



NICER

North American  
Immuno-Hematology  
Clinical Education & Research

*Celebrating*

**10 YEARS OF NICER**

**2026**

# **NICER SYMPOSIUM**

**September 16-18, 2026**

**Ann Arbor, MI**

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## Symposium Planning Committee



**Kelly Walkovich, MD**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Melissa Rose, DO**  
EDUCATION CHAIR



**Christopher Failing, MD**  
EDUCATION CO-CHAIR



**Nadine Saad, MD**  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



**Jamie Loutfy, DO**  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



**Kevin Lewis, MD**  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



**Evelyn Argirokastritis**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

# NICER CONSORTIUM

Founded in 2016, the North American Immuno-Hematology Clinical Education & Research Consortium, encompasses all disorders within immuno-hematology including those with complex immune cytopenias, bone marrow failure, lymphoproliferative and histiocytic disorders, immune deficiencies, autoinflammatory disorders and immune dysregulatory syndromes along with emerging phenotypes of a similar nature.

NICER is committed to being purposefully inclusive of pediatric and adult providers from multiple disciplines including, allergy/immunology, genetics, hematology/oncology, hematopoietic stem cell transplant, rheumatology, infectious disease, gastroenterology, endocrinology, etc. to enrich the educational environment and research goals of the consortium.

## OUR MEMBERS

- University of Michigan
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- University of Minnesota
- University of Chicago
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Johns Hopkins Medicine
- Cleveland Clinic
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Medical College of Wisconsin
- University of Florida, Johns Hopkins
- Indiana University
- UH Rainbow Babies & Children's
- The Hospital of Sick Children
- Phoenix Children's Hospital
- Cook Children's Medical Center
- Sanford Health
- Baylor College of Medicine
- Washington University of St. Louis
- UPMC
- Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
- UT Southwestern
- University of Arkansas
- All Children's Research Institute
- University of Florida

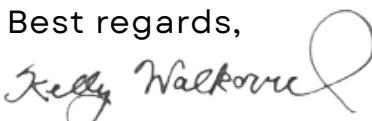
# Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

We warmly welcome you to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the NICER Consortium this coming fall. Join us in Ann Arbor for the 2026 NICER Symposium, themed "The One and Only NICER: Cytokines, Connections and Progress Towards Cures" as we reflect on the then and now of NICER alongside explorations of connections (via cytokines or personal!) that have nudged the field of immuno-hematology forward to embrace new technologies and targeted therapies.

Continuing our tradition from previous years, the 2026 symposium will feature popular sessions such as the "Stump the Professor", "Speed Networking" and "Pro-Con Debates," along with new interactive workshops. These will showcase the multidisciplinary nature of immuno-hematologic disorders, highlighting both recent advancements and existing knowledge gaps.

Best regards,

  
Kelly Walkovich, MD

*Each year, the symposium's theme is inspired by the title of a classic children's book. This year's theme is centered around "The One and Only Ivan," authored by Katherine Applegate.*

*The*  
**ONE  
AND ONLY  
NICER**

**Cytokines, Connections and  
the Progress Towards Cures**

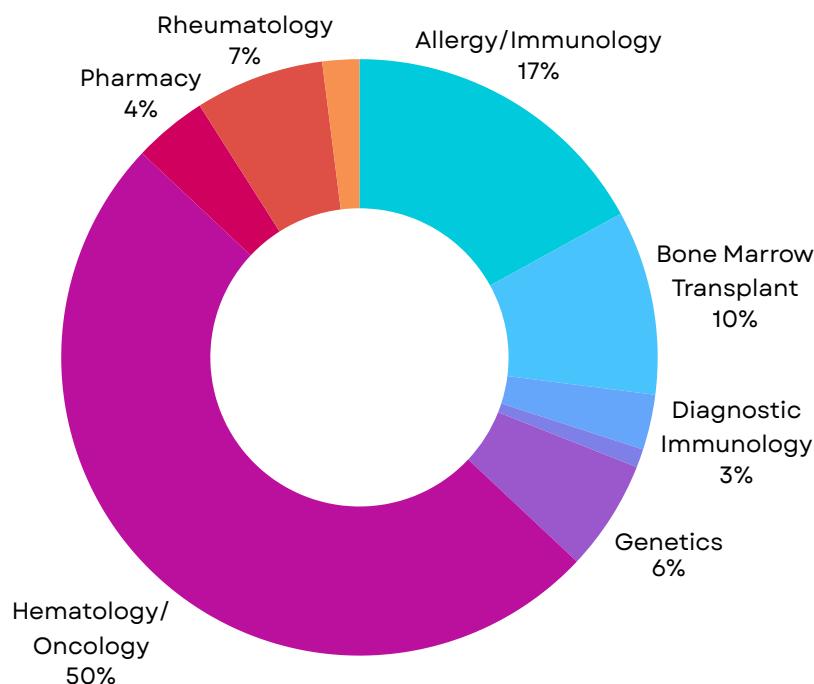
# Exhibit at NICER

The 2026 NICER Annual Symposium brings together clinicians and researchers from various fields in an interactive setting focused on presenting and discussing a multidisciplinary approach to the management, treatment, and diagnosis of rare diseases.

At NICER, we strive to cultivate a collaborative atmosphere, acknowledging the vital contributions of our industry partners in furthering our shared mission.

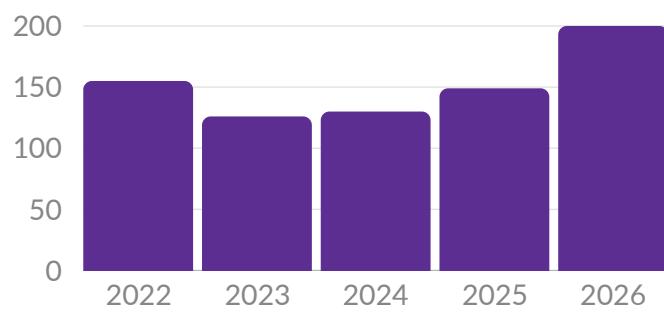
## Primary Specialties

The image represents the physicians in attendance, along with their respective specialties, as illustrated in the graph derived from attendance data for 2025.



## Previous Years Attendance

The overall figures encompass both in-person and virtual participants for previous years and projection for 2026. It is important to note that attendance in 2022 was exclusively virtual.



# Supporter Benefits

Platinum \$30,000	Gold \$20,000	Silver \$10,000	Bronze \$5,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimentary Exhibit Booth</li> <li>• Pre-registration for Speed Networking event</li> <li>• Invitation to Wednesday's Industry Panel</li> <li>• Website Advertisement</li> <li>• Email Advertisement</li> <li>• 4 complimentary registrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimentary Exhibit Booth</li> <li>• Pre-registration for Speed Networking event</li> <li>• Invitation to Wednesday's Industry Panel</li> <li>• 3 complimentary registrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimentary Exhibit Booth</li> <li>• Pre-registration for Speed Networking event</li> <li>• 2 complimentary registrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimentary Exhibit Booth</li> <li>• 1 complimentary registration</li> </ul>

*A supporter level must be secured to participate in additional opportunities below.*

## Additional Opportunities

### Gratitude Reception \$10,000

#### 1 Opportunity

WEDNESDAY EVENING. SPONSORSHIP INCLUDES RECOGNITION DURING EVENT, WEBSITE AND PRE-EVENT EMAIL.

### Product Theatre \$15,000

#### 1 Opportunity Available

SESSION MUST BE APPROVED BY THE SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE AND CAN NOT OFFER CME FOR ANY ATTENDEES. THESE SESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO BOTH THE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL ATTENDEES.

### Industry Panel \$10,000

#### 8 Opportunities

JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE A PRODUCTIVE INSIGHTS AND ENHANCED UNDERSTANDING TO FOSTER STRONGER PARTNERSHIPS

### Meal Sponsor \$8,000

#### 3 Opportunities

SATISFY APPETITES BY PROVIDING SPONSORSHIP FOR A SYMPOSIUM MEAL. SIGNAGE AND RECOGNITION BEFORE MEAL.

### Afternoon Break \$4,000

#### 2 Opportunities

HELP US CURE THE AFTERNOON MUNCHIES. MILK & COOKIES (WENDSDAY)/SNACKS FOR THE DEBATES (FRIDAY) STATION PROVIDED BY YOU! SIGNAGE AND RECOGNITION BEFORE BREAK.

### Early Career Travel Support \$1,000

#### 10 Opportunities

SUPPORT THE TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATIONS OF TRAINEES AND JUNIOR FACULTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SYMPOSIUM.

These scheduled hours are subject to change. Confirmed hours will be available 12 weeks before the symposium begins.

## Wednesday

**9:00A - 2:00P Exhibitor Setup**  
11:30A - 1:30P Industry Panel  
2:00P - 5:00P General Sessions  
**4:30P-4:40P Support/Sponsor Introductions**  
4:40P-5:40P Poster Hall  
**5:00P-8:00P Exhibit Hall Open**  
6:00P - 8:00P Welcome Reception

## Thursday

7:30A - 8:15A Breakfast  
8:15A - 12:00P General Sessions  
12:00P - 2:00P Lunch  
2:00P - 5:00P General Sessions  
5:30P-7:30P Professional Development Session

## Friday

7:30A - 8:15A Breakfast  
8:15A - 12:00P General Sessions  
**12:00P - 1:00P Product Theatre / Lunch**  
1:00P - 5:00P General Sessions

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# Join Us.

Please email us your level of interest in support, along with any additional opportunities you wish to apply for to **Evelyn at [argiroke@med.umich.edu](mailto:argiroke@med.umich.edu)**.

We look forward to your participation and are excited to explore how we can collaborate to make the 2026 NICER Annual Symposium a resounding success. Thank you for your interest and support!

