

SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS FOR 2005: Don't Miss These 'Challenging' Cases

Andrew D. Rosenberg, M.D., Chair
Committee on Scientific and Educational Exhibits

"For the first time this year, a portion of the exhibit space will be used to display medically challenging cases. This is an opportunity for clinicians to present a complicated case in which they were involved and to discuss how the case was handled."

The 2005 Annual Meeting this October in New Orleans, Louisiana, will feature more than 50 scientific and educational exhibits and medically challenging cases. Some of the exhibits will focus on airway management for both adults and pediatric patients, technology and anesthesia, regional anesthesia, safety in the operating room and pain management. A number of administrative exhibits will be presented that focus on disseminating medical knowledge in developed and developing countries as well as educating about specific areas such as airway management, geriatric care, trauma care, patient safety, and technology and simulation in anesthesia.

The scientific and educational exhibit format provides a



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Medically Challenging Cases Sought

A new section will be introduced at this year's ASA Annual Meeting to allow physicians to present medically challenging cases that they have managed. This will provide physicians with a forum where they can share their experiences, teach others how they handled a difficult situation and receive feedback regarding how others might have proceeded under the same circumstances.

These lively and informative cases will be presented as poster presentations in the exhibit hall. Each presentation will be scheduled for one three-hour period.

If you have a particularly challenging and interesting case that you think others would enjoy discussing, please submit it for consideration by completing and submitting the form at <http://survey.ASAhq.org//doform.aspx?fmf=51>. You also can access the form at www2.ASAhq.org by clicking on "Form Submission for Medically Challenging Cases."

August 1, 2005, is the submission deadline. Notification regarding acceptance will be sent on August 15.

forum whereby viewers can spend time interacting with exhibitors and get in-depth knowledge. It is an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas, discuss concepts, learn about new ideas and technology and enhance your skills by practicing the techniques being presented. Exhibitors utilize charts, diagrams, posters, interactive computer programs and mannequins to enhance the educational experience. While most of the exhibits originate in the United States, there will be international organizational representation as well.

Exhibits can be viewed on Sunday, October 23, from 12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. and on Monday, October 24, and Tues-

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All anesthesiologists benefit from the efforts of those ASA members who so generously donate their time for the good of the profession and the public. Every anesthesiologist can support these efforts by being a member of ASA and contributing to ASAPAC.

Remaining Credible

Another reality of ASAPAC's political role is the necessity to focus on issues where we have credibility. Some members believe that ASA should advocate on problems that do not bear directly on anesthesiology but that do undeniably have health implications. This must be done with great care and is best avoided entirely where great controversy exists. A political leader hearing ASA's position on the assault weapons ban might correctly wonder just what special expertise ASA has on that subject. He or she might easily conclude that since we were not experts, our views were really no better than opinions; and in a Washington divided along party lines, people with opinions may find themselves being identified with partisan groups sharing the same opinions. This behavior only tarnishes our image as the nation's premier resource for issues related to anesthesiology and makes it more difficult to get the bipartisan support we need.



What Will ASAPAC's Legacy Be?

The polarization of the electorate and the consequent partisan divide in Washington show no sign of abating. In mid-17th century China, political deadlock led to the collapse of the Ming Dynasty and the successful invasion by the Manchu people. Let us hope that we fare better than they did. In the meantime, ASAPAC will continue to eschew partisanship and political controversy while supporting those legislators who support our agenda and whose help we need to accomplish our goals.

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day, October 25, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please note that there will be an exhibit hall reception on Sunday from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. with the technical and scientific exhibitors present at their booths during this time.

Interactive "hands-on" learning experiences will be available at the scientific exhibits. In the area of airway management, visitors will be able to try advanced airway techniques. Interactive techniques for regional anesthesia, such as ultrasound-guided blocks, will be on exhibit. Multimedia exhibits will be presented to enhance the educational experience. Patient safety, computer use in anesthesia, regional anesthesia, acute and chronic pain management and dealing with difficult-to-intubate patients, as well as when to extubate, and malignant hyperthermia are among many of the topics the committee thought would be of interest to meeting attendees.

For the first time this year, a portion of the exhibit space will be used to display medically challenging cases. This is an opportunity for clinicians to present a complicated case in which they were involved and to dis-

cuss how the case was handled. The challenging case format provides an excellent forum for lively discussion and education. Stop by and tell the presenter how you would have handled the same situation!

Exhibits will be evaluated by members of the Committee on Scientific and Educational Exhibits on Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. Awards will be presented to those exhibits that are considered to be superior in terms of originality, clinical relevance, scientific merit and visual impact.

I would like to express my gratitude to committee members Gregory J. Crosby, M.D., Eugene S. Fu, M.D., Julian M. Goldman, M.D., P. A. Klock, Jr., M.D., John B. Leslie, M.D., Michael H. Mendeszoon, M.D., Jerome F. O'Hara, M.D., Andranik Ovassapian, M.D., Majid Saleem, M.D., and Erin A. Sullivan, M.D.

The committee invites all those attending the meeting to view the scientific and educational exhibits, and we also encourage you to consider presenting at next year's Annual Meeting.