



SPEAKER: Dr. Anthony Komaroff

The Simcox-Clifford-Higby Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School

Senior Physician, Brigham and Women's Hospital



LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

After completion of this educational live activity, the participant should be able to:

- To understand the case definition of ME/CFS
- 2. To identify symptoms common in ME/CFS, although not part of the case definition
- To learn about the underlying biology of the illness—involvement of the brain, immune system, and energy metabolism
- To learn a reasonable diagnostic work up of a patient with ME/CFS
- To implement a treatment strategy for patients with ME/CFS

Continuing Education

Accreditation Statement: St. Vincent's Health System is accredited by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Credit Designation: The St. Vincent's Health System designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA

Does your patient have ME/ Chronic Fatigue Syndrome?

Improve your knowledge of ME/CFS so you can address patient needs

May 7, 2013

(12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.)

St. Vincent's East – Auditorium/Classroom 1 & 2

Often misunderstood

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) is a serious, debilitating and complex illness that affects multiple systems of the body. ME/CFS is often misunderstood; those affected have to battle both the illness and community misconceptions.

In fact, 77% of CFS patients report negative experiences with health care providers, and 66% believe the treatment they received made them worse. As a result, many patients have lost faith in the medical profession and have simply stopped seeking any treatment, considering it a waste of time, money and their limited energy to attend an appointment.

Your patient may require:

- You to advocate for them within the medical system
- Help in understanding medical information as cognitive function can be impaired
- Extended post-operative recovery and rehabilitation time
- Physical assistance e.g. use of a wheelchair or walking stick
- A quiet area away from bright lights and noisy thoroughfares
- Special meals if they have dietary restrictions (due to digestive problems or sensitivities)
- Appropriate pain relief

Sensitivities

Orthostatic Intolerance

'Brain Fog'

Immune Impairment

Neurological and cognitive dysfunction

Fatigue

Pain

Gastrointestinal problems

Sleep dysfunction

Multiple Chemical Sensitivities

Disclosures

Faculty: Dr. Anthony L. Komaroff

- * Has no relevant financial relationship to disclose.
- * Will not be discussing the off-label or investigational use of products Course Director/Independent Clinical Reviewer (s): Gregory James, M.D., CMO

and Senior Vice President of St. Vincent's Health System and Shawn Morehead, M.D. SVE Family Medicine Residency Program; David DeAtkine, Jr., M.D. Endocrinology & Internal Medicine Assoc.

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<u>Planning Committee:</u> Lisa B. Davis, CCMEP; Gregory James, M.D.; Shawn Morehead, MD; David DeAtkine, Jr., M.D. have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.