January Meeting Schedule

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Meeting Registration: Registration Link

8:30 – 9:00 AM	**Executive Committee Meeting** CLOSED MEETING - Executive committee only
9:00 – 10:00 AM	**Concurrent Committee Meetings** Everyone is encouraged to join a committee. Education Professional Issues Public Relations
10:00 – 11:00 AM	**Enriching the Population: Promoting Equity in Genomic Medicine** Margo Gallegos, MS, CGC and Kimia Sanati, MS, CGC *Ambry Genetics*
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	**Integrating Population Genomics Screening into Care: From MyCode Biobank Return of Results to Clinical Sequencing Pilot** Juliann M. Savatt, MS, CGC *Geisinger College of Health Sciences*
12:00 – 12:30 PM	**Break**
12:30 – 1:00 PM	**General Membership Meeting** President's Report Secretary's Report Treasurer's Report Introduction of Members Committee Reports New Business
1:00 – 2:30 PM	**Perinatal Post-mortem Evaluations for Reproductive Genetic Counselors: A Comprehensive Review** Rachael Bradshaw, MS, CGC *Washington University School of Medicine*
2:30 – 3:00 PM	**Break**
3:00 – 4:00 PM	**The Emergence of Epilepsy Genetics** Beth Rosen Sheidley, MS, CGC *Boston Children's Hospital*
4:00 PM	**Adjournment**

This event has been submitted to the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) for approval of 0.45 Category 1 CEUs. The American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC) accepts CEUs approved by NSGC for purposes of recertification. Approval for the requested CEUs and Contact Hours is currently pending.

Summary of Educational Presentations

Enriching the Population: Promoting Equity in Genomic Medicine
Speaker: Margo Gallegos, MS, CGC and Kimia Sanati, MS, CGC
10:00 – 11:00 AM (60 minutes, 1 contact hour)

Objectives:
1. Summarize the systemic barriers to equitable access to genetic services and how race, ethnicity, and ancestry (REA) - related disparities impact variant interpretation and diagnosis
2. Evaluate how lab-driven exome reanalysis, RNA analysis, and MAVES advance equity in genomic medicine by improving diagnostic accuracy and reducing disparity across diverse populations

Summary:
Gaps currently exist for providing genetic care for many minority groups, including specific REA groups. Continuous lab-driven exome reanalysis improves access to ongoing analysis, providing more answers in the rare disease space. Functional studies like RNA analysis and MAVES help resolve VUS results for all patients with a particularly strong impact on certain minority REA groups. As the field of genetic counselors continues to grow and evolve, a focus on equitable access will become even more important to ensure disparities do not worsen.

Integrating Population Genomics Screening into Care: From MyCode Biobank Return of Results to Clinical Sequencing Pilot
Speaker: Juliann M. Savatt, MS, CGC
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM (60 minutes, 1 contact hour)

Objectives:
1. Discuss the MyCode Genomic Screening and Counseling program's process to disclose genomic results to biobank participants.
2. Describe outcomes and experiences with population genomic screening at Geisinger.

Summary:
Population genomic screening or testing unselected individuals for pathogenic/likely pathogenic variants in medically actionable genes, has the potential to increase identification of at-risk patients thus reducing morbidity and mortality through increased surveillance, risk reduction, and targeted treatment. We will explore two population genomic screening efforts at Geisinger. First, we will explore experience with genomic screening via MyCode, a research biobank at Geisinger, a health system in Pennsylvania. We also will explore lessons learned from a pilot implementing population genomic screening clinically at Geisinger

Perinatal Post-mortem Evaluations for Reproductive Genetic Counselors: A Comprehensive Review
Speaker: Rachael Bradshaw, MS, CGC
1:00 – 2:30 PM (90 minutes, 1.5 contact hours)

Objectives:
1. Recognize the importance of autopsy and other postmortem evaluations in cases of perinatal loss
2. Discuss the psychosocial, financial, and cultural barriers for both families and providers related to arranging postmortem studies
3. Describe how postmortem genetic testing can benefit families who have experienced perinatal loss

Summary:
This session will explore the role of autopsy and other postmortem evaluations in perinatal loss. Speaker will discuss the barriers families and providers face, the value and limitations of modified protocols and how postmortem genetic testing can offer meaningful insights and support for families.

The Emergence of Epilepsy Genetics
Speaker: Beth Rosen Sheidley, MS, CGC
3:00 – 4:00 PM (60 minutes, 1.0 contact hours)

Objectives:
1. Summarize past and current understanding of the genetic basis of the epilepsies.
2. Review genetic testing strategies and practice guidelines for epilepsies

Summary:
First described 4,000 years ago, epilepsy has inspired a wide range of theories of causation. People with epilepsy continue to experience stigma and discrimination and many lack access to treatment. How has our understanding of the epilepsies changed over time? What impact has the next generation sequencing era had on the diagnosis, treatment, and management of the epilepsies? This session will address the rapid advances made in epilepsy genetics research over the last decade, highlight the clinical and personal utility of genetic testing, and provide a framework for addressing the remaining challenges ahead.

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All talks/modules above are presented via PowerPoint presentations and sound. The presenters have visual aids and key points listed on their PowerPoint presentations.
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