

Government Relations Programming At-A-Glance

During the 2016 ASCRS•ASOA Symposium and Congress, you will have several opportunities to hear from key leaders and learn about the latest legislative and regulatory developments. This guide highlights the sessions and activities designed to help you comply with regulatory requirements and get more involved in the political process.

Friday, May 6, 2016

Regulatory Burdens: the Rise of the “Fourth Branch of Government”

Joint ASCRS•ASOA Government Relations General Session featuring Jonathan Turley, JD

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM 220-222



We all know about the three branches of government. But did you know the federal regulatory bodies developing policy on every issue, including healthcare, have become so powerful they now constitute a “fourth branch?” So claims George Washington University Law School Professor Jonathan Turley, who warns Congress has left so much decision-making authority to regulatory agencies, such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), they now operate on an equal footing to the other branches. Most troubling, points out Professor Turley, no one elected these bureaucrats. What does this mean for you and how should we remedy it? Find out directly from Professor Turley when you attend the Joint ASCRS•ASOA Government Relations General Session.

A Constitutional law scholar, Professor Turley is a well-known commentator and has served as counsel in many high-profile cases. Before attending the General Session, attendees are encouraged to learn more about Professor Turley and his opinions on executive power. All ASCRS•ASOA Symposium & Congress registered attendees are welcome to attend.

ASCRS eyePAC Reception

National World War II Museum

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, 945 Magazine St.



Don't miss your opportunity to visit this top-ranked museum dedicated to one of the most important eras in American history. The National World War II Museum—consistently ranked as New Orleans' top attraction and Trip Advisor's #3 U.S. museum—features interactive exhibits on all aspects of the war and American life during that time. 2016 eyePAC contributors and their guests will enjoy refreshments in the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion among aircraft and vehicles from the amphibious landings during war—including D-Day. Guests will also have private access to the rest of the museum's exhibits and collection of WWII artifacts. [Donate and register online here](#) or on site in the registration area. Federal law requires

that all eyePAC contributions be made by U.S. domestic members of ASCRS, however, contributors may bring anyone they choose as a guest.

Saturday, May 7, 2016

ASCRS•ASOA Gateway Booth

Saturday through Monday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM;

Members of the ASCRS•ASOA Government Relations Team will be stationed in the Gateway Booth (#701) whenever the Exhibit Hall is open. Please stop by to have questions about legislative and regulatory issues answered, find out about the latest developments—including about the new Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)—and to find out how to Get in the Game to become an advocate. On Sunday and Monday, be sure to catch the whole team in the booth as part of special “office hours.” See separate listings.

ASOA Roundtables

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM, Room 343-344

Join ASCRS Government Relations staff for small discussions on a variety of topics including the Merit Based-Incentive Payment System (MIPS), EHR/Meaningful Use and the Value Based Payment Modifier (VBPM).

FDA Symposium: From an Idea to FDA Approval: Efficiency in the FDA Process

3:00 to 4:30 PM; Room 243

The 2016 ASCRS FDA Symposium will focus on drug and device combination products, how they are regulated, and how to get them approved. Specifically, the symposium will address drug and device combination products for AMD, glaucoma and allergies. It will also cover physician-sponsored Investigational New Drugs (INDs), regarding when they are a good idea and how to apply. Wiley Chambers, MD, Deputy Director of the Division of Transplant and Ophthalmology Products Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, and Malvina B. Eydelman, MD, Director of the Division of Ophthalmic, Neurological and Ear, Nose and Throat Devices, will provide insight on how drug and device products are regulated and efficient paths for their approval.

Sunday, May 8, 2016

2016 ASOA Legislative and Regulatory Update

9:15 AM to 10:15 AM, Room 356-357



For this ASOA session, ASCRS•ASOA Director of Government Relations Nancey McCann will review the latest developments regarding the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)—scheduled to take effect in 2019 based on 2017 reporting—and explain how current programs such as PQRS, EHR/Meaningful Use and the Value-Based Payment Modifier will impact your practice in 2016. In addition, this session will cover CMS’ “misvalued” code initiative that led to recent cuts to glaucoma and retina codes, and how this initiative may affect other ophthalmic codes in coming years.

There will also be time for a discussion with attendees.

Government Relations Staff “Office Hours”

10:30 AM to 11:30 AM, Gateway Booth

During the ASCRS•ASOA Symposium and Congress, you will have the opportunity to meet face-to-face with Director of Government Relations Nancey McCann, Manager of Regulatory Affairs Ashley McGlone, and Manager of PAC and Grassroots Allison Madson. The team will be on hand in the Gateway Booth to answer your questions regarding current programs such as EHR/Meaningful Use, PQRS, the Value-Based Payment Modifier and what’s on the horizon for the new Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Wondering how Congressional actions might affect you and your patients—and what to do about it? We will also have materials available to help you get involved as an advocate for ASCRS•ASOA. A Government Relations team member will be available during most Exhibit Hall hours, but your best chance for catching them will be during these office hours.

MIPS Overview for ASOA

2:15 to 3:15 PM, Room 356-357

In March, 2015, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 became law, repealing and replacing the SGR and establishing a new incentive payment program, the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). MIPS will consolidate the three existing quality reporting programs (Physician Quality Reporting System, EHR Meaningful Use and Value-Based Payment Modifier) into one program, adding an additional category on clinical practice improvement activities. Payments to eligible professionals will be adjusted based on performance in the MIPS beginning in 2019. During this session, ASCRS Manager of Regulatory Affairs Ashley McGlone will speak about the general requirements of MIPS, and feedback that ASCRS provided to CMS regarding details of the MIPS program that will be determined in future rulemaking.

2016 Legislative and Regulatory Update

5:00 to 6:00 PM, Room 242



ASCRS•ASOA Director of Government Relations Nancey McCann and Manager of Regulatory Affairs Ashley McGlone will review the latest developments regarding the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS)—scheduled to take effect in 2019—and explain how current programs such as PQRS, EHR/Meaningful Use and the Value-Based Payment Modifier will impact your practice in 2016. In addition, this session will cover CMS’ “misvalued” code initiative that led to recent cuts to glaucoma and retina codes, and how this initiative may affect other ophthalmic codes in coming years. There will also be time for a discussion with attendees. Other legislative issues impacting ophthalmology will also be discussed.

Monday, May 9, 2016

Government Relations Staff “Office Hours”

9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, Gateway Booth

Can't make it to the Sunday morning office hours? The ASCRS Government Relations team will also be available Monday morning.

HIT Symposium: Meaningful Use: Managing the Need to Know List

3:00 to 4:30 PM; Room 243

The 2016 Health Information Technology (HIT) Symposium will focus on what providers need to know about Meaningful Use in 2016 and what to do when things go awry. The Stage 2 Modifications Rule released in 2015 laid out different requirements for providers in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Panelists will provide an overview of these changes. Speakers will also focus on measures ophthalmology practices struggled with in 2015, and provide tips as to how to meet these measures in 2016. In addition, two administrators will share hands-on strategies they have used to successfully meet Meaningful Use in the past few years. The Symposium will also discuss broadly the future of EHR Meaningful Use as it becomes part of Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) in 2019.