

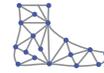
# ACFAS Update

VOLUME 24 ISSUE 4 NEWS from the AMERICAN COLLEGE OF FOOT AND ANKLE SURGEONS

## “Take a New Look” Campaign Embarks on Strong Second Year

After a stellar first year, the College’s national public relations campaign, “Take a New Look at Foot and Ankle Surgeons,” is diving right into Year 2 with even more events and initiatives lined up to help

reach nurse practitioners (NPs), diabetes educators (DEs) and family physicians (FPs) and to show these providers how they can best work with foot and ankle surgeons in providing patient care.



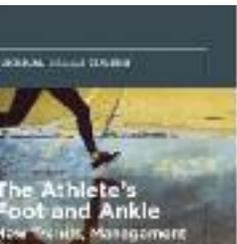
TAKE A NEW LOOK AT  
**FOOT & ANKLE  
SURGEONS**  
TAKEANEWLOOK.ORG



**“Take a New Look” will exhibit at the following conferences this summer:**

- American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) National Conference (June 20-25, Philadelphia)
- American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) Annual Meeting (August 4-7, Indianapolis)
- American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Family Medicine Experience (FMX) (September 12-16, San Antonio)

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**Advanced Sports Medicine Course**

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**President’s Perspective SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION**

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## THE STRUCTURE IS SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION

In honor of the recent National Volunteer Month, I want to personally thank each of the hundreds of volunteers who give their time, expertise and resources to the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS) and to also reach out to those members who have not yet volunteered.

The profession of foot and ankle surgery is a structure we've created from podiatry—and the foundation of that structure is ACFAS. No other organization is more aligned with and supportive of our needs than the College. So, why is it that while many have stepped up to volunteer and have helped to reinforce that foundation, others are still hesitant to do so? It's an unfortunate truth that there are too many of us who haven't supported our profession. Each of us is challenged every day to prioritize the demands on our time with work, family and community—each vying for our attention. But remember, we can only grow if we all work together to support our structural foundation.

My own personal family motto has always been, you get what you give. I encourage each of you to visit [ACFAS.org/volunteer](http://ACFAS.org/volunteer) to see how you can help support our foundation by volunteering. Some other suggestions:

- In addition to committee service, we also ask for volunteers to serve on clinical consensus statement panels, and as regional division leaders and poster competition judges.
- Reach out to a current or past volunteer about his or her experience, and you might be surprised to learn that you'll "get" as much as you "give."
- Commit today to attend the next Annual Scientific meeting in Nashville, March 22-25, 2018. I promise if that's your first step it will not be your last.

We are all busy, but without you, there would not be an American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.

Still not convinced? Check out the *Take a New Look at Foot & Ankle Surgeons* public relations campaign at [TakeANewLook.org](http://TakeANewLook.org). It's aimed at nurse practitioners, diabetes educators and family physicians—explaining our unique training and board certification—and why they should trust us for referrals.

Another way you can help support the foundation is to publish in *The Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery* before considering other journals. *JFAS* is the official publication

of the College and publishing in *our* journal should be members' highest priority. You could also volunteer to review an article or encourage others to become official Peer Reviewers. Adding more members to our network also strengthens our publishing process and structure.

To help further solidify our foundation, we need to improve our research and publishing. ACFAS recently named a task force to foster more research through the College's Recognized Fellowships Program. I'd like to thank Thomas Roukis, DPM, PhD, FAFAS; Paul Kim, DPM, FAFAS; and Naohiro Shibuya, DPM, MS, FAFAS, for helping to lead this important endeavor. It is my hope that the fellowship directors will be supportive of this new initiative and will help take our research to the next level.

We all know what happens if you don't take care of the foundation; after all, we make our livings dealing with "uncared for structures." Remember, the many bricks we lay to support our profession will continue to build upon the strong foundation. It's the foundation that supports the structure.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laurence Rubin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Laurence G. Rubin, DPM, FAFAS**  
ACFAS President

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



## More to Listen to in ACFAS e-Learning Portal

If you need a few CME hours to meet your licensure or privileging requirements or would like to hear fresh takes on established surgical procedures, visit ACFAS' e-Learning Portal at [acfas.org/e-learning](http://acfas.org/e-learning) for four new free clinical sessions:

- Century of Hallux Valgus: Evolution of Treatment
- The Obstinate 2<sup>nd</sup> MTPJ
- Managing Ankle Arthritis Without TAR
- Charcot: Back to the Drawing Board

Each session features individual presentations with recognized experts who share their views on specific surgical techniques and treatment approaches. Earn CPME CE credits by taking a short exam after you watch each session.

Access the complete clinical session library, podcasts, Surgical Techniques videos, e-Books and other products in the portal for convenient, next-level learning that is always ready when you are.

## “Take a New Look” *(continued from page 1)*

Three ACFAS ambassadors focused on each of the target groups are working with NPs, DEs and FPs on numerous reciprocal benefits, including:

- Sean T. Grambart, DPM, FACFAS, is writing an article on gout with AANP representatives.
- John S. Steinberg, DPM, FACFAS, is speaking at the AADE Annual Meeting; and
- Christopher L. Reeves, DPM, MS, FACFAS, is working with AAFP on reciprocal promotional opportunities.

“Take a New Look” also includes an email campaign to members of AANP, AADE and AAFP explaining how they can become treatment team partners with foot and ankle surgeons. In addition, social media advertising is being used to spread the word on why referring to foot and ankle surgeons is the best choice for their patients with foot and ankle issues. Watch *ACFAS Update* for conference recaps and photos, and visit the newly updated **TakeANewLook.org** for tools and resources to help increase referrals to your own practice.

## 2017 EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**July 21-22, 2017 (Friday/Saturday)**

### Coding & Billing for the Foot & Ankle Surgeon

Courtyard Marriott  
Philadelphia

**August 12-13, 2017 (Saturday/Sunday)**

### Foot & Ankle Arthroscopy

Orthopaedic Learning Center  
Chicago, IL

SOLD OUT

**September 17-18, 2017 (Sunday/Monday)**

### Foot & Ankle Arthroscopy

Orthopaedic Learning Center  
Chicago, IL

SOLD OUT

**October 8-9, 2017 (Sunday/Monday)**

### The Athlete's Foot & Ankle: New Trends, Management and Surgical Treatment

Orthopaedic Learning Center  
Chicago, IL

**October 13-14, 2017 (Friday/Saturday)**

### Coding & Billing for the Foot & Ankle Surgeon

Marriott Phoenix Airport  
Phoenix

**November 11-12, 2017 (Saturday/Sunday)**

### Foot & Ankle Arthroscopy

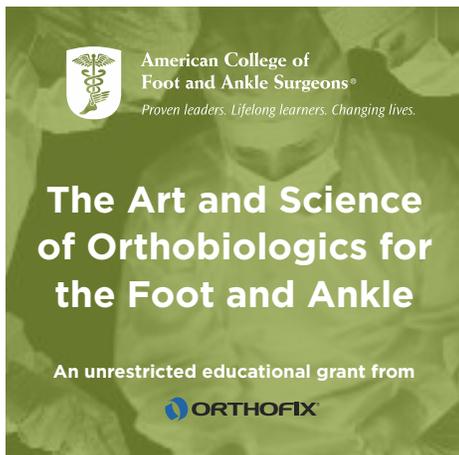
Orthopaedic Learning Center  
Chicago, IL

SOLD OUT

\*To be waitlisted for sold-out courses, 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).**

## Making the Most of ACFAS' Newest e-Book



No matter how much experience you have working with orthobiologics, ACFAS' second e-Book release, *The Art and Science of Orthobiologics for the Foot and Ankle*, has just what you need to help you decide on the best treatment approaches for achieving optimum bone healing in your patients.

The e-Book is designed to serve as a ready resource of answers to your clinical questions about the biology and mechanics of bone healing. Paul Dayton, DPM, MS, FACFAS, e-Book editor, envisions the e-Book as an ongoing reference you can use in your day-to-day practice. "Some chapters are intended to improve background knowledge, while others are meant to be game day resources for clinical decision-making and procedure technique," he explains. "But applicable chapters can be accessed as soon as any patient care questions arise."

Self-assessments are included after each of the 12 e-Book chapters to reinforce your learning, but Dr. Dayton recommends you go a step further to get the most from your reading. "While we've attempted to include the latest evidence on the subjects in each chapter, the orthobiologics evidence base is changing rapidly," he says. "Investigate emerging evidence and technology after you read the e-Book so you can help contribute to the knowledge base," Dr. Dayton advises. He also hopes the many new ideas introduced will inspire you to look outside the mainstream when using orthobiologics in your treatment plans.

Visit [acfas.org/e-Learning](http://acfas.org/e-Learning) to purchase the orthobiologics e-Book, and stay tuned for updates on other e-Books in production.

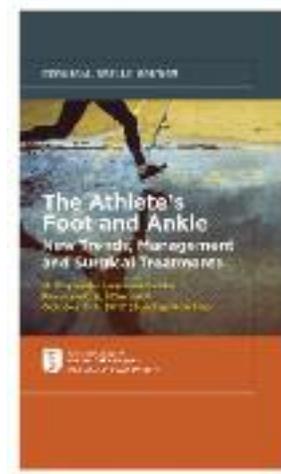
## Save the Date for New Advanced Sports Medicine Surgical Skills Course

*The Athlete's Foot and Ankle: New Trends, Management and Surgical Treatment* is a brand-new Surgical Skills course scheduled for October 8–9 at the Orthopaedic Learning Center in Chicago. The rapid evolution of surgical techniques demands you acquire more diverse surgical skills, and this course will help you achieve just that.

Each day, you will take one of two one-day tracks—Open Procedures (Track A) and

Advanced Arthroscopy (Track B). These tracks combine panel and case-based discussions with generous cadaveric lab time to help you confidently evaluate sports injuries and indications for surgery.

Sunday evening includes dinner and a fireside chat during which you can share radiographs of your cases. Registration details are coming soon, so watch *This Week @ ACFAS* for updates. Spots for this course are limited.





In this issue of *ACFAS Update*, Alan S. Goldenhar, DPM, FACFAS, of the College's Credentialing and Privileging Advisory Team (CPAT), answers the following question from readers.

**Q:** "The Credentialing Committee at my local hospital wants to impose proctorship for 30 cases of ankle fusion surgery while the orthopaedic section members are not required to have any proctoring for such procedures. What should I do?"

**A:** Refer to the *ACFAS Position Statement, Credentialing of Podiatric Foot and Ankle Surgeons and Guidelines for Surgical Delineation of Privileges*, while taking into account the following:

1. The College's position is that the credentialing processes for granting privileges for the specialty of foot and ankle surgery should be uniformly applied to all surgeons seeking foot and ankle surgery privileges, regardless of medical degree.
2. The granting of clinical privileges for a foot and ankle surgeon with a DPM degree should be based on fair and objective analysis that follows the same requirements as set forth in evaluating other physicians consistent with The Joint Commission (TJC) standards and/or Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoPs). TJC standards specify that evidence of current license, competence, relevant training and ability to perform the procedures that the privileges request should form the basis of privilege delineation. The available clinical privileges in an acute or ambulatory setting should represent the scope of practice as defined by state law.

Therefore, requiring proctorship for a DPM versus an MD for ankle fusion surgery would violate the principles of TJC/CoPs standards for equitable privileging.



## Register Now for Coding & Billing Seminar

Correct reimbursement for the care you provide starts with proper coding of your cases. Learn how to do this in *Coding and Billing for the Foot and Ankle Surgeon*, July 21-22 in Philadelphia. Case-based and interactive, this seminar will give you everything you need to simplify your coding and reimbursement practices. Expert faculty will also walk you through multiple-procedure cases and show you how to code a sample patient encounter from beginning to end. Visit [acfas.org/practicemanagement](http://acfas.org/practicemanagement) to register now.

## 25 Past Presidents Gather at 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference



A record 25 past ACFAS presidents gathered together to celebrate the College's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Annual Scientific Conference in February in Las Vegas. They were recognized at the opening general session to a standing ovation as representatives of the College's 10,000 members and hundreds of volunteer leaders over the past 75 years. All past presidents are featured in *The Evolution of a Profession: The First 75 Years of ACFAS*, a new ACFAS book published in conjunction with the anniversary. To obtain a copy of the 190-page book, email [info@acfas.org](mailto:info@acfas.org) or download a PDF at [acfas.org/evolution](http://acfas.org/evolution). A video on the College's history, also shown at the conference, is viewable at [acfas.org/history](http://acfas.org/history).



**Seated in chronological order: Front Row:** Seymour Z. Beiser (1972), William Lowe (1973), Donald W. Hugar (1980), Gary R. Dorfman (1983), Edward H. Fischman (1984), Richard L. Hecker (1986), James H. Lawton (1989), Howard M. Sokoloff (1990), Gary S. Kaplan (1991), Lowell Scott Weil Sr. (1993), David C. Novicki (1994). **Back Row:** Harold R.

Schoenhaus (1995), Gary M. Lepow (1999), Bruce R. Werber (2003), John J. Stienstra (2005), James L. Thomas (2006), Daniel J. Hatch (2007), Mary E. Crawford (2009), Michael S. Lee (2010), Glenn M. Weinraub (2011), Michelle L. Butterworth (2012), Thomas S. Roukis (2014), Richard Derner (2015), Sean T. Grambart (2016), Laurence G. Rubin (2017).

### In Memory

Thomas R. Amberry, DPM, FACFAS  
Seal Beach, CA

Scott E. Denisar, DPM, AACFAS  
Dayton, OH

Edwin A. Knipstein, DPM, FACFAS  
Lubbock, TX

Richard Sikora, DPM, FACFAS  
Greensboro, NC

H. Merton Smith, DPM, AACFAS  
Akron, NY

Fred D. Youngswick, DPM, FACFAS  
Novato, CA

# Reach New Patients with Summer *FootNotes*

Spend your summer recruiting new patients, not sweating about how to market your practice. Download the summer issue of *FootNotes* from the ACFAS Marketing Toolbox at [acfas.org/marketing](http://acfas.org/marketing), customize it with your office's contact information then use it to educate new and existing patients.

Articles in this latest edition include:

- 10 Vacation Tips for Healthy Feet
- Runners & Joggers: Watch for Morton's Neuroma
- Weekend Warriors Vulnerable to Foot & Ankle Injuries

To get the most mileage out of *FootNotes*, post this issue on your practice's website or distribute printed copies at any community health events you are scheduled to speak at this summer. You can also leave copies in your waiting room or include them in mailings to your patients.

Free PowerPoint presentations, infographics, healthcare provider referral tools and other resources—with more on the way—are available at [acfas.org/marketing](http://acfas.org/marketing) to help you promote your practice any time of year.



## Plan to Apply for 2017 Clinical & Scientific Research Grant



Each year, the ACFAS Clinical and Scientific Research Grant program awards up to \$40,000 in funding to support the College's core goal of advancing evidence-based medicine (EBM) to improve the clinical practice of foot and ankle surgery and enhance patient care.

The 2017 application will be available in late July on [acfas.org](http://acfas.org), along with the Research and EBM Committee's "wish list" of research topics. This year, the committee would like to see research on hammertoe implants and ankle implants. Grant applications are due **September 15, 2017**. Send any questions about the research grant to [research@acfas.org](mailto:research@acfas.org).

# From Deputy Sheriff to Surgeon



At first glance, law enforcement and foot and ankle surgery may not seem to have much in common. But for Michael A. Coyer, DPM, AACFAS, becoming a foot and ankle surgeon in California after working for 15 years as a deputy sheriff, sergeant and lieutenant in Michigan was a natural transition.

Growing up in a law enforcement family set the stage for Dr. Coyer's first career. "I looked up to my relatives who were police officers. Working in law enforcement seemed exciting to me, plus I would be able to make a difference in my community," he explains.

Yet, even as a child, Dr. Coyer had an interest in medicine, which only deepened through his friendship years later with Gary Baughman, DPM. "While I found law enforcement to be a challenging and rewarding profession,

Dr. Baughman showed me firsthand the positive impact foot and ankle surgeons can have on patients and their care," says Dr. Coyer.

At age 34, after rising through the ranks within the Bay County Sheriff's Office, Dr. Coyer felt ready for a new role that would still allow him to help others and change lives. He enrolled in Kent State University's podiatric medical degree program at age 37 and then moved to Orange County, California after completing his residency training to join a foot and ankle surgery/sports medicine practice.

Moving nearly 2,500 miles was no small endeavor for Dr. Coyer, but his decision to live and work in California was an easy one to make. He felt that Orange County's diverse and active population would offer him ample opportunity to treat patients of all ages and

demographics and to specialize in sports medicine and reconstructive foot and ankle surgery. As an outdoor enthusiast, Dr. Coyer also appreciated southern California's warm climate and admits he felt at home immediately upon his arrival. "After suffering through far too many Michigan winters, I really looked forward to the sunny southern California weather," he adds.

The adjustment from working the night shift in law enforcement to life as a medical student, resident and now attending physician took some getting used to, but Dr. Coyer managed it by following a schedule. "Designating time to study, work or relax was new to me but helpful," he says. Spending time with family and friends also kept him from feeling overwhelmed. He continues to take time each day

**“While I found law enforcement to be a challenging and rewarding profession, Dr. Baughman showed me firsthand the positive impact foot and ankle surgeons can have on patients and their care.”**

—Michael A. Coyer, DPM, AACFAS



Michael A. Coyer, DPM, AACFAS

to plan his professional and personal tasks to help maintain a balanced lifestyle.

Now that he is settled into his new life on the West Coast, Dr. Coyer uses his medical education and training, as well as his background in law enforcement, to treat his patients' foot and ankle conditions. He credits his experience as a police officer with teaching him the value of professionalism and compassion in even the toughest or most unstable situations.

"It taught me how to relate well to others, no matter the circumstances, and gave me an insight very few possess," he shares. He also considers himself fortunate to have trained under Jordan P. Grossman, DPM, FACFAS, Mark A. Hardy, DPM, FACFAS, and other mentors who taught him the

importance of both achieving technical proficiency and advancing the profession.

Dr. Coyer advises those looking to embark on a career in foot and ankle surgery to reach out to an active ACFAS member who can serve as a mentor and can help set personal and professional goals. For foot and ankle surgeons who would like to pursue a new career, he says not to be afraid to make the change when the timing is right. "We often spend too much time thinking about starting something instead of taking action to make it happen," he notes.

From this point forward, Dr. Coyer will continue to use the education, training and experience he gained from both careers to help his patients and to serve as an ambassador of the foot and ankle surgical profession.

## **Dr. Coyer's Top 3 Tips for Making a Career Transition**

- 1. Surround yourself with good people. It is often difficult to make major decisions objectively, so having close friends or family whom you can trust makes things much easier.**
- 2. Develop a plan and write it down. It makes it easier to maintain focus when the unanticipated happens.**
- 3. Enjoy the journey. Do not look past the present and focus too much on the future. While the goal is to accomplish something new, the experiences along the way can be equally rewarding.**

**"Police work taught me how to relate well to others, no matter the circumstances, and gave me an insight very few possess."**

—Michael A. Coyer, DPM, AACFAS

# Showcase Your Research at ACFAS 2018



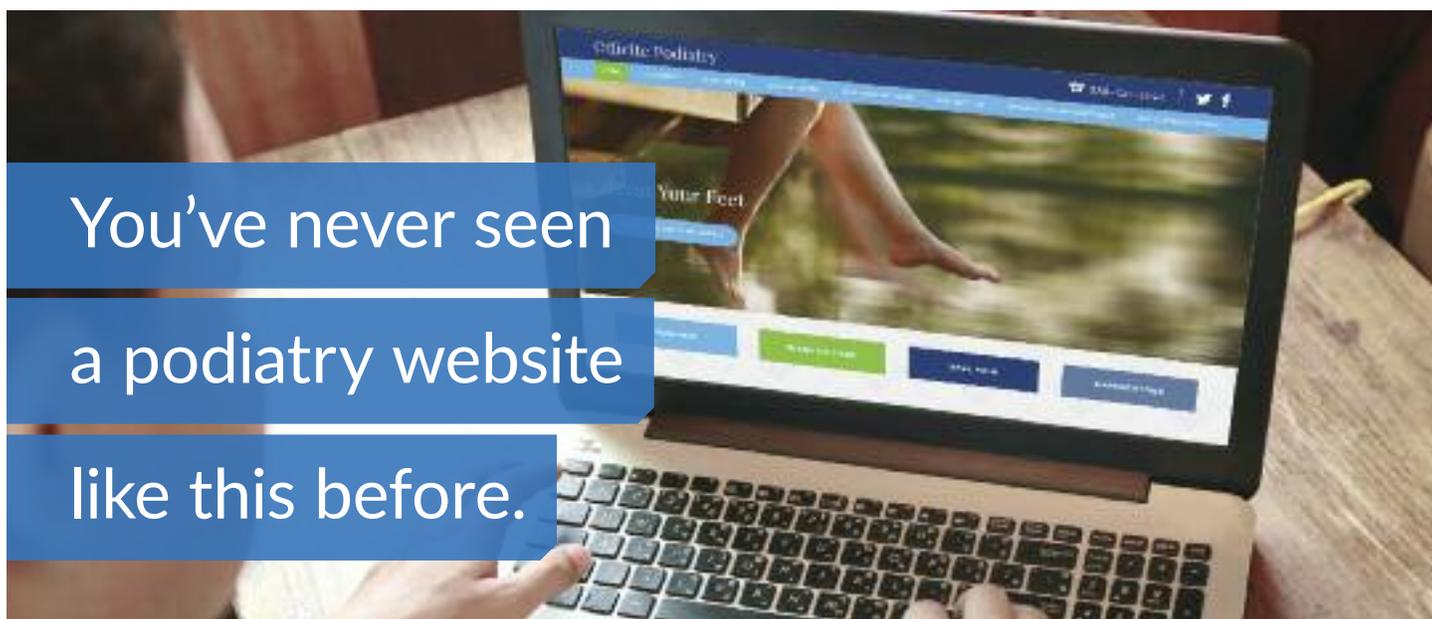
Don't keep your latest research discoveries hidden in the lab or OR—put them front and center at **ACFAS 2018, March 22–25, 2018** at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville. Submit a manuscript or poster for presentation consideration at the conference, and have a chance to bring your research before a vast audience of your peers.

Check [acfas.org](http://acfas.org) during the summer for submission guidelines and criteria, and in the meantime, mark the important dates at right on your calendar.

**September 15, 2017:**  
Manuscript submissions due.

**October 2, 2017:** Poster  
abstract submissions due.

**December 15, 2017:** Poster  
PDF submissions due.



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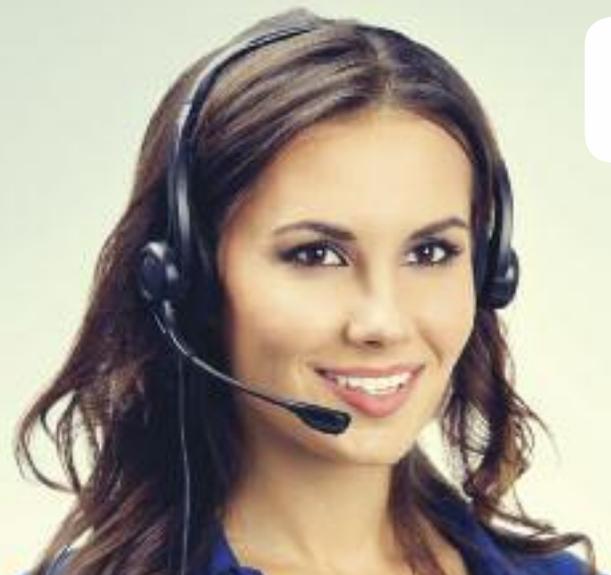
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# ACFAS Update

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