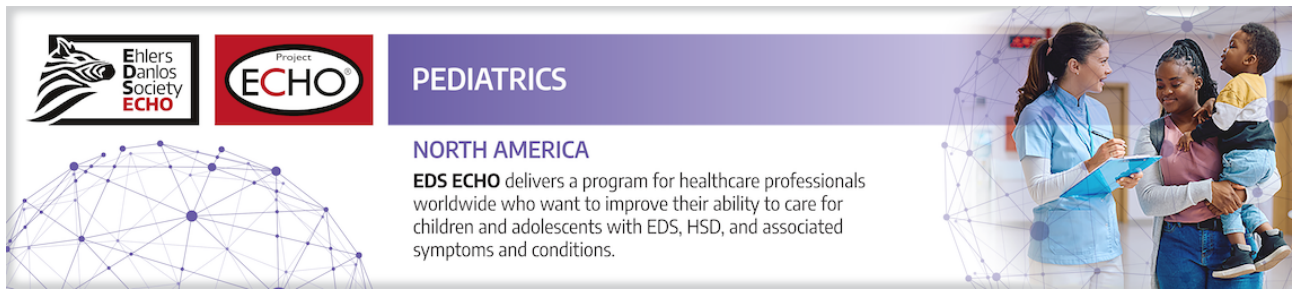


EDS ECHO Pediatrics North America

Certificate Supplement and Program Summary

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Program Title:

Program Title: EDS ECHO Pediatrics North America

Program Code: PED6A

Program Overview:

EDS ECHO Pediatrics North America program is a virtual program for healthcare professionals worldwide, across all disciplines who want to improve their ability to care for children and younger people with EDS, HSD, and associated symptoms and conditions.

The program is composed of seven sessions, each consisting of expert presentations and discussion-based interactive sessions delivered virtually via the Zoom platform. Each session is 90 minutes in length and is led by [Dr. Sarah Schwartz](#) and [Constance O'Connor](#) from Toronto, Canada.

Each 90-minute session consists of a 60 min presentation and a 30-minute Q&A, focusing on children and adolescents. Participants are encouraged to attend the whole program for continuity and to gain all learning outcomes. Participants can ask questions or present de-identified cases from their own practice where there is a concern about any aspect of management of EDS and HSD or their complications.

The program is suitable for healthcare professionals worldwide, working clinically and currently working with / planning to work with EDS or HSD clients.

Educational Aims:

This program aims to support healthcare professionals in developing a deeper understanding of the complex symptom profiles and multifactorial considerations involved in care for children and adolescents with EDS or HSD.

The curriculum draws on current literature and clinical expertise, with sessions covering topics such as gastrointestinal concerns, psychological and social impacts, cardiovascular concerns, and musculoskeletal concerns. The program culminates in an integrated case-based session that encourages participant interaction and application of learning.

Through the use of evidence from established conditions, diagnostic guidelines, and specialist EDS clinical observations, participants will build practical skills to support effective and informed care. The program is delivered by a team of experienced EDS/HSD medical professionals who are based out of Toronto, Canada.

Knowledge gaps addressed: This program addresses gaps in practitioner knowledge and confidence related to care for children and adolescents with Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) and hypermobility spectrum disorders (HSD). It focuses on improving understanding of the multi-systemic impacts of EDS and HSD, particularly gastrointestinal concerns, psychological and social impacts, cardiovascular concerns, and musculoskeletal concerns. The program supports clinicians to apply evidence-informed, personalized care strategies and to integrate interdisciplinary approaches into practice when working with children and adolescents with EDS or HSD.

Learning Objectives:

The learning objectives of the program are:

- Gain an evidence-based and clinically informed understanding of effective assessment and management of younger people with EDS and HSD.
- Understand the range of co-morbidities (POTS, MCD, GI disorders, neurological) and their effect on younger people diagnosed or suspected EDS or HSD.
- Value of the inter- and transdisciplinary team approach to management.
- Better understanding of the personalized approach with case study reviews and discussion.
- To gain confidence in supporting/referring people with EDS and HSD.
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Program Structure & Syllabus:

The program consists of seven sessions, each delivered virtually via the Zoom platform. Sessions are 90 minutes in duration and include presentations from skilled clinicians alongside case-based, interactive learning.

Program Schedule:

Session	Session Topic	Date and Time: Tuesdays at 4:30pm–6:00pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)
1	Hypermobility in the Pediatric Population Guest Speakers: Dr. Sarah Schwartz and Ms Constance O'Connor	April 14, 2026
2	Diagnosis of EDS: Clinical Criteria and Genetic Testing Guest Speaker: Dr. Roberto Mendoza	April 21, 2026
3	Physiotherapy Approaches and Interventions to the Management of Hypermobility and EDS Guest Speaker: Ms. Brianne Burton	April 28, 2026
4	Psychological and Social Concerns in Hypermobility and EDS Guest Speaker: Dr. Stella Dentakos	May 5, 2026
5	Pain Management in Hypermobility and EDS Guest Speaker: Dr. Naiyi Sun	May 12, 2026
6	Cardiovascular Symptoms and Management in Hypermobility and EDS Guest Speaker: Dr. Juan Camilo Guzman	May 19, 2026
7	GI Issues in Hypermobility and EDS Guest Speaker: Dr. Margaret Marcon	May 26, 2026

Educational Methodology:

Each session comprises a 60-minute presentation followed by a 30-minute facilitated case discussion. The educational approach emphasizes practical application, peer learning, and clinical relevance, with a focus on older adolescent and adult care.

Participants are encouraged to engage actively by asking questions and sharing de-identified cases from their own practice related to nutritional management of EDS, HSD, or associated complications. Attendance at the full program is recommended to ensure continuity of learning and completion of all educational outcomes.

Faculty:

Program Facilitator: Sarah Schwartz

Sarah Schwartz is a paediatrician at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and an assistant professor at the University of Toronto. She was involved in the development and implementation of the first paediatric EDS clinic in Canada, which was launched in 2017. She continues to work closely with the Hospital for Sick Children EDS Clinic multi-disciplinary team as the program's paediatrician.

Dr. Schwartz is a graduate of McGill University Medical School, the New York University (NYU) Paediatric Residency Program, and the Hospital for Sick Children Academic General Paediatrics Fellowship Program. She also completed a Masters in Education at the University of Toronto.

Having worked at the Hospital for Sick Children for over a decade, Dr. Schwartz is actively involved in clinical care, medical education and leadership activities. As the Program Director of the Division of Paediatric Medicine Fellowship Programs since 2014, she has been successful in developing and growing a training program that encompasses Academic General Paediatrics, Paediatric Hospital Medicine, Community Paediatrics, Child Maltreatment Paediatrics, Paediatric Palliative Care and Paediatric Dermatology. As the Director of Ambulatory Paediatrics for the Division of Paediatric Medicine since 2012, she has been part of leading a significant shift in models of care.

Program Facilitator: Constance O'Connor

Constance (Connie) O'Connor, RN (EC), MN is a Nurse Practitioner at SickKids in Toronto, Ontario, Canada who currently works in the Ehlers Danlos Syndrome (EDS) and Connective Tissue Disorders Program. Connie obtained both her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Nursing degrees at the University of Toronto, where she is a Clinical Adjunct in the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. Connie has held a variety of nursing roles at SickKids in the Division of Paediatric Medicine, and in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. Connie has been a member of committees for national and international organizations including the Canadian Nurses' Association, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency Canada, the Canadian Liver Foundation, and the International Consortium on Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes. She has several peer-reviewed publications and has been invited to speak at meetings locally, nationally, and internationally.

Guest Speakers:

Guest speakers are experienced clinicians with specialist expertise relevant to each session topic.

Participation Requirements:

Participants are encouraged to attend the full program to support continuity of learning and achievement of all educational outcomes. Partial attendance will qualify for a Certificate of Attendance, which will reflect the number of sessions attended. Session recordings do not count toward program completion or certificate eligibility.

Program Certificates:

- A **Certificate of Attendance** will be issued to participants who complete the post-program evaluation. A link to the evaluation will be provided following the conclusion of the course.

Provider Information:

The Ehlers-Danlos Society is a global organization dedicated to advancing and accelerating research and education in [Ehlers-Danlos syndromes \(EDS\)](#) and [hypermobility spectrum disorders \(HSD\)](#). We support the development of effective and equitable EDS and HSD therapies and work collaboratively to improve the lives of individuals affected by EDS and HSD.

By bridging geographic and systemic barriers, The Ehlers-Danlos Society is committed to driving meaningful change in EDS and HSD management and care delivery through educational programming.

EDS ECHO is a global program for practicing health care professionals across all disciplines who want to improve their ability to care for people with EDS, HSD and associated symptoms and conditions.

Project ECHO® addresses population health in a scalable way — moving knowledge instead of patients via telementoring and collaborative care. The heart of the ECHO model™ is its hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert specialist teams. The ECHO model is not “telemedicine” where specialists assume the care of the patient; it is a guided model aimed at practice improvement, in which providers retain responsibility for patients, and gain increasing independence as skills, confidence, and self-efficacy grow.

CPD Self-Reporting Disclaimer:

This activity is not formally accredited for CME/CPD points. Participants may be able to self-report this activity to their professional body in accordance with local CPD requirements.

Contact:

If you have any questions or would like further clarification, please contact us at echo@ehlers-danlos.com