



The American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists

Part II Maintenance of Certification

Special thanks to Cheryl Lowry, her Maintenance of Certification Committee, and our AsMA partners for the Aerospace Medicine Board Review Panel Sessions during May's 85th Aerospace Meeting in San Diego. All sessions were well attended, as was the annual ASAMS-sponsored RAM Bowl. Meeting attendees had the opportunity to earn over 20 hours of MOC Part II credit. For those unable to attend, panel sessions will be available online via the AsMA website for a modest fee.

New ASAMS Officers

Thanks to Johann Westphall and the Nominating Committee for presenting a slate of worthy and energetic candidates for ASAMS officership positions. Congratulations to Dr. Dan Shoor who assumed the reins as ASAMS President during the May meeting. Dr. Dave O'Brien was elected as the incoming Vice President/President-Elect, Dr. Renee Boyd was elected to fill the Secretary position, and Dr. Kimberly Toone was elected as an At-Large Board of Governors member. The Society also welcomes Dr. Dave Blocker as the new Membership Committee Chair. We look forward to your leadership.

Special thanks to our outgoing officers and Committee Chairs for their combined years of dedicated service, helping this Society continue to grow in reputation and stature as the representative body of our specialty.

Contact us at: ASAMS.BOG@gmail.com

Don't put us on your spam list!! Please feel free to contact our Society leadership at the above email address. The Board of Governors continues to work hard to incorporate new communication and membership list tools to better facilitate the Society's business activities, as well as to improve support and connectivity with our Members. If you have updates to your contact information (particular new emails you wish us to use, or old ones you wish us to delete) please feel free to send that information to the above email account. To ensure prompt attention, specify "Attn Dave Blocker, Membership Committee" in the Subj line. Special thanks to those who provided us updates during the May AsMA meeting. We have already incorporated your changes. Additional thanks to Drs. Blocker and Westphall, and the host of volunteers who helped man the ASAMS table during the meeting.



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Discussion Highlights from the May ASAMS General Membership Meeting

Aerospace Medicine Practice Guidelines

Dr. Bill Tarver, Chair of the Practice Standards and Competencies Committee, outlined the 5-year plan to update all 84 of ASAMS Practice Guidelines. Bill has prioritized the list based upon those which are most of date due to either time since initially drafted, or the degree to which diagnostics and therapeutics have advanced for the particular condition. New Practice Guidelines will be drafted in accordance with accepted standards as specified by the Institute of Medicine. Key elements will include peer review and level of evidence. Those conducting these revisions will be able to apply this work as part of their MOC Part IV requirements. All members are encouraged to contact Dr. Tarver at ASAMS.BOG@gmail.com (Attn: Bill Tarver in the Subj line) to help with this significant undertaking for our Society. These guidelines are a flagship product of what our specialty offers the wider aerospace and medical communities. As an example, during the May meeting, AsMA deferred approval of their Education & Training Committee's Position Paper on Obstructive Sleep Apnea until they had the opportunity to reference and incorporate information from our existing Practice Guideline on Sleep Disorders.

Bylaws Updates

The Membership reviewed and voted upon the proposed Bylaw changes drafted by Dr. Mark Nassir, Chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Changes included AsMA Committee participation/representation for our corresponding ASAMS Committee Chairs; allowance for the President to appoint interim Officers to replace those unable to serve the duration of their elected terms; change of Nominations Committee to Nominations and Awards Committee with the additional tasks of nominating ASAMS Members for AsMA Annual awards, and working with ASAMS members who are AsMA Fellows to sponsor Fellowship nominations for deserving ASAMS members; and clarification that voting for new ASAMS officers requires only the majority of Members present at the annual May meeting. A recommendation was made from the floor to allow for the provision of electronic voting should the Society make that available in the future. All recommendations, including the floor amendment were unanimously approved by the Membership.



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There was spirited discussion from amongst the Membership regarding the increasing demands imposed by MOC. Opinions largely reflected an overall dissatisfaction with the requirements being imposed by MOC organizations such as ABMS and ABPM and a lack of recognized value for either patients or physicians. However, the Membership was overall pleased with what the Society was doing on their behalf to represent these interests, and continue to offer palatable and meaningful MOC offerings. Comments from AsMA Council were also shared with the ASAMS Membership regarding the competing needs/desires to balance online MOC offerings with a sustained requirement for in-person MOC. The latter was seen as a more robust professional experience, providing the benefits of debate and discussion with professional colleagues. These opinions are largely in line with those of other physicians and their specialist and professional societies. ASAMS will continue to lend their voice to this issue within AsMA, AMA, and ABPM.

Our Mission

The Society is a non-profit organization created to serve as a voice for and represent the professional needs of Aerospace Medicine specialists in the United States. The Society is a constituent organization of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). Members are specialists in the field of Aerospace Medicine dedicated to the advancement of aviation and space medicine.

The Society is dedicated to:

- Establishing standards for the specialty of Aerospace Medicine, including but not limited to, the development of core-competencies for residents in Aerospace Medicine and practice guidelines for Aerospace Medicine practitioners.
- Representing and promoting the interests of physicians who specialize in Aerospace Medicine.
- Promoting and preserving the highest professional standards of care among practitioners of Aerospace Medicine.
- Interesting young physicians and medical students in the specialty of Aerospace Medicine.
- Increasing the value of the specialty of Aerospace Medicine to prospective employers.