Individual	\$140	\$160	\$ _____
Children ages 5-12	\$50	\$60	\$ _____
Children 4 and under	FREE	FREE	\$ <u>FREE</u>
One Day Pass Registration (Either Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday)	\$100	\$120	\$ _____
PDSA Circle of Hope Member Registration (limit of 2)			\$ <u>FREE*</u>
~or~ PDSA Support Group Facilitator Registration (limit of 1)			\$ <u>FREE*</u>

\*Only a total of 2 complimentary registrations can be redeemed and they are non-transferable.

I would like to include an additional amount to defray conference expenses \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL REGISTRATION** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Discover

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ CSC CODE \_\_\_\_\_ AMT charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your CSC Code is the 3 digit code on the back of your card for Master Card, Visa or Discover or 4 digit code on the front of AMEX

Check or Money Order payable to PDSA (only a US bank check with US funds, no cash)

**Cancellation Policy:** If you need to cancel your registration for the Conference, you must submit your request to cancel in writing prior to July 3, 2024. All fees less a \$50 administrative charge will be refunded if a written request is received before the July 3rd deadline.

**After July 3, 2024, no refunds will be issued.**

**Hotel Reservations:** All Conference sessions, meals and receptions will take place at The Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio. PDSA has secured room rates for patients, caregivers, and family attending the conference at \$169 per night (king or double/double). A separate rate is available for industry and physician attendees. Once your Conference registration has been made, you will be sent the information to make your hotel accommodations. Hotel rooms cannot be booked prior to your conference registration.

**Questions?** If you have any questions or require assistance while completing the registration form, please contact Jody Shy at the PDSA office at (440) 746-9003 or via email at [jshy@pdsa.org](mailto:jshy@pdsa.org).

### Scholarships

Partial scholarships to attend the ITP Conference are available. Please send a completed conference registration form (do NOT send payment), and include a letter that includes information describing your diagnosis, your specific financial need and the benefit you hope to derive from attending the conference, to Brenda Foster at [bfoster@pdsa.org](mailto:bfoster@pdsa.org), or by mail to PDSA, Attn: Brenda Foster, 8751 Brecksville Road, Suite 150, Cleveland, OH 44141. Deadline to apply for a scholarship is July 1, 2024. **You MUST be a paid PDSA member to be eligible for a scholarship.**

Please note: Travel costs are NOT included in the partial scholarship. Due to the limited number of scholarships available, they will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis and preference will be given to first-time attendees.

### Cancellation Policy

See the registration form for details. **After July 3, 2024, no refunds will be issued.**

### Admission to Sessions

Upon registration at the conference, all attendees will receive a personalized name badge. These name badges must be worn at all times during the conference sessions and conference meals. Admission to conference activities will be restricted to badge holders.

### Exhibits

Some of our sponsors will exhibit products and services directly related to ITP. Only vendors who have permission from PDSA will be allowed to distribute materials. Other promotional materials will not be permitted in the meeting halls, registration, or reception area.

### Conference Attire

All sessions are casual attire and will be held in the hotel meeting rooms, which are air-conditioned. However, please remember, everyone has their own personal preferences for temperature and it is often difficult to control temperatures in a hotel setting. It is recommended to bring along a light jacket or sweater to the session rooms. Dress for the Saturday night PDSA Family Fun event is casual — so come to celebrate and have fun!

### Conference Etiquette

Please be considerate of others during all educational sessions and turn off all cell phones or set them to vibrate. Please arrive on time or early for the sessions you plan to attend, allowing time to add extra chairs if necessary.