



Patient & Family Agenda

2026 WDA Annual Conference

Designed for patients, caregivers, families, and community partners

Morning Program

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
8:00 AM 9:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast	
9:00 AM 9:05 AM	Welcome & Opening Remarks	
9:05 AM 9:15 AM	Patient Perspective: Living Well with Wilson Disease	Alpana Kharkar, MD
9:15 AM 9:25 AM	Genetics Explained: What It Means for Your Family	Lisa Kinsley, MS, CGC
9:25 AM 9:40 AM	Your Treatment Toolkit: Today's Options and Tomorrow's Therapies	Fred Askari, MD
9:40 AM 9:55 AM	When Treatment Bites Back — and How to Bite Back Harder: Side Effects, Safety, and Building Habits That Last	Peter Hedera, MD
9:55 AM 10:05 AM	Fixing the Root Cause: Gene Therapy and Gene Editing for Wilson Disease	Valentina Medici, MD
10:05 AM 10:20 AM	Networking Break	
10:20 AM 10:50 AM	Jeopardy Gameshow	
10:50 AM 11:00 AM	Keeping Your Liver Healthy - and What Happens If It Isn't	Amanda Cheung, MD
11:00 AM 11:15 AM	Mood, Mind, and Medication: Mental Health in Wilson Disease	Reuben Heyman-Kantor, MD
11:15 AM 11:30 AM	Rebuilding Strength and Skills: PT, OT, Speech, and Rehab in Wilson Disease	Michael Wilson, MD
11:30 AM 11:45 AM	The Low-Copper Life: Real-World Nutrition Strategies That Actually Work	Stacey Beer MPH, RD
11:45 AM 12:00 PM	Panel Q&A;: Ask the Team	Panel

Afternoon Program

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKER
12:00 PM 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	
1:00 PM 1:15 PM	Living with Tremor, Dystonia, and Drooling: A Neurologist's Toolkit for Wilson Disease	Danny Bega, MD
1:15 PM 1:30 PM	WD in Kids and Teens - Transition to Adult	Speaker TBD
1:30 PM 1:40 PM	Navigating Insurance & Specialty Pharmacy	Alaina Sempkes, RN & Abby Mullen, PharmD
1:40 PM 1:50 PM	Caring for the Caregiver: You Matter Too	Emily Zivin, MSW, LCSW
1:50 PM 2:10 PM	Networking Break: Peer Connections	
2:10 PM 2:40 PM	You Are Not Alone: Finding Community and Support - What a Support Group Looks Like	Emily Zilvin + Panel of Patients
2:40 PM 2:50 PM	Patient Ambassador Program	Ginta
2:50 PM 3:00 PM	Advocacy & Getting Involved: Wilson Disease Community	Rhonda Rowland
3:00 PM 3:20 PM	Panel Q&A:: Ask the Team	Panel
3:20 PM 3:30 PM	Closing Remarks & Resources to Take Home	
3:30 PM 4:00 PM	Networking: Break: Patients & Speakers, Exhibit Hall	
4:00 PM 5:30 PM	Pharma Round Table Meetings with Patients	

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Afternoon Program

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