

**Physical Mechanisms of Ablation Delivery and Devices**  
**R. Jason Stafford, Ph.D.**  
**The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX**

There are multiple approaches and devices for delivery of minimally invasive thermal therapy. An understanding of the physical underpinnings and the devices available are instrumental to establishing some of the advantages and limitations of these therapies as well as modeling their effects in tissue. The educational goals of this presentation are to:

- Overview the physical principles and mechanisms of operation behind common thermal ablative devices.
- Discuss the advantages and challenges associated with different modes of thermal therapy delivery