



 **ASCRS**
ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 10-13, 2026 | WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUBMISSION GUIDE

ASCRS SUBMISSIONS:
June 16 – September 1, 2025

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IMPORTANT DATES

June 16	ASCRS website opens to accept submissions for instructional courses, papers, electronic posters, and films Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review site opens
September 1	Deadline to submit all abstracts for ASCRS instructional courses, papers, electronic posters, and films Deadline for all presenting faculty to complete Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review (see page 6)
Mid-December	ASCRS will send notifications of acceptance/decline via email
January 6 – February 15, 2026	Uploads for films and posters open
February 15, 2026	Deadline to update TBD abstract results and conclusions for scientific papers and electronic posters Deadline to upload films Deadline to upload electronic posters for judging
February 27, 2026	Deadline to upload instructional course outlines
March 6, 2026	Deadline to upload all electronic posters
March 10, 2026	Deadline for all ASCRS faculty to register
April 10, 2026	ASCRS Subspecialty Day
April 10–13, 2026	ASCRS Annual Meeting

FACULTY GUIDELINES

Abstract submissions for the ASCRS Program must take place through the online submission portal at <https://ascrs.confex.com/ascrs/26am/cfp.cgi>

All abstract submissions are subject to the ACCME guidelines regarding the independence and validation of clinical content. Instructors/authors/producers are responsible for ensuring that (1) all recommendations involving clinical medicine presented are based on evidence that is accepted within the profession and (2) all scientific research referred to, reported, or used conforms to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, and analysis. Recommendations, treatments, or manners of practicing medicine that do not comply with the above, are known to have risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits, or are known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients will not be accepted.

General statements about abstract submissions are followed by requirements for each type of submission (course, paper, electronic poster, film, and photograph) on the following pages.

ACCREDITATION STATEMENT

The American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the ASCRS Annual Meeting, participants should be able to:

- Recognize and discuss current and advanced treatment strategies for anterior segment surgery, to include cataract, refractive, corneal, glaucoma and retinal conditions.
- Identify the latest developments and advances in techniques and technology within anterior segment surgery and comprehensive ophthalmology.
- Identify complicating factors in anterior segment surgery and develop appropriate treatment plans.
- Practice hands-on surgical skills and techniques in Skills Transfer Labs.
- Examine external legislative issues and internal business practice issues affecting the field of ophthalmology.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PROCESS

Abstract submissions for the 2026 ASCRS Annual Meeting will be accepted from June 16 to September 1, 2025.

Step 1: Go to <https://ascrs.confex.com/ascrs/26am/cfp.cgi> to submit an abstract for an ASCRS instructional course, film, scientific paper, or electronic poster.

- Provide all required information. The process will allow you to review your submission.
- It is important to use a valid email address as all correspondence regarding the account and/or submission will be sent to this email address.
- All faculty will be limited to 12 presentations/scheduled speaking assignments across main ASCRS programming and will be notified by ASCRS if this limit is reached or surpassed.

Step 2: Complete the Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review at <https://ascrs.confex.com/ascrs/ficme26/cfp.cgi>.

All faculty in a position to control the content of this CME activity—presenters, instructors, co-instructors, producers, and other faculty—must complete the ASCRS Faculty CME Review and Financial Interest Disclosure by January 29, 2026. Instructions on how to complete the ASCRS Faculty CME Review and Financial Interest Disclosure are listed on page 6. It's only necessary to submit one Financial Interest Disclosure for 2026. Once you submit a disclosure, it will be applied to all ASCRS CME activities through September 2026.

Step 3: Use your browser “print” command to print or save a copy of your submission for your records. If you do not receive a completed submission confirmation ID, please contact: submissions@ascrs.org. Incomplete abstract submissions will not be accepted.

DISCLOSURE OF UNAPPROVED/OFF-LABEL USE

If a presentation concerns the use of a drug or device that has not been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or concerns off-label use of a drug or device approved by the FDA for other use, this must be disclosed during the presentation.

ABSTRACT REVIEW PROCESS

Abstract submissions will be peer-reviewed by the ASCRS Program Committee and Clinical Committees. Reviewer scores will be based on overall quality, balance, scientific rigor, alignment with educational objectives, and absence of commercial influence.

REASONS FOR NON-ACCEPTANCE

The ASCRS Program Committee will not accept abstracts under the following circumstances:

- Abstract submissions that are commercially biased
- Abstract submissions from owners and/or employees of ACCME-defined ineligible entities (details on page 7)
- If the lead instructor/author/producer and co-instructors/co-authors/co-producers have not completed their individual Faculty CME Review and Financial Interest Disclosure by the submission deadline
- If the instructor/author/producer did not follow the withdrawal guidelines the previous year (no-show)
- If the lead instructor/author/producer is not an MD or PhD (i.e., optometrist, physician assistant, technician)
- If the submission's content/research has been published or presented elsewhere

NOTIFICATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE/NON-ACCEPTANCE

An email with the status of the abstract submission will be sent by mid-December to the email listed for the primary faculty (presenting author, instructor, producer). If notification is not received by December 19, please contact: submissions@ascrs.org (ASCRS course, film, paper, or poster).

REGISTRATION

All faculty are required to register for the 2026 ASCRS Annual Meeting by March 10, 2026.

SUBMISSION WITHDRAWALS

If an instructor/author/producer is unable to present, he/she must notify ASCRS by email, submissions@ascrs.org.

If an instructor/author/producer fails to submit notification of withdrawal or does not present, he/she will be ineligible to submit for the 2026 ASCRS Annual Meeting (see Guidelines for Non-acceptance).

COPYRIGHT ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

By submitting this abstract (scientific paper, poster, instructional course, film, photograph), I agree to grant and assign exclusively to the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (“the society”) all of the rights, including copyright, in the submitted presentation, as well as any related materials used for audiovisual presentation (collectively referred to as “the works”). I also grant and assign to the society the rights to film, record, reproduce, reprint, distribute, sell, and otherwise make use of the works, or any presentation of the works, in any media or format, and authorize the society to use my name, likeness, photograph, and biographical data in connection with its use and promotion of the works. I understand that I will receive no royalty or other monetary compensation from the society for this assignment of rights and the subsequent use of my works by the society.

I represent and warrant that the works are my own original work or that I have obtained all necessary permissions and authorizations from all individuals or entities that may otherwise have a right, title, or interest in the works; that I have full right and power to make this assignment; that the works do not violate any copyright, proprietary, or personal rights of others; and that the works are factually accurate and contain no matter libelous or otherwise unlawful.

FINANCIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND ASCRS FACULTY CME REVIEW

FINANCIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

As an accredited provider by the ACCME, ASCRS must ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its individually or jointly provided activities.

All individuals participating in an ASCRS CME activity must disclose any financial interest or relationship with an ineligible company that produces, markets, sells, resells, or distributes ophthalmic products/devices/drugs or services discussed in an educational presentation or lack thereof. Financial interest can include such things as grants or research support, consultant, stockholder, member of speaker’s bureau, , etc. The intent of the financial interest disclosure is to provide information to the ASCRS Program Committee and ASCRS Clinical Education department to design and implement a balanced, independent, and scientific educational activity. The Relevant Financial Interest documents in the Annual Meeting website, Real-Time Program and Meeting App provide information to attendees so they can make their own judgment regarding the interest or relationship and the materials presented.

Potential faculty in ASCRS-sponsored and jointly provided CME activities, including instructors, authors, producers, co-instructors, coauthors, co-producers, presenters, panelists, etc., must provide a complete listing of ALL financial relationships relevant to ophthalmology—not just those related to a specific talk—in the financial interest disclosure database. Any relevant financial relationship that occurred within the previous 24 months must be reported. Those who have no financial interests to disclose should

indicate “none” in the database. Disclosure information will be kept on file and used during the calendar year in which it was collected for all CME-bearing activities.

To submit an abstract for the ASCRS Annual Meeting, you must complete the Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review in the database. All lead faculty must notify all co-instructors/co-authors/co-producers that they must enter their financial interest disclosure information. Abstract submissions with incomplete Financial Interest Disclosures and/or ASCRS Faculty CME Review will not be accepted.

ASCRS FACULTY CME REVIEW

The ASCRS Faculty CME Review has been developed to provide faculty with information concerning crucial ASCRS CME policies and procedures. Adherence to these policies and procedures ensures balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its activities.

The faculty members who participate in the ASCRS Annual Meeting Program or other ASCRS CME activities who must complete the ASCRS Faculty CME Review include:

- Planners, presenters, moderators, and panelists for general sessions and symposia
- Lead instructors and co-instructors for instructional courses
- Lead authors/presenters of scientific papers
- Lead authors of scientific posters
- Lead producers/presenters of scientific films
- Leaders of expert roundtable sessions

COMPLETING FINANCIAL INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND ASCRS FACULTY CME REVIEW

Go to <https://ascrs.confex.com/ascrs/ficme26/cfp.cgi> and click on “Submit Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review Disclosure.”

All faculty will need to verify their personal information and complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review.

The Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review ensure ASCRS’ continued compliance with the ACCME’s guidelines and ensure the society provides exceptional quality continuing education.

PARTICIPATION OF OWNERS/EMPLOYEES OF ACCME-DEFINED INELIGIBLE ENTITIES (COMMERCIAL INTERESTS) IN CME ACTIVITIES

As a provider accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), ASCRS must ensure balance, independence, objectivity, and scientific rigor in all its individually or jointly provided CME activities.

For the ASCRS Annual Meeting, the ASCRS Program Committee will not accept abstracts for posters, films, instructional courses, or scientific papers that are submitted by owners and/or employees of ACCME-defined ineligible companies except under the circumstances

listed below. For ASCRS general sessions and/or symposia, permission to invite an owner/commercial employee to participate as faculty must be obtained in advance from the ASCRS Program Committee and ASCRS Director of CME, and the owner/employee's participation must be closely monitored by the session planner.

Ineligible entity employees shall not participate in the planning of any ASCRS CME activities or ASCRS jointly provided activities. Owners/employees of an ACCME-defined ineligible company may serve as instructors or faculty in ASCRS CME activities or jointly:

1. When the topic and content are non-clinical in nature, i.e., ASCRS operational announcements such as ASCRS Foundation and Government Relations updates, leadership, practice management and business topics, and/or the topic and content is not related to the business lines or products of the presenter's employer.
2. When the content is related to the scientific or discovery process itself, the result of basic research studies relevant to the clinical problem being addressed but not specific to a commercial product or its preclinical and clinical testing and/or recommendations regarding patient care.
3. When ineligible entity owners and/or employees are participating as technicians teaching the safe and proper use of medical devices during hands-on skills transfer sessions. In this circumstance, content must not be related to clinical recommendations concerning the business lines or products of their employer. Commercial interest owners and/or employees who provide technical assistance are required to follow ASCRS' policies and guidelines regarding participation during skills transfer sessions. It is the responsibility of ASCRS staff or the designated session leader to appropriately monitor the owner/employee participation to ensure adherence to ASCRS policies and guidelines.

Owners/employees of ineligible entities/companies are required to submit their Financial Interest Disclosure so any potential conflicts can be resolved prior to the presentation and proper disclosure can be made to learners. All presentations submitted for consideration under the narrowly defined circumstances listed above will be reviewed by the ASCRS Program Committee and/or ASCRS CME Committee to ensure compliance.

The ACCME defines an ineligible entity/company as any entity producing, marketing, reselling, or distributing healthcare goods or services consumed by or used on patients.

The following organizations are not considered commercial interest by ACCME:

- 501-C non-profit organizations (except when the organization advocates for commercial interests)
- Government organizations
- Non-healthcare related companies
- Liability insurance providers
- Health insurance providers
- Group medical practices
- For-profit hospitals
- For-profit rehabilitation centers
- For-profit nursing homes
- Blood banks
- Diagnostic laboratories (if its business is limited to the provision of diagnostic services that provide clinical results or information to healthcare professionals for their treatment of patients)
- Providers of clinical service directly to patients unless the provider is owned, or controlled by, a commercial interest

ASCRS INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE, SCIENTIFIC PAPER, AND POSTER CATEGORIES, TOPICS, AND SUBTOPICS

CATARACT

- **Cataract Surgery**
 - Techniques
 - Dysphotopsia
 - Other
- **Femtosecond Laser-Assisted Cataract Surgery**
- **Preoperative Tests and IOL Power Calculations**
- **Pediatrics**
- **Post-Refractive IOL Calculations**
- **IOLs**
 - Monofocal
 - Multifocal
 - Toric
 - Other
 - EDOF
- **Astigmatism Management and Toric IOL Alignment**
- **IOL Design and Characteristics**
- **Devices and Instruments**
- **Challenging Cases**
- **Medications (Preoperative, Postoperative, Intraoperative)**
- **Surgical Outcomes**
- **Surgical Comparisons**
- **Digital**
- **Other**

CORNEA

- **Cornea Procedures and Outcomes**
 - DMEK
 - DSEK
 - LK, DALK, PK
 - Cairns, CTAK
 - Keratoprosthesis
 - Other
- **Keratoconus and Crosslinking**
- **Cornea Infectious Disease**

- **Medical and Surgical Ocular Surface**
- **Digital**
- **Other**

KERATOREFRACTIVE

- **Refractive Procedures**
 - PRK, LASIK, SMILE, Phakic IOLs, Inlays, Other (open text)
- **Surgical Planning**
- **Refractive Outcomes**
- **Refractive Comparisons**
- **Refractive Complications**
- **Digital**
- **Other**

PRESBYOPIA CORRECTION

- **Presbyopia-Correcting IOLs**
 - Multifocal and Accommodative IOLs
 - Other (open text)
- **Presbyopia-Correcting IOL Comparisons**
- **Digital**
- **Other**

GLAUCOMA

- **Medications and Drug Delivery**
- **Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery (MIGS)**
 - Novel Procedures
- **Lasers**
- **Diagnostics**
- **Incisional Surgery**
 - Novel Procedures
- **Digital**

NON-CLINICAL

RETINA

ASCRS COURSE SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 1, 2025**

COURSE OUTLINE DEADLINE: **FEBRUARY 27, 2026**

ELECTRONIC HANDOUT DEADLINE: **APRIL 10, 2026**

Limit: One (1) course submission per instructor

Course presentations are instructional and aim to achieve the submitter's stated educational objective. A course should include enough time for Q & A and ideally interactive discussion built into the 90-minute time frame. Based on previous meeting attendee feedback, consideration will be given to courses that focus on tips that can be immediately implemented into practice (for example, implementing a new paradigm into practice). Potential faculty are reminded to design courses that are scientifically sound and unbiased. All faculty (including instructors and co-instructors) are required to register for the ASCRS Annual Meeting. ASCRS does not pay honoraria or travel/housing expenses for presenters. Speaker registration deadline is March 10, 2026.

If the proposed course has special requirements, please contact us at courses@ascrs.org.

If the proposed course will be conducted in a language other than English, an English translation of the title, course description, and objectives must also be submitted.

NUMBER OF FACULTY PER COURSE

Each instructional course must include one course director/lead instructor and up to 5 co-instructors or speakers, not to exceed 6 total faculty members. **Any changes to coauthors are due by February 27.**

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAD INSTRUCTOR (COURSE DIRECTOR):

- **All lead and co-instructors must submit their Financial Interest Disclosures before a course submission can be completed.**
- If entering co-instructors/faculty, confirm the email address they used when submitting their Financial Interest Disclosure to be able to include them with the electronic submission.
- Submit an outline of the course by February 27, 2026. No new faculty additions may be made after February 27, 2026.
- Prior to submitting:
 - Invite all co-instructors and faculty to confirm their willingness to participate.
 - Notify all co-instructors and faculty that they must complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review. In accordance with the ACCME's updated requirements, faculty who have not done so will not be allowed to participate in the course and will not be listed in the Final Program. (See page 6 for details.)
 - Ensure that each faculty member and/or co-instructor does not include a presentation that has a conflict of interest.
 - **Do not include a financial interest disclosure statement on your slides. This will be automatically populated for your session from your submitted ASCRS Financial Interest Disclosure according to relevancy as determined by ASCRS.**
 - If accepted, you must notify all faculty of the scheduled date and time for the course.
 - Prepare a comprehensive electronic handout to be included in the ASCRS Meeting App. ASCRS will not accept, photocopy, or distribute handout copies. Further instructions regarding electronic handouts will be sent to lead instructors of accepted courses.

ASCRS COURSE SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST (continued)

ABSTRACT STRUCTURE

Title (limited to 250 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

The title should accurately and concisely reflect the submission content. For CME purposes, product/trade names cannot be used in the title. Generic descriptors are required. Titles with product/trade names may be rejected. The title should not be formulated as a question or statement (i.e., should not include a verb). Titles should follow title case rules and may be edited by ASCRS editorial staff. Please do not enter the title in all caps.

Category

Choose from the categories and topics on page 9.

Course Material Level

Indicate if the course material is:

- Introductory
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Please enter the format of the course presentation: (You may select more than one)

- Didactic lecture
- Surgical or clinical videos
- Case presentations (with or without videos)
- Instructional surgical steps (with or without demonstration videos)

What is the ONE thing you want the learner to be able to do after attending your course?

I want the learner to be able to:

- Change surgical technique/approach
- Improve management of surgical complications
- Use a systematic approach to improve patient care and/or clinical results
- Consider other technology, (e.g., consider a new IOL) to improve surgical outcomes
- Other

Course Description (Limited to 450 characters, including space and punctuation)

The course description is the basis upon which attendees select sessions to attend. The course description should include the topics to be presented. Please begin your description with the words “Course will . . .”

ASCRS COURSE SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST (continued)

ASCRS INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE SUBMISSION EXAMPLE

TITLE: Fundamentals of Anterior Segment Reconstruction

CATEGORY: Cataract

TOPIC: Cataract Surgery

SUBTOPIC: Techniques

COURSE MATERIAL LEVEL: Intermediate

COURSE PRESENTATION FORMAT: Didactic lecture, surgical or clinical videos

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE: Improve management of surgical complications

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This lecture, video, and panel discussion will highlight current topics in anterior segment surgery. Topics will include iris repair, IOL exchange, sutured IOLs, anterior vitrectomy, use of iris and capsule support devices, and complex cataract surgery. Attendees will learn several surgical techniques for repair of the anterior segment and how to apply these techniques in their clinical practice.

HANDOUTS

If your course is accepted, you will be encouraged to submit an electronic version of your handout no later than April 10, 2026. Handouts will be available in the ASCRS Meetings App. Instructions and information about the format for course handouts will be included in the presentation acceptance letter if your submission is accepted.

The handouts must be received by the deadline.

CHECKLIST

- ✓ Confirm the valid email address of each faculty member before starting the online submission process.
- ✓ **Do not include a financial interest disclosure statement on your slides. This will be automatically populated for your session from your submitted ASCRS Financial Interest Disclosure according to relevancy as determined by ASCRS.**
- ✓ Notify all faculty members that they must complete the Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review by the January 29 deadline.
- ✓ Notify all faculty of their inclusion in the course (if accepted) of the scheduled date and time for the course.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC PAPER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 1, 2025**

All accepted papers will be limited to 5-minute presentations. All paper abstract submissions will be peer-reviewed by the ASCRS Program Committee and appropriate Clinical Committees. Abstracts will be graded on content and scientific integrity.

Submissions by non-MDs/DOs will be reviewed in the context of the presenter's training and education.

Papers may now be accepted as an ASCRS Electronic Paper (E-Paper). Meeting site time and space allow for only so many live paper presentations, therefore, some paper presentations will be given the option to pre-record a presentation as an e-paper. E-papers are pre-recorded audio presentations that are video-optional and will be on display at the Education Hubs and On-Demand post-meeting resources. More information available soon.

NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS PER PERSON

Submissions are limited to 3 abstracts per person.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAD AUTHOR

- Prior to submitting, the lead author must complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review.
- **Ensure that all presentations do not include a financial interest disclosure slide/information. This will be automatically populated for your session according to relevancy determined by ASCRS.**
- Submit any additional coauthors by February 27, 2026.
- **Presenting author must register for the Annual Meeting.**

ABSTRACT STRUCTURE

Please read the following instructions carefully before completing the submission:

Title (limited to 140 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

For CME purposes, product/trade names cannot be used in the title. Generic descriptors are required. Titles with product/trade names may be rejected. The title should not be formulated as a question or statement (i.e., should not include a verb). Titles should follow title case rules and may be edited by ASCRS editorial staff. Please use title case when completing the submission. The title should accurately and concisely reflect the submission content.

Category - Choose from the categories and topics on page 9.

Purpose (Limited to 350 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

Indicate the question that the study answers or the hypothesis it tests. Do not include names or affiliations of authors. Do not include sponsorships, grants, etc.

Methods (Limited to 700 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

Describe the study design, indicating randomization, masking, and whether the data collection was retrospective or prospective, if applicable. Identify the patients, including selection procedures, inclusion criteria, and numbers. Indicate the intervention procedures and the outcome measures.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC PAPER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST (continued)

Results (Limited to 700 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

Present the outcomes and measurements. Data should include the level of statistical significance.

Conclusion (Limited to 350 characters including spaces and punctuation)

State the conclusion and clinical pertinence.

- Abstracts that do not include results and conclusion **must be revised by February 15, 2026**, to be accepted in the ASCRS Program. This date applies to papers and posters only.
- Proofread the abstract carefully. It will appear exactly as submitted.
- Do not submit the abstract if the material has been presented or published elsewhere.

Please ensure you have listed all contributing authors on the abstract, with all coauthor edits completed by February 27, 2026. Coauthors who are not listed on the abstract submission cannot be acknowledged within the presentation. There is a limit of 6 authors per submission.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC PAPER ABSTRACT SUBMISSION EXAMPLE

Title: Prospective Study of Topography-Guided LASIK for Myopia: 12-Month Clinical Results

Presenting Author: Doyle Stulting, MD, PhD

Co-author: Barbara S. Fant, PharmD

Purpose: To evaluate Topography-Guided LASIK (T-CAT) for the treatment of myopia and myopic astigmatism.

Methods: One-year, non-randomized, prospective study of 249 myopic eyes of 212 subjects using the T-CAT algorithm on the Allegretto Wave Eye-Q 400 Hz excimer laser. All eyes were targeted for plano using topography and refraction for treatment planning.

Results: UCVA was 20/20 in 93% of eyes, 20/16 in 65%, and 20/12.5 in 34%. 40.4% of eyes gained 1 line of BSCVA; 2.2% lost 1 line of BSCVA. Contrast sensitivity improved; most visual symptoms were unchanged or improved; and patient satisfaction was high.

Conclusion: At 1-year, primary T-CAT LASIK produces excellent UCVA, improves BSCVA, and reduces visual symptoms with a high level of patient satisfaction and no significant safety concerns.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC PAPER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST (continued)

BEST PAPER OF SESSION (BPOS)

At the end of each paper session, the moderator and panelists will confer to select the Best Paper of Session (BPOS). The BPOS winner will be announced immediately after the decision is made; therefore, all presenters should plan to stay for the conclusion of each session.

Eligibility

All accepted paper presentations must meet these 4 requirements to be eligible for BPOS judging:

- The final approved title appears on the PowerPoint slide, including all edits provided within acceptance notification.
- Disclosure of relevant financial interests (or lack thereof) appears on either the title slide or the slide immediately following.
- Disclosure of relevant financial interests (or lack thereof) is made verbally at time of presentation.
- Presentation is within the 5-minute time limit.

Judging Criteria

- Scientific merit
- Originality
- Clarity
- Adherence to time limits

CHECKLIST

- ✓ Lead author must complete Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review before submitting.
- ✓ Confirm the valid email address of each coauthor before starting the online submission process.
- ✓ Confirm that title does not include product/trade names and is in the proper format.
- ✓ Confirm that the abstract includes 4 required sections: purpose, methods, results, conclusion.
- ✓ Ensure that each section of the abstract adheres to the character limit.

ASCRS ELECTRONIC POSTER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: **SEPTEMBER 1, 2025**

ELECTRONIC POSTERS DUE FOR JUDGING: **FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

ALL ELECTRONIC POSTER DUE: **March 6, 2026**

All accepted and uploaded electronic posters will be available for viewing on demand at the Education Hubs at the Convention Center during the meeting and available for viewing on the ASCRS website post-meeting. Questions from attendees will be submitted electronically to the lead author's email. All poster abstract submissions will be peer-reviewed by the ASCRS Program Committee, poster judges, and appropriate Clinical Committees. Abstracts will be graded on content and scientific integrity. Submissions by non-MDs/DOs will be reviewed in the context of the presenter's training and education. The Poster Judging Committee will select winning Posters from 4 categories: Cataract, Cornea, Glaucoma and Keratorefractive.

NUMBER OF SUBMISSIONS PER PERSON

Submissions are limited to 3 abstracts per person.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LEAD AUTHOR

- Prior to submitting, the lead author must complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review.
- **Do not include a financial interest disclosure statement on your slides. This will be automatically populated for your session from your submitted ASCRS Financial Interest Disclosure according to relevancy as determined by ASCRS.**
- Submit any changes to the listing of coauthors by February 27, 2026.
- **Lead author must register for the Annual Meeting.**

LIVE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Electronic posters that are selected for an award by the Poster Judging Committee will be given the opportunity to present their poster live at the meeting. Presentation time/date to be announced by mid-March via email.

ABSTRACT STRUCTURE

Please read the following instructions carefully before completing the submission:

Title (Limited to 140 characters including spaces and punctuation)

For CME purposes, product/trade names cannot be used in the title. Generic descriptors are required. Titles with product/trade names may be rejected. The title should not be formulated as a question or statement (i.e., should not include a verb). Titles should follow title case rules and may be edited by ASCRS editorial staff. The title should accurately and concisely reflect the submission content.

ASCRS ELECTRONIC POSTER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST *(continued)*

Category

Choose from the categories and topics on page 9.

Purpose (Limited to 350 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

Indicate the question that the study answers or the hypothesis it tests. Do not include names or affiliations of authors. Do not include sponsorships, grants, etc.

Methods (Limited to 700 characters, including spaces and punctuation)

Describe the study design, indicating randomization, masking, and whether the data collection was retrospective or prospective, if applicable. Identify the patients, including selection procedures, inclusion criteria, and numbers. Indicate the intervention procedures and outcome measures.

Results (Limited to 700 characters, including space and punctuation)

Present the outcomes and measurements. Data should include the level of statistical significance.

Conclusion (Limited to 350 characters, including space and punctuation)

State the conclusion and clinical pertinence.

- Abstracts that do not include final results and conclusion must be revised by February 13, 2024, to be included with the online abstracts. This date applies to papers and posters only.
- Proofread the abstract carefully. It will appear exactly as submitted.
- Do not submit the abstract if the material has been presented or published elsewhere.

Please ensure you have listed all contributing authors on the abstract, with all coauthor edits completed by February 27, 2026. Coauthors who are not listed on the abstract submission cannot be acknowledged within the presentation. There is a limit of 6 authors per submission.

ASCRS ELECTRONIC POSTER ABSTRACT SUBMISSION EXAMPLE

Title: Assessment of Toxicities of Moxifloxacin, Cefuroxime, and Levofloxacin on Corneal Endothelial Cells in Vitro

Author: Kazuki Matsuura, MD

Co-authors: Tomoko Haruki, MD, Dai Miyazaki, MD, Yuki Terasaka, MD, Yoshitsugu Inoue, MD, PhD

Purpose: To assess the toxic effects of moxifloxacin, cefuroxime, and levofloxacin on human corneal endothelial cells in vitro and to determine the safe intracameral concentrations for these antibiotics.

ASCRS ELECTRONIC POSTER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST *(continued)*

Methods: Human corneal endothelial cells (HCE_n) in culture were exposed to moxifloxacin, cefuroxime, and levofloxacin at concentrations up to 2,000 µg/ml. Evaluation of membrane damage was determined by ethidium homodimer-1 (EthD-1) uptake and cell viability by intrinsic esterase activity. The inhibitory effect of the three antibiotics on the constitutive secretion of interleukin-6 (IL-6) was determined by ELISA.

Results: The acute effects (6 h) on membrane damage and cell death were dose-dependent for moxifloxacin and levofloxacin (500 µg/ml). For cefuroxime, membrane damage was not observed at 6 h, and slight damage was detected at 24 h at concentrations 500 µg/ml. The half maximal inhibitory concentrations (IC₅₀) on cell viability of moxifloxacin, levofloxacin, and cefuroxime were 487 µg/ml, 578 µg/ml, and 1600 µg/ml, respectively. The inhibitory effects of the three antibiotics on the constitutive secretion of IL-6 were observed at 15.6 µg/ml indicating that the antibiotics can impair the secretion of the protective cytokine even at low concentrations.

Conclusion: Moxifloxacin at 500 µg/ml causes damage of the cell membranes of corneal endothelial cells, and even higher concentrations decrease the cell viability. Considering the lower minimum inhibitory concentration for inhibiting 90% growth by moxifloxacin, we recommend intracameral moxifloxacin at 500 µg/ml for prophylactic use.

LIVE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Electronic posters will be judged in the following four categories: Cataract, Cornea, Glaucoma and Keratorefractive. Winning posters will be invited for live presentation at the Annual Meeting.

Eligibility

All accepted poster abstract submissions must meet these 4 requirements to be eligible for poster judging:

- The final approved title appears on the electronic poster, including all edits provided within acceptance notification.
- Submitted electronic poster is no more than 12 PowerPoint slides.
- Meets the electronic poster upload deadline requirement, February 15, 2026.
- ***New* Do not include a financial interest disclosure statement on your slides. This will be automatically populated for your session from your submitted ASCRS Financial Interest Disclosure according to relevancy as determined by ASCRS.**

Judging Criteria

- Applicability/educational value
- Originality
- Scientific content/validity
- Clarity

ASCRS ELECTRONIC POSTER SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST *(continued)*

ELECTRONIC FORMAT FOR ACCEPTED POSTERS

- Electronic posters must be uploaded as PowerPoint files (.PPT or .PPTX, only). Maximum of 12 PowerPoint slides (file size of 50 MB)
- Any combination of PowerPoint slides with images, tables, and text accepted
- Videos and/or animation cannot be embedded in the PowerPoint file
- An additional file upload containing supporting multimedia file is available (Limit: 1 file; 50 MB max)
- PowerPoint file should not be password protected.
- Do not submit the poster as a single slide.

CHECKLIST

- ✓ Lead author must complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review before submitting.
- ✓ **Ensure that your Financial Interest Disclosure information is NOT included on your slides.**
- ✓ Lead author must be registered for the ASCRS Annual Meeting.
- ✓ Confirm the valid email address of each coauthor before starting the online submission process.
- ✓ Check that title does not include product/trade names and is in the proper format.
- ✓ Confirm that abstracts include 4 required sections: purpose, methods, results, conclusion.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC FILM SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS

The 44th ASCRS Film Festival will be held during the 2026 ASCRS Annual Meeting. Winning films are showcased at the ASCRS Annual Meeting during the Film Festival Ceremony. Submitted films are judged, and awards are given to the top films in each category with an overall grand prize winner. In addition, all submitted films are available to view in the ASCRS Education Hubs during the ASCRS Annual Meeting and on the ASCRS website, year-round. Award-winning films are also celebrated for their innovation and educational value throughout the year in ASCRS publications, ASCRS social networking sites, ASCRS' CME 24/7 platform, and at other important ophthalmology meetings around the world.

KEY DATES FOR FILM SUBMISSIONS:

- September 1: Title and synopsis deadline
- December 4: Submission acceptance notification with edited titles emailed to producer
- January 6 – February 15, 2026: Deadline for film uploads
- April 12, 2026: Film Festival Awards Reception and Ceremony

PEER REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF SUBMISSION

- Film submission synopses will be peer-reviewed by the ASCRS Program Committee and appropriate Clinical Committee for content and scientific integrity
- Accepted films will be scored by a panel of judges
- Submissions by non-MDs will be reviewed in the context of the presenter's training and education

NUMBER OF FILM SUBMISSIONS ALLOWED PER PERSON

- 1 as first producer
- 2 additional film submissions as co-producer, for a total of 3 film submissions

PRESENTATION OF FILM

- Film producers must be registered for and attend the 2026 ASCRS Annual Meeting and must attend the ASCRS Film Festival Awards Ceremony to be eligible for final film judging and awards. Registration and proof of badge pickup will be referenced.
- Special circumstances may arise; the producer must send a substitute in their place that is not a member of industry; the substitute will accept, on stage, any award/s that may be given to the film producer
- Send the name of the substitute to submissions@ascrs.org.

INSTRUCTIONS IN ORDER OF COMPLETION

Responsibilities of the Lead Producer

- Complete their Financial Interest Disclosure and ASCRS Faculty CME Review.
- To add co-producers, notify them to create an account at <https://ascrs.confex.com/ascrs/ficme26/cfp.cgi>.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC FILM SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS *(continued)*

- Your submission will not be reviewed for acceptance until you have completed all the steps.

Film Submission Categories

- Cataract Complications
- Cataract/Implant Surgery
- Complex Anterior Segment Procedures
- In-House Productions: A video produced by the author independent of financial or technical resources provided by a professional entity.
- Instruments and Devices/IOLs
- New Producer/Young Physician: Combined category that includes the New Producer of any age and the Young Physician. New Producers can submit in this category if this is their 1st or 2nd film as the lead producer and they have not won in a society Film Festival as the lead producer. A Young Physician producer is in their first 5 years of practice and has not won in a society film festival as the lead producer.
- New Techniques
- Quality Teaching
- Refractive/Cornea Surgery
- Special Interest: Videos that don't easily fit into the other categories because of their unusual subject matter or unique approach.
- Shorts: A film tells a story, while a short makes a point. Video submissions in this category are limited to 2 minutes or less in length.

Title and Synopsis

- The title should accurately and concisely reflect the submission content
- Product/trade names should not be used in the title and will be edited out; generic descriptors are required
- The title should not be formulated as a question or statement (i.e., should not include a verb)
- Title should follow title case rules and may be edited by ASCRS editorial staff (do not enter the title in all caps)
- Title limit: 140 characters, including spaces and punctuation
- Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) must be disclosed by checking the appropriate attestation box when submitting.
- Synopsis: The synopsis should provide a brief overview of your film
- Synopsis limit: 400 characters, including spaces and punctuation

SAMPLE FILM SYNOPSIS

Title: Violet Light as a Superhero Against Myopia Pandemic

Authors: Hidemasa Torii, MD, PhD (Presenting Author)

Category: Special Interest

Synopsis: Myopia is a pandemic and the world's myopic population will be about 5 billion in 2050. We found that violet light (VL, 360-400 nm wavelength) had a suppressive effect against adult high myopia which could be sight-threatening (Torii. Sci Rep. in press), as well as school-aged myopia (Torii. EBioMedicine. 2017). We believe that the therapeutic use of VL will reverse the pandemic trend of myopia.

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC FILM SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS *(continued)*

VIDEO AND TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Eligibility: All film submissions must meet the following requirements to be eligible for Film Festival judging:

- 8 minutes maximum, including opening and closing credits (Shorts Category: 2 minutes maximum).
- ***New* Do not include a financial interest disclosure statement on your slides. This will be automatically populated for your session from your submitted ASCRS Financial Interest Disclosure according to relevancy as determined by ASCRS.**
- The approved and edited title should appear in the opening credits as shown in your email acceptance letter
- English narration (title, subtitle, and soundtrack) is required

Film Specifications:

- Standard definition (720 x 480 resolution) or high definition (1,280 x 720 resolution)
- Audio tracks should be in Dolby digital format
- Film must conform to the NTSC standard (29.97 frames per second)
- PAL formats will not be accepted
- Color bars and/or countdown graphics should not be included in the lead-in of the film
- Maximum 2GB file size

Film Format

All formats must be encoded into one of the formats below for acceptance:

1. HD (High Definition) 720p format (1280 x 720 resolution at 29.97, 24, 25, 30 or 60 fps) [best balance of quality and file size].
2. HD 1080p format (1920 x 1080 resolution at 29.97, 24, 25, 30 or 60 fps) [best quality but very large file size]. HD video should be encoded with H.264 or MPEG-4 codecs.
3. SD (Standard Definition) 480p format (720 x 480 resolution at 29.97, 24, 25 or 30 fps). SD video may be encoded with H.264, MPEG-4 or MPEG-2 codecs.
4. Apple users: Do not submit your video in AIC format. Your .mov files should contain H.264 or MPEG4 formatted video before submission to ASCRS.

Additionally:

- Audio tracks should be stereo, in Dolby digital format (AC-3 or AAC)
- PAL formats will not be accepted
- Color bars and/or countdown graphics should not be included in the lead-in of the film

ASCRS SCIENTIFIC FILM SUBMISSION: INSTRUCTIONS *(continued)*

ELEMENTS OF THE FILM AND HELPFUL HINTS

- Aim for the highest possible cinematic quality. Play your film on a different device to make sure that the film and audio are of the highest quality.
- Review and proofread your film for errors before you submit it.
- The microphone should be of high quality. Avoid “popping Ps” and echo chamber effects.
- The font size and style should be legible and large enough to prevent eye strain. Avoid a busy screen.
- Tell a story with an introduction/background, a study or demonstration, and a conclusion. Include data to support any claims.
- Original ideas and investigations are especially noted for merit.
- Sound: Remember that all presentations must have English titling, subtitling, or soundtrack and must be understandable to an English-speaking person. The producer should consider a narrator if English pronunciation is a difficulty.
- Music can be an important element in the film. If you use background music, it should not overpower the narration or distract the viewer from the film content. Music with lyrics can be very distracting.
- The film should exhibit movement, animation, and demonstration. The film should not be a filmed slideshow. A list or outline can be helpful but should not be a substantial part of the presentation.
- Avoid long gaps without voice narration so the viewer does not lose concentration as well as context.
- The film should be shown on screen as seen by the surgeon. Images of the eye and eye surgery should fill most of the screen. Surgical maneuvers are not well demonstrated when the eye occupies less than 50% of the screen.
- Avoid multiple images on the screen such as four simultaneous surgical demonstrations, busy animations, and hyperactive graphics.
- Graphics, schematic illustrations, and animations should clarify points. They should not be exhibitions of techno-wizardry.
- It is important to acknowledge prior investigators and contributors. Historical attribution shows a proper respect for pioneers in our field.
- Appropriate Content: Comedy and humor may be appropriate but avoid all potentially offensive material, especially racial, sexual, and religious “humor.” Films that are deemed to be offensive by the panel of judges because of racial, sexual, or religious content will be disqualified. The decision of the judges is final.

FILM JUDGING CRITERIA

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| • Applicability/educational value | • Cinematic quality (audio, editing, technical) |
| • Originality | • Artistic effects (music, graphic, lighting, animation, talent, effects) |
| • Scientific content/validity | |
| • Clarity | |

SUBMITTING YOUR VIDEO

- Proof your video carefully before uploading
- A web link to upload films online to ASCRS will be provided on January 6, 2026