

## SUMMARY OF THE 2015 FALL MEETING

The Fall Meeting is one of the AAOS' most prominent leadership events. It supports dialogue concerning critical issues affecting orthopaedic surgeons, their patients, and the delivery of quality health care. In addition, the event provides forums for the Board of Councilors (BOC) and the Board of Specialty Societies (BOS) to conduct their business, such as opening hearings, business meetings, and committee meetings. Members of the AAOS Board of Directors (BOD), the Leadership Fellow mentors and mentees, and physicians and staff from several state orthopaedic societies participate in the AAOS Fall Meeting, too. Two hundred fifty-two (252) people attended the 2015 Fall Meeting in Denver, Colorado, making this the largest attended Fall Meeting on record, despite it being a "closed" meeting.

### **SELECTED SYMPOSIA**

The following is a synopsis of the presented symposia. Presentations and summaries are available on the AAOS website. *AAOS Now* will include articles summarizing several of the presentations.

#### Symposium I: Winning with Payment Reform in Orthopaedics

Moderator: Ronald Delanois, MD  
Speakers: David Jacofsky, MD  
William Robb, III, MD  
Peter Caprise, MD

The speakers discussed bundled payments to deliver better patient care at a lower cost using predictive analytics, score cards, standardization, and other methods. The speakers showcased how payment reform initiatives are proliferating in the public and commercial markets and that orthopaedists must understand strategies that will allow them to manage the torrent of change while ensuring quality patient care.

#### Symposium II: MACRA: From the View of the Independent Orthopaedist and Interpretation of the MIPS Program. Is There Really Bonus Money Available or Just Penalties? What Are the Future Payment Options?

Moderator: David Mansfield, MD  
Speakers: Kevin Bozic, MD, MBA  
Alexandra Page, MD  
Thomas Barber, MD

The presenters highlighted the Medicare and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) and the two main payment models that resulted from the passage of that legislation. Speakers provided an overview of MACRA, the difference between Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) and Alternative Payment Models (APM), and what orthopaedic surgeons and their practices can do to prepare for either payment model.

Symposium III: ABOS and MOC Recertification Update. How Has the Process Evolved?

Moderator: Lisa Cannada, MD  
Speakers: Lisa Cannada, MD  
Terrance Peabody, MD

In this session, the speakers reported on the AAOS/ABOS Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Task Force's charge and status. ABOS priorities were reviewed, as well as a brief history of the recertification process. Attendees learned about the 2017 cycle, which will include attestations of professional standing and patient safety activity, expanded self-assessment exam options, and the possibility of additional practice-profiled recertification exams. The speakers noted the importance of the continued collaboration and commitment to making the MOC process simple to understand and as seamless as possible.

Symposium IV: Role of Social Media in Ortho Practice: What You Can Do Now and the Amazing Possibilities of the Future

Moderator: Basil Besh, MD  
Speakers: Basil Besh, MD  
Ronald Navarro, MD  
Thomas Muzzonigro, MD  
Elizabeth Fassbender  
Peter Muzzonigro

The panel stressed the importance of social media for physicians, highlighted "do's and don'ts" of tweeting, summarized several best practices, and illustrated how social media can help enhance a physician's image, as well how it can help promote a physician's practice. Attendees were encouraged to create social content in sharable mobile formats and to consider custom graph technology for their websites. Physicians were encouraged to participate in the AAOS' advocacy efforts through social media, too.

Symposium V: Effectively Measure Outcomes in a Busy Private or Group Practice

Moderators: Paul Braaton, MD  
Michael Suk, MD  
Speakers: David Halsey, MD  
Nicholas Abidi, MD  
Mark Vrahas, MD  
Michael Suk, MD

The speakers summarized the evolution of evidenced-based medicine and the necessity for measuring and improving outcomes, which could be physiological, clinical-based, and patient-reported. They discussed strategies on identifying the processes, obtaining high rates of compliance, and interpreting and analyzing the outcome data to improve patient care and patients' quality of life. They also discussed their related challenges and successes to date related to embracing measurement outcomes.

Symposium VI: Choosing Wisely: Media Hype or Effective Tool for Reducing Unnecessary Care?

Moderator: Daniel Guy, MD  
Speakers: Kevin Bozic, MD, MBA  
Dana Wollins, MPH  
David Halsey, MD  
Daniel Guy, MD

The speakers summarized the Choosing Wisely Campaign and the AAOS' involvement in it. They described AAOS' process in developing its list of "Five Things Physicians and Patients Should Question", which generated discussion within the medical community and the media. Speakers also summarized the participation of several BOS member organizations and highlighted their "five things". And, a representative from the American Society of Clinical Oncologists reviewed the Society's process in developing its lists, shared its stakeholders' reactions to the list and cited that its participation is leading to positive behavior changes. Attendees provided feedback on the value of AAOS' participation in the campaign.

Symposium VII: Bone Health in Your Practice – Influencing Patients and Improving Results

Moderator: Lisa Cannada, MD  
Speakers: Kyle Jeray, MD  
Laura Tosi, MD  
David Polly, MD

The speakers discussed fracture risk and the prevention of secondary fractures and emphasized that fractures are not just a woman's concern; men fracture less often than women, but men who fracture a bone are at higher risk for re-fracture than women. They reported that hip fractures are typically associated with osteoporosis; however fragility fractures in the wrist, proximal humerus, and spine also have risk of mortality. They highlighted optimal treatments for non-hip fragility fractures noting that treatment is difficult and controversial and it would be much better to prevent it. However, they noted, it is challenging to demonstrate the best prevention strategies. In addition, attendees learned about a quality improvement program that provides tools to identify, evaluate, and treat fragility fractures.

**AAOS PRESIDENTIAL LINE UPDATE**

David Teuscher, MD, President, AAOS  
Gerald Williams, Jr., MD, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, AAOS  
William Maloney, MD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, AAOS

David Teuscher, MD, AAOS President, Gerald Williams, Jr., MD, AAOS First Vice-President, and William Maloney, MD, AAOS Second Vice President, gave the AAOS Presidential Line Update. The provided a status report on the five BOC/BOS Advisory Opinions from the 2015 National Orthopaedic Leadership Conference (NOLC) and gave updates on the Fellowship Accreditation Project Team and the Strategic Plan Project Team. The Presidential Line remarked on the AAOS' efforts in addressing a communication received from CIGNA about Precertification Guidelines for Orthopaedic Procedures. The leadership encouraged everyone to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting, which will include several new learning and networking formats.

**ADVOCACY FORUM FOR SPOUSES AND OTHER PATIENT ADVOCATES**

In March, the BOD approved a BOC/BOS pilot program for spouses and other patient advocates designed to educate these populations about an orthopaedic issue and receive related advocacy training. The pilot program began with the 2015 NOLC and continued through the 2015 Fall Meeting. Bone health was the topic for 13 paid registrants. The presentations included information on bone health at every age and bone health advocacy organizations. The attendees participated in a breakout discussion about developing a public awareness campaign while partnering with external organizations. The group joined the last symposium of the Fall Meeting, Bone Health in Your Practice – Influencing Patients and Improving Results.

**BUSINESS ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD OF COUNCILORS AND THE BOARD OF SPECIALTY SOCIETIES**

The BOC held one business meeting, one leadership meeting, and four committee meetings while the BOS held one business meeting, one leadership meeting, and two committee meetings. Also, the BOC and the BOS hosted a social event to encourage networking within and among all of the meeting registrants.

In addition, the BOC/BOS Resolutions Committee conducted an open hearing to listen to comments on one proposed BOC/BOS Advisory Opinions, two proposed amendments to the AAOS Bylaws, and seven AAOS resolutions requiring a five-year review.

The proposed advisory opinion was titled, "Increase Class Size and Enhance State Opportunities of AAOS Leadership Fellows Program (LFP)".

The two proposed amendments to the AAOS Bylaws included:

1. Change the Name and Requirements for International Affiliate Members
2. Addition of a Provision to Allow for Inactive Status for Certain Associate Members

The Five-Year Review of AAOS Resolutions included the evaluation of seven resolutions that were adopted after the 2010 Annual Meeting. The resolutions included:

1. Maintenance of Certification
2. Residency Review Committee
3. FDA; Regulation of Orthopaedic Devices, Biological Products and Pharmaceuticals
4. Billing Codes for Evaluation and Management of Physician Services
5. Prompt Payment and Uniform Claims
6. Physician Practice with Managed Care Organizations; Physician Practice as an Employee of a Hospital or a Foundation Closely Affiliated with a Hospital
7. Medicare Reimbursement; Advocacy; Friend of the Court Briefs

After the Open Hearing, the BOC/BOS Resolutions Committee and the BOC/BOS Bylaws Review Committee discussed the proposed documents, the open hearing comments, and deliberated. The committees presented their recommendations to the BOC and the BOS during the BOC/BOS Business Meeting where the two groups discussed and voted on the recommendations. The results from the votes will be sent to the BOD for review, consideration, and action during its December 2015 meeting.