

The 5th



Sapporo Conference for Palliative and Supportive Care in Cancer

July 10 (Fri), 11 (Sat), 2026

Registration Deadline

Monday, June 15, 2026

Congress venue:

Sapporo Park Hotel
Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan.

Participation Fee:

Doctor pre-registration **¥25,000**

on-site **¥35,000**

Other medical staffs pre-registration **¥15,000**

on-site **¥20,000**

Limit of participation: 700

*Registration will be closed when reach to limit number.

Chair :

Masayoshi Kobune (Sapporo Medical University)

Conference Organizer:

Higashi Sapporo Hospital

Headquarters: **Higashi Sapporo Hospital**

3-3-7-35, Higashi Sapporo, Shiroishi-ku, Sapporo, 003-8585 Japan

TEL: +81-11-812-2311 FAX: +81-11-823-9552

E-mail: office@sapporoconference.com

<https://www.sapporoconference.com/en/>



Website

Symposium 1
08:00-12:00

July 10 (Fri), 2026

Opioids for Cancer Pain: Emerging Science and Best Practices

Chair: **David Hui** (University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA)
Russell Portenoy (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA)

Panel 1

Introduction to Panel 1: Emerging science of opioid response

David Hui (University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA)
Russell Portenoy (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA)

Genome-wide association studies of opioid response: implications for cancer pain management

Daisuke Nishizawa (National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry, Japan)

Pharmacogenetics of opioid therapy for pain control

Todd Skaar (Indiana University School of Medicine, USA)

Neuroinflammation in cancer pain: role of the tumor microenvironment in the response to opioid therapy

Angela Santoni (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy)
Edoardo Arcuri (National Cancer Institute, Rome, Italy)

Panel 2

Introduction to Panel 2: Clinical update on the use of opioids for cancer pain

David Hui (University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA)
Russell Portenoy (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA)

Buprenorphine and methadone in the treatment of cancer pain

Russell Portenoy (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA)

Effects of opioids on immune response and endocrine function

Jason Boland (Hull York Medical School, UK)

Effects of opioids on reinforcement/reward: risk of abuse and mitigation strategies

Joseph A. Arthur (University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA)

Luncheon
Seminar 1
12:00-13:00

The Lancet Commission on medicine, Nazism, and the Holocaust: historical evidence, implications for today, teaching for tomorrow

Herwig Czech (Medical University of Vienna, Austria)
Chair: Declan Walsh (Levine Cancer Institute, USA)



Symposium2
13:00-17:00

The Era of Personalized Palliative and Supportive Care for Patients with Cancer: Progress and Innovation

Chair: **Areej El-Jawahri** (Massachusetts General Hospital, USA)
Shunichi Nakagawa (Columbia University, USA)

This session will discuss the appropriateness of palliative treatment including chemotherapy, radiation therapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapy, and palliative surgery at the End of Life.

Innovations in Palliative Care Delivery for Patients with Advanced Solid Tumors

Joseph A. Greer (Harvard Medical School; Massachusetts General Brigham Cancer Institute, USA)

Bridging The Gaps: Comprehensive Palliative and Supportive Care in Blood Cancers

Areej El-Jawahri (Massachusetts General Hospital, USA)

Palliative care in the era of novel therapies and personalized medicine, using NSCLC as a lens

Jessica R. Bauman (Fox Chase Cancer Center, USA)

Palliative Care in surgical oncology: Recent updates and where do we go from here?

Ana Berlin (Columbia University Irving Medical Center, USA)

Evening Seminar
17:00-18:00

European perspectives: Future Care Planning in Palliative Care

Mark Taubert (Velindre University NHS Trust & Cardiff University School of Medicine, UK)
Chair: **Kohichi Takada** (Sapporo Medical University, Japan)

July 11 (Sat), 2026

Symposium3
08:00-12:00

Psychodynamic Perspective on the Patient-Clinician Encounter in Palliative Care

Chair: **Friedrich Stiefel** (University Hospital Lausanne, Switzerland)
Sarah Dauchy (Maison Médicale Jeanne Garnier, Paris, France)

A psychodynamic perspective on palliative care

Friedrich Stiefel (University Hospital Lausanne, Switzerland)

A psychodynamic perspective on the clinician working in palliative care

Sarah Dauchy (Maison Médicale Jeanne Garnier, Paris, France)

A history of psychodynamic influences on how we think about symptoms

James Levenson (Virginia Commonwealth University, USA)

How can psychotherapeutic approaches and palliative care be integrated within oncology care?

Camilla Zimmermann (University of Toronto, Canada)

Psychoanalytic perspectives are essential in palliative care clinical practice

Ken Shimizu (Cancer Institute Hospital of JFCR, Japan)

**Luncheon
Seminar2**
12:00-13:00

**Disentangling Distress:
Emotional, Psychological, Existential, and Spiritual Suffering in Serious Illness**

Karen Steinhauser (Duke University, USA)

Chair: Tatsuya Konishi (Musashino University, Japan)

Symposium4
13:00-16:30

**Assisted Dying (euthanasia, VAD, MAID) and Palliative Care:
Two Sides of the Same Coin?**

Chair: **Luc Deliens** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel & Ghent University, Belgium)

David Currow (Flinders University, Australia)

Part 1: Assisted dying practices and experiences around the world

Developments of assisted dying legislations and practices around the world

Luc Deliens (Vrije Universiteit Brussel & Ghent University, Belgium)

**Empirical evidence about palliative care and the sociodemographics of people
who receive assisted dying (AD) around the world**

James Downar (University of Ottawa, Canada)

**Assisted Dying (euthanasia, VAD, MAID) and Palliative Care:
Two Sides of the Same Coin?**

David Currow (Flinders University, Australia)

Palliative Care and Assisted Dying: Rethinking Boundaries, Reshaping Practice

Claudia Gamondi (Palliative Care and Support Service at CHUV; UNIL, Switzerland)

Part 2: Film Screening

Introduction: “Last Flight Home” **Ondi Timoner**

“Last Flight Home” directed by **Ondi Timoner**

In July 1982, Eli Timoner was paralyzed on the left side of his body by a sudden stroke, and he had to resign as CEO of Air Florida at the age of 53. At the time, he ran two miles a day, played tennis, and maintained a healthy diet. He spent the rest of his life walking unsteadily with a cane. Eli Timoner was admitted to the hospital in January 2021 with breathing issues. In his final days, we discover Eli Timoner and an extraordinary life of great achievements, tragic loss, and most of all, enduring love. “Last Flight Home” shares a stunning social experience of the last journey of this man with his courageous family taking care until the end. This movie received the Prize for the best documentary at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, USA.

The trailer of the movie can be seen on YouTube. Luc Deliens has reviewed the full movie at a conference in the US and it is very well done showing the importance and complexities of palliative care within an assisted dying trajectory.