

# What's in a Workshop? Educational Opportunities at ANESTHESIOLOGY® 2023

**A**NESTHESIOLOGY 2023 is bursting with learning opportunities that will improve your clinical practice, introduce you to the latest innovations, arm you to educate your care team, and provide loads of prospects for hands-on learning experiences. The ASA Committee on Annual Meeting Oversight (AMOC) is committed to creating an experience that will ensure you'll leave San Francisco rich in new information and inspired to grow your practice. To learn more about how AMOC is pulling together cutting-edge educational offerings and making the most of workshop opportunities, the *ASA Monitor* asked Eugene R. Viscusi, MD, FASRA, AMOC Vice Chair, how plans are coming together and what you can expect. Here's what he told us.

## *What kinds of learning formats will attendees experience at the annual meeting, and how do they differ?*

As in past years, most sessions are in lecture format. Lectures are one-hour long presentations and can range from Refresher Courses to panels with shorter sessions to very short snap talks bundled together. Workshops, on the other hand, are 90-minute sessions. What truly distinguishes workshops is that they are hands-on and interactive. Workshops give attendees a chance to learn with the



guidance of an expert in a more personalized setting. Every workshop we'll present at this year's annual meeting will offer concentrated, experiential learning.

## *What role do workshops play in the mix and what should attendees expect from them this year?*

ANESTHESIOLOGY 2023 will feature a smorgasbord of workshops. We have planned 43 workshops across a wide range of topics. Roughly half of this year's workshops will focus on ultrasound, which includes regional, adult, pediatric, MSK, and POCUS, to name a few. (Our popular POCUS certificate, by the way, gives attendees the ability to collect credits for

POCUS certification so they can go back to their institutions and prove they've established competencies.) There will be workshops designed to give attendees experience with the new and emerging fascial pain blocks. We'll also offer a number of workshops on the topic of adult and pediatric airway management, emergency airway interventions, resuscitation, acupuncture, and more. There's a thoracic anesthesia workshop focusing on lung isolation and other workshops centered on devices like pacemakers and ICDs. In short,

attendees can expect a wide selection of hands-on opportunities that will build their skills and expand their expertise.

Beyond offering a diverse range of topics, we've worked to have high faculty-to-learner ratios and workshops featuring leaders who are both experienced and engaging. When we shortened workshops from three hours to 90 minutes based on attendee feedback, we paired that move with a mandate that workshops do not include lectures. These learning opportunities are not demos – we expect our experts to lead learners in procedures. That means workshop attendees can expect to get plenty of meaningful firsthand experiences.

## *How does the committee select which workshops will be on the program?*

First and foremost, we think about the end user. We look for workshops that offer first-rate faculty, and we aim to present a mix of high-value technical skills and novel topics. We've been intentional about covering more topics while minimizing duplicity. We always prioritize topics that are of real value to the specialty. If it looks like a lecture, it wouldn't fit our expectations of a great workshop, and it wouldn't make the cut.

*Is workshop content calibrated to speak to anesthesiologists in different subspecialties and at all stages of their careers?* Workshops at ANESTHESIOLOGY 2023 will come in all shapes and sizes. It's about giving attendees valuable choices. We'll offer a wide range of topics with workshops in all 12 clinical tracks. Some tracks



Eugene R. Viscusi, MD, FASRA

may lend themselves to a workshop format more than others, but we aim to speak to topics across the specialty, and that means addressing all subspecialties, practice types, and career stages. Presentations will be calibrated to appeal to anesthesiologists across the spectrum of expertise, from those just starting out to more advanced learners. Some workshops are more appropriate for residents and early-career physicians, and there are advanced offerings that target anesthesiologists with experience in the topic who wish to enhance their skills. All workshops will be labeled so learners can assess what is, and isn't, a good fit for them.

## *What do you hope attendees get out of the learning opportunities presented at ANESTHESIOLOGY 2023?*

I hope attendees will appreciate the mix of lectures, workshops, and other educational opportunities. I'm confident all attendees will find workshops that will advance their understanding of the specialty and give them rich, hands-on experiences. My hope is that every attendee who joins us in San Francisco this October will leave with new ideas, enhanced technical skills, and a better understanding of our specialty.

Dr. Viscusi and the rest of the committee are working hard to bring you a truly informative annual meeting. You won't want to miss the education, networking, and celebration of our specialty. Learn more and register today at [asahq.org/annualmeeting](http://asahq.org/annualmeeting). ■

