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Building the Future Neuroendocrine Oncology Workforce: Education, Multidisciplinary Collaboration, and Fellowship Development- Proceedings from the 2026 Healing NET Foundation Summit

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BACKGROUND

Neuroendocrine neoplasms (NENs) require highly specialized multidisciplinary care, yet formal
training pathways remain limited. To address growing workforce shortages and increasing
complexity of care, the Healing NET Foundation convened its 2026 Summit to evaluate educational initiatives, provider wellness, workforce development, and fellowship planning.

METHODS

Approximately 120 participants, including 40 faculty members, attended the 2026 Healing NET
Foundation Summit in Tampa, Florida. Attendees included physicians, surgeons, endocrinologists, gastroenterologists, pathologists, radiologists, nuclear medicine physicians,
advanced practice providers (APPs), nurses, advocacy leaders, caregivers, researchers, and industry representatives. Structured presentations, breakout workgroups, multidisciplinary tumor
board demonstrations, and advocacy sessions were conducted over three days.

RESULTS

Participants identified major workforce vulnerabilities, including clinician burnout, limited formal neuroendocrine training opportunities, and impending retirement of experienced specialists. Strong consensus emerged supporting development of a flexible apprenticeship-based

fellowship model incorporating multidisciplinary rotations, mentorship, tumor board participation, and substantial clinical exposure. Participants further endorsed a two-week mini-
fellowship followed by a six-month apprenticeship model. The Healing NET Foundation Virtual
Tumor Board was recognized as a highly successful educational initiative, while APP and nursing education were identified as critical workforce priorities. Burnout prevention and provider wellness were emphasized as essential components of workforce preservation.

CONCLUSIONS

The summit demonstrated broad agreement that the future of neuroendocrine care depends upon
deliberate investment in mentorship, multidisciplinary collaboration, workforce development,
and innovative training pathways. Participants supported launching a pilot mini-fellowship in
2027 followed by a structured apprenticeship model to cultivate the next generation of neuroendocrine specialists.

ABSTRACT ID #36651