

# Advanced Colposcopy: The Complete Lower Genital Tract

## Is this educational activity right for me?

Provision of optimal health care for women requires that the health care provider be adept in the management of difficult vulvovaginal and cervical conditions such as abnormal cervical cytology screening tests, recurrent candidiasis, lichen sclerosus, introital dyspareunia, recurrent HPV or herpes virus lesions, and vulvar and cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (VIN and CIN). This ASCCP postgraduate course is designed to provide the skills necessary for managing women with these difficult vulvovaginal and cervical conditions. Specific targeted clinicians are obstetrician-gynecologists, family practitioners, dermatologists, pathologists, ob/gyn and family practice residents, and advanced practice clinicians (e.g., nurse practitioners, physicians' assistants, nurse midwives).

## Course Competencies, Objectives

This course reflects the current status of clinical knowledge in lower genital tract diagnoses and treatment, including the recent *Consensus Guidelines for the Management of Women with Abnormal Cervical Cancer Screening Tests and the Management of Women with Cervical Intraepithelial Neoplasia or Adenocarcinoma In-situ*. It is designed to improve medical knowledge, practice-based learning, patient outcomes, systems-based practice, and interpersonal and communication skills. Specific goals are set for the learner to obtain upon completion of the course and it is expected the learner will be able to:

- Describe the biology, epidemiology and natural history of HPV in order to:
  - i. Evaluate and treat external genital warts, including both traditional office treatments and options for use of the latest topical therapies for these lesions; and
  - ii. Provide appropriate and guidelines-based cervical cancer screening and management of abnormal cervical cytology and treatment of preinvasive and invasive neoplasia of the lower genital tract. (Medical knowledge, patient outcomes, practice-based learning)
- Describe, diagnose and manage or treat the following conditions:
  - i. nonneoplastic epithelial conditions of the vulva and vagina;
  - ii. infectious diseases of the vulva, vagina, and cervix to include difficult vaginitis, recurrent fungal diseases, and primary and recurrent herpes virus infections;
  - iii. desquamative inflammatory vaginitis;
  - iv. benign tumors of the vulva, vagina, and cervix; and,
  - v. ulcers and erosions of the vulva. (Medical knowledge, patient outcomes, practice-based learning)
- List the new terminology categories for vulvar pain and evaluate etiologies of vulvar pain. (Medical knowledge, patient care)
- Apply a range of nonsurgical and surgical treatments for vulvodynia. (Medical knowledge, patient outcomes, and practice-based learning)
- Diagnose a variety of pigmentation abnormalities. (Medical knowledge)
- Describe and apply the current evidence-based guidelines and their algorithms for the management of:
  - i squamous cervical cytology (ASC, ASC-H);
  - ii low and high grade cervical cytology and histology; and,
  - iii glandular cervical cytology (AGC). (Medical knowledge, systems-based practice, patient outcomes)

- Assess practice populations and apply management recommendations specific for adolescent, middle reproductive age and postmenopausal women at risk for the various vulvovaginal and cervical diseases and to each group. (Medical knowledge, systems-based practice, patient outcomes)
- Direct evaluation to women most likely to benefit from the various diagnostic and management approaches for lower genital tract disease. (Medical knowledge, systems-based practice, patient outcomes)
- Counsel patients about lower genital tract diseases. (Interpersonal and communication skills)



## Course Educational Methods

**Lectures:** Each day, the learners attend general sessions designed around the Society's curriculum, which details the necessary and basic principles considered the foundation of knowledge required to evaluate, diagnose and manage vulvovaginal as well as cervical health and disease in women.

**Open Question and Answer Sessions:** Each lecture session concludes with an open question and answer period led by the presenter(s). Questions are solicited from the learners and are read to the full audience. In addition, educators seek teaching opportunities at breaks to answer specific questions one-on-one.

**Pattern Recognition/Case Sessions:** Intense and interactive exposure to multiple vulvovaginal cases and cervical cases help to sharpen assessment and biopsy placement skills. Over 500 different vulvovaginal and cervical images are presented during the span of a given course, allowing learners to practice recognition of various vulvovaginal and cervical conditions. Interactive sessions on the techniques and procedures used in the screening and management of lower genital tract conditions are conducted.

**Interactive Sessions:** Using an audience response system, the learner's knowledge is tested on the techniques and procedures used in the screening and management of lower genital tract conditions. For the "Your Diagnosis Is?" session, faculty present unusual cases for open questions, group diagnosis and management votes, and correct answers are discussed.



**Panel Discussions:** For selected topics, the learners will direct questions to a panel of experts on how to integrate reported advances into their practices to panels of experts. Experts will present their evidence-based interpretations so that the learners can adapt these responses to their varying clinical situations.