



Saturday, March 21, 2026 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Via Zoom Videoconference

Massachusetts Psychiatric Society's 2026 Risk Avoidance & Risk Management Conference

Program Overview

We are pleased to present the 2026 Risk Avoidance & Management Conference. This is the Mass Psychiatric Society's annual risk management conference with its successful record spanning decades. The conference focuses on actual issues faced by practicing psychiatrists. The conference aims to increase the understanding of various roles of psychiatrists interfacing with the law and regulatory agencies and to foster appreciation of the challenges of psychiatrists in court. Each year experts review timely and relevant risk management issues. We utilize several didactic lectures with significant time for questions raised by conference attendees to foster learning.

This year, topics addressed will include: Dr. Thomas Gutheil reviewing major issues relevant to general risk management and fielding participant risk management questions; Dr. Nikhil Mathews will discuss violence risk assessment and management

in the psychiatric patient; Dr. Rohn Friedman will discuss implications of the American Law Institute's 2024 Restatement of Torts for medical malpractice and general psychiatric practice; President Jhilam Biswas will provide guidance on issues facing our field in 2026 due to regulatory, economic, and political circumstances; Dr. Matthew Lahaie will discuss privacy, privilege and HIPAA as it pertains to psychiatric practice; Dr. Christopher Myers will discuss the forensic and correctional mental health system of the state and issues related to working with judicially and correctional system involved patients; Dr. Margarita Abi Zeid Daou will discuss vicarious trauma for clinicians and the importance of self-care; and Dr. Samia Osman will review an approach to collaborative safety planning for the suicidal and self-injurious patient; finally, Dr. Douglas Brennan will discuss practical firearm safety for the mental health professional. Please consider joining us for this tremendous line up of speakers while fulfilling your risk management credit requirement for licensure.

Program Objectives

- Utilize risk reduction tools and strategies in daily practice
- Appreciate liabilities and risk management issues related to assessing and managing risk of violence in patients across clinical settings
- Understand the potential impacts of greater adoption of the ALI 2024 Restatement on Torts
- Review current status of privacy and HIPAA laws and their impact on various aspects of practice
- Appreciate issues related to economic, political, and regulatory environments and how they may impact important aspects of psychiatric practice, systems, reimbursement, and patient care

- Understand issues related to vicarious trauma and the importance of adequate self-care
- Highlight the utility of collaborative safety planning in the context of self-injurious and suicidal patients
- Discuss general risk management issues related to the evaluation and treatment of patients
- Learn about the Massachusetts forensic correctional mental health system and factors related to the care of patients involved with the judicial and correctional systems of the state

CLICK TO REGISTER ONLINE

Accreditation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society is accredited by the Massachusetts Medical Society to provide medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Massachusetts Psychiatric Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 6 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity meets the criteria of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for risk management study.

REGISTRATION FEE

<input type="checkbox"/> MPS/APA/MMS MEMBER	\$175
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER	\$225
<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENT/FELLOW	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL STUDENT <small>(PROOF OF MEDICAL SCHOOL REQUIRED)</small>	\$0

NEW OFFERING:

Want access to the program recordings, too? Register for the **bundle** to attend the live sessions and receive fully edited recordings. *(Recordings will be shared approximately one week later once edited)*

<input type="checkbox"/> MPS/APA/MMS MEMBER	\$225
<input type="checkbox"/> NON-MEMBER	\$275
<input type="checkbox"/> RESIDENT/FELLOW	\$65

Questions?

Call (781) 237-8100, 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Please note the link for the conference will be sent on March 20



Faculty



Jhilam Biswas, MD, DFAPA

President, Massachusetts Psychiatric Society
Director, Psychiatry, Law, and Society
Program

Co-director, Harvard Mass General Brigham
Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship
Mass General Brigham Academic Medical
Center



Matthew Lahaie, MD, JD

Activity Co-Chair & Moderator
Faculty, UMass Medical School & Harvard
Medical School



Douglas Brennan, MD, MPA

Attending Psychiatrist
Instructor, Harvard Medical School



Nikhil G. Mathews, MD, JD

Forensic Psychiatrist, Bridgewater State
Hospital



Margarita Abi Zeid Daou, MD

Adult and Forensic Psychiatrist
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral
Sciences, UMass Chan Medical School
Facility Medical Director, Worcester
Recovery Center and Hospital, DMH



Christopher Myers, MD, MPH&TM

Medical Executive Director
Recovery Solutions
Bridgewater State Hospital



Rohn S. Friedman, MD, DLFAPA

Vice-Chair, Psychiatry, Beth Israel
Deaconess Medical Center
Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Part-
Time, Harvard Medical School



Samia Osman, MD, MPP

Fellow Physician, Harvard MGH Brigham
Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship



Thomas G. Gutheil, MD

Professor of Psychiatry Harvard Medical
School
Co-Founder of the BIDMC Program in
Psychiatry & Law
Mass Mental Health Center



Program Schedule

8:30-8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction <i>Matthew Lahaie, MD, JD</i>
8:45-9:30 a.m.	Practical Violence Risk Assessment and Management <i>Nikhil G. Mathews, MD, JD</i>
9:30-10:45 a.m.	Risk Management for the Psychiatric Professional <i>Thomas G. Gutheil, MD</i>
10:45-11:15 a.m.	American Law Institute 2024 Restatement of Torts: Potential Implications for Psychiatric Practice <i>Rohn S. Friedman, MD, DLFAPA</i>
11:15-11:45 a.m.	President's Perch: Risks for the Field on the Horizon <i>Jhilam Biswas, MD, DFAPA</i>
11:45-12:30 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
12:30-1:15 p.m.	Mums the Word: An Update of HIPAA, Privacy, & Privilege <i>Matthew Lahaie, MD, JD</i>
1:15-1:45 p.m.	The Correctionally Involved Patient: Challenges for Managing Correctional Patients in Community Settings <i>Christopher Myers, MD, MPH&TM</i>
1:45-2:15 p.m.	Practical Firearm Safety for Mental Health Professionals <i>Douglas Brennan, MD, MPA</i>
2:15-2:45 p.m.	Vicarious Trauma & Self-Care <i>Margarita Abi Zeid Daou, MD</i>
2:45-3:15 p.m.	Collaborative Safety Care Planning: A Practical Framework for Mitigating Suicide Risk <i>Sami Osman, MD, MPP</i>
3:15-3:30 p.m.	Questions & Answers Session and Wrap Up <i>Matthew Lahaie, MD, JD</i>