

Rethinking Chronic Pain: Applying Neuroscience to Improve Chronic Pain and Other Persistent Somatic Symptoms

presented by

Brandon C. Yarns, MD

Brandon C. Yarns, MD, MS, is a board-certified geriatric psychiatrist, Assistant Professor in the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences, and Co-Director of the national Veterans Affairs (VA) Neuroplastic Pain Recovery Program. Dr. Yarns completed psychiatry residency at the University of New Mexico, geriatric psychiatry fellowship at Yale, and a research fellowship and master's degree in health policy and management at UCLA. His areas of expertise include chronic pain, psychotherapy, clinical trials, and aging. He has received a VA Career Development Award, VA Merit Review Award, and a recent National Institutes of Health (NIH) UG3/UH3 grant to study emotional awareness and expression therapy for Veterans with chronic pain.

9/17/2026 12:00:00 PM

<https://hartfordhealthcare.zoom.us/j/91455409108>

Learning Objectives: *As a result of participating in this Live Activity, participants should be able to:*

- 1. Describe the neuroplastic changes that drive most chronic pain and persistent somatic symptoms.*
- 2. Identify clinical features that distinguish somatic symptoms driven by neuroplasticity from those driven by structural pathology in the body.*
- 3. Apply principles from Emotional Awareness and Expression Therapy to aid treatment planning for patients with persistent pain and somatic symptoms.*

Accreditation: In support of improving patient care, Hartford HealthCare is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Physicians: Hartford HealthCare designates this Live Activity for a maximum of **1.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Nurses: This activity is designated for a maximum **1.25 ANCC contact hours**.

Psychologists: Continuing Education (CE) credits for psychologists are provided through the co-sponsorship of the American Psychological Association (APA) Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP). The APA CEP Office maintains responsibility for the content of the programs.

Social Workers: As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Hartford HealthCare is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Hartford HealthCare maintains responsibility for this course. Social workers completing this course receive **1.25 general** continuing education credits.

Other Learners: All other learners will receive a Certificate of Participation for **1.25** hours of education. Consult your professional licensing board regarding the applicability and acceptance of certificates of participation for educational activities certified for **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™** from organizations accredited by Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education.

Financial Disclosures:

- Brandon C Yarns, MD: Honoraria-Curable, Inc - 07/31/2026

