

#### June Updates Are Here!

We're thrilled to share some exciting updates and upcoming events with you! From informative webinars to new member resources, there's a lot happening this month. Below are upcoming dates and deadlines for these opportunities, which we encourage you to participate in.

Upcoming Deadlines July 1 - FAFS July 1 - Awards Nominations July 1 - Research Grant Application July 1 - Early Bird Registration for 2024 Annual Meeting

Upcoming Events June 12 - PEH Webinar June 15 - MedStart Health 2024 Esophageal Symposium September 25-29 - AFS 2024 Annual Meeting September 29 - Gen GI Course

### **PEH Webinar**



Webinar: Assessing Hiatal Closure During PEH Repair Date: Wednesday, June 12, 2024 Time: 8:00 PM ET

Join us for an informative webinar focused on assessing hiatal closure during PEH repair. This event is tailored for Gastroenterologists, Endoscopists, Surgeons, Nurses, and other professional medical staff. The session will conclude with a Q&A segment to address your queries. More details can be found <u>HERE</u> or click the buttons to register below!



### **2024 Esophageal Symposium**



June 15, 2024 Bethesda Marriott Bethesda, MD



**Date & Location:** Saturday, June 15, 2024, 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM, Bethesda Marriott, Bethesda, MD We are excited to announce that Dr. Reginald Bell will speak at the 2024 MedStar Esophageal Symposium. This interdisciplinary conference, designed for professionals in gastroenterology, otolaryngology, radiology, surgery, and thoracic surgery, will cover the clinical management of benign esophageal disorders.

**Objectives** include updates on esophageal motility disorders, management of GERD, eosinophilic esophagitis, Barrett's esophagus, and more. Attendees can earn up to 4.25 continuing education credits.

AFS Members: Use discount code COMP2024 for FREE registration!

**DETAILS AND REGISTRATION** 

### **Gen GI Course**

#### The Latest & Greatest in Foregut Disease Management

#### Sunday, September 29th

Join us for an informative symposium designed to provide you with the latest advancements in foregut disease management. This course will deliver practical insights that can be immediately applied in clinical practice.

#### Learning Objectives:

- 1. Understand when and how to incorporate pCABs into your general gastroenterology practice.
- 2. Learn how to integrate wireless pH testing into a busy clinical practice, including interpretation and application of findings.
- 3. Review new FDA-approved medications for eosinophilic esophagitis.
- 4. Evaluate new options for improved diagnosis and risk stratification of Barrett's esophagus.
- 5. Explore modern antireflux procedures, their indications, and potential side effects to
- educate better and set expectations for patients.
- 6. Discover the secrets to successful collaboration with surgeons, including myths, truths, and tips for forging strong partnerships and referral networks.

#### Agenda:

- 7:00-7:45 AM: Breakfast and networking with the experts
- 7:45 AM: Welcome from the American Foregut Society Presidents
- 8:00-8:30 AM: The Growing Menu of New Diagnostic and Risk Stratification Options for Barrett's Esophagus
- 8:30-9:00 AM: It's Time to Incorporate pCABs in Your Practice: How and When
- 9:00-9:15 AM: Q&A
- 9:15-9:45 AM: Who, When, and Why: Wireless pH Testing in Your Practice
- 9:45-10:30 AM: Hands-on Primer of Wireless pH Devices and Reading Software
- **10:30-11:00 AM**: Not Your Grandpa's Antireflux Surgery: Modern Day Surgical Options and Evolving Concepts
- 11:00-11:15 AM: Q&A
- 11:15-11:45 AM: The New Kids on the Block for EoE Management: A Case-Based Approach
- **11:45 AM-12:15 PM**: The 4 Cs for Building a Successful Foregut Practice: Culture, Collaboration, Continued Learning, Curiosity
- 12:15-12:30 PM: Q&A with all panels/questions
- 12:30 PM: Closing remarks

This course is an excellent opportunity for gastroenterologists, GI nurse practitioners/physician assistants, fellows, and other healthcare providers interested in foregut diseases to enrich their knowledge and skills.



# **2024 ANNUAL MEETING** DENVER | SEPTEMBER 25-29, 2024

Join us at the 2024 AFS Annual Meeting, the premier event for foregut specialists to connect with the latest developments, technology, and insights in foregut disease. Register now, and don't miss out on the biggest event of the year! **Register before July 1 to receive \$100 off!** 

#### **REGISTER HERE**

JULY 1 FAFS APPLICATION DEADLINE

**Fellow of the American Foregut Society (FAFS)** Submit your nomination for the title of Fellow of the American Foregut Society (FAFS). This honor recognizes members' commitment to excellence and their achievements in foregut disorders. All nominations must be submitted by **July 1**. For more details click <u>HERE</u>!



#### Nominate a Peer for the AFS Awards

Recognize excellence in our community by nominating a colleague for an AFS award. Categories range from early career achievements to lifetime contributions, acknowledging the outstanding members among us. Awardees will be honored at the awards ceremony during the Annual Meeting. Submit nominations <u>HERE</u> by **July 1st!** 



#### **Research Grant**

The AFS Research Committee is excited to announce the AFS Research Grant, offering \$10,000 to support pioneering research in foregut disease. This grant is open to any young principal investigator who are within five years of completing their training and are current AFS members, aiming to foster advancements in the diagnosis and treatment of foregut conditions. Apply by **July 1** <u>HERE</u>!

### **Robotics Mentorship Program**

#### **Registration open soon!**

We are thrilled to introduce our Robotics Mentorship Program, designed for surgeons with moderate foregut experience and some familiarity with DaVinci robotics. This six-month curriculum, led by dedicated AFS mentors, aims to develop your expertise in robotic foregut surgery through in-person and remote case observations, proctoring, and advanced courses. Throughout the program, participants will build professional relationships and share their learning. For

details on the program, click the link below.

**DETAILS AND APPLICATION** 

### **#BetterTogether**

We want to give a big thank you to all our sponsors. Your support makes our work possible and helps us continue to advance foregut health. We couldn't do it without you.

### **Industry News**



## Over 700 RefluxStop<sup>®</sup> patients in Europe



\*RefluxStop® is not available for sale in the US and Canada. Contact Implantica for availability in your region. customer.support@implantica.com

Over 700 patients in Europe have had the RefluxStop® procedure. Published in BMC Surgery by Bjelović and colleagues, the average Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease Health-Related Quality of Life (GERD-HRQL) improved by 86% at 1 yr. after RefluxStop surgery.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO



#### NEWLY PUBLISHED STUDY

#### Adjunctive Use of WATS-3D in Symptomatic GERD Patients Increases Detection of Barrett's Esophagus and Dysplasia

- The addition of WATS-3D to FB in GERD patients being screened for BE resulted in confirmation of BE in an additional ~20% of patients.
- Dysplasia diagnoses approximately doubled.
- The adjunctive and absolute yields of WATS-3D overall were 103.3% and 16.8%, respectively for detection of IM.
- 90.7% of the care plans changed for patients with positive WATS-3D and negative FB.

If WATS-3D hadn't been utilized, **1 in 5 patients** would have gone home unaware they had Barrett's!

Nicholas | Shaheen, Robert D Odze, Mendel E Singer, William J Salyers, Sachin Srinivasan, Vivek Kaul, Arvind | Trindade, Amit Aravapalli, Robert D Herman, Michael S Smith, Matthew J McKinley Am | Gastroenterol. 2024 Apr 18. doi: 10.14309/ajg.00000000002818. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38635377

CDx Diagnostics announces the publication of their 23k patient study measuring the diagnostic impact of WATS3D on precancer detection of patients screened for GERD. This paper, published in the American Journal of Gastroenterology, reveals that **without the use of WATS3D**, **1 in 5 patients would have gone home unaware they had Barrett's esophagus**!

**READ THE PRESS RELEASE HERE** 

### **Coming Soon!**

#### **The AFS Member Portal**

We are excited to announce that the AFS Member Portal will be launching soon! This portal will be your go-to resource hub, housing everything you need as an AFS member in one convenient location.

The portal will feature:

- Previous webinar recordings
- Meeting talk recordings and PDFs

LinkedIn

- Important AFS documents
- Podcasts

Facebook

Publications

Stay tuned for more details on the launch date and how to access this valuable new resource. We can't wait for you to explore all the benefits the AFS Member Portal will offer!

Thanks for staying in touch with us. We're excited to see you at these upcoming events and hear your thoughts on our new initiatives. Together, we're making a greater impact in foregut health. **Take care!** 



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