



ACFAS

# Update

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 1

NEWS from the AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGEONS



## ACFAS 2014 CONFERENCE APP Warp-speed access to the 2014 Annual Scientific Conference in Orlando

Get an out-of-this-world experience at this year's Annual Scientific Conference with our ACFAS 2014 conference app. It grants conference-goers access to the entire conference from any mobile device, where they can:

- Keep track of pre-selected sessions through My Schedule
- Review all sessions and events through the ACFAS 2014 Schedule
- Access handy conference maps
- Store contacts from other conference-goers
- Find vendors in the Exhibitor Directory
- Use the built-in Twitter, Facebook, Google+ and YouTube feeds for conference updates
- Get the latest alerts and announcements

It's now ready for launch, free from iTunes and available for iPhone, iPad, Droid, or Blackberry. Simply download the ACFAS 2014 app for access to personalized conference information using one of these options:

1. On your mobile phone web browser, type: <http://m.core-apps.com/acfas2014>.
2. Search your app store for ACFAS 2014 (iOS and Android).
3. Visit [acfas.org/Orlando](http://acfas.org/Orlando) for a link to the app.

Get your app today to make the most of your ACFAS 2014 experience. For access to your personal schedule, you will be sent an email a week prior to the conference with the necessary information for access.



## Final Checklist for ACFAS 2014 Liftoff

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## I'm Humbled The President's Perspective

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# I'M HUMBLLED



As I sit and write my last “President’s Perspective” column of this great organization, I am humbled by the dedication and loyalty of you, the members; the unyielding competence of the staff; and the sharp vision of our volunteer leaders on the board and committees.

It’s been the consistency of these traits — loyalty, competence, and vision — that’s made the College what it is, year after year. And, it’s clear that the surgical specialty has been the driven force behind moving our entire profession from chiroprody — to podiatry — to today’s foot and ankle surgeon.

When I entered this profession, I honestly didn’t think true professional parity would occur during my career, but now, I do. The standardization of residency training, the

name change of ABPS to ABFAS, the growth of multi-specialty practices, scope of practice expansions, and progress toward a joint MD-DO-DPM license in California are just a few indicators of how close we are to true parity for podiatry.

But people are what makes all these things happen. I was blessed with a litany of incredible teachers and mentors in my life — many of whom are past and present ACFAS leaders. And these role models sparked a desire in me to teach and mentor as well. I get a great sense of satisfaction from teaching and mentoring — and these roles often results in wonderful new friendships.

If there’s one thing I hope to have instilled in you this year is the need for all of us to teach and mentor—not only to our family and

friends, but especially with residents and students. Share your wisdom and experiences. Be there when times are tough. And help celebrate their successes. I guarantee you will gain more than you give and you’ll be a “pay it forward” role model for the next generation.

I will soon turn the ACFAS gavel over to one of our profession’s most-skilled surgeons and avid researchers, Thomas S. Roukis, DPM, PhD, FACFAS. As the 63rd President of the College, I know the College, and our specialty, will be in good hands. Please support Tom, and his successors, just as you have supported me this past year.

Thank you again for your loyalty and dedication to our profession and patients. See you in the classroom!

**I guarantee you will gain more than you give and you’ll be a “pay it forward” role model for the next generation.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jordan P. Grossman".

**Jordan P. Grossman, DPM, FACFAS**  
ACFAS President

Questions for Dr. Grossman? Write him at [president@acfias.org](mailto:president@acfias.org).

## The HUB: Where You Get Answers to Your Questions



As always, the Annual Scientific Conference 2014 will offer an abundance of in-depth educational sessions. Conference-goers come expecting to discover the latest in clinical practices, and this year's line-up won't disappoint. But we know that running a successful practice takes more than just staying up-to-date on industry topics and issues—you need answers to your questions.

That's what you'll find at The HUB, located in the Exhibit Hall. The HUB will offer bite-sized education on a variety of topics in mini-forum sessions. The small-group structure allows for intimate interaction

and exchange, which will complement your large-scale conference experience.

Seating for each session is limited, and entry is first come, first served. Check the schedule for the topics you'll want to catch and be sure to arrive to The HUB in plenty of time to get your seat.

We are excited about this addition to ACFAS 2014 and how it can transform how you practice. You'll walk away with practical tips and advice for implementing better practices in management, processes, and strategy. See you at The HUB!

## Continuing Education Made Easier ACFAS Coming to You Program

It isn't always easy to take time away for continuing education. That's why ACFAS is once again coming to you! Throughout 2014, we'll offer continuing education sessions across the nation through a partnered project between the College and ACFAS Divisions. This year's Coming to You Program offering is the Simple to Complex Forefoot Revisional Surgery Workshop and Seminar.

Programs begin Friday evening with a presentation on "Common Forefoot Surgical Complications—How to Deal with Them" and is followed by case studies. Participants should bring cases to share. Saturday's

sessions will provide a full day of succinct lectures followed by hands-on workshops featuring sawbones, where you will practice what you've learned.

Spring sessions are scheduled on our coasts, one in California and one in Virginia. Plans are under way for fall sessions—watch for those dates and locations, coming soon. We trust one of these will make continuing education more convenient for you to get away and learn the latest in techniques, materials, and products. Attendees receive up to 12 continuing education contact hours.

Register today at  
[acfas.org/comingtoyou](http://acfas.org/comingtoyou).



April 25–26, 2014  
ACFAS and Division 11  
Tysons Corner Marriott  
Tysons Corner, VA

May 2–3, 2014  
ACFAS and Division 1  
Manhattan Beach Marriott  
Manhattan Beach, CA

## 2014 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

February 12, 2014 (Wednesday)  
**Transitioning Your Practice to ICD-10 Webinar**

February 26, 2014 (Wednesday)  
**Perfecting Your Practice: Coding/Practice Management Workshop**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center  
Orlando, FL

February 26, 2014 (Wednesday)  
**Diabetic Deformity: Master Techniques in Reconstruction**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center  
Orlando, FL

February 26, 2014 (Wednesday)  
**Monday Morning Trauma: Advanced Reconstruction Techniques**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center  
Orlando, FL

February 26, 2014 (Wednesday)  
**Advanced Tendon Repair and Fixation**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center  
Orlando, FL

February 27 - March 2, 2014 (Thursday-Sunday)  
**2014 Annual Scientific Conference**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center  
Orlando, FL

April 25-26, 2014 (Friday/Saturday)  
**Simple to Complex Forefoot Revisional Surgery Workshop & Seminar**

ACFAS and Division 11  
Tysons Corner Marriott, Tysons Corner, VA

May 2-3, 2014 (Friday/Saturday)  
**Simple to Complex Forefoot Revisional Surgery Workshop & Seminar**

ACFAS and Division 1  
Manhattan Beach Marriott, Manhattan Beach, CA

\*To be wait listed please contact  
Maggie Hjelm at [Hjelm@acfas.org](mailto:Hjelm@acfas.org)

For a full listing of upcoming educational opportunities, visit [acfas.org/education](http://acfas.org/education).

# Final Checklist for ACFAS 2014 Liftoff



Ten, nine, eight . . . Before the 2014 Annual Scientific Conference takes off February 27, we have a final checklist for all conference-goers. These tips and reminders will ensure your time in Orlando is a stellar experience:

## Download the ACFAS 2014 Conference App.

Our conference app gives you ready access to your personalized conference schedule as well as conference details, maps, vendor lists, and more.

## Check Orlando's Weather Before You Pack.



It's likely to be warm and sunny, but weather isn't perfectly predictable. Check the forecast and pack accordingly.

## Get to Registration as Early as Possible.

Liftoff is scheduled for 1pm, Wednesday, February 26. Sign in and get your conference experience started.

## Wear Your Badge.

For security purposes, please wear your conference badge at all times—meetings, receptions, sessions, and exhibit hall.

## Bring a Sweater or Jacket.

Rooms will be kept cool. Wear layers to stay comfortable.

## Use #ACFAS2014 to Stay Connected.

The buzz about ACFAS 2014 has already begun on social media. Stay in the loop before, during and after the event by using #ACFAS2014 in your Twitter and Facebook posts to search social media engines for what others are sharing.

## Plan to Attend the Satellite Events & Reunions.

Make plans to attend the programs and socials hosted by industry partners during the conference—and don't forget about the many reunion events.

## Check out The HUB.

A new mini-forum to give you a small-group interaction within the large-scale conference experience.

## Complete Your Post-Conference Evaluation.

Your feedback is essential! Let us know your thoughts on the app or on the printed evaluations available at the conference.

## Buy Your Tickets for the Wrap Party.

Don't miss the Wrap Party at the Cuba Libre where you'll be transported to Old Havana to enjoy the evening with colleagues, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, interactive Mojito stations and fun!

Tickets are still available by calling ACFAS to have the tickets added to your order or you can purchase them on site in Orlando at the Registration Desk. Tickets are \$40 each.

## Satellite Events

Take part in these special events hosted by industry partners during the conference. Check the app for updates once the conference launches.

**Wednesday Evening Social:** Don't miss this kick-off social and education event hosted by BME at the Gaylord.

**Thursday Evening Networking:** Expand your network at 6:15pm Thursday, and enjoy food and beverages with your fellow conference-goers at The Premier Connection.

**Friday Breakfast Event:** Get the day started right at a breakfast symposium hosted by Aminox Medical at the Gaylord.

**Saturday Breakfast Event:** Wake up with another breakfast symposium hosted by Wright Medical Biologics Division at the Gaylord.



# Write Now to Fix Medicaid Act!

Best bipartisan opportunity in a decade



The best opportunity in a decade to fix the Medicaid Act by specifically including podiatrists as providers, just as the Medicare Act does, warrants every DPM to act now and support the bipartisan HR1761 and S1318 bills.

Also known as the “HELLPP” (Helping Ensure Life- and Limb-Saving Access to Podiatric Physicians (HELLPP) Act, this legislation, sponsored by Representatives Lee Terry (R-NE) and Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Senators Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Chuck Grassley (R-IA), would remove patient access barriers to podiatric physicians and surgeons, enhance patient choices, improve health quality outcomes and reduce health spending.

Even though foot and ankle care is a covered benefit under Medicaid law, care provided by a podiatrist is considered an optional benefit and is not covered by all state plans, thus limiting Medicaid patient access to specialized foot and ankle medical and surgical care.

The HELLPP Act would remedy this access barrier by recognizing podiatrists as physicians and would bring the Medicaid program in line with the Medicare program, which has recognized doctors of podiatric medicine as physicians since 1967. Additionally, clarifications to Medicare’s Therapeutic Shoe Program for persons with diabetes in the HELLPP Act would improve coordi-

nation of care for patients and result in fewer Medicare office visits.

Also supporting the HELLPP legislation is APMA, National Hispanic Medical Association, American Public Health Association, and Society for Vascular Surgery.

ACFAS is strongly supporting this legislation and encourages all members to write your federal legislators today in support. Go to [apma.org/eAdvocacy](http://apma.org/eAdvocacy), login, and quickly send e-mails to U.S. representatives and senators today.

# Practice Management

**ACFAS  
CODING/PRACTICE  
MANAGEMENT  
WORKSHOP  
JULY 18-19**



Operating a medical practice in today's environment presents many challenges—shrinking insurance reimbursements, changing regulations, rising business costs—all can feel like barriers to success. Help to remove some barriers and make plans to attend the ACFAS Perfecting Your Practice: Coding/Practice Management Workshop July 18-19, 2014 at the San Diego Marriott Gaslamp Quarter in beautiful San Diego, California.

In this day-and-a-half interactive, comprehensive course you'll learn the essentials to help you with the business side of your practice. You and your staff will leave the program with the essentials of understanding coding for Evaluation and Management services, coding for surgical procedures and use of modifiers, how to attest for Meaningful Use, transitioning to ICD-10, and providing and getting reimbursed for durable medical equipment.

Watch for further information on this popular workshop. For questions, contact Dawn Brennaman, MPA, Director of Health Policy, Practice Advocacy and Research at dawn.brennaman@acfas.org



## New Proposed EHR Meaningful Use Timeline

In late 2013, CMS proposed a new timeline for implementation of meaningful use for the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs. Under the revised timeline, Stage 2 will be extended through 2016 and Stage 3 will begin in 2017 for those providers that have completed at least two years in Stage 2.

The Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs provide financial incentives for the “meaningful use” of certified EHR technology to improve patient care. To receive an EHR incentive payment, providers must demonstrate that they are “meaningfully using” their EHRs by meeting thresholds for a number of objectives. CMS has established the objectives for “meaningful use” that eligible professionals, eligible hospitals,

and critical access hospitals (CAHs) must meet in order to receive an incentive payment. Doctors of Podiatric Medicine are eligible professionals (EPs).

Launched in 2011, the Meaningful Use Stage 1 emphasizes proper data capture and data sharing. Providers who meet the 15 core quality measures of Stage 1, and who satisfy five of 10 “menu measures” can attest and receive a Medicare incentive payment. Stage 2 increases health information exchange between providers and promotes patient engagement by giving patients secure online access to their health information. All providers must achieve meaningful use under the Stage 1 criteria before moving to Stage 2.

CMS offers resources on Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the EHR Incentive Programs on its website, including the Stage 1 [cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/downloads/Beginners\\_Guide.pdf](http://cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/downloads/Beginners_Guide.pdf) and Stage 2 [cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/Downloads/Stage2\\_Guide\\_EPs\\_9\\_23\\_13.pdf](http://cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/EHRIncentivePrograms/Downloads/Stage2_Guide_EPs_9_23_13.pdf) Beginner's Guides.

Additional information on the proposed new implementation timeline is available at [cms.gov/eHealth/ListServ\\_Stage3Implementation.html](http://cms.gov/eHealth/ListServ_Stage3Implementation.html).

## Hutchinson, Rubin, Steinberg Elected to ACFAS Board

Recently elected to the ACFAS Board of Directors by voting College members were Byron L. Hutchinson, DPM of Seattle, Washington; Laurence G. Rubin, DPM of Mechanicsville, Virginia; and John S. Steinberg, DPM of Washington, DC. Hutchinson and Steinberg were elected to three-year terms and Rubin was elected to a two-year term. Each will begin their terms at the 2014 Annual Scientific Conference on February 27-March 2 in Orlando, Florida.

Also joining the board for a two-year term as chair of the Division President's Council is Akson M. Nouvong, DPM of Pomona, California.

Heading the 2014-2015 Board of Directors will be the four incoming officers elected by the Board: Thomas S. Roukis, DPM, PhD, President; Richard M. Derner, DPM, President-Elect; Sean T. Grambart, DPM, Secretary-Treasurer; and Jordan P. Grossman, DPM, Immediate Past President.

Continuing on the board are Kris A. DiNucci, DPM; Christopher F. Hyer, DPM; and Christopher L. Reeves, DPM; Retiring from board service in February will be Michelle L. Butterworth, DPM; and Randal L. Wraalstad, DPM.

## Looking for a Job or Have a Position to Fill? Visit the ACFAS Job Fair

Sponsored by **Podiatry Careers.org**

PodiatryCareers.org, the ACFAS online career center and a College Benefits Partner, is hosting the first-ever ACFAS Job Fair at the Annual Scientific Conference in Orlando later this month.

### How do you participate?

#### Employers:

Post your positions online through the PodiatryCareers.org job portal during the conference and receive a show discount. All ACFAS Members get reduced rates on job postings and PodiatryCareers.org is providing a show special, where employers who purchase a 30-day posting at the conference will get an additional 30 days free.

#### Job Seekers:

Whether you're finishing your residency, a few years out in practice, or looking to make a change in your career by joining a larger practice or a hospital-based program, it's always good to freshen up your resume and keep your eyes open to available job opportunities. You can post your resume online in advance of the conference and PodiatryCareers.org will also post it within the Job Fair for potential employers to view, or you can visit the Job Fair in the exhibit hall in Orlando and bring your resume to post on their job boards.

Interested in finding out more and taking advantage of the Job Fair? **Visit PodiatryCareers.org and their Job Fair in Booth #1214** on the exhibit hall floor at ACFAS 2014. Employers and job seekers—don't forget to bring extra copies of your jobs and resumes to be handed out!

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## In Memory

Donald J. Arenson, DPM, FACFAS  
Elmhurst, IL



## Hats off to ACFAS 2013 Volunteer Leaders

The College gratefully recognizes members who have devoted their time and expertise in service on ACFAS 2013-2014 committees and task forces. Thanks are also due to those who served in the past year as peer reviewers and section editors on the *Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery*. Their names have been published in JFAS and can be viewed at [acfas.org/jfas](http://acfas.org/jfas).

Kyle W. Abben, DPM  
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Harold W. Vogler, DPM, FACFAS  
Eric G. Walter, DPM, FACFAS  
Stephen C. Wan, DPM, FACFAS  
Julie A. Wiegler, DPM, FACFAS  
Randal L. Wraalstad, DPM, FACFAS

## Discover the Latest Member Resources

### Benefits are great—if you know about them

Did you know your ACFAS membership opens access to a storehouse of benefits? Details are available at [acfas.org/members](http://acfas.org/members), where you can learn about Podiatric CME, discover world-renowned research, improve your practice, secure money-saving services, understand how ACFAS advocates for you, find member logo usage standards, locate a colleague and much more!

With so much available, we also want to highlight a few of the latest additions right here:

#### Technology & Media

- An all-new [acfas.org](http://acfas.org) with a mobile-friendly design
- [jfas.org](http://jfas.org) now available in an iPad app
- New social media outreach to patients with YouTube and Google+ outlets
- ACFAS press release archives
- An Annual Scientific Conference mobile app each year

#### CME, Research, & DPM Education

- New eLearning podcasts: one on High-Risk Fractures and another on Fellowship Specialties: Surgical, Sport-Focused and Research
- Five new post-graduate fellowship programs with ACFAS Recognized and Conditional Status
- A new Post-Graduate Affairs Committee to help enhance residency education, standardize residency programs, and assist residency directors in doing their jobs
- Funding of research in foot and ankle surgery

#### Patient Education, Health Policy, & Practice Advocacy

- New Marketing Toolbox
- New informational videos to educate patients and referring physicians
- A new *The Foot and Ankle Surgeon* brochure for your potential patients
- A new brochure *Referring to the Foot and Ankle Surgeon* for members to give to potential referral physicians
- Revised position statements for the Truth in Advertising, Board Certification of Residency Directors and the Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Cosmetic Surgery Position and a new position statement on Privileging Guidelines for Total Ankle Replacement

Benefits only enhance your membership if you know about them—and use them. Let us know how we can help you make the most of being an ACFAS member.

## Make plans to Attend Your ACFAS Regional Division Meetings in Orlando

ACFAS Regional Divisions promote superior care of foot and ankle surgical patients through education, research and the promotion of the highest professional standards at the state and local level.

Attend your Regional Division's meeting to hear the recent and planned activities of the

Division, meet the officers, and network with ACFAS members who are practicing in your part of the country.

All ACFAS Members who attend their Division's meeting will be placed in a drawing to receive one of two Apple iPad minis—don't miss it!

See below the schedule of Regional Division meetings that are being held during the ACFAS Annual Scientific Conference in the Exhibit Hall. Look for your Division's table sign:

#### Thursday, February 27

1-2 pm

Division 3: Southwest  
Division 8: New England  
Division 9: Greater New York  
Division 10: Upstate New York

#### Friday, February 28

1-2 pm

Division 4: Desert States  
Division 5: Florida  
Division 6: Midwest  
Division 11: Mid-Atlantic

#### Saturday, March 1

Noon-1 pm

Division 2: Northwest/Canada  
Division 7: Michigan  
Division 14: Southeast

#### Saturday, March 1

1-2 pm

Division 1: Pacific  
Division 12: Tri-State  
Division 13: Ohio Valley

# 21%

Percent of ACFAS members in solo practice (compared to 2009 – 42%)



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