BEAT THE CLOCK

AAO 2019: Less Than Three Months Away

Take in four days of intensive education at AAO 2019: Hear new perspectives, learn clinical pearls, and improve your practice. AAO 2019 will be held at Moscone Center in San Francisco from Oct. 12-15 and is preceded by Subspecialty Day from Oct. 11-12. As the meeting approaches, check this section of EyeNet each month for event highlights and important notices.

Register Now: Fees Increase Aug. 8 and Sept. 14

Register today for AAO 2019, Subspecialty Day meetings, and AAOE Coding Sessions. Aug. 7 is the early registration fee deadline. Registration fees for specific registration categories and ticket fees increase starting Aug. 8, and again on Sept. 14.

Badges. New this year, you must pick up your badge onsite; badges will not be mailed. Starting Thursday, Oct. 10, bring your mobile device or a print-out of your confirmation email to a Registration counter in any of the Moscone Center lobbies. Scan the barcode or simply type your name or ID number into a Registration computer. Your badge will be printed immediately. Valid photo ID will be required.

Find registration information, including pricing, at aao.org/registration.

Get a Course Pass, Tickets

Get access to 350+ Academy and AAOE instruction courses with the Academy Plus course pass. With the pass, you are free to try as many instruction courses and Skills Transfer lectures as you want. Note that the course pass does not provide access to AAOE Practice Management Master Classes, AAOE half-day Coding Sessions, Skills Transfer labs, Subspecialty Day meetings, or specific special meetings and events; individual tickets are required for these.

New for 2019. Purchase of the Academy Plus course pass includes complimentary access to the Meetings on Demand AAO 2019 Highlights package, featuring videos captured from AAO 2019 and the AAOE Program sessions. Learn more at aao.org/registration.

Avoid Hotel Booking Scams

Beware of fraud! Housing “poachers” are creating illegitimate AAO housing websites that are unaffiliated with the Academy. Be sure to reserve hotel rooms only through the Academy’s official housing provider, Expovision. There are more than 80 official AAO 2019 hotels to choose from.

Book online. Visit aao.org/hotels for reservations and an interactive map with information on hotel amenities and availability. Reserving a room online is the quickest way to secure a hotel, and you receive immediate confirmation.

Book by phone or email. Agents at Expovision can assist you from Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. Call 866-774-0487 (toll-free from the United States and Canada) or email aaohotels@expovision.com.

Build Your Schedule

Start planning which sessions to attend by viewing full course listings and abstracts online with the Program Search, aao.org/programsearch. Look up information by presenter, keyword, or event number. Hit the Filter button to search the program by topic (e.g., “Cataract”),

CONNECT. One of the many benefits of attending the annual meeting is the opportunity to connect with colleagues and field leaders in and out of the session rooms.

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event type (e.g., “Symposia”), or special interest (e.g., “Endorsed by the Young Ophthalmologist Committee”). When you are ready to build a schedule, or select favorite sessions, scroll to the bottom of the page to log in.

Find more information about the programs at aao.org/programsearch.

Have to Stay Home? Sign Up for the Virtual Meeting
The Virtual Meeting is a free online component of AAO 2019. Twenty-five hours of educational content will be streamed live from the meeting and then archived. AAO 2019 Virtual Meeting is not eligible for CME credit.

Find more information at aao.org/virtual-meeting.

EVENTS
Enjoy a Free Meal and Educational Program During EyeNet Corporate Lunches
Make the most of your time between sessions in San Francisco. Located at the Marriott Marquis—just 0.2 miles from Moscone Center—EyeNet Corporate Lunches will offer a complimentary boxed meal when you attend any of the three educational programs, hosted 12:30-1:30 p.m., Oct. 12-14.

Saturday: “Update on a Treatment Option for Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration, Diabetic Macular Edema, and Diabetic Retinopathy” with speakers Ehsan Rahimy, MD, and Jordana G. Fein, MD, MS. This program is presented by Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and designed for U.S. retina specialists.

Sunday: “CONNECTING THE DOTS: Evidence Based Perspectives on Dry Eye Disease” with speakers Terry Kim, MD, W. Barry Lee, MD, FACS, Marguerite B. McDonald, MD, FACS, and Elizabeth Yeu, MD. This program is presented by Shire, Inc., and designed for U.S. ophthalmologists.

Monday: “Life is Beautiful When the Pupil Behaves” with speakers Eric D. Donnenfeld, MD, John A. Hovanesian, MD, Steve M. Silverstein, MD, Denise M. Visco, MD, and Keith A. Walter, MD. This program is presented by Omeros and designed for U.S. cataract surgeons.

Registration is not required, and lunches are served on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 12:15 p.m. Please note, these programs are non-CME and developed independently by industry; by attending, you may be subject to reporting under the Physician Payments Sunshine Act.

Find more information at aao.org/eyenet/corporate-events.

Your Evening on the Red Carpet Supports Academy Programs
Join your colleagues at the iconic Palace Hotel in San Francisco for a glamorous, Hollywood-themed evening on the red carpet. At the Foundation’s 16th annual Orbital Gala fundraiser, you’ll support the Academy’s mission to protect sight and empower lives while dining and dancing in the footsteps of presidents and royalty. Make a tribute gift to this year’s honoree, Bruce E. Spivey, MD, the Academy’s first CEO.

Buy tickets at aao.org/foundation.

2019 AWARDS
Special Awards
Individuals who are honored with these Special Awards will attend AAO 2019 as guests of Academy President George A. Williams, MD, and will be formally recognized during the Opening Session.

LAUREATE AWARD
The Academy’s highest honor, this award recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the betterment of eye care, leading to the prevention of blindness and restoration of sight worldwide.
Marilyn T. Miller, MD

GUESTS OF HONOR
This award recognizes individuals chosen by the president for their contributions to ophthalmology.
Mark S. Blumenkranz, MD
Kirk H. Packo, MD
Michael T. Trese, MD

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
This award recognizes individuals or organizations for outstanding service in a specific effort or cause that improves the quality of eye care.
William L. Rich III, MD, FACS

OUTSTANDING HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD
This award recognizes Academy members for outstanding humanitarian efforts through their participation in charitable activities, care of the indigent, and involvement in community service performed above and beyond the typical duties of an ophthalmologist.
David F. Chang, MD
Graham E. Quinn, MD

OUTSTANDING ADVOCA TE AWARD
This award recognizes Academy members for participation in advocacy-related efforts at the state and/or federal level.
Ralph C. Lanciano Jr., DO

INTERNATIONAL BLINDNESS PREVENTION AWARD
This Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to reducing blindness and/or restoring sight worldwide.
Richard L. Abbott, MD
Subspecialty Day Previews: What’s Hot
This month, program directors from the Subspecialty Day meetings preview some of this year’s highlights. View the schedules at aao.org/programsearch.

PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY 2019: San Francisco Sound Meets Science
Program directors: Scott A. Larson, MD, and Michael F. Chiang, MD
When: Saturday, Oct. 12 (7:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.)
The pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus program for 2019 will celebrate San Francisco’s history of innovative music while exploring innovations in treating pediatric eye disease and strabismus. And, this year, audience interaction is more important than ever!

At some point, every ophthalmologist who deals with strabismus must manage patients who have unsatisfactory surgical outcomes. Ophthalmologists with decades of experience in strabismus surgery will discuss the challenges of strabismus reoperations.

Many aspects of pediatric neuro-ophthalmic care are difficult; accordingly, there can be many different opinions on how to treat a single case. Sessions will explore controversies in pediatric neuro-ophthalmology in a point-counterpoint format with ample time for audience participation.

More to consider: Should you be using atropine or contact lenses to prevent myopia? Should you use balloon dacryoplasty for nasolacrimal duct obstruction? What is the best way to use beta blockers for hemangiomas? This program will take a deep look at new technologies for pediatric eye care.

Last, pediatric cataract management continues to present challenges for surgeons. Experts from around the globe will address these challenges and share their surgical techniques.

The Pediatric Ophthalmology meeting is organized in conjunction with the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY 2019: Diagnostic Errors and Challenges: Avoid the Traps!
Program directors: Prem S. Subramanian, MD, PhD, and Peter A. Quiros, MD.
When: Saturday, Oct. 12 (7:00 a.m.-5:04 p.m.)
This year’s neuro-ophthalmology program is geared toward the comprehensive ophthalmologist. This predominantly case-based Subspecialty Day will discuss vision loss, double vision and nystagmus, systemic disease, and test interpretation, as well as new and evolving therapies for neuro-ophthalmic disorders.

As always, audience participation is essential; presentations will include audience-response questions, and texting questions to the panelists is encouraged. New this year is the ultimate in audience participation: It’s called “choose your own clinical pathway,” and it allows for a case discussion in which the audience is presented with choices at each step along the way and must decide how to proceed. Participants then see the consequences of their choices. Panelists provide perspective by commenting on the clinical decision-making process.

Returning this year are the popular point-counterpoint discussions that will allow exploration of controversial questions such as “Should all new cases of optic neuritis have an extensive lab workup?” “Should NAION be treated with medication despite a lack of evidence?” “What is the role of imaging in patients over 50 with diplopia?” and “Can OCT be used to predict clinical outcomes in optic nerve disease?”

The Neuro-Ophthalmology meeting is organized in conjunction with the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society.