



**ASSOCIATION of SURGICAL ASSISTANTS
and
NATIONAL SURGICAL ASSISTANT ASSOCIATION**

5th ANNUAL JOINT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**Cincinnati, OH
APRIL 19-20, 2024**



Hilton

CINCINNATI NETHERLAND PLAZA



Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza
35th W 5th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45202

WELCOME



Welcome to the “Queen City”!

On behalf of the 2024 Conference Planning Committee, President’s Fred Fisher and James Pressley, and the ASA and NSAA staff, let us welcome you to the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza for the 5th Annual ASA/NSAA 2024 Joint Conference! We hope that you will enjoy this great educational opportunity, visit with old friends, make new ones, and perhaps explore the various local attractions.

We are confident that everyone will enjoy the Keynote Address delivered by Dr. Joxel Garcia, MBA. Dr. García served as the 14th Assistant Secretary for Health of the United States as well as a Four-Star Admiral in the US Public Health Service, positions confirmed by the US Senate.

Collectively, this conference offers up to 14 contact hours of continuing education units (CEU’S) showcasing several “Hands-on” Workshops featuring ACL Repair Techniques, FiberTape Sternal Closure Technique, Venapax Endovascular Vein Harvest Technique, and CORCYM. Scientific presentations from dynamic speakers across multiple surgical disciplines, who will share their unique perspectives on the role of the surgical assistant in this ever-changing healthcare environment. The conference concludes with updates on current and future legislative initiatives.

If this is your first time visiting this area, please prepare yourself to be amazed. Cincinnati holds the title as having the best Zoo in the nation. Take in a ballgame as the Cincinnati Reds host the LA Angels, stop by Findlay Market, and definitely experience a “3-Way” featuring Skyline Chili, followed by a Shake, Sunday, or Malt at a famous Graeter’s Ice Cream. Top evenings at the Jack Casino.

So, if you have some extra time, get out and explore all that Cincinnati has to offer, but first, enjoy a great conference!

Michael Morrison, BS, CSFA

Conference Co-Chair & Workshop Director

Sari Murray, CSA

Conference Co-Chair

Christine Griffith, CSFA

Conference Co-Chair

Darrel Sides, CSA

Conference Co-Chair

Conference Learning Objectives:

- Attendees will gain greater understanding of various surgical procedures and intraoperative concepts.
- Attendees will enhance their knowledge of updated surgical techniques and anatomy.
- Attendees will gain better understanding of legislative initiatives.

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

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SCHEDULE of EVENTS and PRESENTATIONS

Friday April 19th:

- 8:00 a – 12:00 pm **Surgical Ablation for AFib Workshop (Offsite)**
- 8:00 a – 12:00 pm **Arthrex ACL Hands-on Workshop (Salon D&E)**
- 11:00 a – 7:00 pm **Registration (Registration Office)**
- 12:30 p – 4:30 pm **Endovascular Vein Harvest Hands-on Workshop (Salon D&E)**
- 1:00 p – 4:00 pm **FiberTape Sternal Closure Hands-on Workshop (Salon A)**
- 5:00 p – 5:30 pm **ASA/NSAA State of the Associations (Pavillion Ballroom)**
- 5:30 p – 6:30 pm **Keynote Address: Jeff Hutchins & Dr. Jennifer Manders (Pavillion Ballroom)**
Healthcare employee well-being: Preventing burnout and taking care of yourself so you can take care of others.
- 6:30 p – 7:30 pm **Welcome Reception: Sponsored by Meridian Institute of Surgical Assisting (Ballroom Foyer & Caprice Foyer)**

Saturday April 20th:

- 7:00 a – 8:00 am **Registration (Registration Office)**
- 7:00 a – 7:45 am **Breakfast with Exhibitors (Caprice Foyer)**
- 7:45 a – 8:00 am **Joint Welcome (Pavillion Ballroom)**
Fred Fisher, ASA President & Jim Pressley, NSAA President
- 8:00 a – 8:55 am **Vascular Surgery Presentation**
Dr. Adam Reichard
- 9:00 a – 9:55 am **Hip Arthroscopy & Femoral-Acetabular Impingement Surgery**
Dr. Drew Burleson
- 10:00 a – 10:20 am **Professional Networking (Caprice Foyer)**
(Break with Exhibitors)
- 10:20 a – 11:15 am **Updates in Breast Cancer Surgery**
Dr. Jennifer Manders
- 11:20 a – 12:15 pm **Shoulder Instability Surgery**
Dr. Brian Crellin
- 12:10 p – 1:30 pm **Luncheon (Rookwood Ballroom)**
- 1:30 p – 2:25 pm **Surgical Oncology**
Dr. Erik Dunki-Jacob
- 2:30 p – 3:20 pm **Transparency, Competence, and Emotional Intelligence in the Operating Room**
Luis Aragon, MBA, RSA
- 3:20 p – 4:00 pm **Professional Networking (Caprice Foyer)**
(Break with Exhibitors)
- 4:00 p – 5:30 pm **Legislative Round Table on Current Issues and Trends**
Leadership Panel

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Jeff Hutchins

Director, Team Member Health & Wellbeing
at The Christ Hospital Health Network



Dr. Jennifer Manders

Board-certified General Surgeon

Jeff is an experienced Health, Employee Relations & Workforce Analytics leader with a demonstrated history of success working in the hospital & health care industry. He is highly skilled in performance management & improvement, conflict resolution, team building, performance scorecards & predictive analytics.

Dr. Manders is a fellow trained in Breast Surgery. She has been named a peer-nominated “Top Doc” every year since 2007 with Cincinnati Magazine. She is also involved in the Medical Staff Administration for The Christ Hospital Health Network.

Collaborating together, Jeff and Jennifer will discuss Healthcare Employee Wellbeing; preventing Burnout, and “Taking Care of Yourself so You can Take Care of Others”. They will share the corporate culture and what Christ Hospital offers its employees, and the latest research and findings on best practices and programs to promote mental and physical wellbeing. From a clinical standpoint, they will offer ideas and methods on how to help prevent overworking and experiencing career burnout.





Adam Craig Reichard, M.D.

Dr. Reichard completed his BS in Biology and MS in Microbiology and Immunology at Wright State University. Following his graduation from St. George's University School of Medicine he completed a general surgery residency and vascular surgery fellowship at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, OH.

A native of Dayton, Ohio, Dr. Reichard and his wife have two daughters. He enjoys spending time with his family, going out to eat and golfing.



Drew Burleson, M.D.

Dr. Burleson is a fellowship trained orthopaedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine and minimally invasive arthroscopic surgery of the knee, hip, shoulder, and elbow. He also has a special interest in employing state of the art techniques in cartilage restoration and biologics to improve his patients' function and return them to the activities that they love.



Dr. Burleson completed his fellowship in orthopaedic sports medicine at the renowned Kerlan-Jobe Orthopaedic Clinic in Los Angeles where he cared for some of the world's most elite athletes. While at Kerlan-Jobe, Dr. Burleson served as the assistant team physician for the Los Angeles Rams, Dodgers, Kings, Clippers, Galaxy, Sparks, Anaheim Ducks and Angels, University of Southern California (USC) football team, and Loyola Marymount University.





Jennifer Manders, M.D.

Jennifer B. Manders, MD, FACS, is a board-certified general surgeon fellowship-trained in breast surgery. Her practice is wholly focused on the care of patients with benign and malignant breast disease. She is a graduate of Rosalind Franklin University/The Chicago Medical School and trained in General Surgery at Rush University Medical Center/Cook County Hospital combined program. She then completed a one-year fellowship in Breast Surgical Oncology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

Dr. Manders has been named a peer-nominated “Top Doc” every year since 2007 with Cincinnati Magazine. She is also involved in the Medical Staff Administration for The Christ Hospital Health Network. She has three children, and her husband is an ENT/Head and Neck Surgeon at The Christ Hospital.



Brian Crellin, D.O.

Dr. Crellin earned his doctorate in osteopathic medicine from the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He served an internship at the Doctors Hospital of Stark County in Ohio. Upon medical school graduation, he served an orthopedic surgery residency at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and a sports medicine fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania.





Erik Dunki-Jacob, M.D.

Dr. Dunki-Jacob is a surgical oncology specialist. He graduated from University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and then went on to complete a General Surgery Fellowship at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati. Dr. Dunki-Jacob specializes in delivering advanced surgical care to patients diagnosed with cancer and benign diseases of the liver, pancreas and bile duct system. As part of the TriHealth Cancer Institute, he works with many cancer specialists, including medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, cancer genetics experts and others dedicated to delivering specialized care to patients with cancer. Personalized cancer care is delivered through the use of an institutional tumor board conference and disease specific multidisciplinary clinics. Dr. Dunki-Jacob has a special interest in robotic surgery, which allows him to perform complex surgical procedures through minimally invasive incisions.



Luis Aragon, M.B.A., RSA

A seasoned operations executive with extensive experience in healthcare services; particularly operational performance, business development, and customer service within the surgical assisting industry. Luis has been a leader in multiple surgical assistant staffing organizations since 1998, and spearheaded several strategic initiatives across multiple states, enhancing service quality and operational efficiency. Luis' leadership roles in national associations underscore the commitment to the surgical assistant industry-wide best practices and certification standards. He holds an MBA in Healthcare Management, and a CSA by the NCCSA. Luis is Registered as a surgical assistant in Illinois and Licensed in Texas.



Surgical Ablation for Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation Workshop

An educational opportunity that build on the fundamentals of the Cox-Maze IV procedure, focusing on the rationale, efficiency and efficacy of performing complex arrhythmia procedures, including the first FDA approved minimally invasive Hybrid AF™ Therapy for long-standing persistent (LSP) atrial fibrillation (Afib). This course features both didactic and hands-on training covering a broad range of relevant topics:

- Understand the importance of treating arrhythmias and the relevant anatomy for performing a concomitant or hybrid procedure
- Discuss optimization of cardiac output by restoring sinus rhythm and improving patient outcomes
- Review pathophysiology and key principles of Afib treatment
- Review society guidelines supporting surgical ablation and left atrial appendage (LAA) exclusion
- Discuss the rationale and indications for the Cox-Maze IV lesion set and Hybrid Convergent lesion sets
- Identify tips and tricks to improve procedural efficiency and clinical efficacy
- Review alternate epicardial and endocardial approaches, energy sources and lesion sets associated with surgical treatment

AtriCure



Advanced Workshop on Arthrex ACL Repair Techniques

Unlock the secrets of cutting-edge ACL repair techniques with our comprehensive workshop powered by Arthrex, a pioneer in orthopedic innovation. This hands-on course is designed for allied health professionals seeking to enhance their skills in anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) reconstruction.

Key Highlights:

- **In-Depth Arthrex Technology Exploration:** Delve into the advanced tools and technologies developed by Arthrex, a global leader in minimally invasive orthopedic solutions. Learn how to leverage these innovations for optimal ACL repair outcomes.
- **Surgical Skill Enhancement:** Gain practical experience through hands-on surgical simulations using Arthrex's state-of-the-art equipment. Enhance your proficiency in performing ACL repairs and understand the nuances of various surgical approaches.
- **Evidence-Based Practice:** Stay at the forefront of orthopedic knowledge with evidence-based lectures on the latest research, clinical studies, and outcomes related to Arthrex ACL repair techniques.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with peers, mentors, and industry professionals during workshop sessions. Foster collaborations, exchange ideas, and build a supportive community within the field of sports medicine.

Mastery Workshop on Arthrex Sternal Closure with FiberTape Cerclage

Embark on a transformative journey into the world of advanced sternal closure techniques with our Mastery Workshop, powered by Arthrex. This specialized course is tailored for cardiothoracic surgeons, surgical residents, and healthcare professionals seeking to enhance their proficiency in sternal closure using Arthrex's innovative FiberTape Cerclage system. Designed to enhance compression and minimize bone cut-through, FiberTape is more flexible than traditional metal wires.

Key Highlights:

- **Cutting-Edge FiberTape Technology:** Immerse yourself in the revolutionary FiberTape Cerclage system by Arthrex. FiberTape sternal closure is a 100% nonmetallic radiolucent alternative to stainless steel wires traditionally used for sternal closure procedures. Explore the unique properties and benefits of FiberTape for sternal closure, including enhanced strength, flexibility, and reduced risk of complications.
- **Hands-On Training:** Elevate your surgical skills through hands-on training sessions with Arthrex's state-of-the-art equipment. Gain practical experience in utilizing FiberTape Cerclage for secure and durable sternal closure.
- **Evidence-Based Practice:** Stay abreast of the latest advancements in sternal closure research, clinical studies, and outcomes. Benefit from evidence-based lectures that integrate the most current knowledge into your practice.



Venapax Endovascular Vein Harvest Workshop

An Endovascular Vein Harvest course which include a combination of didactic and video presentations featuring Venapax, an all-in-one comprehensive system that provides dissection and simultaneous branch ligation in a simple device. All training options are focused on helping allied health professionals gain the valuable experience and comfort they need to be prepared for that first case and beyond. It's focus is not only on surgical technique but also on building a team approach to training that incorporates the harvesters and their cardiac teams.

Key Highlights:

- Experience the difference Venapax can make with its minimal-touch technique.
- Procedural training program shortens the Venapax EVH learning curve.
Watch how Venapax dissects and simultaneously ligates.

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Welcome Reception



Breakfast w/Exhibitors



am & pm Breaks



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2025 CONFERENCE



Join ASA and NSAA next year for the

6th Annual Joint Association Conference

Embassy Suites by Hilton Grapevine DFW Airport North

2401 Bass Pro Drive

GRAPEVINE, TX

APRIL 25 & 26, 2025