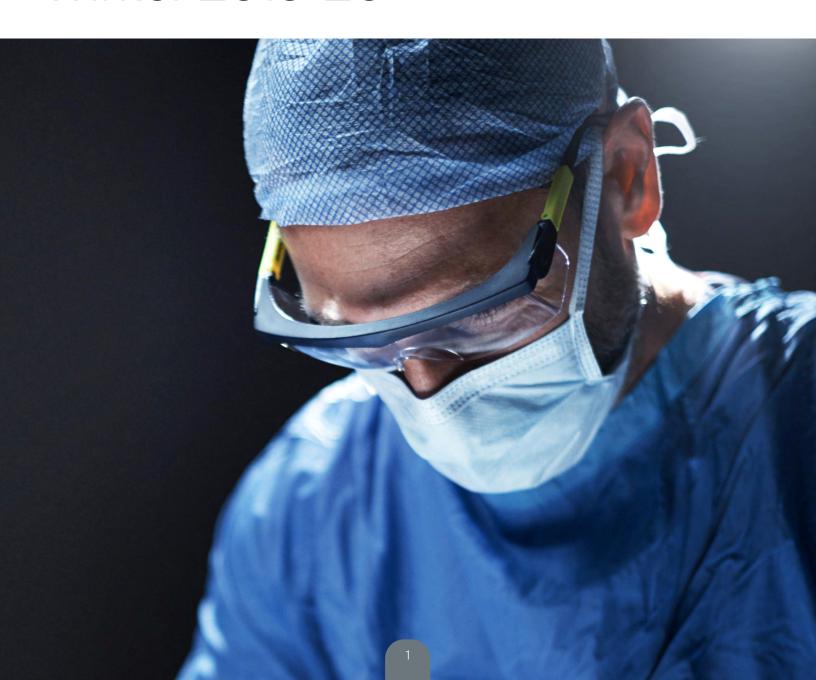


AO Spine North America Community News Winter 2019-20





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From the Editor

Dear Colleagues:

It gives me great pleasure to take on the role as Editor of the AO Spine North America Community Newsletter as I start my term as the Chair of the AOSNA Community Development Committee. This newsletter is an important platform to share the latest news and events with our members.

As we close out 2019, our Committee Chairs provide their updates on the latest news and initiatives from their committees. In August 2019, we welcomed the new class of AOSNA Fellows for the 2019-2020 academic year from 35 institutions throughout North America. As our largest class to date, with over 100 AOSNA Fellows this year, we kicked-off the Fellowship with a Welcome Webinar in August to go over important housekeeping items, events, and deadlines. At the start of the program Fellows were invited to participate in the Fellows course (Sept. 2019) in Tampa. Throughout the year, the Fellows and Fellowship Directors will participate in Fellows Webinars where members of the Fellowship Committee present cases with their Fellows. The highlight of the year will occur at the Fellows Forum in Banff (March 2020) where Fellows will present their individual research projects that they completed during the year.

AO Spine has grown into a major organization due to its leadership in research and education. In this issue, we congratulate 3 leading researchers for receiving renown awards in the field of spine research. As a professional organization, we cannot forget the annual Global Spine Congress taking place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from May 20-23, 2020. Our AO Spine publication, the Global Spine Journal is pleased to present the top articles of the quarter. The AO Spine North America continues the tradition with the Annual Reception held during the North America Spine Society meeting in Chicago. The reception was a great venue to meet and mingle with AO Spine members and other spine care professional from around the globe.

I do hope that you enjoy this Winter Issue of the Community Newsletter. We always have room for improvement. If you have any comments, questions, or ideas for newsletter topics, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brandon Lawrence, MD

Brankalene

Editor

AO Spine North America Board and Committees



AO Spine North America Board and Committees

AOSNA Board

Michael Daubs AOSNA Chair

Darrel Brodke Past Chair

John DeVine Education Committee Chair

Dan Sciubba Research Committee Chair

Brandon Lawrence Community Development Committee Chair

Dan Gelb Fellowship Committee Chair

AOSNA Education Committee

John DeVine Education Committee Chair Elect

Rick Bransford Education Chair Elect

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James Harrop Research Committee Past Chair

Brian Kwon

Ahmad Nassr

Justin Smith

Jefferson Wilson

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Brandon Lawrence Community Development Committee Chair

Lali Sekhon Community Development Committee Past Chair

Gurvinder Deol

Christina Goldstein

Eric Massicotte

AOSNA Fellowship Committee

Dan Gelb Fellowship Committee Chair

Eric Klineberg Fellowship Committee Chair Elect

Matthew Colman

Bradley Segebarth

Ryan Spiker

Michael Weber

Committee updates

AOSNA Education Committee

John DeVine, MD

Greetings from the AOSNA Education Committee. This is my last year as Chair of the Education Committee. This experience has been one of the most rewarding endeavors of my professional career. I have worked alongside the Chair-Elect, Richard Bransford (Harborview Medical Center, UW), to facilitate a smooth transition in July 2020, at which time he will assume the role as Chair. Rick served three years on the Committee (2014-2016) and remained engaged after his departure. I look forward to working with Rick for the next few years!

I would also like congratulate David Gloystein, MD. David has served on the Education Committee for the last two years and was awarded the AOSpine North America Educator of the Year. He was presented the award at the Global Spine Congress in Toronto in May 2019.

The AOSpine Webinar Series continues to mature and gain momentum. 2019 Webinar Enrollment exceeded our expectations. The Curriculum Work Group met in August and developed the 2020 Webinar Series Agenda – which was approved by the Education Committee in September. Topics include Ankylosing Spondylitis & Diffuse Ideopathic Skeletal Hyperostosis, Posterior Osteotomy Techniques for Fixed Sagittal Imbalance, Primary Spinal Tumors, Postoperative Surgical Site Infections, and Multi-level Cervical Stenosis: Laminoplasty vs Laminectomies and Fusion.

Regarding resident education, the flipped classroom approach continues to be utilized in the Principles Course with positive feedback from the participants and faculty. The Education Committee has added an additional Principles course for 2020.

The September Fellows Course supplemented with the Practice Essentials component was held in Tampa FL and was a huge success. Members of the Education Committee, Fellows Committee and AONA Board conducted official business then served as the primary faculty for the course – and this model has proved successful in the production of this main event.

The Oral Board Review Course held in June has continued to garner participation. We exceeded our participant goals and had to add an additional faculty. In 2020, we will move the course to Chicago, a more central location, to accommodate more participants.

Lastly, we have added an advanced educational offering that will be Co-Chaired by Rick Bransford and Jim Harrop. "Managing Complications: Clinically, Ethically, and Legally" will be held December 6-7 in La Jolla, CA.

AOSNA Research Committee

Daniel Sciubba, MD

Greetings from the AOSNA Research Committee. This is my first year as Chair of this committee following up the amazing work of Dr. Jim Harrop. During his tenure, the committee was successful with numerous research projects, publications and research awards.

Specifically, the research committee helped run and support multiple clinical trials, including a randomized, multi-center, international trial on cervical spondylotic myelopathy (CSM). AOSNA has long been a leader in the academic evaluation and treatment of CSM, with multiple highly cited publications out of our groups. Additional research projects include the multi-center, randomized, placebo controlled, double-blinded, trial of efficacy and safety of Riluzole in acute spinal cord injury and the prospective, comparative study of anterior vs. posterior surgical treatment of lumbar isthmic spondylolisthesis. Over the next few years, we look forward to providing one of the largest, most thorough evaluations on these spinal conditions. Please stay tuned.

AO Spine has also tasked our committee with the evaluation, oversight, and distribution of AO research grants, including the Young Investigator Research Grants Awards (YIRGA), which have allowed young surgeons and researchers to develop research projects that can provide the necessary support to springboard them toward lifelong careers in research. These grants have led to numerous publications that are proudly co-branded with AO Spine.

Finally, we have released yearly journal supplements that cover major topics in spine surgery. Our supplements have been published in the Global Spine Journal (GSJ), which is the official peer-reviewed journal of AO Spine. We plan on addressing current controversial issues in the next few supplements, and will try to cover topics like predictive analytics, economics, augmented reality in surgery, virtual reality in surgical training, robotics, and new bioactive materials used for fusion.

Please feel free to reach out to me personally if you are interested in AO Spine research in any way. We have set some ambitious goals over the next three years and would be excited to have as many members involved in research as possible.

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Committee updates

AOSNA Community Development Committee

Brandon Lawrence, MD

I would like to start by thanking Lali Sekhon for all of his dedication and hard work over the past three years as Chair of this committee. As I transition into my new role as Chair of the AOSNA Community Development Committee (CDC), I am fortunate to begin my three-year term in a very exciting time! We have several updates and exciting new projects we are working on including the new launch of the AO brand! Please be sure to visit the AO Spine website to see some of the changes over the last several months

www.aospine.org

In addition to the launch of the new AO brand, the CDC is also excited to announce the genesis of "The Top 5 articles" in the last quarter. This is going to be an International effort of curated articles coming out of the journals that are available to you as an AO Member. Not only will this help keep you up-to-date but we are looking forward to recognizing some of the best papers over each quarter. Keep on the lookout for the first curated set of articles after the New Year!

We are also looking forward to the Global Spine Congress in Rio De Janeiro in May 2020 (www.gsc2020.org). We are planning to have several events at the GSC highlighting the benefits of being an AO Spine Member, so please look forward to these announcements as we get closer and we hope to see as many of you there as possible!

AOSNA continues to have a strong social media presence: Facebook, Twitter, and Instragram. Make sure you visit and follow us!

f facebook.com/AOSpine-North-America

in AOSpine

@AOSpineNA



Many members want to contribute and there are lots of ways to do it. Members have opportunities to get involved in education, research, marketing and promotion, fellowship outreach and professional growth. For those interested in becoming more involved, email Chi Lam at clam@ AO Spine.org.

I am really looking forward to the next several years as Chair of the CDC. I am fortunate to come in at such an exciting and innovative time within AO Spine. The AO Community continues to grow, and with over 6000 members worldwide, there has never been a better time to join.

If you have not done so, join now!

AOSNA Fellowship Committee

Daniel Gelb, MD

The fellowship committee continues to work diligently to promote fellowship activities and develop a sense of community amongst the fellows. With the completion of the fellowship funding application process and the distribution of awards to Fellowship sites for the 2019–2020 cycle, we will turn our attention to other matters.

First and foremost, it should be noted that Eric Kleinberg, MD from UC Davis has been chosen as incoming Chair for the Fellowship Committee starting next summer. Eric has been a strong supporter of both AO Spine as well as fellowship education and I have no doubt that he will capably take over the work of the committee seamlessly, so that we can continue to make progress.

In September, we have completed another highly successful fellows' course: Controversies in Complex Spine Surgery: A Comprehensive Handson Bioskills course for Fellows (with Practice Essentials) in Tampa. Chaired by Greg Grabowski and Gurvinder Deol and staffed with members of the Fellowship and Education Committees, the course was highly successful and enjoyed by both faculty and participants. This course is one of the highlights of the fellowship year and serves as a cornerstone in the fellowship experience.

In October, we had the next of our fellows' webinar series on the "Treatment of Metastatic Spine Tumors" hosted by Mayo Clinic. This was an excellent and informative evening that covered the topic in a nice interactive fashion. Additional Fellows Webinars are scheduled throughout the year.

The fellowship committee continues to look for opportunities for current and former fellows to get together at national meetings to foster the sense of fellowship in community that is so crucial to AO Spine.

In the background, work continues to strengthen the fellowship experience. There is always work to be done. Several projects are underway to look at the learning outcomes from the fellowship program as well as to update the fellowship reading list that is distributed to each class at the beginning of their fellowship year. If anyone wishes to become involved in these types of activities, please reach out and let us know.

Upcoming AOSNA courses



AOSNA Webinar

Fixed Sagittal Imbalance; Posterior Osteotomy Techniques Jan. 29, 2020

AOSNA Course

Principles and Treatment of Spinal Disorders for Residents Jan. 31 – Feb. 2, 2020 in Las Vegas, NV

OneAO Meeting

Feb. 7 - 9, 2020 in Phoenix, AZ

AOSNA Webinar

Primary Spinal Tumors Mar. 4, 2020

AOSNA Course

Principles and Treatment of Spinal Disorders for Residents Apr. 3 - 4, 2020 in Las Vegas, NV

AOSNA Webinar

Ankylosing Spondylitis/DISH May 27, 2020

AOSNA Webinar

Return to Play: Guidelines after Cervical Injury Jun. 17, 2020

AOSNA Seminar

Part II Oral Board Review Jun. 27, 2020 in Chicago, IL

AOSNA Course

Principles and Treatment of Spinal Disorders for Residents Aug. 7-8, 2020 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

For more information or to register:

CLICK HERE



Designed for spine surgeons by board-certified orthopedic spine surgeons, this one-day workshop will simulate the actual oral examination given by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS).

You will present your selected spine and other cases to expert faculty who will ask questions and provide feedback to help you prepare for the exam. Faculty will evaluate you on data gathering; interpretive and technical skills; diagnosis and treatment; outcomes; and applied knowledge.

This workshop will help you to:

- Take the Part II ABOS Oral Examination
- Answer questions about your cases and case lists in a concise and orderly fashion
- Identify areas for refinement and further study that would be beneficial in exam preparation.

This program is designed for both: board-eligible orthopedic spine surgeons who are preparing to take the Part II ABOS (Oral) Examination and neurosurgeons who are looking for more opportunities to review their spine cases prior to their boards.

Register today as space is limited! **aona.org/obr**

Saturday, June 27, 2020

Hilton O'Hare International Chicago, IL **Co-Chairpersons:**

John DeVine, MD John C. France, MD

AO North America is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. AONA has been resurveyed by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and awarded Accreditation with Commendation.

This live educational activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits* ™. Course subject to modification.

AOSNA continues annual tradition with reception at NASS

The annual AO Spine North America Reception at the NASS Annual Meeting in Chicago remains an important way to present our organization and a great opportunity for our members to get together. The support of the Board, Committees, and the AO Spine members are essential to demonstrate the possibilities of being part of a global community by having direct contact with colleagues from around the world. This is the real sense of belonging to AO Spine.







Global Spine Journal is pleased to recognize the top articles of the quarter!

CLICK HERE



Top Cited Regular Issue Articles:

"Risk Factors for Delirium After Spine Surgery in Extremely Elderly Patients Aged 80 Years or Older and Review of the Literature: Japan Association of Spine Surgeons with Ambition Multicenter Study":

"Current Diagnosis and Management of Cervical Spondylotic Myelopathy":

"Autograft versus Allograft for Cervical Spinal Fusion: A Systematic Review":

"Spine Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy: Indications, Outcomes, and Points of Caution":

"Comparison Between S2-Alar-Iliac Screw Fixation and Iliac Screw Fixation in Adult Deformity Surgery: Reoperation Rates and Spinopelvic Parameters":

Top Cited Special Issue Articles:

"Timing of Decompression in Patients With Acute Spinal Cord Injury: A Systematic Review":

"Spinal Tuberculosis: Current Concepts":

"A Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Patients With Acute Spinal Cord Injury and Central Cord Syndrome: Recommendations on the Timing (≤24 Hours Versus >24 Hours) of Decompressive Surgery":

"C5 Palsy After Cervical Spine Surgery: A Multicenter Retrospective Review of 59 Cases":

"Classification of Osteoporotic Thoracolumbar Spine Fractures: Recommendations of the Spine Section of the German Society for Orthopaedics and Trauma (DGOU)": Top Downloaded Regular Issue Articles:
"Contact Sports as a Risk Factor for Amyotrophic

"Overlapping, Masquerading, and Causative Cervical Spine and Shoulder Pathology:

Lateral Sclerosis: A Systematic Review":

"Outcomes of Halo Immobilization for Cervical Spine Fractures":

A Systematic Review":

"Current Strategies in Prevention of Postoperative Infections in Spine Surgery":

"The Incidence of Pars Interarticularis Defects in Athletes":

Top Downloaded Special Issue Articles:

"A Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Acute Spinal Cord Injury: Introduction, Rationale, and Scope":

"Surgical Site Infections in Spine Surgery: Preoperative Prevention Strategies to Minimize Risk":

"Treatment of Fractures of the Thoracolumbar Spine: Recommendations of the Spine Section of the German Society for Orthopaedics and Trauma (DGOU)":

"Esophageal Perforation Following Anterior Cervical Spine Surgery: Case Report and Review of the Literature:

"Cell Therapy for Treatment of Intervertebral Disc Degeneration: A Systematic Review":

Don't forget you can check out all of our special issues here:

You can also access our special collections index, featuring articles grouped by topic here:

Follow GSJ on social media to get the latest updates! Facebook:

Twitter:

Top downloaded articles

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All change. The AO has a brand new look.

The AO has a new look and feel online. This digital rebranding has given our online presence a muchneeded new look. You will see that the AO website and our key social media pages: Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, have been rebranded in this new fresh, bold design.

This is a significant milestone in our digital transformation, and in AO's evolution, as we seek to ensure we remain relevant to younger generations of surgeons across the world who share our mission.

Transitioning to the new brand is a gradual process, and for the next nine months you will see both old and new branding used. The AO Davos Courses 2019, the AO's flagship educational event, will be the first to move fully to the new branding.

Should you have any questions about the rebranding, please let us know.



Did you know...

The AO's latest digital tool designed to support our global network of health care professionals is now live: myAO offers surgeons the opportunity to connect with other medical professionals in their specific fields of interest, and provides a new way to accessing dependable, verified, content that is tailored to your needs. AO Spine resources available on myAO include the AO Spine Knowledge Forums: Tumor, Deformity, Spinal Cord Injury, Trauma, and Degenerative. If you are interested in AO events, you can also find this information on myAO too. AO Spine members have the opportunity to access the full AO video library.

Download myAO today: https://www.myao.app/

Empowering Surgeons Come join over 160'000 surgeons using myA0 to support their Continuing Professional Development. Personalize your myA0 by following interests, Leading Journals, and more Interact with a global community of surgeons, discover Key Opinion Leaders, and follow their collections Collect knowledge, share, and discuss it with your colleagues Create account X Coreate account Already have an account? Log in

Did you know..

AOSpine North America (AOSNA) has been a supporter of Fellow Education for almost 2 decades. AOSNA was recently inducted into the Cleveland Clinic 1921 Society in recognition of our ongoing efforts in supporting spine surgeons in training.





Register now for the Global Spine Congress in Rio de Janeiro to take advantage of early bird savings

With only six months to go, it's never too early to start making plans to attend the 2020 edition of Global Spine Congress (GSC) taking place in Rio de Janeiro from May 20-23, 2020. Register by December 20 to take advantage of early bird savings of up to \$80 USD. The GSC explores new approaches in spine treatment and provides the opportunity to meet the world's best spine experts.

1.234 abstracts were submitted in over 25 categories, surpassing the number of abstracts submitted for GSC Buenos Aires by over 500 - this is the highest number of papers received for Latin America and a 12% increase from GSC Singapore.

We are expecting 2,000 participants to attend the GSC in Rio de Janeiro. The GSC is a great venue to network with spine professionals from around the world, explore career development opportunities, and gain access to the world's best research and clinical experts.

Why wait? Register today!

Congratulations!

Turnbull-Tator Award

Congratulations to Dr. Brian Kwon for receiving the inaugural Turnbull-Tator Award in Spinal Cord Injury and Concussion Research. Brian has been named the recipient of the award for his publication "Spinal cord perfusion pressure predicts neurological recovery in acute spinal cord injury" in Neurology. The Turnbull-Tator Award, presented in partnership by the Barbara Turnbull Foundation for Spinal Cord Research and the Brain Canada Foundation, with the financial support of Health Canada, recognizes an outstanding publication by a Canadian researcher in the field of spinal cord and brain inury research with a \$50,000 prize





Leon Wiltse Award 2019

Congratulations to Charles Fisher, chairperson of the AO Spine Knowledge Forum Tumor Steering Committee, for winning the Leon Wiltse Award 2019 from NASS, recognition excellence in leadership and clinical research in spine care. Dr. Fisher is a Professor and Head of the Division of Spine Surgery in the Combined Neurosurgical and Orthopaedic Spine Program in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of British Columbia.

2019 Ryman Prize

Dr Michael Fehlings has won the 2019 Ryman Prize in recognition of his long career dedicated to helping older people suffering from debilitating spinal problems. Dr Fehlings was presented with the prize by the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand, at a special ceremony in Auckland today.

The Ryman Prize is an annual \$250,000 international award for the best work carried out anywhere in the world that has enhanced quality of life for older people. It is the richest prize of its kind in the world. The Toronto neurosurgeon was chosen from a strong field of contenders for the 2019 prize by an international jury.

The jury singled Dr Fehlings out for his pioneering work for older people suffering from Degenerative Cervical Myelopathy (DCM), a degenerative neck compression problem which is the most common form of injury to the spinal cord.



Welcome to New Fellows

The AOSNA Board and Fellowship Committee is honored to welcome the incoming fellows of the 2019-2020 academic year. These fellows are further their medical careers in spine at AOSNA fellowship sites that are dedicated to core values of caring and compassion in the context of state-of-the-art clinical experiences and facilities.

Augusta University

Jacob Rumley, DO

Cleveland Clinic

David Casper, MD Jacob Hoffman, MD Joseph Maslak, MD Jonathan Rasouli, MD Eric Schmidt, MD

Columbia University Medical Center

Jun Kim, MD Joseph Lombardi, MD Jay Reidler, MD, MPH Anand Segar, MBChB, PhD Andrew Vivas, MD

Emory University

Alexander Arzeno, MD Alexander Ghasem, MD Hardeep Singh, MD Douglas Weinberg, MD

Hospital for Special Surgery

James Dowdell, MD Philip Louie, MD Michael McCarthy, MD, MPH Sohrab Virk, MD

Jefferson University

Victor Sabourin, MD Anthony Stefanelli, MD

Johns Hopkins University

Hector Soriano Baron, MD Joshua Lim, MD Camilo Molina, MD

Massachusetts General Hospital

Jeffrey Konopka, MD Zachary NaPier, MD Chason Ziino, MD

Mayo Clinic

Sandra Hobson, MD Jad Monsef, MD

McGill University

Adnan Alkandari, MD Mina Aziz, MD, FRCSC Rodrigo Navarro, MD, MSc Oded Rabau, Dr, M Med (Surgery)

Mount Sinai

Murray Echt, MD Brian Mercer, MD

Northwestern University

Felipe Ituarte, MD Anan Shtewe, MD

NYU Hospital for Joint Disease

Yuval Baruch, MD Robert Brenner, MD, MS Uchechi Iweala, MD Travis Phillip, MD Jarid Tareen, MD

OrthoCarolina Spine Center

Kirk Thompson, MD James Stokman, MD

Rush University

Sapan Gandhi, MD Krishn Khanna, MD Ziev Moses, MD Andrew Ryu, MD, MSc Evan Sheha, MD

San Diego Spine Foundation

Ryan Hoel, MD Ruwan Ratnayake, MD

Swedish Neurosciences Institute

Chris Elia, DO Ryan Goodmanson, DO Erik Hayman, MD Edward Jung, MD Bilal Qutteineh, MD Benjamin Schell, MD

Toronto Western/University of Toronto

Allan Martin, BASc, MD, PhD, FRCSC

Colby Oitment, MD, BSc, FRCSC

Anna Reinmuller, MD Thorsten Jentzsch, MSc, Dr. med, MSc

Fan Jian, MDCM, BSc, FRCSC Hananel Shear Yashuv, Dr, M Med (Surgery) Jamie Wilson, BA, Bch,

BMedSci, FRCS

Kazuya Yokota, MD, PhD

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Doug Crowther, DO

University of British Columbia

Mohammed Karim, MD Oliver Lasry, MDCM Supriya Singh, MD, BSc, MSc

University of Calgary

Michael Bond, MD, BSc, MHSc Stuart McGregor, FRCSC, MSc, MD

Faizal Kassam, MD, BSc, FRCSC

Nathan Evaniew, MD, PhD, FRCSC

University of California Davis

Hai Le, MD Joshua Barber, MD

University of California San Francisco

Kevork Hindoyan, MD Andrew Lee, MD Brenton Pennicooke, MD, MS Michael Venezia, DO

University of Maryland

Matthew Chin, MD, MS David Love, MD Scott McCarty, MD

University of Missouri

Michael Ghassibi, MD

University of Rochester

Jaren Section, MD

University of Southern California

Andrew Chung, DO Jon Kimball, MD Elliott Min, MD

University of Utah

Peter Shorten, MD Robert Owen, MD

University of Virginia

Ulas Yener, MD

University of Washington

Kim Driftmier, MD Derrick Foge, MD Jonathan Kark, MD

Washington University

Daniel Quinones, MD Michael Reiter, MD Sean Michael Rider, MD Daniel Rubio, MD

Weill Cornell Medical College

Sertac Kirnaz, MD Raj Nangunoori, MD Franziska Schmidt, MD

West Virginia University

Jason Harms, MD



Get updates on the latest news, events, course registration openings, and much more





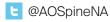


on FACEBOOK



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