



American Academy of Ophthalmology Mid-Year Forum 2023 Preliminary Program

The Mid-Year Forum is one of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's most significant yearly meetings, bringing the ophthalmology community together to instigate change and shape our profession's future.

Wednesday, April 19

Congressional Advocacy Day

4:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Registration/Information

4:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Congressional Advocacy Day Appointment Pick-Up

Desk Hours: 4:00 pm to 6:45 pm and 8:30pm to 9:30 pm

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Dinner Briefing

Moderator: Sohail J. Hasan, MD, PhD - Chair, OPHTHPAC Committee, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Join the ophthalmology community as we descend on Washington to lobby Congress on key issues that protect sight and are important to our profession. All Academy members are urged to take part in this critical event to bring their voices to these important issues. Only you can protect your patients, practice and profession.

8:45 pm - 10:00 pm

Advocacy Ambassador Program Briefing and Reception - *by invitation only*

Thursday, April 20

Congressional Advocacy Day (Continued)

6:30 am - 10:00 am

Congressional Advocacy Day Appointment Pick-Up

7:00 am - 6:00 pm

Registration/Information

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast - Questions and Answers

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Scheduled Visits with Members of Congress and Staff

Appointments with your members of Congress will be made for you based on your zip code on file at the Academy. For questions or concerns about your appointments, contact **Dash Delan at ddelan@aao.org or call 202.587.5823.**

11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Luncheon

Reserve Officers Association, One Constitution Ave., NE, Washington, D.C.

A boxed lunch for Academy members visiting Capitol Hill will be available during these hours.

Thursday, April 20

Leadership Development Program

12:30 pm- 2:45 pm

Leadership Development Program Luncheon and Meeting - *by invitation only*


Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St SE, Washington, D.C.

Participants in the Academy's Leadership Development Program XXIV, class of 2023, who have been selected through a competitive nomination process, meet in the leadership program which addresses a variety of leadership, advocacy and association management topics.

Thursday, April 20

Politics. Policy. Practice Management.

Learn about changes that impact how you practice, and develop key strategies for successfully implementing new programs into your patient-care approach.

Commercial support provided in part by  **HORIZON** – Platinum Level

3:30 pm

Welcome and Introduction to Mid-Year Forum 2023

Stephen D. McLeod, MD - CEO, American Academy of Ophthalmology and
Daniel J. Briceland, MD - President, American Academy of Ophthalmology

3:40 pm- 5:00 pm

Physician Payment: Opportunities and Challenges in the New 118th Congress

Moderators: George A. Williams, MD – Senior Secretary for Advocacy, American Academy of Ophthalmology and Mary Louise Z. Collins, MD - Trustee-at-Large

For more than twenty years, Medicare payments have failed to keep pace with medical inflation, and multiple policies implemented by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) or enacted by Congress have resulted in payment cuts to physician services. The Academy continues to work with the physician community to press Congress for long-overdue reforms to provide the stable Medicare payment system that beneficiaries and physicians need. This session will examine the opportunities and challenges for payment reform in the new 118th Congress where Republicans control the U.S. House of Representatives and Democrats control the U.S. Senate

5:00-5:30pm

Leading Efforts on Determining Physician Work Intensity

Moderator: James C. Tsai, MD, MBA – Member, Health Policy Committee, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Medicare reimbursement for cataract surgery is scheduled to be reevaluated in 2025. The American Medical Association Specialty Society Relative Value Update Committee (the RUC) will lead the revaluation process to determine the new Work Relative Value Units (wRVUs) assigned to cataract surgery. Quantifying the physician intensity, in addition to time, of surgery is essential in providing an appropriate value for wRVUs because the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services considers the RUC’s recommendations when determining Medicare payment. The American Academy of Ophthalmology’s Workgroup on Physician Work Intensity has solicited research proposals that objectively quantify the work intensity associated with cataract surgery.

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Council Regional Chair Orientation – *by invitation only*

Moderators: Thomas A. Graul, MD - Council Chair
Prem S. Subramanian, MD, PhD - Council Vice Chair

Council Regional Meeting chairs are invited to attend a special orientation including a review of the agenda for the regional meetings and responsibilities of facilitating the meetings.

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Welcome Reception and Awards Banquet - *Join us for an evening of celebration and enlightenment.*



Keynote Speaker: Terrence Keeley, Chairman and CIO of 1PointSix LLC.

9:15 pm – 11:15 pm

Surgical Scope Fund Reception – *by invitation only*

Location to be announced.

In appreciation for your support of Surgery by Surgeons in 2023, we invite you to join us to attend this special event. If you have any questions or need to check your giving history, **call 202.737.6662.**

Commercial support provided in part by  **Allergan** and  **Genentech** – Gold Level
A Member of the Roche Group

7:00 am- 5:00 pm

Registration/Information

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Orientation for New Councilors – by invitation only

Breakfast available at 6:30 am. Orientation starts at 7:00am sharp.

Moderators: Thomas A. Graul, MD - Council Chair

Prem S. Subramanian, MD, PhD - Council Vice Chair

New Councilors are invited to attend a special orientation that includes an overview of Council operational procedures and responsibilities of Councilors.

8:00 am – 11:45 am
Meeting

Advocacy Ambassador Program:- by invitation only**L.E.A.P. Forward**

(Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy and Practice Management) – by invitation only

Moderators: Andrea A. Tooley, MD and Meron Haile, MD – Members, Young Ophthalmologist (YO) Committee, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Advocacy Ambassadors will be inspired and engaged to be successful leaders in their practice setting, community, state and subspecialty society as well as national and international organizations. Young members will network and interact with active leaders in ophthalmology as they participate in panel discussions covering four major areas: **Leadership, Engagement, Advocacy, and Practice Management.**

8:15 am – 9:45 am

HEARINGS (CONCURRENT HEARINGS)**#1. THRIVING IN TODAY'S ENVIRONMENT****#2. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION, AUDITS AND DOCUMENTATION****Hearing #1. Thriving in Today's Environment**

Moderator: Ravi D. Goel, MD - Senior Secretary for Ophthalmic Practice, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Ophthalmology practices are under tremendous stress today due to everything from staffing shortages to declining reimbursements. But some are doing better than others. What are their secrets? Each practice management expert will provide two insights that you can start to use in your practice today.

Hearing #2. Prior Authorization, Audits and Documentation

Moderators: David B. Glasser, MD - Secretary for Federal Affairs, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Proper documentation is critical to navigating increasing prior authorization requirements and surviving post-payment reviews. Examples of increasing and decreasing administrative burdens will be highlighted. Strategies for successful documentation and advocacy efforts to reduce burdens will be discussed

9:45 am – 10:15 am

Break

10:15 am – 11:45 am

HEARINGS (CONCURRENT HEARINGS)**#1. EVOLUTION OF CATARACT SURGERY****#2. DISPARITIES IN VISION AND EYE HEALTH****Hearing #1. Evolution of Cataract Surgery**

Moderators: Michael X. Repka, MD, MBA - Medical Director for Governmental Affairs, American Academy of Ophthalmology and Laura K. Green MD - Associate Secretary for State Affairs, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Over the last decade cataract surgery has been affected by the premium channel, simultaneous glaucoma surgery, and innovations in drug therapies. In this hearing we will explore the evolution of cataract surgery. Medicare payment – from Usual, Customary, and Reasonable (UCR) to Relative Value Units (RVUs). We will also look to the future, discussing the potential and tradeoffs of expanding cataract surgery into the outpatient office setting.

Hearing #2. Disparities in Vision and Eye Health

Moderator: Jane C. Edmond, MD - President Elect, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Did you know that ZIP code is the leading factor which is most correlated with a person's health outcome? Even more influential than their genetic code, clinical care or personal behaviors? Disparities in overall health, including eye health, stem from a complex interplay of social determinants of health: ethnicity, access to care, education, socioeconomic status, health literacy and zip code. The mission of the Academy is to protect sight and empower lives, for all people. The Academy Task Force on Disparities in Eyecare was created with the goal of reducing and eventually eliminating eye health disparities for our most vulnerable population. Speakers will present some of the important recent work done by the task force.

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Luncheon and Closing Session

Global Ophthalmology for All: Perspectives from YOs, MOs and SOs

Moderators: R.V. Paul Chan, MD, FACS, MBA - Secretary for Global Alliances, American Academy of Ophthalmology and Simon Fung, MD, MA – Chair, Young Ophthalmologists International Committee, American Academy of Ophthalmology

Learn from a diverse panel at different career stages how they find satisfaction by engaging in various aspects of global ophthalmology, and how together these efforts enhance eyecare provision around the world.

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Break

Friday, April 21

Post Conference Events

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Advocacy Ambassador Program: Capitol Hill Wrap Up - *by invitation only*

2:30 pm - 3:50 pm

Council Opening Session

Unite with your colleagues from ophthalmic state, subspecialty and specialized interest societies to discuss key issues facing our profession.

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Council Regional Meetings

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

OPHTHPAC Reception - *by invitation only*

Location to be announced

OPHTHPAC members who contribute to OPHTHPAC in 2023 are invited to attend this lively cocktail reception with a full open bar and hors d'oeuvres. To check your giving history or to make an investment, [call 202.737.6662](tel:202.737.6662).

Saturday, April 22

Post Conference Events

7:00 am - 1:00 pm

Meeting Information

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

8:00 am - 9:30 am

Council State Section Meeting

8:00 am - 9:30 am

Council Subspecialty/Specialized Interest Section Meeting

9:30 am - 9:45 am

Break

9:45 am - 12:00 pm

Council Elections and Hearing on Council Advisory Recommendations

12:00 am - 1:00 pm

Council Luncheon