Hellenic Spine Society

Diploma of the Hellenic Spine Society

(equivalent to the Eurospine Diploma)

Module 5: Tumors and Inflammatory Diseases of the Spine

29 NOVEMBER 2026

"Panos Metaxas" Amphitheatre
Hippokration General Hospital of Thessaloniki

The Panhellenic Medical Association will grant credit points of Continuing Medical Education (ECMECs)

Course Manager

Ioannis Magras
Professor of Neurosurgery

Scientific Programme

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Associate Professor of Neurosurgery

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FACULTY

COURSE CHAIRMAN	Parmenion Tsitsopoulos
FACULTY	Antoniades Elias Balogiannis Ioannis Bouramas Dimosthenis Korfias Stefanos Magras Ioannis Mazarakis Nektarios Melidou Eirini Mytilinaiou Maria Stavridis Stavros Tsitsopoulos Parmenion

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LEARNING OUTCOMES:

SESSION 1 - METABOLIC BONE DISEASES

Bone Disorders

- Paget's disease
- Rickets
- DISH (Forestier's disease)
- Metabolic bone disease Osteoporosis
- Outline the etiology of osteoporosis
- Diagnose osteoporosis using appropriate investigations

Surgical Considerations In Disorders of the Bone

- Evaluate treatment options
- Compare minimally invasive techniques including vertebroplasty, kyphoplasty and vertebral body stenting

Case Discussion

SESSION 2 - VERTEBRAL OSTEOMYELITIS

Evidence Based Medicine

- Explain the aetiology of vertebral osteomyelitis including: bacterial, tuberculous, and fungal
- Describe the pathogenesis including venous route, arterial inoculation and iatrogenic direct extension
- Anticipate the routes of spread: vertebral body & intervertebral disc

Symptoms & Diagnosis

- Recognise the signs and symptoms of vertebral osteolyelitis
- Identify the risk factors (immunodeficiency etc)
- Select appropriate investigations
- Distinguish on MRI and x-ray the key features that define and contrast both pyogenic and tuberculous spinal lesions

Conservative Management & Indications for Surgical Treatment

- Evaluate options for conservative treatment
- Compare absolute and relative indications for conservative treatment

Surgical Management of Spinal Infections

- Formulate a plan for infection specific treatment
- Anticipate complications
- Plan appropriate management
- Appraise current evidence concerned with spondylitis outcome and prognosis

Case Discussion

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SESSION 3 - RHEUMATOID DISEASE

Etiology, Pathogenesis, Symptoms, Diagnosis

- Explain the etiology of rheumatoid disease
- Describe the pathogenesis relating rheumatoid disease and joint changes
- Recognise the signs and symptoms
- Select and interpret appropriate investigations and imaging
- Recognise signs of the rheumatoid spine ankylosing spondylitis

Stabilizing & Corrective Surgery of the Spine

- Describe indications for corrective surgery for ankylosing spondylitis
- Diagnose occipito-atlantoaxial complex and subaxial cervical spine
- Differentiate between horizontal and vertical atlantoaxial instability

Diagnosis & Treatment of the Occipito-Atlantoaxial Complex

- Identify the commonly used radiographic lines and measurements for the C0 to C2 complex
- Plan appropriate treatment for C0 to C2 and sub- axial rheumatic neck problems
- Appraise current evidence regarding outcome and prognosis

Case Discussion

SESSION 4 - PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TUMORS – OUTCOME

Primary benign and malignant tumors - Diagnosis and management

- Explain the etiology of tumours and tumour like lesions
- Describe the pathogenesis relating to tumours and tumour like lesions
- Differentiate between primary benign tumours and tumour like lesions
- Select appropriate investigations, interpret results and stage tumour like lesions
- Evaluate treatment options
- Anticipate outcomes
- Formulate a plan for long term monitoring

Secondary malignant tumours - Diagnosis and management

- Justify the relative importance of combined tumour therapy including surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy
- Evaluate surgical options and results
- Formulate a multidisciplinary management plan
- Justify the risks, benefits and impact of radiotherapy and chemotherapy
- Anticipate complications

Case Discussion

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SESSION 5 - TUMORS OF THE SPINAL CORD

Intradural extramedullary tumors

- Become familiar with the potential diagnoses
- Select appropriate diagnostic work-up
- Clarify indications for surgical treatment
- Evaluate surgical options and results
- Formulate a multidisciplinary management plan
- Expect complications

Intramedullary tumors

- Become familiar with the commonest pathologies
- Choose appropriate diagnostic work-up
- Explain indications for surgical treatment
- Discuss surgical options and results
- Arrange intraoperative surgical plan
- Formulate a multidisciplinary approach and management
- Anticipate complications

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

MODULE 5: TUMORS & INFLAMMATORY DISEASE OF THE SPINE

SUNDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2026

COURSE ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

CHAIRMAN: PARMENION TSITSOPOULOS

08:30 - 09:00	Course Registration & Welcome Coffee
09:00 - 10:00	**Session 1: METABOLIC BONE DISEASES**
09:00 - 09:15	**Bone Disorders of the Spine** E. Melidou
09:15 - 09:30	**Osteoporosis. Etiology, Diagnosis and Medical Treatment** E. Melidou
09:30 - 09:45	**Surgical Considerations** E. Antoniades
09:45 - 10:00	**Case Discussion (osteoporotic patient)**
10:00 - 11:20	**Session 2: VERTEBRAL OSTEOMYELITIS**
10:00 - 10:20	**Etiology, Symptoms & Diagnosis** S. Stavridis
10:20 - 10:35	**Conservative Treatment** P. Tsitsopoulos
10:35 - 10:50	**Indications for Surgery & Surgical Management** N. Mazarakis
10.50 - 11.20	**Case Discussion (spine infections)** Faculty
11.20 - 11.50	Coffee break

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11:50 - 13:10	**Session 3: RHEUMATOID DISEASE**
11:50 - 12.05	**Etiology, Pathogenesis, Symptoms and Diagnosis** M. Mytilinaiou
12:05 - 12:20	**Stabilizing & Corrective Surgery of the TL Spine in Ankylosing Spondylitis** N. Mazarakis
12:20 - 12:40	**Diagnosis & Treatment of disorders in the Occipito-Atlantoaxial Complex** D. Bouramas
12:40 - 13:10	**Case discussion (rheumatoid disease)** Faculty
13.10 - 14.00	Lunch break
13:40 - 15:00	**Session 4: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY TUMORS - OUTCOME**
13:40 - 14:00	**Primary tumors** T. Apostolou
14:00 - 14:15	**Secondary Tumors** S. Korfias
14:15 - 14:30	**Outcome measures** I. Balogiannis
14:30 - 15:00	**Case Discussion (extradural tumors)** Faculty
15.00 - 15.30	Coffee break
15:30 - 17:00	**Session 5: TUMORS OF THE SPINAL CORD**
15:30 - 16:00	**Intradural Tumors** P. Tsitsopoulos
16:00 - 16:40	**Case discussion (intradural tumors)** Faculty
16:40 - 17:00	**Conclusion** I. Magras – P. Tsitsopoulos

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Module
Module 5: Tumors And Inflammatory Diseases Of The Spine

Registration Fee
Module 5: 400€
Module 1 and 5: 700€

Course Date
29 November 2026

Course Venue
“Panos Metaxas” Amphitheatre
Hippokration General Hospital of Thessaloniki

Course Language
English

Accreditation
The Panhellenic Medical Association grants credit points of Continuing Medical Education (ECMECs)

Organization
Hellenic Spine Society

Course Secretariat
M.K PREMIUM LTD
CONGRESS AND SOCIAL EVENTS

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