Where and when do Grand Rounds take place?
Anesthesiology Grand Rounds takes place on Tuesdays at 5pm in the School of Medicine Building Room 130 from September through June.

How do I get CME credit for Grand Rounds attendance?
In the weekly email reminder for Grand Rounds is a clickable link for a survey. Grand Rounds participation is tracked via that survey. The survey remains open for approximately 6 days after Grand Rounds. Dr. Roman Sniecinski is in charge of the survey. At the end of the academic year, an email confirmation of CME credit is distributed to you. It is professional misconduct to claim CME credit without participating in grand rounds (either in person or remotely).

Is remote access to Grand Rounds content available?
Remote access to Grand Rounds is available for most Grand Rounds lectures. The link is distributed in the email reminder. An Emory userid and password is required. Our remote access to Grand Rounds (Webstreaming via Echo 360) is intended to make Grand Rounds more accessible to those who cannot be there because of clinical duties. It is also provided as a courtesy to those who are unable to attend Tuesdays at 5pm for any reason. The only way to be 100% positive that you don't "miss" grand rounds is to be there in person. In addition to the dissemination of information, attending Grand Rounds in person is a great way to foster a community spirit in our geographically diverse department. Also, it is a convenient and traditional meet-up location for quick or spontaneous meetings of departmental personnel for collaboration or social activities either before or after the talk.

We have been working with Emory's IT and multimedia folks to get a consistent remote access available via webstreaming. So far, the overwhelming opinion is that Echo 360 is a big improvement for this year, because it allows people to watch from home or their office, it has the capacity to have 2500 viewers, it stores the lectures for review all week (and beyond), and it allows for viewing both the speaker and the slides. As evidence of our success, grand rounds participation is up 30% (although live attendance is unchanged). Unfortunately, by putting the responsibility of accessing the webstream on the end-user (and their own particular computer system/laptop/tablet), this means that there are multiple ways in which someone can be unsuccessful in accessing Grand Rounds. Without personally investigating every person's individual system it is difficult to diagnose where or how the problem arises (we don't do house calls!).

How long are the remote access links available?
The links remain active for viewing Grand Rounds lectures for the entire academic year. Note, our approval for CME credit stipulates that the viewer must be a live participant (remote or in person). Additionally, the survey closes in about 6 days after the lecture.

I am having trouble logging on to see Grand Rounds remotely. Why do people have trouble getting Echo360 to work on their machine/device?

Getting a better understanding of the links and network issues may help people diagnose their own issues.
A) Link issues. First, the way that the links are set up and distributed is a little confusing. The echo360 program generates a link every time Ralph Wilson (Emory IT) schedules or sets up a session. These links are using secure http (https). So, clicking on the link in the reminder emails for Grand Rounds may result in an error because these links may not be permissible on your non-Emory computer or on your browser that could have been setup with certain restrictions. Typically this will result in an error about your permission settings. Additionally, these links possess a long alphanumeric code. They are not easy to remember or write down and sometimes (depending on how you setup your email windows) the text "wrap around" can add a carriage return (enter/next line) that messes up the link. For example, for a few weeks early on in the transition to Echo360, an extra space caused the links to not work. I
recommend the following if you are on your home computer or tablet if you get an error when you click on the provided link:
(1) copy (Ctrl-c) the URL without the secure http designation (basically everything in the link after the https://). You will then have to login to Echo360. After logging in you will be automatically directed to the specific lecture because the alphanumeric code was in the link. Although it would be much more convenient if we had a link on the website to either Echo360 or a webpage that had all of the grand rounds videos organized by date; but this involves more parts/paperwork than you might think (CME credits, copyright and financial disclosure forms, secure logins, and constant updates to the webpage).
(2) if you get a login error from echo360 (not a permission error), check to make sure that your emory id works (for some this may be different than Emory healthcare ID - use what you use for eIRB, Compass, Peoplesoft, etc).

B) Network issues. This is probably the most common issue. An hour of HD video is a lot of data. So, if your home system ever has problems (times out, crashes, skips, buffers continually, pixelates, etc.) on a you tube video or while watching Netflix on your tablet/PC from your browser (not your smart TV or DVD player) you might experience similar issues with our webstream of grand rounds. Be patient, and attempt the things you usually do when you have trouble watching the latest video on you tube.
(1) close your browser, close all running programs, check to make sure your computer/tablet is online, restart your browser, attempt to login into Echo360 and start the Grand Rounds session/video again. Be patient as the presentation loads.
(2) make sure your machine/tablet has speakers that are working and mute is not checked.
(3a) Sometimes, the speaker cam is not on. This could be because your network connection is too slow for the video feed so, it only gets the screen information plus audio (this sometimes happens on my tablet using Emory Wi-Fi). This can also be due to a problem with a particular camera in a particular room at the School of Medicine Building - but that is rare.
(3b) Sometimes, the speaker cam is on and the slides are not shown or difficult to see. On rare occasions this has been due to problems setting up both the speaker's cam and the feed from the slide.
(4) On only one Grand Rounds date last fall, the Emory network was having issues - leading to nearly everyone unable to access via webstream.

C) Additional information. The webstream is monitored every week and since last fall has not had any network or connectivity issues on the Emory side. If you are still having trouble accessing Grand Rounds ask your colleagues who have been successful for help. The web links from previous lectures remain active and can be tried out at any time. I don't recommend trying to access the Echo360 webstream for the first time on a Tuesday at 5pm, as if you are unsuccessful in watching grand rounds live you will be unable to log your participation as it is a professional conduct violation to do so without watching grand rounds live. Dr. Simon Lee has offered to help anyone get access and if there is sufficient interest will even hold a hands-on tutorial. If you can't locate someone at your site who has been successful with webstreaming, contact Dr. Roman Sniecinski as he has records of all of the faculty that fill out the surveys and mark their participation via webstream, we can tell you who has been successful at your site.

Why do Grand Rounds take place "live" only at Emory? Why don't we rotate the sites?
The Education Committee works very hard to make sure that the content, accessibility, and execution of Grand Rounds fits our Department’s educational mission. Annually, we review the Grand Rounds Lecture Series for times, locations, content etc. and try to update our lecture series to fit the changing needs of the department. In the past, several locations have been tried, but attendance was considerably smaller at any other site other than Emory. Perhaps this is due to the continued participation of 4 Emory affiliate sites so close to Emory (VA, CHOA, Emory Ambulatory, and Emory main) and that adjusting to a new habit (rotating sites) might be harder than anticipated. We encourage input from those wishing to get involved with Grand Rounds. The Education Committee meets third Tuesdays every other month at 4pm. See Karen Woods for details.
**Why do Grand Rounds take place at 5pm?**

It is understood that Tuesdays at 5pm are not the most convenient time to drive around Atlanta or to wait around the hospital for those who arrive at 6 AM or earlier. But, Tuesdays at 5pm have become a tradition in our department. Visiting professors have remarked how fortunate we are to get good participation in Grand Rounds after work. Since Tuesdays at 5pm have been used for so long in our department, other departmental activities are conveniently scheduled around that time: for example resident/AA education, other committee meetings, and occasional special events. The Education Committee works very hard to make sure that the timing, content, accessibility, and execution of Grand Rounds fits our Department's educational mission. Annually, we review the attendance and investigate the pros and cons for grand rounds times in addition to reviewing the content. We continually try to update our lecture series to fit the changing needs of the department. In the past, several other times have been examined (e.g., Thursday AM), but ultimately members of the departmental leadership thought it best to not interfere with clinical care or the site- or rotation-specific learning lectures in the early morning on other days. We encourage input from those wishing to get involved with Grand Rounds. The Education Committee meets third Tuesdays every other month at 4pm. See Karen Woods for details.