

Spring Congress Schedule

Friday, April 25

- 8:15AM **NEW EVENT!! Inaugural Spring Congress HIKE!**
Start your weekend enjoying the GREAT ARIZONA OUTDOORS, with our first Spring Congress hike! Get outside to enjoy the warm AZ sun and gorgeous mountain views of Ventana Canyon. This hike is about 2.5 miles and is listed as beginner/moderate. Please RSVP in advance to dr.jamie.kuhn@gmail.com OR you can register online when you sign up for CE
- 12PM-5PM Registration (please note that registration opens at 12pm)
- 1PM-2PM **Structural and Functional Testing for Chronic Eye Disease/91868-TD/Earley**
This course will cover the history of structural testing for grading ocular diseases and the concept of utilizing both structural and functional testing for managing AMD, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma; several instruments and devices used in the presenter's practice to measure and monitor ocular disease will be covered, including dark adaptation, OCT, ERG, skin carotenoid testing, and headset visual fields.
- 2PM-3PM **Optometry and Metabolic Syndrome; More than Meets the Eye/95890-SD/Earley**
In this course, optometrists will learn their role in the management of patients who have metabolic syndrome, or are at risk for developing this condition.
- 3PM-4PM **Doc, I'm Seeing Floaters; Managing Vitreous Pathology/95892-TD/Earley**
This course will refamiliarize optometrists with the vitreous humor, and will walk them through common vitreal pathologies and treatment options
- 4PM-5PM **A Holistic Approach to Nutrition; An Optometrist's Perspective/95893-PH/Earley**
This course will provide optometrists a novel perspective on proper nutrition and how a lifetime of proper eating and supplementation help prevent chronic disease
- 5PM-7PM **The GREAT (AZ) OUTDOORS- Exhibit Hall & Cocktail Reception**
Think camping, hiking, skiing, s'mores, paddleboarding, hunting...Arizona has it all. Join us in the GREAT OUTDOORS! Adventure awaits as we journey out into the wild of the AZOA exhibit hall on Friday April 25. Come dressed in your OUTDOOR BEST!

Saturday, April 26

- 7AM Registration and **ALCON SPONSORED BREAKFAST - Breakfast will be served and enjoyed in the General Session room while Alcon presents. Please arrive by 7am for breakfast. (NON CE Presentation)**
- 8AM-10AM **Retina: Refer or Relax/94530-TD/Ferrucci**
This course discusses cases encountered in the primary care ODs office, and asks if this is something that we can monitor ourselves relax or refer to a retinal

specialist for further treatment. Cases include lattice, retinal holes, choroidal nevi and more. Clinical pearls regarding follow up and appropriate referral criteria is presented.

- 10AM-12PM **REFER OR RELAX: MACULA/89764-TD/Ferrucci**
This course discusses macula cases encountered in the primary care ODs office, and asks if this is something that we can monitor ourselves (relax) or require referral to a retinal specialist for further treatment. Cases include Central Serous Retinopathy, macular holes, Vitreo-macular traction, and more. Clinical pearls regarding follow up and appropriate referral criteria is presented.
- 12PM-2PM Exhibit Hall/Luncheon
- 2PM-3PM AZOA Business/Membership Meeting
- 3PM-5PM **AMD: A Through Z/94532-TD/Ferrucci**
This comprehensive course will discuss the latest in treatments and technologies for both wet and dry AMD. The course will emphasize best practices and technology in order to manage, treat and care for your patients with AMD. Topics such as the latest VEGF agents, genetic testing and new diagnostic equipment will be highlighted.
- 5PM-8:00PM Cocktails/Dinner/AZOA Awards Presentations
Cocktail attire is suggested as we celebrate our AZOA OD of the Year and AZOA Young OD of the Year!
- 8:30PM **Dr. Jamie Kuhn's New President's Reception! -In Incoming President's Suite (Everyone welcome!)**
Please join us at this reception honoring Dr. Jamie Kuhn as the incoming President of the AZOA! Have a cocktail, and mingle with some of your fellow ODs as we wish Dr. Kuhn a successful and productive year ahead!

Sunday, April 27

- 7AM Registration and **Bausch + Lomb SPONSORED BREAKFAST - Breakfast will be served and enjoyed in the General Session room while B+L presents. Please arrive by 7am for breakfast. (NON CE Presentation)**
- 8AM-10AM **Exploring Corneal Nerve Dysfunction in Dry Eye Disease: Insights into Neuropathic Pain and Neurotrophic Keratitis/Abbott/95027-TD**
Perhaps the most frustrating part of treating eye pain and discomfort is the inexplicable mismatch between patient symptoms and clinical signs. This deviation is partially responsible for varying clinical decision making, the lacking number of FDA approved medications for dry eye, and poor patient outcomes. Here we explore a different approach when treating ocular surface disease based on heightened attention to the role of corneal nerves.
- 10AM-11AM **AP Ocular Rosacea: Roses Are Red, Violets Are Blue, Skin Can Be Red, But Eyes Can Too!/Abbott/93466-TD**
Deep dive into the different types of rosacea, pathogenesis, signs and symptoms, and treatments of ocular rosacea.
- 11AM-12PM **Tucson VA Residents Present: SAVAHCS Diplopia Grand Rounds/94685-NO**
This course highlights two ocular disease processes resulting in the symptom of diplopia. The differential diagnoses, optometric management, and clinical pearls will be discussed.
- Speakers: Shale Demuth, OD and Ana Rebeca Rego, OD**

2025 Spring Congress Speakers

Kaleb Abbott is an optometrist and assistant professor of ophthalmology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He is affiliated with both the Dry Eye Clinic and the Center for Ocular Inflammation, where he specializes in complex ocular surface diseases and participates in clinical trials and research related to these conditions. In addition to his clinical and research roles, he serves as vice-president for the Ocular Wellness and Nutrition Society, is Chair of the Nutrition, Disease Prevention, and Wellness Special Interest Group (SIG) for the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), and is a member of the advisory council for the Academic Medical Center Optometry AAO SIG. He also holds a position on the editorial advisory board for Optometry360 and is a graduate of the AAO Flom Leadership Academy. Furthermore, he hosts the Dry Eye and Ocular Surface Disease section of the Clinical Podcast Series through the American Academy of Optometry Foundation. In 2024, he was nominated for Colorado's Young Optometrist of the Year and recognized as a "One-to-Watch" by Modern Optometry. In 2019, Kaleb co-founded SunSnap Kids, a start-up that won first place in the inaugural Bright Ideas Pitch Competition in 2022 and third place in the Optometry Innovation Awards in 2023. He recently sold the majority of the company to focus more on his clinical and research responsibilities at the University of Colorado. When he's not seeing patients, conducting research, or working on SunSnap Kids, Dr. Abbott lectures on ocular surface diseases, writes articles, and serves as a medical reviewer for multiple journals, including The Ocular Surface and Optometry and Vision Science. He resides in Denver, CO, with his wife, daughter, and newborn twins.

Dr. Tim Earley is a 1998 graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. He is currently practicing at Regional Eye Associates in Western Maryland, an OD/MD group practice. Dr. Earley has a special interest in the diagnosis and management of dry eye disease, age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and other diseases of the retina. He is a national lecturer, educator, consultant, and presenter on numerous optometric topics from surgical co-management, practice management, and ocular disease to presbyopia correction. When not consulting or treating patients, Dr. Tim enjoys spending time outdoors with his family and friends.

Dr. Steven Ferrucci is currently Chief of Optometry at the Sepulveda VA Ambulatory Care Center in North Hills, CA. He is also the Residency Director at his sight, and a Professor at the Southern California College of Optometry/Marshall B. Ketchum University. Dr. Ferrucci has lectured and published extensively, with a special interest in Diabetes, Diabetic Eye Disease, AMD, OCT and Fluorescein Angiography. He is a fellow in both the American Academy of Optometry and the Optometric Retinal Society, as well as Past-president of the ORS and the Founding Chair of the American Academy of Optometry Retinal Special Interest Group. He also serves on the editorial board for several optometric journals, as well as on the advisory board for some of the premier companies in eye care.

Tucson VA Residents: The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS), based in Tucson, Arizona is a highly affiliated tertiary-care referral system serving veterans in Arizona, surrounding southwest States, and Mexico. The eye clinic at SAVAHCS is shared jointly between optometry and ophthalmology, which provides the residents with the opportunity to manage a spectrum of ocular disease. Additionally, SAVAHCS hosts the Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center, which provides world class programs for visually impaired veterans from seven western states. Low vision care is provided in both a comprehensive multidisciplinary inpatient and outpatient setting.

Dr. Shale Demuth is an ocular disease and low vision rehabilitation optometry resident at the Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System, She received her Doctor of Optometry degree from Midwestern University's Arizona College of Optometry. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience, along with a minor in creative writing from the University of Minnesota. In her free time, Dr. Demuth enjoys hiking, reading, and spending time with friends and family.

Dr. Ana Rebeca Rego is an Ocular Disease / Low Vision optometry resident at the Southern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Georgia State University and her Doctor of Optometry Degree at the Western University of Health Sciences. Dr. Rego immigrated from Brazil with her family and grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and attending sporting events and concerts.