OREGON PSYCHIATRIC PHYSICIANS ASSOCIATION
a district branch of the AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

OPPA 2026 Fall Virtual Business Meeting and CME Program
Saturday, September 19, 2026

Speaker Information: *James Ellison, MD*

Session: Mild Neurocognitive Disorder: Evaluation and Decision-Making At The Gateway to Dementia

Dr. Ellison trained to be a psychiatrist at the Mass General Hospital, then worked as a general and geriatric psychiatrist in or near Boston from 1982 to 2015. He also has a Master's degree in Public Health from Harvard. He has developed clinical programs and educated his peers and public in multiple settings. His clinical specialties include the assessment and treatment of neurocognitive disorders and mood disorders in older adults. He is a researcher, the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology and the author or editor of several books and multiple peer-reviewed articles.

In Massachusetts, he directed the Geriatric Psychiatry Program at McLean Hospital. While there, he also supervised the department's research program and served as developer and Program Director of the Partners HealthCare Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship.

Dr. Ellison moved to Delaware in 2015 to become the first Swank Foundation Endowed Chair in Memory Care and Geriatrics. In 2023, he moved to Jefferson Health, where he continues his career in Geriatric Psychiatry as a clinician and consultant to psychiatry and neurology and Family Medicine, and as co-director of the Comprehensive Alzheimer's Center of the Vickie & Jack Farber Institute for Neuroscience. He is also proud to serve as Past President of the Psychiatric Society of Delaware.

Learning objectives:

- Recognize the distinctions between normal cognitive aging, subjective cognitive impairment, mild neurocognitive disorder, and dementia (major neurocognitive disorder).
- Assess and diagnose mild neurocognitive disorder (MiND) according to its DSM5TR current definition.
- Intervene with diagnosis disclosure, decision making, planning, and appropriate management including disease modifying immunotherapy.
- Promote a "brain healthy" lifestyle for delay or prevention of cognitive decline.