

SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2024
CHARLOTTE, NC

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AOPA National Assembly



+ THE PREMIER MEETING FOR
ORTHOTIC, PROSTHETIC, AND
PEDORTHIC PROFESSIONALS.

▶▶ 2024 AOPA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY Preliminary Program

Exhibits. Education. Networking. 100+ CE Credits

If you attend one national O&P event this year, choose the one that has it all! There is a reason more orthotic, prosthetic, and pedorthic professionals choose to attend AOPA's National Assembly over any other. AOPA strives to provide the best in business education and advanced clinical programming from physicians, high level researchers, and top practitioners, the largest exhibit hall in the United States, and of course, fun networking events. This is the one event all prosthetic, orthotic and pedorthic professionals should attend!

Those who are unable to join us in Charlotte can still access our education programs by participating in the virtual option October 1 – December 10, 2024



Learn more about joining at:
www.aopanet.org/about-aopa/join-aopa/

*Membership
Has its Benefits:
AOPA is centered
on your success!*

**MEMBERS SAVE
\$300+**

on Assembly Registration



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AOPAASSEMBLY.ORG

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AOPA National Assembly
SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2024 | CHARLOTTE, NC



AOPA is excited to host the 107th National Assembly in the “Queen City,” Charlotte, North Carolina. Be assured that we are committed to your safety. Attendees will be provided with any protocols that may exist.



The National Assembly Planning Committee has been working diligently for the past several months to ignite excitement and bring you an enjoyable, engaging experience.

2024 National Assembly Planning Committee

Charles Kuffel, MSM, LPO, CPO, FAAOP (Co-Chair)
Brad Mattear, CPA, LO, CFo (Co-Chair)
Tanya Baer, CFom
Rob Burcham, Jr., CP
Corey Baum, CO, LO
Brock C. Berta, MBA, CPC-A
Russell Cannon
Jeff Denune, CP, LP
Chad Duncan, PhD, CPO, CRC
Jeff Erenstone, CPO
Bretta L. Fylstra, PhD
Kimberly Hanson
Kinsey Herrin, CPO, FAAOP
Adrienne Hill, MHA, CPO
Dennis Janisse, CPed
Erick Janisse, CO, CPed
Andreas Kannenberg, PhD, MD
Tyler Klenow, MBA, MS, LPO, CPO
Suzi Klimek
Teri Kuffel, JD
Emily McNees
Lesleigh Sisson, CFm, CFo
Geneen Spence
Matthew Wernke, PhD, CPO
Linda Wise, MBA
Brent Wright, CPO, BOCO
James Young, LP, CP, FAAOP

Who Should Attend?

To stay up to date on the latest in the profession and to network with other top professionals from across the country and around the world, all practitioners, physicians, technicians, fitters, students, educational instructors, facility owners, marketing personnel, residents, physical therapists, office managers, billing specialists, researchers, manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic products and services should come to Charlotte. Basically, if you are a professional in O&P, the National Assembly is something you won't want to miss! Additionally, over 100 CE Credits will be available through the in-person and virtual opportunities. We look forward to seeing you in the Queen City!

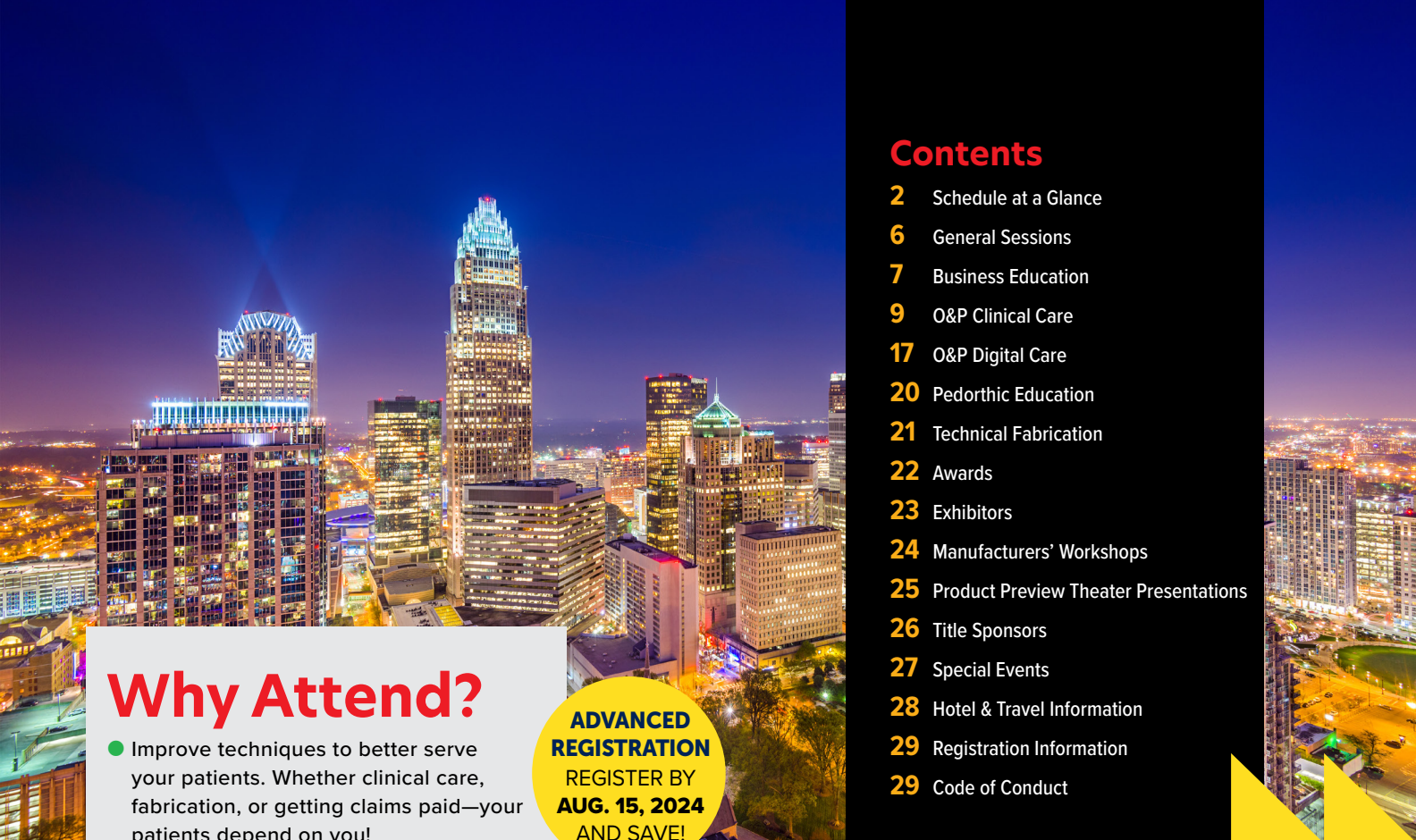
THE PREMIER MEETING
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PROFESSIONALS.

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MEMBERS SAVE
\$300+
on Assembly
Registration

100+ CE
Credits





Why Attend?

- Improve techniques to better serve your patients. Whether clinical care, fabrication, or getting claims paid—your patients depend on you!
- Customize your meeting experience to fit your needs—not only can you choose in-person, post-event virtual, or a fully virtual experience, but six concurrent education tracks allow you to customize your individual education experience to fit your needs.
- Earn over 100 CE Credits: conference registrants receive access to both the in-person and virtual education with the opportunity to attend more education programs than ever before.
- Receive updates from representatives with CMS, the Veterans Administration, and DOD.
- Peruse the exhibit hall to learn about the latest devices and techniques.
- Participate in more hands-on programming than ever before, including one of the largest clinical programs AOPA has ever had!
- Enjoy dedicated networking time such as the morning coffee breaks and the Welcome to Charlotte Reception.
- Participate in unique panel sessions and discuss the latest in O&P.

**ADVANCED
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Why Charlotte?

Charlotte is an exciting destination for AOPA, full of surprises around every corner.

Though the Queen City is known for the Charlotte Motor Speedway and the NASCAR Hall of Fame, it's much more than a haven for those with a need for speed. Uptown Charlotte—be sure not to call it downtown—is crawling with suits and tourists, while art aficionados and culture hounds flood the Plaza Midwood and NoDa (or North Davidson) neighborhoods. Meanwhile, those in search of a pint of local beer won't want to miss South End, home to a handful of the city's top breweries.

Charlotte Douglas International Airport combines southern charm and modern design; before you head into the city, take a break in one of their signature white rocking chairs in the light and airy main atrium, or take a stroll through the art installations in the various concourses! The airport is only 6 miles from the convention center, and transportation to the hotels and convention center is readily available.



Once you're in the city, Charlotte's LYNX blue line light rail can get you where you want to go. With a \$2.20 flat fare and a dedicated stop at the convention center, you can access the different areas of the city with ease!

Access the digital version of the Charlotte Visitors Guide or request a printed copy at www.charlottesgotalot.com/city-guide.



▶▶ Schedule at a Glance

For complete program details, descriptions, presenters, and more, visit www.AOPAassembly.org.



SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2024 | CHARLOTTE, NC

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Pre-Show Orthotic Workshop: Beverly Cusick: How Muscle Tone Develops Typically and in Kids with Equinus Deformity (C1)**

Beverly Cusick, PT, MS, NDT, COF/BOC

Using lecture, videos, and demonstration, the instructor presents a range of topics including postural control acquisition & influence on muscle tone development; gait development and pathology related to whole body center of gravity acceleration; physiologic adaptation of lower limb muscles to routine use - both ideal & pathologic; and contributions of postural control deficits to equinus deformity development. A review of passive ankle dorsiflexion range of motion (PADFROM) assessment procedures introduces participants to the presence and significance of velocity-dependent resistance to passive elongation with implications for setting ankle position in orthoses and casts. Instructor then presents principles, properties and methods of optimizing postural control development and reducing equinus deformity using below-knee casts and orthoses. Participants will be provided course handouts and on-site access to a selection of casts, orthoses and flexible skeletal foot models.

Ticket required \$95.

Noon – 5:00 PM **Registration and Information Desk Open**

Noon – 5:00 PM **Exhibitor Set Up**

1:00 – 5:00 PM **Pre-Show Prosthetic Workshop: Osseointegration (C2)**

Christopher Hoyt, CP

This four-hour presentation will combine didactic as well as hands-on information on Osseoprosthetics... everything you will need to be confident with your first bone-anchored client plus advanced tips and tricks for those already experienced in OI. Topics will include benefits and risks, available implants, acute and long term care, connectors, componentry, measurements, alignment, water-systems, and problem-solving. Attendees will learn how to tighten and maintain abutment and connector systems using appropriate tools and techniques to care for the OI client. Patients will be available to discuss life with a transcutaneous implant, skin penetration site care, and answer any questions that arise. *Ticket required \$60.*

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12

7:00 AM – 7:00 PM **Registration and Information Desk Open**

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Speaker Ready Room**

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM **Exhibitor Setup**

7:30 – 8:30 AM **Beverage Service**

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Manufacturers' Workshops**

Choose from over 40 workshops throughout the day featuring the newest products and latest technology, presented by leading manufacturers and suppliers from the O&P profession. Because manufacturers' workshops are intense and often contain hands on learning experience, participation is limited to 50 participants per workshop.

8:00 – 10:00 AM **Concurrent Workshops—Tier A** See page 24 for details.

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM **Concurrent Workshops—Tier B** See page 24 for details.

12:30 – 1:30 PM **Lunch on Own**

1:30 – 3:30 PM **Concurrent Workshops—Tier C** See page 24 for details.

4:00 – 5:00 PM **Concurrent Workshops—Tier D** See page 25 for details.

5:30 – 7:30 PM **Welcome to Charlotte Reception** Experience a little southern hospitality at this year's Welcome to Charlotte Reception. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and networking. The party is included with your full conference registration. *Bring a guest for \$50.*

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 137:00 AM – 6:00 PM **Registration and Information Desk Open**7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Speaker Ready Room**7:30 – 8:00 AM **Breakfast**8:00 – 9:00 AM **Opening Remarks and Keynote Address by Chuck Gallagher: *The AI Revolution, Unlocking the Future of Business* (GS1)**9:00 – 10:30 AM **Break** in Exhibit Hall9:00 AM – 6:30 PM **Exhibit Hall Open**9:15 AM – 5:30 PM **Product Preview Theater Presentations** in Exhibit Hall10:30 AM – Noon **Concurrent Education****Special Sessions**

- Improve Your Business, Learn How to Use the O&P Profession's Benchmarking Data
- NCOPE/ABC Update—How Residency and Credentialing Changes Will Affect You

Business

- Every Choice has a Consequence—Ethics, Integrity, and the Power of Choices in Life and Business (B1) Chuck Gallagher

O&P Clinical Care

- Powered Upper Extremity Bracing: A Review of Reimbursement, Current Technology, and Clinical Opportunities (C3)
- Osseointegration for Amputation Reconstruction: Clinical Applications and Continuing Care (C4)
- Modern Patient Preference Technologies to Drive Patient Outcomes Within Prosthetic Choice (C5)

Digital O&P Care

- It's All About the Data (D1)

Technical

- Optimization of User Adjustable Lower Extremity Prosthetic Designs (T1)

Pedorthic

- Pedorthic Modalities (P1)
- Practice Management: Morning/Daily Routines for Each Practitioner (P2)

Noon – 2:00 PM **Lunch** in Exhibit Hall2:00 – 5:15 PM **Concurrent Education****Business**

- Medicare Updates & Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) (B2)
- How to Be Better Business Partners When Working with the Veterans Administration Clinical Care and Contracting Team (B3)
- The Impact of Mobile O&P Care on Patient Satisfaction and Access to Care Among Veterans (B4)

O&P Clinical Care

- Orthotic Applications of Exoskeletons: The Orthotist's Future as Providers of Highly Advanced Devices (C6)
- Interface Pressure: Current Solutions and Novel Technologies for Advancing Both Sides of the Interface (C7)
- Prosthetic Free Papers: Upper Limb Prosthetics (C8)
- The Value Add of Health Screenings in Routine Prosthetic Practice: A Hands-on Guide to Implementations (C9)
- Orthotic Free Papers: Lower Extremity Applications (C10)
- Adjustable-volume Sockets: Who, What, When, Why, and How to Get Paid (C11)
- Essentials of Rehabilitation for Partial Hand Amputees: A Multi-disciplinary Approach (C12)
- Providing Sensory Feedback and Reducing Phantom Limb Pain Using New Medical Technology and the Innovative Surgical Techniques of Targeted Sensory Reinnervation (TSR) (C13)

Digital O&P Care

- Options in Digital Tools (D2)
- Combined Digital and Pedorthic Program: Foot Orthotics Using Digital Technology (D3/P5)

Technical

- Maximizing the Tuning of Ankle Foot Orthoses with the Material Science of Custom Fabrication (T2)
- Creating a Mobile O&P Lab Through User-Centered Design Process (T3)
- A Model for the Management of Partial Foot Amputations (T4)
- How to Properly Use Two-part Structural Adhesives in the Manufacturing of Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices and Their Fitting (T5)

Pedorthic

- Filling the Pedorthic Prescription: How to Decide What Orthosis to Use (P3)
- Functional Orthoses vs Total Contact (P4)
- Combined Digital and Pedorthic Program: Foot Orthotics Using Digital Technology (P5/D3)

5:15 – 6:30 PM **Exhibitor Sponsored Happy Hour**

Meet up in the exhibit hall after a busy day of learning and networking for the exhibitor sponsored Happy Hour. Be sure to make a "Pit Stop" by all of the participating Exhibitors. A list of participating exhibitors will be provided. *Included with your full conference registration.*

5:30 – 6:30 PM **Poster Presentations**

Poster Presentations will take place at the Product Preview Theater during Happy Hour. Enjoy refreshments with supporting fellow researchers.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Registration and Information Desk Open**

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Speaker Ready Room Available**

7:30 – 8:00 AM **Breakfast**

8:00 – 9:00 AM **General Session—Thranhardt Lectures (C14)**

- Assessing Outcomes with Microprocessor Knee Utilization in a K2 Population (ASCENT K2): Findings from a Clinical Trial of 107 Individuals with Above-knee Amputation (C14A)
- Reduction in Falls and Fall-Risk with Increased Walking Speed Found Following 1 Year of C-Brace® Use: Interim Results from the C-Brace® Registry (C14B)

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM **Exhibit Hall Open**

9:15 AM – 3:30 PM **Product Preview Theater Presentations** in Exhibit Hall

9:00 – 10:30 AM **Break** in Exhibit Hall

10:30 AM – Noon **Concurrent Education**

Business

- Adjudication Law Judge Trial—Simulation Proceedings (B5)

O&P Clinical Care

- An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Clinical Management of Children with Arthrogyposis (C15)
- Anatomy of a Fall: Could the Microprocessor Knee Have Prevented the Fall? (C16)
- Prosthetic Free Paper Showcase (C17)

Digital O&P Care

- Managing Your Practice with Digital Technology (D4)

Technical

- Combined Pedorthic/Technical Program: Hands-on Total Contact Foot Orthoses Materials/Fabrication (T6/P6)

Pedorthic

- Combined Pedorthic/Technical Program: Hands-on Total Contact Foot Orthoses Materials/Fabrication (P6/T4)

Noon – 2:00 PM **Lunch** in Exhibit Hall

Noon – 1:30 PM **Professional Women in O&P Luncheon**

Ticket required \$25.

2:00 – 5:15 PM **Concurrent Education**

Business

- Hamontree Lectures (B6)

O&P Clinical Care

- Comparison of Original Scoliosis Treatments (C18)
- Socketology: Advanced Techniques (C19)
- Prosthetic Free Papers: Lower Limb Component Innovations (C20)
- Clinical Indications for Physical Therapy, Repositioning Therapy, and Cranial Remolding (C21)
- MPK K2: Benefits and Reimbursement Update (C22)
- Prosthetic Free Papers: Outcome Measures (C23)

Digital O&P Care

- Resources for Digital Production (D5)
- Tools for Digital Success (D6)

Technical

- Learning How to Properly Manufacture a Modular Dynamic AFO (T7)
- Technical Fabrication Techniques of High-Performance MILine Ankle Components (T8)

Pedorthic

- 12 Tips to Successfully Dispense Foot Orthotics (P7)
- Foot Orthotic Management of the Diabetic Foot (P8)
- Options When You Need More Control SCFO's (P9)

5:00 – 6:00 PM **Student Reception** By invitation only.

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SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15

7:00 – 11:00 AM **Registration and Information Desk Open**

7:00 – 11:00 AM **Speaker Ready Room**

7:30 - 8:00 AM **Breakfast**

8:00 – 9:30 AM **General Session**

- Awards Ceremony
- AOPA Membership Meeting

9:15 AM – 12:30 PM **Concurrent Education**

Business

- What Does Your Contract Say? (B7)
- Regulatory Update... Did You Know? (B8)
- Learn How to Maximize Profitability as an Independent Clinic Owner Applying the Laws of Physics to Understand Your Business and Reduce Entropy in Today's Climate of Regulatory Headwinds (B9)

O&P Clinical Care

- The State of Dynamic Carbon Fiber AFO Technology: Clinical Applications and Long-Term Outcomes (C24)
- Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow, Fabrication and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical, Technical and Digital Session(C25/D7/T9)
- Prosthetic Free Papers: General Topics (C26)
- Orthotic Free Papers: Pediatric & Upper Extremity (C27)
- Medical Necessity in Prosthetics and Orthotics: Moving from Device Deliverers to Healthcare Providers (C28)
- Prosthetic Free Papers: Sockets and Osseointegration (C29)

Digital O&P Care

- Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical and Digital Session(D7/C25/T9)

Technical

- Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow, Fabrication and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical, Technical and Digital Session(T9/D7/C25)

Pedorthic

- Technology and 3D Printing in Pedorthics: Reducing the Environmental Impact (P10)
- Foot Orthoses Case Studies (P11)

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM **O&P Digital Care Showcase**

Returning once again! The O&P Digital Care Showcase will be a hands-on event to learn about computer-based 3D design software tools utilizing a provided prosthetic, orthotic, and/or pedorthic case file (the patient file, 3D scan, and positive model), exhibitors will present a fabricated mold, device, or 3D print.

General Sessions

FRIDAY

Opening General Session

SEPTEMBER 13

7:30 AM Breakfast

8:00 AM Opening Remarks and Keynote Presentation: *The AI Revolution, Unlocking the Future of Business*

Are you prepared to harness the boundless power of AI for your organization? Join us as we delve into the realm of this transformative technology, unraveling its potential across various sectors. Witness live demonstrations of AI applications, and other cutting-edge technologies providing you with an immersive glimpse into the realm of possibilities.

This is a golden opportunity to stay at the forefront of AI advancements and acquire the insights necessary to fuel innovation and expansion within your organization. Don't miss out—seize this chance to propel your organization into the future!



About Chuck

Chuck Gallagher brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the intersection of business ethics and artificial intelligence. With a background steeped in corporate leadership, Chuck has become a leading voice in navigating the ethical complexities of modern technology. His engaging presentations and insightful books challenge audiences to rethink how they integrate AI into their business strategies while maintaining a strong ethical foundation.

As the author of six influential books, Chuck offers practical guidance and thought-provoking perspectives on the ethical implications of AI. His work

demystifies the technological landscape, providing clear, actionable insights that help leaders and organizations implement AI responsibly. Through his speaking engagements and consulting services, Chuck empowers businesses to embrace AI innovation while upholding the highest standards of ethical integrity.

Also, join us for Chuck Gallagher's business program on Friday at 10:30 a.m., where you'll learn how Chuck lost everything because he made some bad choices. He has since rebuilt his career and his life back to immense success. With more vulnerability than the average keynoter, Chuck shares with his audiences his life journey, the consequences of his unethical choices, and how life gives you second chances when you make the right choices.

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SATURDAY

General Session SEPTEMBER 14



7:30 AM Breakfast

8:00 AM Opening Remarks and Thranhardt Presentations

Kick-off Day Two with Breakfast and the Award-Winning Thranhardt Lectures. Established through a gift from J.E. Hanger, this series recognizes individuals committed to advancing O&P education and research, and memorialized Howard R. Thranhardt, CPO. The Thranhardt Award is one of the most coveted awards in the O&P profession. This year's contenders are as follows:

Assessing Outcomes with Microprocessor Knee Utilization in a K2 Population (ASCENT K2): Findings from a Clinical Trial of 107 Individuals with Above-knee Amputation (C14A)

Shane Wurdeman PhD, CP
Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER)

Reduction in Falls and Fall-Risk with Increased Walking Speed Found Following 1 Year of C-Brace® Use: Interim Results from the C-Brace® Registry (C14B)

Tyler Klenow, MBA, MS, LPO, CPO
Russell Lundstrom, MS

SUNDAY

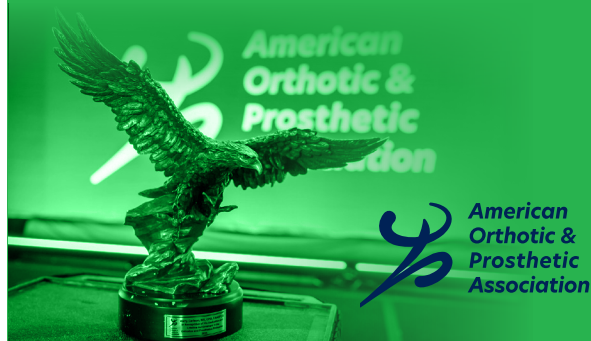
General Session SEPTEMBER 15

7:30 AM Breakfast

8:00 AM Awards Presentations

8:30 AM AOPA Membership Meeting

Join us for breakfast and an opportunity to honor the 2024 awardees. During the AOPA membership meeting, you'll receive updates that focus on AOPA and the profession.



▶▶ Business Education



Learn new ideas and classic advice for O&P leaders from the country's most successful business and management experts.

▶▶ Special Sessions

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 – 11:00 AM

Improve Your Business, Learn How to Use the O&P Profession's Benchmarking Data

Kevin Chang
Coleson Chase
Scott Williamson

Benchmarking in business is essential and involves the collection of key financial data to compare with similar businesses of the same size, in the same geographical region, or to industry leaders. These comparisons lead to an understanding of the relative performance of business operations and suggest ways to modify business operations for improved profitability and efficiency.

Since 1978, AOPA has facilitated the O&P profession's benchmarking survey. This year's survey, available online, underwent changes making it shorter, and easier to complete with more infographic results. This is also the first year it was open to nonmembers of AOPA. The O&P profession's benchmarking survey was conducted by Kai Analytics on behalf of AOPA.

11:00 AM – Noon

NCOPE/ABC Update—How Residency and Credentialing Changes Will Affect You

Learn what's happening with the residency program, new credentialing rules and how they will affect you.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 AM – Noon

Every Choice has a Consequence—Ethics, Integrity, and the Power of Choices in Life and Business. (B1)

Chuck Gallagher



In this powerful presentation, Chuck delivers an unforgettable message based on his own unethical decisions and the consequences that followed. Your audience will not only come to realize the impact of the choices they

make, but also gain an understanding of how to use ethics and integrity to create success on a personal and professional level.

Each choice we make and each step we take provides the foundation for our future. Wherever you are right now—regardless of the circumstance—your choices define who you are and the outcomes you will live. While your employees may be aware of this on some level, do they truly realize the power behind the choices they make on a daily basis? More importantly, what's the risk to your company if they don't?

In his unusually authentic style, Chuck reveals the consequences of the unethical decisions he made in his own attempt to build the great American dream for himself and his family. This powerful ethics presentation is filled with unforgettable messages of success and failure, illusions and reality, and choices and consequences.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Medicare Updates & Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) (B2)

Judie Roan—Provider Relations Senior Analyst CGS—DME MAC Jurisdiction C, CGS Jurisdiction C

Tanya Gillies, Provider Outreach and Education Consultant, Noridian Healthcare

Members of the DME CERT Outreach and Education Task Force and education teams for the DME MACs (Noridian and CGS) will be on hand to provide up to

date information on changes in the fee-for-service Medicare program affecting O&P Medicare suppliers, as well as the most current information on claim errors identified by the CERT contractor. Presenters will discuss top policies experiencing errors, an explanation of whether those errors are curable, and guidance to prevent these errors in the future. There is also time allotted for questions from the O&P community. The question-and-answer portion of the session will be supported by the CPOs from Noridian and CGS, Pat Peick and Sienna Newman.

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 4:45 PM

How to Be Better Business Partners When Working with the Veterans Administration Clinical Care and Contracting Team (B3)

Jason Highsmith, PT, DPT, PhD, CP, FAAOP (Invited)

Kristen Nelson, Assistant Director, Procurement Operations (Invited)

Alan Swygert, Director VHA Vendor Relations (Invited)

The objective of the program is to share how to partner with the Veterans Administration to deliver the highest quality of O&P care and most medically necessary products.

4:45 – 5:15 PM

The Impact of Mobile O&P Care on Patient Satisfaction and Access to Care Among Veterans (B4)

Daniel C. Abrahamson, CPO
Chelsea Leonard, PhD

The Impact of Mobile O&P Care on Patient Satisfaction and Access to Care Among Veterans.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14

10:30 AM – Noon

Adjudication Law Judge Trial—Simulation Proceedings (B5)

Dale Berry, CP, FAAOP, LP
 Kimberly Hanson
 Mitchell Dobson, CPO, FAAOP

The denial of a prior authorization directly delays the ability to provide medically necessary care to a patient. The ability to navigate the appeal process in an effective, efficient, and timely manner not only benefits the ability to provide clinical care, but also has an immediate and direct impact on productivity and profitability to the facility.

This presentation will provide a simulation of an ALJ trial, the 3rd and for all intents and purposes, the last effective stage within the Medicare System of appeals. The trial simulation will identify key elements of the process and procedure of an ALJ setting, from the viewpoints of the plaintiff (prosthetic provider), defendant (Medicare) and the Adjudication Law Judge. Focus will be on identifying the most common prior errors, omissions, and misconceptions of the ALJ to provide real life examples of effective trial procedures to implement and which ones to avoid.



2:00 – 5:00 PM

Hamontree Lecture Series (B6)

The Sam E. Hamontree, CP(E), Business Education Award was created to recognize the best business education paper, idea and/or proposal submitted for presentation. This award is a counterpart to the Thranhardt Award given each year to the best clinical abstract(s). The audience will be invited to cast their vote for the award winner in the Assembly App.

Can a Small Fish Make a Splash in a Big Pond? (B6A)

Ernst W. Bastian, CO

With the Orthotics and Prosthetics field being run by larger and larger companies, is it possible for a small company of one practitioner to survive? Wolverine Orthotics, Inc. has been in business since 1995 and continues to “make it.” What advantages are there to working in a small company and what special steps do we take to build and maintain our relationships? This discussion will be sharing 30 plus years of experience as a business owner.

Prevalence of Limb Loss and Limb Difference in the United States: Implications for Public Policy (B6B)

Ashlie White, MSHLS, MA

The Amputee Coalition’s newly commissioned study titled, Prevalence of Limb Loss and Limb Difference in the United States: Implications for Public Policy was published on February 14, 2024, shows that there are 5.6 million individuals living with limb loss or limb difference in the United States. This presentation will provide an overview of this first-of-its-kind study and the public policy implications of its results.

How Mergers and Acquisitions Are Changing the Orthotics and Prosthetics Landscape and What Independents Should Consider When Developing a Transition Plan (B6C)

David Holzman, CFA

Learn how acquisitions by manufacturers, national and regional providers are reshaping the orthotics and prosthetics industry and impacting patient care. Understand how to develop a transition plan that aligns with your personal and business goals.

Beyond the Sales Price, Top 10 Key Steps for Owners to Understand and Consider for an Efficient and Successful Transaction. Objective Is to Ensure Owners Look Beyond the Sales Price to Avoid Pitfalls (B6D)

Mike Schlesinger, President

Everyone will focus on the sales price. The presentation reviews the top 10 key steps for owners to understand and consider for an efficient and successful transaction. Objective is to ensure owners look beyond the sales price to avoid pitfalls and issues that may delay or stop the sale process.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 – 10:30 AM

What Does Your Contract Say? (B7)

Stacy Toner, CBCS
 Lesleigh Sisson, Cfo, CFM
 Erin Cammarata

This presentation is all about contracts! We will talk about what information is important to know in your contracts, the importance of managing your contracts and tips on how to negotiate them.

10:30 – 11:15 AM

Regulatory Update... Did You Know? (B8)

Laurie Johnson, JD
 Karyn Kessler, CHPC CHC

As regulations can be confusing, hard to apply and difficult to implement, this presentation breaks down HIPAA, OIG and OCR current actions. While the HIPAA regulation is over 25 years old, there is still misconception regarding the applicability and requirements it imposes. On the surface, the HIPAA rules seem simple, protect patient health information (PHI), but in practice because of broad regulatory language it quickly becomes complex. AOPA attendees will get a nuanced focused explanation of existing regulations and information about current trends like tracking technology and AI. There will always be obstacles, however being in “the know” and taking preventative action will keep the government at a distance.

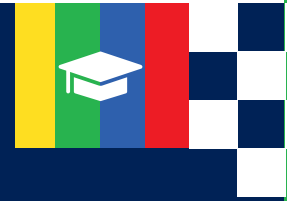
11:15 AM – Noon

Learn How to Maximize Profitability as an Independent Clinic Owner—Applying the Laws of Physics to Understand Your Business and Reduce Entropy in Today’s Climate of Regulatory Headwinds (B9)

Amit V. Bhanti, CEO

This case study explores innovative strategies for independent O&P clinic owners to enhance profitability amidst increasing regulatory challenges. By drawing parallels with the laws of physics, the study delves into methods for reducing operational entropy and creating a streamlined, efficient business model. Insights include practical applications of these principles to navigate and thrive in the complex healthcare regulatory environment, ultimately leading to improved financial health and service quality in O&P clinics.

▶ O&P Clinical Care



With over twenty five presentations on the schedule, AOPA is proud to present its largest clinical education track ever.

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 AM – Noon

Powered Upper Extremity Bracing: A Review of Reimbursement, Current Technology, and Clinical Opportunities (C3)

Ghaith Androwis, PhD
Harry Kovelman, MD
Jonathan Naft, CPO
Jacob George, PhD
Ajay Seth

This session will provide an overview of the fast-growing space of motorized braces for the upper extremity. Attend a panel discussion with experts that will highlight topics including the recent changes in L-codes, benefit category, and reimbursement. Hear from designers, engineers, CPOs, and physicians to learn more about the clinical improvements addressing unmet needs for the upper extremity.

10:30 AM – Noon

Osseointegration for Amputation Reconstruction: Clinical Applications and Continuing Care (C4)

Joseph Hsu, MD
Bryan Loeffler, MD
Doug Thommen, MD
Mark Elgart, CPO
Chris Hoyt, CPO

Access to bone-anchored prosthetics, or osseointegration (OI), has been increasing in the United States including here in Charlotte, NC area. The OI program at Atrium Health Musculoskeletal Institute was created to provide an alternative for patients with problematic fittings or complex residual limbs. This symposium will share knowledge from the program regarding the patient indications, an overview of surgical techniques, rehabilitation strategies, starting up a program, and collaborating in research. The panelists will also provide prosthetists guidance for continuing care when patients return home following the procedure.

10:30 AM – Noon

Modern Patient Preference Technologies to Drive Patient Outcomes Within Prosthetic Choice (C5)

Todd Castleberry, PhD
Gerald Stark, PhD
Ashlie White, MSHLS, MA
Leslie Wilson, PhD
Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP

This panel will focus on the use of modern patient preference measurement technologies to inform patient prosthetic choice in the prescription setting and improve outcomes to reduce device discontinuation. Panel members will describe the methodology used to develop and utilize discrete choice experiment methods to understand how an individual weighs the benefits and risks of prosthetic choice and relates its use in clinical practice to outcomes and user success. You will learn how to develop a discrete choice measure and have hands on experience completing a discrete choice exercise.

- The first panelist will provide an overview of the study objectives, and the importance of including the individuals' perspective in the prosthetic prescription to maximize the best clinical impact. (Shane Wurdeman)
- The second panelist will demonstrate how to develop a discrete choice measure using examples of the EQ-5D and a newly developed discrete choice measure for upper limb loss/difference (ULL/D). (Leslie Wilson)
- The third panelist will guide the audience in experiencing the use of a discrete choice measure for prosthetic choice in those with ULL/D. (Todd Castleberry)
- The fourth panelist will discuss the role of the advisory board and the importance of integrating a patient organization and the users input in the prosthetic choice based on her experience at the amputee coalition. (Ashlie White)
- The fifth panelist will discuss how these methods can be implemented in the practice setting to potentially improve patient outcomes. (Gerry Stark)

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Orthotic Applications of Exoskeletons: The Orthotist's Future as Providers of Highly Advanced Devices (C6)

Homayoon Kazerooni, PhD
Caitlin Jones, PT, DPT, NCS
Michael Glover, PT
Kinsey Herrin, MSPO, C/LPO, FAAOP

With Medicare's recent determination of exoskeletons as orthoses, CPOs will be able to expand their clinical services into the world of actuated wearable devices. In this session, the challenges and opportunities associated with the use and development of advanced exoskeletons will be discussed and explored. Perspectives from Dr. Kazerooni, a pioneer engineer in the field of exoskeletons, two practicing physical therapists with extensive clinical experience using exoskeletons and a research orthotist/prosthetist advancing exoskeleton technology will provide insight on the current and future use of exoskeletons and our role as CPOs in bringing this technology to persons with disability in their communities.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Interface Pressure: Current Solutions and Novel Technologies for Advancing Both Sides of the Interface (C7)

Heather Powell, PhD
Alex Albury, CPO
Matt Wernke, PhD
Daniel Gallego Perez, PhD

NIDILRR recently funded a Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center (RERC) for Prosthetics and Orthotics. The funded IDEA Center is focused on improving the interface between the device and human to bolster comfort, function, and health. Here, the IDEA Center team will present our current understanding of pressure effects on the skin, best practices for optimizing pressure distribution, and upcoming innovation including designing devices and the human for the interface.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Prosthetic Free Papers: Upper Limb Prosthetics (C8)

Acute versus Delayed Targeted Muscle Reinnervation for Upper Extremity Amputations—Why Wait? (C8A)

Glenn Gaston, MD
Samuel Posey, MD

Our study suggests that patients with transhumeral or transradial amputation who undergo acute TMR ultimately fare better than those with TMR done in a delayed setting, with improved pain VAS scores, improved patient-reported mental health scores, and a trend toward lower rates of depression. Acute TMR can be performed without an increased risk of complications and should be considered in patients undergoing surgery for transhumeral or transradial amputations.

Managing Major Peripheral Nerves in Forearm Level Amputations with TMR and RPNI—What’s the Best Recipe? (C8B)

Andrew Rees, MD
Glenn Gaston, MD

Deep and distal targets for forearm TMR may be more effective at preventing symptomatic neuroma formation than targets that are superficial and proximal. RPNI is a useful adjunct for neuroma control in forearm level amputees—especially for the radial sensory nerve. Patients with significant medical comorbidities, such as peripheral neuropathy, did not develop high rates of neuromas despite no advanced treatment of the peripheral nerves.

Bridging Biology and Technology: The Starfish Procedure’s Impact on Myoelectric Prostheses (C8C)

Ryan Serbin, MD
Bryan Loeffler, MD

This study examines the functional outcomes and patient satisfaction of partial hand amputees who underwent the Starfish Procedure and were fitted with a four-site myoelectric prosthesis. The results show significant improvements in hand function, dexterity, and prosthetic control, as well as high patient satisfaction, supporting the clinical efficacy of this combined approach. The Starfish Procedure with four-site myoelectric prostheses demonstrates significant potential for enhancing the quality of life for partial hand amputees.

Responsiveness of PROMIS-9 UE Physical Function to Prosthesis Rehabilitation (C8D)

Todd Castleberry, PhD

For individuals with upper limb loss or difference, maintaining physical function is crucial for rehabilitation and overall well-being. This study investigated the effectiveness of the novel PROMIS-9 UE Physical Function short form in identifying improvements in bimanual physical function following a patient’s first prosthesis intervention. Results suggest moderate responsiveness across all amputation levels.

Rethinking the Shoulder Disarticulation Prosthesis: Let’s Stop Thinking Outside the Box and Make the Box Bigger (C8E)

Christopher Fink, CPO
Timothy Bump, CPO

The human arm is a highly complex and mobile extremity. Many prosthetic designs are centered around mimicking the anatomical function identically joint for joint. In this presentation we explore a novel prosthetic design centered around returning the function of the upper extremity as a whole instead of mimicking joint by joint function in the highly complex shoulder disarticulation population.

Prosthesis Receipt Is Associated with Improved Participation and Decreased Pain Following Upper Limb Amputation (C8F)

Bretta Fylstra, PhD

This study of 75 participants will show the impact of prosthesis receipt on pain interference following upper limb amputation; the impact of participation in social roles following upper limb amputation and define how patient-reported outcomes can help clinicians and patients with goal-setting and measuring progress during rehabilitation.

User-centered Design of a Dashboard to Support Clinicians Treating Upper Limb Myoelectric Prosthesis Wearers (C8G)

Miriam Rafferty, PT, DPT, PhD
Zachary Wright, PhD

Our research blends implementation science and user-centered design methodology to drive the development of a web-based dashboard intended to support clinicians who provide clinical care and support to upper limb myoelectric prosthesis wearers. We will present qualitative data highlighting perceived barriers and facilitators to successful clinical implementation and results of key pre-implementation outcomes on usability, feasibility, acceptability, and appropriateness to forecast future adoption of a dashboard.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

The Value-Add of Health Screenings in Routine Prosthetic Practice: A Hands-on Guide to Implementation (C9)

Megan Sions, PT, DPT, PhD
Samantha Stauffer, CPO, MSOP

Adults with lower-limb loss often have other health conditions, such as neuropathy, low back pain, and depression, that affect how comfortable and satisfied patients are with their prosthetic care. Issues with the intact limb, persistent socket discomfort, and complaints of back pain may lead to repetitive appointments for minor prosthesis adjustments, but the underlying health concerns influencing these symptoms remain unaddressed. In this session, you will be equipped with the tools to evaluate, discuss, and refer for neuropathy, high-risk low back pain, and depression, as well as how to implement screening protocols in routine clinical practice.

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Orthotic Free Papers: Lower Limb Applications (C10)**Individual Responder Analysis of the International Randomized C-Brace Crossover Study (C10A)**

Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER), PhD

This paper presents a secondary responder analysis of the 69 per-protocol participants of the international C-Brace crossover study. Responders were defined as participants with clinically meaningful improvements in the Berg Balance Scale, falls, ABC scale and/or DGI. The analysis showed that participants with non-polio conditions and users of free-swing KAFOs were more likely to benefit from a C-Brace than polio survivors and users of locked KAFO who require more clinical effort to identify promising candidates.

Mobility and Quality of Life in Community Ambulators with Knee Locking Deficiency Using a Microprocessor Controlled Knee Ankle Foot Orthosis and a Stance Control Orthosis: Randomized Crossover Trial (C10B)

Andreas Hahn, PhD

Significant and highly clinically relevant benefits for people with knee locking deficiency by using the innovative C-Brace microprocessor stance and swing control orthosis could be shown. This methodological high quality trial not only complements recent work, it also lays basis to show cost effectiveness of such devices.

So You Think You Can Dance: Mismatch Between Perceived Balance Confidence and the Berg Balance Scale in the C-Brace Crossover Study (C10C)

Arri Morris, MSc, CCRA

Russell Lundstrom, MS

Subjects from the C-Brace Crossover international trial were analyzed based on a recent publication from Wong and Chihuri. The analysis explores the consequences of a mismatch between perceived balance and objective balance ability.

Improvement in Patient-specific Functional Scale and Reduction in Walking Aids: Interim Results from the C-Brace® Registry (C10D)

Tyler Klenow, MSPO, MBA, CPO, FAAOP

Russell Lundstrom, MS

A prospective, multicenter registry was designed to gather real-world safety and effectiveness data from patients fit with a C Brace. 51 O&P Clinics from the US and Europe are currently participating, having enrolled 91 subjects and 46 subjects have completed the primary endpoint of 1 year. Use of the C-Brace resulted in improvements in Patient-specific Functional Scale and a reduction in the use of walking aids.

Translating Evidence into Clinical Practice: Treating Pathologic Gait with Articulated Ankle-Foot Orthoses (C10E)

Beatrice Janka, CPO/MSPO

Nicholas LeCursi, CO

This study defines the mechanical characteristics of Multi-Function AFOs, identifies a set of specific pathologic gait deviations that may be influenced by those characteristics, presents peer-reviewed research detailing the systematic biomechanical influence of Multi-Function AFOs on some of

those deviations, and identifies evidence gaps that present opportunities for future research.

A Custom Ankle-Foot Orthosis Enables Adjustable Offloading and Natural Walking Pattern (C10F)

Dana Solav

We have developed an innovative AFO for adjustable ankle-foot offloading to address limitations in current devices. By incorporating a patient-specific shank brace, adjustable load mechanism, and ground contact plates featuring a natural roll-over shape, this AFO allows precise offloading control while maintaining comfort and preserving natural walking dynamics.



3:45 – 5:15 PM

Adjustable-volume Sockets: Who, What, When, Why, and How to Get Paid (C11)

Tyler Klenow, MSPO, MBA, CPO, FAAOP

Joe Mahon, CP

Jimmy Capra

Billy Lester

Adjustable-volume sockets have recently received a new L-code and reimbursement allowable with CMS opening new treatment options for patients across the country. This session will outline proper patient indications, clinical applications, reimbursement pathway with documentation requirements, practice benefits, and current evidence of efficacy for the technology. The expert panel of experienced adjustable-volume socket practitioners and researchers will be available to answer all questions regarding who the technology is appropriate for, what it is, when it is appropriate, why it should be implemented, and the current status of reimbursement.

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Essentials of Rehabilitation for Partial Hand Amputees: A Multi-disciplinary Approach (C12)

Chris Baschuk, MPO, CPO, FAAOP(D)

Julie Klarich, OTR/CHT

Shaun Mendenhall, MD

This is a comprehensive course designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of professionals in the rehabilitation of partial hand amputees. This course provides an in-depth exploration of various aspects of care, covering surgical techniques, prosthetic innovations, therapeutic strategies, and patient-centered care. Attendees will delve into the latest advancements in surgery and prosthetics, gain insights into effective therapeutic approaches, and learn about the importance of a multidisciplinary team. The course is structured to include interactive segments, case studies, and a concluding Q&A session, making it an engaging and informative experience for all participants. Supplementary materials will be provided for further learning and reference. This course is an invaluable opportunity for professionals seeking to deepen their understanding and improve their practice in this specialized area of rehabilitation.

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Providing Sensory Feedback and Reducing Phantom Limb Pain Using New Medical Technology and the Innovative Surgical Techniques of Targeted Sensory Reinnervation (TSR) (C13)

Alexander Gardetto, MD
 Diane Atkins, OTR/L, FISPO
 Rainer Schultheis, CEO
 John Warren, CPO

Phantom limb pain and neuromas affect a high percentage of upper and lower limb amputees. This dramatically compromises their quality of life and treatment remains a significant challenge, and in most cases, is limited to symptomatic treatment. A new therapy method has been developed that is a combination of a unique surgical procedure, Targeted Sensory Reinnervation (TSR), and a non-invasive vibrotactile sensory feedback system. This method has shown to effectively treat phantom limb pain and often has prevented it from occurring.

In this symposium, we will present the TSR technique that allows sensations to be perceived precisely at the level of the residual and give insight to the impact of using non-invasive sensory feedback. The technique and its various applications (upper and lower extremity) are described from a reconstructive surgical perspective. User reports on the benefits of sensory feedback are part of the symposium, as well as the description of FDA cleared medical devices, which fulfill the principle of returning peripheral sensitivity to the limb and the brain.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Thranhardt Lecture Series (C14)

Assessing Outcomes with Microprocessor Knee Utilization in a K2 Population (ASCENT K2): Findings from a Clinical Trial of 107 Individuals with Above-knee Amputation (C14A)

Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER), PhD
 Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP

A total of 107 limited community ambulators with AKA (age: 73.7±5.6y) were enrolled into a two-arm randomized, controlled trial. Fifty-four participants were assigned to wear an MPK and fifty-three wore a NMPK. At 12 months follow-up, individuals with an MPK had on average reduced avoidance behavior from fear of falling, worried less about the consequences of falling, and experienced fewer fall events.

Reduction in Falls and Fall-Risk with Increased Walking Speed Found Following 1 Year of C-Brace® Use: Interim Results from the C-Brace® Registry (C14B)

Tyler Klenow, MSPO, MBA, CPO, FAAOP
 Russell Lundstrom, MS

A prospective, multicenter registry was designed to gather real-world safety and effectiveness data from patients fit with a C Brace. 51 clinics O&P Clinics from the US and Europe are currently participating, enrolling 91 subjects and 42 subjects have completed the primary endpoint of 1 year. Use of the C-Brace resulted in improvements in fast walking speed and balance confidence while reducing falls and fall-risk measured by the TUG and ABC.

10:30 AM – Noon

An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Clinical Management of Children with Arthrogyposis (C15)

Jaccalyn Owens, CPO, LPO
 Tricia Bucci, PT

This presentation will highlight the importance of a multidisciplinary team approach in the clinical management of children with arthrogyposis. The presenters will be reviewing a holistic approach to multiple joint orthotic interventions for patients with arthrogyposis. Emphasis will be placed on intervention in the pediatric population while addressing continuum of care into adulthood. Orthotic and rehabilitation management will be discussed and how they blend together for the interdisciplinary approach for this patient population.

10:30 AM – Noon

Anatomy of a Fall: Could the Microprocessor Knee Have Prevented the Fall? (C16)

Robert Gailey, PhD, PT, FAPTA
 Christopher Wong, PT, PhD
 Kurt Gruben, CPO

The microprocessor knees (MPK) have been attributed to the reduction of falls in people with transfemoral limb loss. However, the anatomy of falls is complex. In fact, most falls are not exclusively prosthetic related but rather correlated to physical limitations, impaired balance (1), comorbidities, gait limitations (2) environment, cognition, decreased social participation (3), and other pre-existing factors. Identifying the characteristics of patients at risk can assist with prosthetic prescription and treatment. This evidence-based presentation will discuss a series of relevant systematic reviews performed by various working groups with other professions (4) with a focus on outlining the mechanism of falls, patient characteristics, falls outcomes measures, multi-disciplinary treatment approaches and patient documentation. Integrating routine assessments, treatments and documentation related to the influence of MPKs on our patient's well-being can have positive effects for patients, clinicians, providers and the profession.

10:30 AM – Noon

Prosthetic Free Paper Showcase (C17)

This session is meant to showcase five high-level research papers worthy of a special highlight.

A Clinical Decision Equation for the Personalized Prescription of Prosthetic Microprocessor Knees (C17A)

Kinsey Herrin, MSPO, CPO, LPO, FAAOP

In this work, we present a transparent, data-driven clinical decision equation which uses patient-specific features to recommend an MPK prescription for a specific patient. Our web-based application allows clinicians to practically use this work to inform their clinical decision process during MPK selection.

Response Probabilities of PLUS-M Scores for Individuals with Lower Limb Amputation (C17B)

Bretta Fylstra, PhD

Improving mobility is an important goal for patients following lower limb amputation; however, determining the next steps in rehabilitation care may not always be clear. The goal of this study was to create maps of expected responses to the PLUS-M outcome measure to assist clinicians and patients with goal-setting during rehabilitation.

Lower-Limb Loss and Identification of Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors (C17C)

Samantha Stauffer, CPO, MSOP

Adults with lower-limb loss are twice as likely to die of cardiovascular disease than adults with intact limbs. Elevated arterial stiffness, evidenced by wide pulse pressures (i.e., the pulsatile component of blood pressure), strongly influences development of cardiovascular disease. The purpose of this study was to identify factors associated with wide pulse pressures among adults with lower-limb loss.

Relating Phantom Motor Execution Therapy Dosage to Changes in Phantom Limb Pain (C17D)

Zachary Wright, PhD

Levi Hargrove, PhD

This study investigates the relationship between the amount of phantom motor execution (PME) therapy and changes in phantom limb pain (PLP) among individuals with limb loss/difference using a myoelectric pattern recognition-controlled virtual reality system. Our findings underscore the potential of PME therapy as an effective and accessible treatment for managing PLP and highlight the need for further research to establish optimal therapy dosage guidelines.

Investigating Illusions of Phantom Arm Movements in the Population with Upper Limb Absence Using Cutaneous Vibrations (C17E)

Ruth Leskovar, MSc

This study investigated the creation of illusions of upper limb movements in people with upper limb difference. Participants were recruited who had an amputation or were born without their limb. Results showed that it is possible to create illusions of phantom arm movements in subjects who had an amputation and in participants with a congenital limb absence.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Comparison of Original Scoliosis Treatments (C18)

Miguel Gomez, MD

Ralph Hooper, CPO

James Wynne, CPO, FAAOP

Corey Baum, CO (Moderator)

There are many scoliosis TLSO designs and approaches available on the market today. With this availability of designs and growing number of manufacturers to produce them, the landscape has become crowded. The pioneers and founders of three orthosis types and approaches are here to set the record straight. This session will review the past and current evidence of the various orthosis approaches, heard from the men who created them and have a joint experience of over 100 years in the space.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Socketology: Advanced Techniques (C19)

Christopher Hoyt, CP

Of all the interesting facets within the field of prosthetics, none has more impact on the success of the patient than the socket. A well-fitting socket is often the difference between a happy marriage and a broken one, a productive employee and unemployment, a paralympic athlete and a couch potato. The role of the prosthetist is significant in our patient's lives.

Variations in socket design will always exist, based not only upon the patient's unique residual limb but also the prosthetist's education, experience, and level of passion.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Prosthetic Free Papers: Lower Limb Component Innovations (C20)

Performance of L5981/L5968 Feet (C20A)

Matt Wernke, PhD

L5968 feet has historically included a hydraulic ankle to provide toe clearance during swing phase and ground accommodation to inclines/declines during stance phase. A recent addition to the L5968 foot code does not include a hydraulic ankle. Here controlled, standardized mechanical tests compare the performance of commercially available L5968 feet.

Analysis of a Novel Prosthetic Foot Design—a Clinical and Biomechanical Evaluation (C20B)

Björn Altenburg

The novel design of the study foot shows clearly noticeable user advantages while having a compact build height. The study investigates this foot in everyday life of 12 individuals with amputation and compares to other state-of-the-art ESR feet.

Performance Analysis of a Novel Prosthetic Foot with a New Machine Test Method and Comparison to Biomechanical and Subjective Measures (C20C)

Anna Ármannsdóttir, PhD

A novel prosthetic foot, Pro-Flex® Terra, designed to meet a broad range of activities is presented. When compared to a conventional ESAR prosthetic foot, it provides higher performance in different walking conditions. The results were predicted within a novel machine test and contrasted with subjective and biomechanical measures.

Impact of a Knee-ankle Prosthetic System on Quality of Life of Individuals with Transfemoral Limb Loss (C20D)

Laurine Calistri, MS

Quality of life is significantly lower for amputees compared to the general population. It could be correlated to mobility. This prospective study included 12 TFA subjects, comparing their current MPK prosthesis with a new MPKA, on both objective (biomechanical) and subjective (auto-questionnaires) outcomes. Results show a significant improvement on physical and mental components of SF-36 quality of life survey, in parallel with significantly improved safety in stance and swing phases of walking gait.

Clinical and Biomechanical Evaluation of a New Prosthetic Knee Joint—How Do Users Benefit from Entirely New Functions? (C20E)

Thomas Maximilian Köhler, MSc, CPO

The new microprocessor-controlled knee joint investigated uses a combination of sensors and a sophisticated control algorithm that allows the accurate detection of different movement situations. This gives the opportunity to implement entirely new functions that improve the overall performance of the knee joint in the user's everyday life and thus the user's mobility.

Preliminary Evaluation of a Powered Hip Prosthesis (C20F)

Edward Lemaire, PhD

A new powered hip joint was developed to provide microprocessor controlled powered mobility for people with hip-level amputations. This presentation reports on preliminary trials with participants who use a hip-knee-ankle-foot prosthesis for everyday mobility.

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Clinical Indications for Cranial Remolding, Repositioning Therapy, and Physical Therapy (C21)

Tiffany Graham, MSPO, C/LPO, FAAOP(D)

Colleen Coulter, PT, DPT, PhD, PCS

Darren J. Poidevin, CLPO

Additional Presenters to be announced

The presentation and severity of infantile cranial deformations varies greatly, and these infants often have an associated lack of range of motion to their neck. Cranial deformation can be treated either through repositioning therapy or a cranial remolding orthosis, and the neck mobility can be treated through home stretching techniques with or without the addition of physical therapy. When assessing these patients, caregiver input is used along with clinical decisions made by the physician, physical therapist, and orthotist to determine the most appropriate treatment method(s). This session will introduce the clinical decision making process to determine if/when an infant may be referred for physical therapy or a cranial remolding orthosis, or if a home-treatment protocol may be the most appropriate approach.

3:45 – 5:15 PM

MPK K2: Benefits and Reimbursement Update (C22)

Al Dobson, PhD

Andreas Hahn, PhD

Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER), PhD

Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP

This session will give an overview of the existing evidence that helped achieve the recent proposed changes in the Medicare Local Coverage Determination (LCD) for MPK coverage in the K2 population. For the first time, yet-unpublished results of the largest clinical intervention study and first truly randomized controlled clinical trial with an MPK (Kenevo) in 107 K2 patients in 80+ Hanger clinics will be shared. In addition, the documentation requirements of the proposed Medicare LCD will be discussed and recommendations how to meet them will be provided.

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Prosthetic Free Papers: Outcome Measures (C23)

Finding the Evidence: Evidence Based Practice Is the Value Proposition (C23A)

Fanny Schulte, MS, MEd, CPO, LP, FAAOP(D)

Build awareness and understanding of how to engage individual clinicians and clinical practices in EBP integration into every facet of patient care delivery. Stimulate progressive ways of thinking about EBP in context of value based care and learn about practical strategies, tools, and resources for immediate application and assessment over time.

Variations in Outcome Measures for People with Lower Limb Amputation in the Outpatient Clinic and Research Settings (C23B)

Robert Gailey, PhD, PT, FAPTA

The use of a standardized test administration for outcome measures will help clinicians achieve consistency between patient performance and reduce the chance of testing error. Simple tests like the 2 minute walk test can be subject to a number of testing errors is not standardized. This retrospective cross-sectional design will illustrate differences within clinics and between published research data.

Initial Insights from the Limb Loss and Preservation Registry (C23C)

Kenton Kaufman, PhD, PE

The Limb Loss and Preservation Registry (LLPR) data demonstrates that lower limb amputee mobility is the same as individuals scheduled to receive a knee replacement. Importantly, amputees struggle with insurance companies to receive a microprocessor-controlled knee while nearly 800,000 individuals in the US will receive a knee replacement this year likely without having to appeal to their insurance company. The LLPR has the data to assure that individuals with limb loss receive equitable medical care.

Physiological Cost Index During 6-minute Walk Tests in Lower Limb Amputees: Results from a Prosthetic Foot Feasibility Study (C23D)

Russell Lundstrom, MS

Arri Morris, MSc, CCRA

A randomized, crossover feasibility study was conducted comparing a prototype prosthetic energy storage and return foot with currently worn feet and with comparator feet. Heart rate data was collected during 6-minute walk tests, and results for the physiological cost index (PCI) are presented. While there were no significant differences in PCI between feet studied, PCI clearly differentiated between transtibial and transfemoral amputees and showed a significant correlation with BMI.

A Newly Developed Outcome Measurement Instrument for Evaluating Prosthetic Components: First Practical Test (C23E)

Annika Dlugoszek

Malte Bellmann

This presentation discusses the use of clinical Outcome Measurement Instruments in the field of lower limb prosthetics. It addressed the difficulty of finding a suitable and meaningful tool for the differentiation of prosthetic knee joints, despite the large number of instruments available. The presentation introduces a newly adapted OMI and presents results for the differentiation of four prosthetic knee joints.

Delving into the Importance of Outcome Measures and Remote Monitoring in Lower-Limb Prosthetic Rehabilitation: Insights from an Online Survey (C23F)

Vanessa Carvalho, CPO

Joana Martins, MBE

Outcome measures (OMs) are crucial in prosthetic practices. This work evaluated the use of OMs and gathered insights on the use of remote monitoring to enhance patient care. Respondents answered an online survey, and the results showed that real-world activity monitoring is wanted but not easy to obtain.

Gait Analysis with Transfemoral Amputees: How Accurate Are Essential Kinematic and Kinetic Parameters Characterizing the Functionality of Prosthetic Knee Joints? (C23G)

Eva Pröbsting

In the present study, essential gait parameters characterizing functionality of prosthetic knee joints, such as the sagittal knee angle and -moment, were determined using different gait models and validated by comparing them with internal sensor data of the prosthetic knee joint. A new model, specifically developed for the analysis of above-knee amputees, shows the most reliable data.

100+ CE
Credits

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 – 10:45 AM

The State of Dynamic Carbon Fiber AFO Technology: Clinical Applications and Long-Term Outcomes (C24)

Kirsten Anderson PhD Candidate

Lee Childers, PhD, CP

Noel Chladek, CPO, LPO

The Intrepid Dynamic Exoskeletal Orthosis (IDEO) was created at the Center for the Intrepid, Brooke Army Medical Center and combined with a physical therapy program to enable Service members going through complex limb salvage to return to high function. This work will review the IDEO treatment program and present data on the long-term follow-up of 145 patients to understand return to duty rates, IDEO use, and rates for acquiring a subsequent amputation. Commercially available alternatives available to attendees will also be presented.

9:15 – 10:45 AM

Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow, Fabrication and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical, Technical and Digital Session (C25)

Brent Wright, CP, BOCO

Jeffrey Denune, CP, LP

9:15 – 10:45 AM

Prosthetic Free Papers: General Topics (C26)**Assessment of the Usability of a Telehealth Remote Prosthetic Training Application for Service Members and Veterans (C26A)**

Robert Gailey, PhD, PT, FAPTA

The use of real-time auditory biofeedback for prosthetic gait and remote training application are acceptable by patients focused on improving their functional outcomes.

Effective Use of Components with External Power Is Not Intuitive for Many Patients with Lower-limb Amputation (C26B)

Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER), PhD

As clinical evidence on powered prosthetic components is inconsistent, a literature review of studies reporting individual results of participants to identify responders was performed. In the studies reviewed, only a minority of participants managed to utilize powered components effectively. As the integration of external power in the neuromuscular control of walking

does not appear to be intuitive, much more clinical scrutiny in candidate identification, fitting, tuning, and patient training is necessary to achieve clinical success.

“It Is Available, It Is Just Not Available to Me”: Exploring the Factors Influencing the Social Participation of Adults with Lower Limb Absence (C26C)

Brittany Pousett, CP(C), MSc

Individuals with lower limb absence can experience decreased participation in their community due to a variety of factors, leading to social isolation and decreased health and quality of life. Through understanding the barriers and facilitators to participation and the complex interactions between them, we can better provide prosthetic treatment to our patients and set them up for success in reaching their goals.

Managing Prosthetic Treatment for Women with Lower Limb Absence During Pregnancy and the Post-Natal Period (C26D)

Brittany Pousett, CP(C), MSc

Little information is available to women with lower limb absence (LLA) and their health care providers regarding how to manage prosthetic treatment during pregnancy and the postnatal period. This presentation covers the range of experiences that women may face and how Prosthetists can help manage changes that arise. By planning ahead and working together, we can mitigate many of these challenges and ensure the best possible care for women with LLA during pregnancy.

Early Prosthesis Receipt Is Associated with Better Odds of Employment After Lower Limb Amputation (C26E)

Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP

Employment following major lower limb amputation is beneficial for patients, but only 43-70% of patients report returning to work. This study investigated timing of prosthesis receipt on the odds of returning to work after lower limb amputation. Individuals who received their prosthesis within 0-3 months following amputation had higher odds of being employed compared to individuals that had delayed prosthesis receipt.

Empowering Amputees: Shaping Phantom Limb Pain Solutions from the Patient's Perspective (C26F)

Ryan Serbin, MD

Glenn Gaston, MD

This presentation shares insights from a survey of amputees, revealing their experiences with phantom limb pain, current treatment effectiveness, and perspectives on virtual reality therapy. By empowering amputees to guide the development of patient-centered solutions, we aim to pave the way for innovative, accessible, and effective approaches to manage phantom limb pain.

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Orthotic Free Papers: Pediatric & Upper Extremity (C27)

A Pilot Analysis of Pressures in Cranial Remolding Orthoses (C27A)

Tiffany Graham, MSPO, C/LPO, FAAOP(D)
Jennifer Johansson, MS

Three infants wore instrumented cranial remolding orthoses while performing various activities such as sitting, crawling, and laying down. Pressure data was recorded while the orthosis was being worn with both the clinically-recommended strap tightness and with a loose strap in order to quantify pressures in both the holding zones of the orthosis and the void space of the CRO in various positions and at varying strap tightness.

An Updated Prediction Model for the Maximum Expected Treatment Time with a Cranial Remolding Orthosis (C27B)

Tiffany Graham, MSPO, C/LPO, FAAOP(D)

This study tests a prediction model for the maximum treatment duration for a child with a deformational head shape who wears a cranial remolding orthosis. The new model has moderate accuracy and can be a useful clinical tool.

Functional Comparison and Social Perception of Dynamic Strut Orthotic Intervention for Sensory-Based Idiopathic Toe-Walking in Children (C27C)

Cassandra Delgado, MSPO, CPO

Dynamic strut AFO designs have shown improvements in clinical outcomes and compliance for children with idiopathic toe-walking and autism spectrum disorder. For children with sensory processing sensitivities, this strut design may reduce sensory difficulties associated with orthotic intervention by providing stimulus input different than traditional methods.

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Medical Necessity In Prosthetics and Orthotics: Moving from Device Deliverers to Healthcare Providers (C28)

Molly McCoy, CPO
Jeffrey Heckman, D.O. in PM&R
Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER), PhD
Dave McGill, JD

Expert panel short presentations describing different aspects of Medical Necessity in P&O with a case study based breakdown at the end and audience Q&A.

Medical Necessity reasoning for P&O devices and features is a public funding source (Medicare/Medicaid) requirement and often requested by commercial payers as well. However many practitioners struggle with how to write medical necessity vs. functional needs or patient desires as reasoning for components or features. The definition of medical necessity is vague enough to require support in interpretation and application. Until passage of the 2018 law that our records are part of the medical record, we were not often required to make robust medical necessity arguments in our clinical notes as we are today. Therefore, more education and support in this area is needed. Likewise the shift from fee for service to value based care for custom devices especially, requires a shift from device delivery to provision of healthcare and being part of the healthcare team in all aspects not least of which is communication (records).

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Prosthetic Free Papers: Sockets & Osseointegration (C29)

An Adaptable Socket to Automatically Maintain Prosthetic Fit During Simulated Military Operations (C29A)

Ciera Price, MSPO, CPO/L

Dependence on sock changes is disruptive and unreliable, yet we continue to provide static sockets for dynamic individuals. Adaptable socket technology may offer an innovative solution for improving socket fit and comfort while reducing user burden. A microprocessor-controlled transtibial socket was performance tested in service members with positive results that highlight the need for further development.

Biomechanical Effects of an Adjustable versus Rigid Lower Limb Prosthetic Socket During Walking (C29B)

Gabriela Diaz

Rigid prosthetic sockets cannot accommodate residual limb volume fluctuations, leading to discomfort, increased risk of comorbidities, and high prosthetic abandonment rates. Novel adjustable lower-limb sockets that can accommodate up to 12% volume fluctuations, could improve socket fit and prosthetic function. We found that use of an adjustable lower limb socket decreased peak horizontal ground reaction force asymmetry during walking compared to a rigid socket, which could reduce secondary injury, and decrease prosthetic abandonment rates.

Digital Weight-bearing (dwb) Shape Capture Socket Technology for Improved Residual Limb Health (C29C)

Jeffrey Denune CP, LP

This pilot research looks at combining digital weightbearing socket design, CAD and 3D Printing to better understand Trans-Tibial limb health over a 4-week period. The Use of TEWL (Trans Epidermal Water Loss) and LSI (Laser Speckle Imaging) play a role in monitoring limb health.

In-socket Pressure Characteristics for Powered Transtibial Prostheses (C29D)

Adedayo Jigida, PhD
Jeffrey Denune, CP, LP

This study investigates the impact of microprocessor-controlled and powered transtibial prostheses on in-socket pressure, addressing a significant gap in research. Results from two subjects showed varying pressure patterns influenced by device and visit number. Analysis revealed consistent pressure peaks during the mid-to-late single support phase. The findings emphasize the importance of extended acclimation periods and highlight the need for prosthetic socket designs that consider peak pressure areas to enhance patient comfort and mitigate potential issues.

Review of Current Bone Anchored Research and Reimbursement Considerations (C29E)

D. Kurt Collier, CP

Bone Anchored prosthetics continues to become more common within the U.S. prosthetic market. On the whole patients are turning to under educated CPO's for answers. A review of the most recent and pertinent research will be provided as well as an update from recently held CMS meetings and publications to help better prepare clinicians for patient interaction regarding bone anchored prosthetics.

▶ O&P Digital Care



Technology is always changing and improving; these digital courses will help providers and administrators keep up with our ever-changing digital world

FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 AM – Noon

It's All About the Data (D1)

Insights into Transtibial Prosthetic Socket Design from Expert UK Clinicians' Digital Records (D1A)

Joshua Steer, PhD

Winner of the 2024 Hans Georg Näder Digital Education Award

This presentation introduces a method to compare rectifications made by experienced prosthetists across a range of patient demographics and limb shapes, to improve understanding of socket design strategies.

Based upon 163 pairs of limb surface scans and CAD/CAM sockets, socket designs were shown to vary along a spectrum of TSB and PTB principles, with a complex interaction between some rectifications and others showing independence. Such analysis might enable clinicians to leverage design records to support education, peer support for complex case management, and enhance evidence-based socket design.

Digital Health: Remote Visits and Modular Design in a Myoelectric Hand (D1B)

Sarra Mullen, CP

Explore the cutting-edge advancements in digital health technology that are revolutionizing the field of prosthetics. Discover how remote visits are enhancing patient care and accessibility, while delving into the innovative modular design of the Zeus myoelectric hand, removing the need for loaner hands and empowering individuals with limb differences.

Revolutionizing Prosthetic Care: Smartphone Gait Data for Practical Evidence and Benchmarking (D1C)

Patrick Tarnowski, PT, MBA

Gait analysis is an invaluable tool in diagnosing and monitoring patients. Until recently, gold-standard gait analysis required sensors and expensive equipment, but a new generation of technologies has made gait analysis accessible to providers in their own clinics. In this session, a panel of clinicians will discuss ways in which a new smartphone-based inertial gait analysis system is being used to equip CPOs with unprecedented data insights!

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Options in Digital Tools (D2)

Lessons Learned: Five Years of Utilizing 3D Printing and Digital Workflows in Pediatric Orthotics (D2A)

Claire Repisky

By 2027, it is expected that 35% of patient-specific O&P devices will be 3D printed. The paper presents lessons learned over the past five years of utilizing 3D printing and digital and hybrid workflows in the production of pediatric orthotic devices across more than 40 markets on 5 continents. The processes, benefits, challenges and considerations in the fabrication of cranial remolding orthoses, pediatric ankle foot orthoses (AFOs), and supramalleolar orthoses (SMOs) with additive manufacturing are discussed and highlight the impact of utilizing the digital and hybrid workflow on device fit and comfort. The adoption of these technologies has enabled the creation of more advanced and preferred devices while enabling more time-efficient processes for orthotists and improvement in consistency of fabricated devices.

Unlocking Orthopedic Innovation: Global CAD/CAM Solutions for CPOs, Enabling Digital Access and 3D Printing (D2B)

Marie Tribouillier, Marketing Manager, QWADRA

In this session, we will delve into the transformative potential of our global CAD/CAM solutions for Certified Prosthetist-Orthotists, elucidating how these digital tools enhance productivity, elevate patient comfort, and provide unprecedented access to cutting-edge technology like 3D printing. By embracing digital solutions, CPOs can streamline their workflow, optimize patient outcomes, and seamlessly integrate innovative technologies into their practice, revolutionizing the landscape of orthopedic care.

Evaluation of Mechanical Property Consistency of Sockets from a Distributed Additive Manufacturing Program (D2C)

Leo Haenni

Darren Jacoby

In O&P, product consistency is critical, but prevailing data raises questions about whether it is being achieved through traditional fabrication methods. Can leveraging new digital technologies and processes improve the consistency of custom products, so that clinicians and patients can be more confident in the decision making around their devices? An analysis of the strength properties of check sockets produced through a novel distributed additive manufacturing program, and what it means for the future of O&P.

Visit **AOPAASSEMBLY.ORG**

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Foot Orthotics Using Digital Technology (D3)

Case Study: How CPO Has Implemented the Latest Advancements in Telehealth, Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics and 3D Printing to Revolutionize Orthotic Prosthetic & Pedorthic Care (D3A)

Amit Bhanti, CEO

Here, CPO will highlight its partnership with Hike Medical and the insoles. ai telehealth platform, to utilize the latest AI technology, to streamline evaluation, billing, fitting, and compliance - increasing profitability across independent O&P clinics.

3D Printing Orthotics to Improve Affordability, Comfort & Pain Management (D3B)

Ryan Hayford, MS

The challenge with conventional, custom orthotics is that it's an expensive, manual process that requires a specialized professional and can take weeks or months to produce. Using advanced 3D scanning technology available on your smartphone, inStryde can immediately convert your foot data and activity history to a 3D printable file that can be produced within days and delivered directly to the recipient. Using the designability benefits (lattice structures) afforded by 3D printing enables the ability to customize comfort and optimize compression loads.

Validating Pedorthic Outcomes- Different Foot Orthotics and the Improvements Gained (D3C)

Jonathan Fogg, CPed, CFo

We are looking at the outcomes of fitting different patients using a Dyneex Gait/pressure system. We will present visual data (video and pressure mats) showing how we can confirm the outcomes of foot orthotic selection. The data will show before and after as well as different foot orthotics and how different choices led to each outcome.

The Office of Advanced Manufacturing Is Implementing Digital Manufacturing Capabilities Across the Veterans Health Administration (D3D)

Alex Berardo-Cates

Anika Lavine, OTR, LPO

Over 120,000 diabetic foot ulcers were treated in the VA last year and up to 80% of non-traumatic lower limb amputations happen due to diabetes complications. Digital design and manufacturing has shown promise in empowering clinicians to provide the soonest and best O&P care, but the VHA faces challenges with accessing digital technologies, finding and training staff to support these technologies, and a broad lack of standardization for patient matched O&P devices. The VHA Office of Advanced Manufacturing (OAM) is addressing this need by developing a nationwide end-to-end digital O&P workflow, paving the way for a future in which any Veteran can visit any VA facility and receive personalized, 3D-printed diabetic orthotics and definitive prosthetic sockets.



Exhibits. Education. Networking.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14

10:30 AM – Noon

Managing Your Practice with Digital Technology (D4)

No Money, No Mission: Navigating the Future of O&P Billing Solutions with Modern Technology (Including AI) (D4A)

Jon Bishop

Today's O&P practices have embraced modern technology that enables patient outcomes to reach new heights—but what about their back-office billing practices? We've got good news! You don't need to be a tech wizard to stay on the cutting edge of advanced billing systems. This session will help you grasp the possibilities (and limitations) you can expect from artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and intuitive practice management systems so you can embrace a huge advantage for better patient and financial outcomes at your practice.

AI in the Doctor's Office (D4B)

Mary Mason, MD

Artificial intelligence offers a real solution to the growing paperwork that primary care physicians and specialists must complete daily, which is a significant source of burnout. With a simple internet search, it is easy to discover numerous apps and IT platforms that use the power of AI to help doctors write History and Physicals, SOAP notes, and discharge summaries simply by recording the visit between the doctor and the patient. Mary Mason, MD, MBA, says the value proposition of such applications is to decrease the amount of documentation and charting for healthcare professionals by up to 75%. This not only allows physicians to reclaim this time for themselves and their families, but also to spend more time listening and taking care of the patient during a patient visit.

Leveraging Machine Learning to Predict Free-Living Mobility (D4C)

Kyle Leister, PhD, CPO

This presentation will review the mechanisms behind machine learning and AI and discuss the clinical applicability of these techniques for enhancing established clinical-based functional mobility tests and patient reported outcome measures. Machine learning techniques, such as LASSO regression, can be utilized to make predictions about free living mobility, which may enhance the utility of clinic-based outcome measures. This technique was employed to construct an equation for predicting daily steps according to PLUS-M T-scores and health state characteristics in a group of individuals with transtibial amputation. The approach yielded a moderately accurate prediction ($r = 0.77$) between algorithm-predicted and actual steps, suggesting robust associations between the included predictors and mobility.



2:00 – 3:30 PM

Resources for Digital Production (D5)

Educating the Future O&P Digital Craftsmen Using Online Agnostic Design Training, with the O+P Digital Designer Academy (D5A)

Arthur Hobden, B. Industrial Design

3D printing is quickly reshaping the field of O&P, and one of the big gaps in market knowledge is design workflows that facilitate technology like 3D scanning and 3D printing. O&P Saas Software is currently creating narrow solutions that cost 10x more than mature markets in additive manufacturing would ever pay for the same kinds of tools, and this creates even more financial barriers to entry that prevent all levels of the O&P field to afford digital design. O+P Digital Designer is an ABCOP Accredited training program that helps practices with digital design literacy, using agnostic software and methods that are in alignment with other industries in additive manufacturing. Learn how Individuated online video learning can save you up to 90% of your startup costs in digital 3D solutions, compared to other Saas offerings.

Join the O&P Marketing Experts to Address the Evolving Digital Landscape (D5B)

Jaime Keiser

This panel aims to provide AOPA members with expert insights, educational opportunities, networking, and collaboration avenues to navigate digital marketing trends effectively. By fostering thought leadership and facilitating adaptation to digital strategies like social media marketing and SEO, this initiative will empower O&P businesses to thrive in today's competitive environment.

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Tools for Digital Success (D6)

3- D Printed Upper Extremity Bike Arm (D6A)

John "Scott" Hildebrand, CPO

Wil Sexton, BS Mechanical Engineering

Specific upper extremity prosthetic device used for extreme biking races including Ironman Hawaii, and other races around the country. Use of scanning and 3D printing for individual needs.

Printing Custom Short-Use Tooling for O&P Clinical Care and Fabrication (D6B)

Nathan Schmetter, LPO

Scott Wimberley, CTPO

We have all thought, "well, I could just make that..." now there are more ways than ever to pursue that possibility and build your own custom tools specific to

your needs and application. Learn the five crucial steps to rapidly implementing and utilizing 3D printing to streamline and augment your clinical care and fabrication methods. We will discuss everything from comprehensive part design to manufacturing/material selection, and modeling tools.

Using Modern Tools to Improve Advanced Lower Limb Orthotic Alignment (D6C)

David Hughes, CPO

Nathan Schmetter, LPO

Navigating the ever-growing litany of new technologies and tools aimed at orthotic alignment and gait can be daunting. Help find a mix between intrinsic device design choices and analysis tools/methods that works for you and your patients.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 – 10:45 AM

Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow, Fabrication and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical, Technical and Digital Session (D7)

Brent Wright, CP, BOCO

Jeffrey Denune, CP, LP



**RETURNING
ONCE AGAIN!**
Don't miss the
O&P Digital Care
Showcase

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

O&P Digital Care Showcase (D8)

Returning once again! The Digital O&P Showcase will be a hands-on event to learn about computer-based 3D design software tools utilizing a provided prosthetic, orthotic, and pedorthic patient cases (the patient file, 3D scan, and positive model), exhibitors will present a fabricated mold, device, or 3D print. **New for 2024 we've added a third patient case file focusing on Pedorthics.**

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AOPA National Assembly

SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2024 | CHARLOTTE, NC

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▶ Pedorthic Education

Thank you to our 2024 Pedorthic Education Sponsor:



FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 – 11:15 AM

Pedorthic Modalities (P1)

Dennis Janisse, CPed

11:15 AM – Noon

Practice Management: Morning/Daily Routines for Each Practitioner (P2)

Brian Lane, CPed

Medical practice management is both an art and a science. Every day is different, and anything can happen. It's exciting, but it can also be a challenge. Having a positive, organized frame of mind is the only way to ensure a good day for everyone—but that's sometimes easier said than done. Whether you are the boss or you are trying to be, these helpful tips can prepare you for success.

2:00 – 2:45 PM

Filling the Pedorthic Prescription: How to Decide What Orthosis to Use (P3)

Brian Lane, CPed

Determining the most appropriate orthosis has many factors based on the patient's condition. Now add in insurance and reimbursement, vague prescriptions, and possible findings that do not necessarily jibe with the referring physician and we have the perfect storm. We will discuss best practices and work through some of those challenges.

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Functional Orthoses vs Total Contact (P4)

Erick Janisse, CO, CPed

All foot orthoses are not created equal. How do you know which is best...or best for a specific patient. Additionally, the language used in describing foot orthoses is often somewhat confusing. In this session, we will compare and contrast the design features of functional and total contact orthoses. We will also discuss which designs are better suited for particular pathologies, as well as any contraindications.

3:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Foot Orthotics Using Digital Technology—Joint Digital and Pedorthic Program (P5)

Case Study: How CPO Has Implemented the Latest Advancements in Telehealth, Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics and 3D Printing to Revolutionize Orthotic Prosthetic & Pedorthic Care (P5A)

Amit V. Bhanti, CEO

3D Printing Orthotics to Improve Affordability, Comfort & Pain Management (P5B)

Ryan Hayford, MS

Validating Pedorthic Outcomes- Different Foot Orthotics and the Improvements Gained (P5C)

Jonathan Fogg, CPed, CFO

The Office of Advanced Manufacturing Is Implementing Digital Manufacturing Capabilities Across the Veterans Health Administration (P5D)

Alex Bercado-Cates

Anika Lavine, OTR, LPO

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14

10:30 AM – Noon

Combined Pedorthic/Technical Program: Hands-on Total Contact Foot Orthoses Materials/Fabrication (P6/T4)

Dennis Janisse, CPed

In this session we will discuss many different foot orthoses materials that are available, including single, multi-density shell/top-cover materials, posting samples as well as cushioning and shear reduction options. There will then be hands-on demonstrations of Foot Orthoses fabrication including heating, molding and trimming techniques, as well as ways to post, off-load and cushion.

2:00 – 2:45 PM

12 Tips to Successfully Dispense Foot Orthotics (P7)

Seamus Kennedy, BEng (Mech), CPed, FAAOP(A)

Dispensing custom devices can sometimes be difficult. Learn 12 tips for dispensing foot orthotics that make the process easier, smoother and more efficient.

2:45 – 3:30 PM

Foot Orthotic Management of the Diabetic Foot (P8)

Erick Janisse, CO, CPed

Conservative management of the diabetic foot includes, of course, diabetic footwear and shoe modifications. Choosing and/or designing the foot orthosis for your diabetic patient is perhaps the easiest way to either help or hurt your patient. In this session, we will examine several different designs, materials and orthosis modifications that may be effectively utilized to prevent or minimize diabetic foot complications. We will also discuss the interaction and interface between the orthoses, footwear, and hosiery.

3:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 5:15 PM

Options When You Need More Control SCFO's (P9)

Dennis Janisse, CPed

Subtalar-Control Foot Orthoses (SCFO) can come in many shapes and designs, and can be used for a multitude of pathologies and conditions. This presentation will explore the function of the SCFO as well as the many different types and design variations, both OTC and custom, that are available. Research related to SCFO's will also be reviewed to reinforce the value of the devices for your patients.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 – 10:00 AM

Technology and 3D Printing in Pedorthics: Reducing the Environmental Impact (P10)

Seamus Kennedy, BEng (Mech), CPed, FAAOP(A)

Everyday we hear about the effects of pollution and climate change. Traditional casting and fabrication of custom foot orthotics generates huge waste and leaves a large carbon foot print. Learn how we can drastically reduce our impact on the environment.

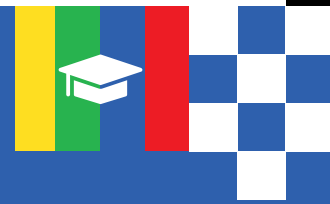
10:00 – 10:45 AM

Foot Orthoses Case Studies (P11)

Dennis Janisse, CPed

In this presentation, we will incorporate all the information we have gained during this year's Pedorthic program. The case studies of actual patient cases will include pictures of actual feet, deformities, etc. and the orthotic solutions that were provided. There will be opportunity for plenty of discussion and Q&A.

▶ Technical Fabrication



FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

10:30 AM – Noon

Optimization of User Adjustable Lower Extremity Prosthetic Designs (T1)

Mike Marten, RTP

Learn fabrication techniques to fine tune different lower extremity prosthetic designs.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Maximizing the Tuning of Ankle Foot Orthoses with the Material Science of Custom Fabrication (T2)

Gary G. Bedard, CO

The trend of tuning the stance phase shank to vertical angle of ankle foot orthoses to maximize the impact of the orthosis on a patient's gait has been well established in the literature and in clinical practice. Recent advances of material science illustrate a means to optimize thermoplastic fabrication for a best practice approach. Material options as well as process parameters required for best practice will be reviewed including new data on the flexural modulus differential in thermoplastic sheet materials.

3:00 – 3:30 PM

Creating a Mobile O&P Lab Through User-Centered Design Process (T3)

George Kaufman, CPO

Daniel Abrahamson, CPO

Mobile care is becoming increasingly common in the O&P field. The ideal mobile unit will vary depending on the defined scope of capabilities and local conditions. This presentation will explore the user-centered design process, which offers a framework for designing the mobile O&P lab that will best suit the needs of each care team.

3:30 – 3:45 PM

Break

3:45 – 4:30 PM

A Model for the Management of Partial Foot Amputations (T4)

Robert Meier, CO

This lecture presents the biomechanics of partial foot amputations to provide a model to help avoid destructive forces on the residuum while returning gait to near-normal spatial-temporal parameters.

4:30 – 5:15 PM

How to Properly Use Two-part Structural Adhesives in the Manufacturing of Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices and Their Fitting (T5)

Scott Wimberley, CTPO

We will review handling, surface preparation and best practices. We will discuss some common tricks for varied uses. We will discuss uses related to advanced fitting techniques in the diagnostic phase of prosthetic device delivery.

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 14

10:30 AM – Noon

Combined Pedorthic-Technical, Hands-on Total Contact Foot Orthoses Materials/ Fabrication (T6)

Dennis Janisse, CPed

This presentation was created specifically for pedorthists and technicians. Join us as we demonstrate fabrication techniques and material selection when fabricating a total contact foot orthoses.

2:00 – 3:30 PM

Learning How to Properly Manufacture a Modular Dynamic AFO (T7)

Scott Wimberley, CTPO

This presentation will review brace modification and fabrication techniques for properly manufacturing a modular dynamic AFO using common plastic bracing techniques.

3:30 – 5:15 PM

Technical Fabrication Techniques of High-Performance MILine Ankle Components (T8)

Sean McKale, CO, ATC

Learn technical fabrication techniques for fabricating high-performance ankle components

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 15

9:15 – 10:45 AM

Taking the Leap: Advancing O&P with Digital Tools, Digital Workflow, Fabrication and 3D Printing—Combined Clinical, Technical and Digital Session (T9)

Brent Wright, CP, BOCO

Jeffrey Denune, CP, LP

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Professor Hans Georg Näder Digital Education Award

The purpose of the Digital Education Award is to prepare the O&P profession for the future as digital care and innovations in technology continue to lead the direction of patient care. The funding for this annual award has been provided by Ottobock Healthcare in honor of Professor Hans Georg Näder and his many contributions to the field of orthotics and prosthetics worldwide.



Insights into Transtibial Prosthetic Socket Design from Expert UK Clinicians' Digital Records (D1A)

Joshua Steer, PhD

Student Poster Award

O&P is nothing without its strong base of students and residents—Gain National Recognition and Advance Your Career! Enter to win one of two prestigious awards—the Student Resident Poster Award honors two meritorious scientific papers submitted for presentation as a poster at the AOPA National Assembly.

The purpose of these awards is to encourage students and residents to display outstanding posters at the AOPA National Assembly. The Otto and Lucille Becker Award will be presented for the best orthotic abstract submitted and the Edwin and Kathryn Arbogast Award for the best prosthetic abstract submitted by a qualifying student or resident. The associated school also will be honored. For complete rules and to submit your abstract, visit www.AOPAAsembly.org.



WILLOWOOD

The Howard R. Thranhardt Award

Hear the two abstracts selected as the award-winning “Best of Show” Thranhardt Lectures Saturday, September 14 at 8:00 a.m. The award stemmed from an endowment by the Hanger Southeast Company in recognition of Howard Thranhardt who was a lifelong learner and dedicated to the scientific advancement of O&P.

Assessing Outcomes with Microprocessor Knee Utilization in a K2 Population (ASCENT K2): Findings from a Clinical Trial of 107 Individuals with Above-knee Amputation (C14A)

Shane Wurdeman, PhD, CP
Andreas Kannenberg, MD (GER)

Reduction in Falls and Fall-Risk with Increased Walking Speed Found Following 1 Year of C-Brace® Use: Interim Results from the C-Brace® Registry (C14B)

Tyler Klenow, MBA, MS, LPO, CPO
Russell Lundstrom, MS

CANDIDATES

The Sam E. Hamontree, CP(E), Business Education Award

CAST YOUR VOTE

The Sam E. Hamontree, CP(E), Business Education Award was created to recognize the best business education paper, idea and/or proposal submitted for presentation. This award is a counterpart to the Thranhardt Award given each year to the best clinical abstract(s). Presentations by the 2024 Hamontree Award contenders are scheduled for Saturday, September 14, from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. The audience will be invited to cast their vote for the award winner in the Assembly App.

- ▶ **Can a Small Fish Make a Splash in a Big Pond? (B6A)**
Ernst W. Bastian, CO
- ▶ **Prevalence of Limb Loss and Limb Difference in the United States: Implications for Public Policy (B6B)**
Ashlie White, MSHLS, MA
- ▶ **How Mergers and Acquisitions Are Changing the Orthotics and Prosthetics Landscape and What Independents Should Consider When Developing a Transition Plan (B6C)**
David Holzman, CFA, Vice President, Mergers & Acquisitions, Hanger
- ▶ **Beyond the Sales Price, Top 10 Key Steps for Owners to Understand and Consider for an Efficient and Successful Transaction. Objective Is to Ensure Owners Look Beyond the Sales Price to Avoid Pitfalls (B6D)**
Mike Schlesinger, President, Exton Advisors

▶ Exhibitors

Learn about the newest products, latest services, and the most innovative technology at the 2024 National Assembly. The Exhibit Hall offers more exhibitors, components, devices, tools, supplies, and services than any other show of its kind in the US. For the most up-to-date list of exhibitors, show specials, product categories, websites, and social media links, visit www.AOPAassembly.org.

Bold listings indicate the exhibitor is a member of the American Orthotic & Prosthetic Association

List is as of May 25, 2024.

ABCorp 3D

Allard USA

AllClaim by Ottobock

Alps South LLC

Alt-Bionics

Alternative Prosthetic Services Inc.

American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists

American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics

American Prosthetic Components

Amputee Coalition

Anodyne

Apis Footwear Company

ARTech Laboratory Inc.

Aspen Medical Products

Becker Orthopedic Appliance Co.

BioSculptor Corporation

Blatchford

Board of Certification/ Accreditation (BOC)

Bulldog Tools Inc.

Cailor Fleming Insurance

Cascade Orthopedic Supply, LP

CBS Medical Billing & Consulting LLC

College Park Industries

Comb O&P

Comfort Products Inc.

Coretech Orthopedics

Coyote Prosthetics Orthotics

Curbell Plastics Inc.

Danmar Products Inc.

DAW Industries Inc.

DME MAC Medicare Contractors

Drew Shoe Corp.

EDSER Labs

Elevate Movement

Enovis/Dr. Comfort

Ethnocare

Fillauer Companies

FIOR & GENTZ GmbH

FLO-TECH O&P SYSTEMS Inc.

Formlabs

Friddle's Orthopedic Appliances Inc.

Grace Prosthetic Fabrication Inc.

HiTek Fabrication

HP 3D Printing

Infinite Biomedical Technologies

Integrum Inc.

Invent Medical USA LLC

Kinetic Research Inc.

KISS Technologies LLC

LaunchPad O&P

Lindhe Xtend Inc.

Martin Bionics

Materialise

MD Orthopaedics

medi USA

Mile High Orthotics Lab

Monetek LLC

MOZN Solutions LLC

Myomo

NCOPE

New Step Orthotic Lab Inc.

NuTech Synergies LLC

Nymbi Systems

O&P Insight

OPIE Software

Orfit Industries America

Ortheco Prosthetics

OrthoFeet Inc.

Orthomerica Products Inc.

Orthotic & Prosthetic Group of America (OPGA)

Orthotic Holdings OHI

Össur Americas Inc.

Ottobock Healthcare

Paceline Inc.

PEL LLC

Point Designs

Pro-Tech Orthopedics

PROTEOR

Protosthetics

Prudential Billing & Consulting

PSYONIC Inc.

PVA Med

Qwadra

Radii Devices

Renia GmbH

Roboticom

Saphenus Medical Technology

Sensor Medica Corp

SHINING 3D Technology Inc.

SnugFit Solutions

Spinal Technology Inc.

SPS

ST&G USA Corp

SteeperUSA

Structure

Superfeet Rx

Surestep

Tamarack HTI

The International Institute of Orthotics and Prosthetics

The Orthotics and Prosthetics Foundation for Education and Research

Thermo-Ply Inc.

Thrive Orthopedics

Thuasne USA/Townsend Design

Tianjin Tairuibosi Medical Appliance Co., Ltd.

Tillges Technologies

Turbomed Orthotics Inc.

WillowWood Global

Wrymark DBA Resource Labs



▶ Manufacturers' Workshops

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12

Tier A

8:00 – 10:00 AM
(2 Hour Workshops)

The following Tier A workshops run concurrently within this track.

Solutions for Contracture Management with Dynamic Joints utilizing a Multidisciplinary Team Approach
Presented by: Allard USA

2024: Facility Accreditation Standards: Making Sure You're Compliant
Presented by: American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics & Pedorthics

Caring for the High Activity Amputee
Presented by: Fillauer Companies

NEURO HiSWING R+ System Ankle Joint - The First Adaptive Microprocessor-Controlled Hydraulics.
Presented by: FIOR & GENTZ GmbH

How The TRAZER System Can Significantly Accelerate and Improve the Amputee Rehabilitation Process
Presented by: NuTech Synergies LLC

Optimizing a Direct-Fit Socket Solution with the New Resilience Socket from Amparo Prosthetics
Presented by: NuTech Synergies LLC

Introduction to SYNSYS PROTEOR's Full-Leg Microprocessor System, with Patient Fitting
Presented by: PROTEOR

Beyond Boundaries: Qwadra's Global O&P CAD/CAM Solution and Exploring Endless Insole Possibilities with Our Advanced Podiatry Solution
Presented by: Qwadra

Explore Effortless 3D Scanning for Orthotics and Prosthetics with EinScan H2 and Einstar
Presented by: SHINING 3D Technology Inc.

Engage! Dynamic Head and Trunk Orthotic Solutions to Improve Pediatric Performance and Participation
Presented by: Surestep

Thuasne's Composite Solutions: SpryStep
Presented by: Thuasne USA/Townsend Design

Elevating Orthopedic Care: Unveiling New Spinal Products
Presented by: Thuasne USA/Townsend Design

Tier B

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
(2 Hour Workshops)
The following Tier B workshops run concurrently within this track.

Lower Extremity Product Selection Guidelines for Children with Neuromuscular Disorders
Presented by: Allard USA

Socket Selection Criteria and Alignment Considerations
Presented by: Alps South LLC

Optimizing Gait Kinematics with High Performance Orthotic Ankle Components
Presented by: Becker Orthopedic Appliance Company

Avior—K2 Microprocessor Knee
Presented by: Blatchford

Clinical Solutions for Challenging Patient Profiles
Presented by: Orthomerica Products Inc.

Maximizing Intuitive Control, Function & Utilization: Innovation in Myoelectric Control for Partial Hand Amputations
Presented by: Össur Americas Inc.

Össur Bionic Solutions
Presented by: Össur Americas Inc.

Experience the All New Genium X4 Microprocessor Knee and Evanto Foot by Ottobock
Presented by: Ottobock Healthcare

Advantages of Nocturnal Bracing for Scoliosis and Hypercorrection with the Providence Nocturnal Scoliosis® Orthosis
Presented by: Spinal Technology, Inc.



Guiding Paths: Finding the Best Routes to Manage Excessive Pronation
Presented by: Surestep

The Next Generation of WillowWood Prosthetics—Advanced Solutions for Prosthetic Users featuring Live Demonstrations of the Alpha Control Liner System and Intuy Powered Microprocessor Knee
Presented by: WillowWood Global

Xtremity by WillowWood: An Evolution in Definitive Trans-tibial Socket Fabrication, Adjustability, and Work Flow
See for yourself with a LIVE DEMONSTRATION!
Presented by: WillowWood Global

Tier C

1:30 – 3:30 PM
(2 Hour Workshops)
The following Tier C workshops run concurrently within this track.

Prosthetic Alignment: The Shoe Factor ("Everything Changes When the Shoe Hits the Ground.")
Presented by: Allard USA

Tectus—Microprocessor-Controlled KAFO
Presented by: Blatchford

Unique Microprocessor Solutions from College Park
Presented by: College Park Industries

Scan Using Your Cellphone & Listen to Independent CPOs Talk About Various Software, 3D Printing, and Saving Scans in their EMR
Presented by: Comb O&P

Innovations in Upper Limb Prosthetics: Reach Beyond the Boundaries
Presented by: Fillauer Companies

Get Started with 3D Printed Devices and 3D Scanning in Pediatric Orthotics (CRO, SMO, AFO)
Presented by: Invent Medical USA, LLC

Perfect Fit: Optimizing Socket Performance with Advanced Techniques for Adjustable Prosthetic Sockets and Bikini Hip Disarticulation
Presented by: Martin Bionics

Naked Prosthetics Product Advancements—New Features & Updates
Presented by: Össur Americas Inc.

PROTEOR's MPK/MPC and Foot Portfolio Overview
Presented by: PROTEOR

Pediatric Cranial Remolding Orthosis: 3D Digitizing Solution for Infant CRO
Presented by: SHINING 3D Technology Inc.

Guiding Paths: Helping Kids with Toe Walking Get on the Typical Gait Express
Presented by: Surestep

Introducing META Flow—The Energy Efficient Alternative to Hydraulic K3 Feet featuring Patient Fitting
Presented by: WillowWood Global

THURSDAY

Tier D

4:00 – 5:00 PM

(1 Hour Workshops)

The following Tier D workshops run concurrently within this track.

Ethnocare's Overlay: Managing the Impact of Daily Volume Variation on Socket Fit

Presented by: Ethnocare

Glide by IBT: A New Direction in Myoelectric Control

Presented by: Infinite Biomedical Technologies

Get Started with Augo 3D Printed Volume Adjustable Socket: Practical Guide To Step Up Your Practice

Presented by: Invent Medical USA, LLC

Myoelectric Powered Arm Bracing—An Introduction to Myomo's MyoPro Technology

Presented by: Myomo

OrthoFeet Shoe Fitting and Medicare Compliance Solutions

Presented by: OrthoFeet Inc.

The Evolution of Pro-Flex Technology

Presented by: Össur Americas Inc.

C-Brace—Improving Patient Function with Microprocessor Technology

Presented by: Ottobock Healthcare

K2 Kenevo: Functions, Research, & LCD Update

Presented by: Ottobock Healthcare

Discover ORTEN PROTEOR's Innovative Solution to Help Make Your Digital Workflow a Breeze

Presented by: PROTEOR

Putting Clarity Into the Use and Choices of OI Connectors

Presented by: ST&G USA Corp

SteeperUSA's Upper Limb Innovations

Presented by: SteeperUSA

Stabilize! Providing Dynamic Stability in the Adult Population

Presented by: Surestep

Product Preview Theater Presentations

These interactive 30-minute Product Preview Theater (PPT) Presentations will be presented in the Exhibit Hall on Friday, September 13th and Saturday, September 14th. Attendees will receive 1 CE credit for each presentation attended. *List is as of May 22, 2024.*



Allard USA

Pure Motion, Pure Composite: Introducing Meracus, Allard's Patented Prosthetic Foot

Partial Foot, Part I: Before Fabrication Begins, Learn Criteria to Control Pressure Distribution, Friction, and Shearing Forces. Return for Part II for the Fabrication Process

Partial Foot, Part II: 12-Steps to Fabricate a Partial Foot Prosthesis



Alps South LLC

ProStride Knee: Confidence for Every Step



Becker Orthopedic Appliance Company

Becker Orthopedics Newest High Performance MILine Ankle Joints



HP 3D Printing

HP and DyeMansion: Enabling 3D Printed O&P



NuTech Synergies LLC

Quantifying Amputee Activity & Mobility with Validated Technologies-TRAZER + Motio

Creating a Direct-Fit TT Diagnostic Socket in Weight Bearing Using Amparo Technologies

Utilizing the Goralign Ankle to Improve K2 Amputee Stability-Impulse Technology



OrthoFeet Inc.

Introducing the Expanded Line of OrthoFeet Hands-Free Styles: Dual Gender, Multi-Category



Orthotic & Prosthetic Group of America (OPGA)

2024 O&P Woman of the Year Ceremony presented by OPGA and Össur Americas Inc.



Össur Americas Inc.

Transfemoral Suspension Evolved



Structure

Structure Sensor Premiere—Unveiling the Future in 3D



Surestep

Choosing the Best Surestep Solution for Your Patients



Thuasne USA/Townsend Design

Thuasne Portfolio—A Complete OA Range



WillowWood Global

Introducing META Flow—The Energy Efficient Alternative to Hydraulic K3 Feet

▶▶ Title Sponsors



Double Diamond



Platinum



Gold



Silver



Supporter Sponsors

(As of May 15, 2024)

Apis Footwear Company
 Cascade Orthopedic Supply, LP
 CBS Medical Billing & Consulting LLC
 Fillauer Companies
 FLO-TECH O&P SYSTEMS INC.
 KISS Technologies LLC
 MOZN Solutions LLC
 NCOPE
 O&P Insight
 OrthoFeet Inc.

Orthotic & Prosthetic Group of America (OPGA)
 Orthotic Holdings OHI
 Pro-Tech Orthopedics
 PROTEOR
 Prudential Billing & Consulting
 The International Institute of Orthotics and Prosthetics
 WillowWood Global

▶ Special Events

ignite-24
AOPA National Assembly

SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2024 | CHARLOTTE, NC

THURSDAY

Welcome to Charlotte Reception

Thursday, Sept. 12, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Experience a little southern hospitality at the **Welcome to Charlotte Reception**. Enjoy refreshments, entertainment, and networking. The party is included with your full conference registration. *Bring a guest for \$50.*



FRIDAY

HAPPY HOUR

in Exhibit Hall

Friday, Sept. 13, 5:15 – 6:30 PM

Meet up in the exhibit hall after a busy day of learning and networking for the exhibitor sponsored Happy Hour. Be sure to make a “Pit Stop” by all of the participating Exhibitors. A list of participating exhibitors will be provided. *Included with your full conference registration.*

SATURDAY



Professional Women in O&P Luncheon

Saturday, Sept. 14, Noon – 1:30 PM

Our incredibly successful luncheon returns for another year. Women registering for the 2024 Assembly are invited to join us for a special event acknowledging the contributions and advancements of women in O&P. The program offers women a casual opportunity to network and learn from other successful female professionals. Join us for lunch, a stellar program and lots of fun. Space is limited. *Ticket required \$25.*

Sponsored By:

Fillauer
inspired by you

Hanger
Empowering Human Potential

MOZN SOLUTIONS



Cascade

SATURDAY

North Carolina Chapter Membership Meeting and Luncheon

Saturday, Sept. 14, 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Calling all members of the North Carolina Chapter—Attend your membership meeting to receive updates and catch up with your fellow chapter members. There is no charge to attend the chapter meeting if you are registered for the Assembly, however a ticket is required to help us plan and prepare for your participation. *Be sure to sign up as part of the registration process.*



SUNDAY

O&P Digital Care Showcase

Sunday, Sept. 15, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Returning once again! The Digital O&P Showcase will be a hands-on event to learn about computer-based 3D design software tools utilizing a provided prosthetic, orthotic, and pedorthic patient cases (the patient file, 3D scan, and positive model), exhibitors will present a fabricated mold, device, or 3D print. **New for 2024! We've added a third patient case file focusing on Pedorthics.**





▶ Hotel & Travel Information

MEETING LOCATION

The 2024 AOPA National Assembly will be held at the Charlotte Convention Center, 501 S College St, Charlotte, NC 28202.

✈ TRAVEL

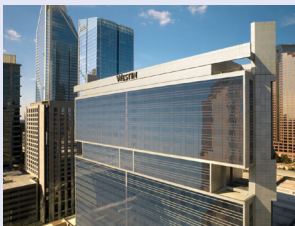
Charlotte Douglas International Airport is a 15-minute drive from the Charlotte Convention Center and Assembly Hotels. Ubers and Taxi cabs are readily available.

Charlotte's Light Rail LYNX Blue Line runs throughout the city with a stop at the convention center at just \$2.20 per trip!

**Book Your
Reservations
by August 15,
2024**

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

AOPA has booked rooms at four properties within the Charlotte Uptown Area to provide you with more options and additional price points.



■ **Westin Charlotte**
601 South College St,
Charlotte, NC 28202

RATE: USD \$199 + Taxes & Fees

The Westin is connected to the convention center via a skywalk. Relax and refresh your mind, body, and spirit at the Westin Charlotte. The Westin will serve as the host hotel—turn your stay in the Queen City into a true memorable experience.



■ **JW Marriott**
600 South College St,
Charlotte, NC 28202

RATE: USD \$209 + Taxes & Fees

The JW Marriott is approx. one block from the convention center. Unwind in upscale well-appointed rooms with lux amenities, including a 24-hour fitness center, Spa by JW, Executive Lounge, Aura Rooftop & pool, Dean's Italian Steakhouse, and Caroline's Oyster Bar.



■ **Hilton Garden Inn Charlotte**
508 E Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28202

RATE: USD \$165 + Taxes & Fees

The Hilton Garden Inn Charlotte is one block from the convention center. This property features free Wi-Fi, on-site restaurant, and pet friendly rooms. Self-parking is \$25 per night.



■ **Hampton Inn by Hilton**
530 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28202

RATE: USD \$165 + Taxes & Fees

The Hampton Inn Charlotte Uptown is two blocks from convention center. This property features free Wi-Fi, free hot breakfast, indoor pool, and fitness center. Self-parking is \$25 per night.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

HOW TO REGISTER

Review the registration category descriptions below and complete one registration form for each attendee. This year, all attendees must register using a unique email address.



REGISTER ONLINE—Easy online registration is available at <https://aopa.omnievent.com> for those paying by credit card.

Need assistance? Contact AOPA Headquarters at Assembly@AOPAnet.org or (571) 431-0860.

**ADVANCED
REGISTRATION**

**REGISTER BY
AUG. 15, 2024
AND SAVE!**



REGISTRATION SPONSOR

ATTENDEE REGISTRATION CATEGORIES AND FEES

Full Conference

(includes in-person and virtual)

	AOPA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Before Aug 15	\$699	\$1,199
After Aug 15	\$799	\$1,299

Orthotists, prosthetists, administrative, pedorthic and technical staff should register under this category. Fees include admission to education sessions and all meeting materials for both the in-person and virtual conference. Meals include three breakfasts, two lunches and the welcome reception. Attendees registering under this category will automatically receive a certificate of attendance.

Virtual Conference Registration (October 1 – December 10, 2024)

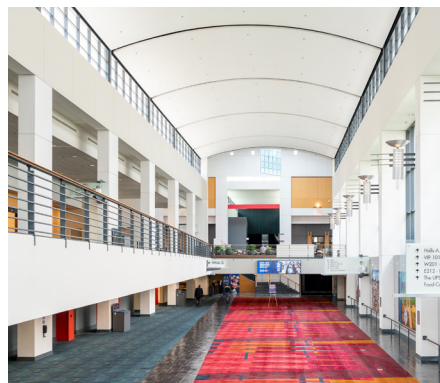
	AOPA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Before Aug 15	\$599	\$999
After Aug 15	\$699	\$1,099

Fees include admission to all education sessions and all meeting materials held virtually. Attendees registering under this category will automatically receive a certificate of attendance.

Guest Registration

AOPA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
\$399	\$499

The guest category is for family and friends of O&P professionals and does not include education credits. O&P Professionals should register as a full conference registrant. Fees include admission to all education sessions and all meeting materials. Meals include three breakfasts, two lunches and two receptions. Those working within the O&P profession (including Admin) do not qualify for this registration type. Your badge will indicate Guest.



One Day Conference Registration

(in-person only)

	AOPA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Before Aug 15	\$399/day	\$699/day
After Aug 15	\$499/day	\$799/day

Includes all conference events for the day selected.

One Day (or Two Day) Attendee Exhibition Only Registration

	AOPA MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
Before Aug 15	One Day: \$149	One Day: \$199
After Aug 15	One Day: \$199	One Day: \$299
Before Aug 15	Two Day: \$299	Two Day: \$349
After Aug 15	Two Day: \$399	One Day: \$499

This category includes access to the exhibit hall (during show hours) for the day(s) selected only. Attendees registering under this category will not receive a lunch ticket or the opportunity to receive CE credits.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association (AOPA) is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all meeting participants and AOPA staff. Attendees are expected to treat everyone with respect and to be considerate of the multitude of views and opinions that are different than their own. Accordingly, all participants, including but not limited to attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, staff, and others (“Participants”) are expected to abide by the Meetings & Conferences Code of Conduct (this “Code”). AOPA has a zero-tolerance for any form of discrimination or harassment, including but not limited to sexual harassment by Participants at our meetings. Set forth below are examples of conduct that will not be condoned at any AOPA event:

- Harassment, sexual harassment, bullying or intimidation in any form, including any verbal, written (including texts and postings on social media), or physical conduct designed to threaten, intimidate, humiliate, or coerce another Participant.
- Unwelcome sexual attention, including but not limited to sexualized comments or jokes, displaying sexually explicit material, inappropriate or unwelcome touching, groping or sexual advances.
- Discrimination, in any form, based on gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, physical appearance, age, race, religion, or national origin.
- Physical or verbal abuse of any meeting Participant.
 - Sustained or disrespectful disruption of presentations or meetings.

This Code applies to all conduct that occurs at AOPA meeting venues, including ancillary events and social gatherings, whether officially sponsored by AOPA or not. If you experience harassment or hear of any incidents of unacceptable behavior, AOPA asks that you promptly inform an AOPA staff member so that appropriate action can be taken. Your report will be taken seriously. Confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation to the extent possible without jeopardizing the thoroughness of the investigation. After considering the available information, AOPA leadership or their designees will take any action deemed necessary and appropriate. Consequences may include, but are not limited to, warnings, immediate removal from the meeting without warning or refund, and/or exclusion from any future AOPA meeting or event.

CANCELLATION POLICY

To receive a refund, less a \$100 processing fee, notifications of cancellation must be received in writing no later than **Thursday, August 15, 2024**. Please email your cancellation request to Assembly@AOPAnet.org. Due to guarantees and commitments, no refunds will be made for cancellations received after August 15, 2024. Substitutions are allowed but must be made in writing.

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AOPA 2024
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



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