

LESS CHAOS: PHL

Lower Extremity Surgical Symposium *and*
Computer Hexapod Assisted Orthoplastic Surgery

May 28-31, 2026

LOEWS PHILADELPHIA HOTEL; PHILADELPHIA, PA

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

7:00 am – 7:30 am

Breakfast (included) and Registration

7:45 am – 8:00 am

Welcome, Goals and Objectives, Announcements

Guido LaPorta, DPM

RECONSTRUCTION, REVISION AND LIMB SALVAGE BOOT CAMP: Strategies and Skills

Moderator: Guido LaPorta, DPM

8:00 am – 8:30 am

UPDATE: Management of Segmental Bone Defects Around the Ankle and Foot. What are the Limits of Acute Shortening? When Should We Begin to Consider Bone Lengthening and Bone Transport?

Byron Hutchinson, DPM

8:30 am – 9:00 am

The Masquelet Technique and its Application to Hindfoot and Ankle Reconstruction. Can This Technique be Used With Titanium Cages? Is This a Viable Approach or “French Pastry”?

Michael Subik, DPM

9:00 am – 9:15 am

Talectomy + Tibial-Calcaneal Fusion (TC). Hard To Do Well!

Guido LaPorta, DPM

9:15 am – 9:30 am

UPDATE: Talectomy as a Reconstruction Option in Complex Deformity of the Foot and Ankle. Is Limb Shortening an Unavoidable Result?

Guido LaPorta, DPM

9:30 am – 10:00 am

Understanding Bone Graft Options! How Do I Choose? How to Avoid a Dead Bone Sandwich

Michael Downey, DPM

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Health Break

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Strategies to Improve Bone Healing in the Complex Patient. When to Pull the Trigger and How to Decide on the Approach. Did Ilazarov Give Us the Answers?

Alexander Cherkashin, MD

11:00 am – 11:30 am

Filling the Gap. Intercalary Metal Bone Defect Reconstruction With and Without Masquelet Technique in the Treatment of Segmental Bone Defects. Case Illustrations.

Guido LaPorta, DPM

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

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| 11:30 am – 12:00 pm | Medical Management of Osteomyelitis and Soft Tissue Infections. Antibiotic Stewardship from an Infectious Disease Perspective.
<i>Stephanie Spivack, MD</i> |
| 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm | Surgical Management of Osteomyelitis and Soft Tissue Infections. The Science of Antibiotic Beads, Spacers and IM Nails as a Local Antibiotic Delivery System and Adjunct to Treatment.
<i>Michael Subik, DPM</i> |
| 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | Lunch (included) |
| MODERATOR: Guido LaPorta, DPM | |
| 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm | Repair of the Neglected Calcaneal Joint Depression Fracture. Restoration of Height and Width. Is a TAL Necessary? What About Varus?
<i>Michael Troiano, DPM</i> |
| 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm | Comparison of Static vs. Dynamic Intramedullary and Revisional Nails for Tibial Pedal Fusions in the At-Risk Population. Is There Added Value?
<i>Douglas Pacaccio, DPM</i> |
| 2:30 pm – 3:00 pm | Restoration of Limb Length for Management of Segmental Bone Defects/Shortening with Distal Tibial Lengthening. Strategies for Lengthening Over Nail (LON) vs. Lengthening Then Nail Techniques (LATN). Techniques, Pros and Cons
<i>Kelsey Millonig, DPM</i> |
| 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm | The Methodology of Bone Transfer. Is There A “Most Accurate” and “Least Painful” Technique? How to Insure Successful Docking!
<i>Alexander Cherkashin, MD</i> |
| 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm | Health Break |
| 4:00 pm – 4:30 pm | Supramalleolar Osteotomy for Deformity and Arthritis. Indications for Acute vs. Gradual Correction, Internal vs. External Fixation.
<i>Byron Hutchinson, DPM</i> |
| 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm | The Science of Osteotomy: How to Avoid Secondary Deformity. How Osteotomy Principles Provide a Mechanically Stable Procedure.
<i>Guido LaPorta, DPM</i> |
| 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm | Tibial Lengthening, LON, LATN, Bone Transport With Self-Lengthening Intramedullary Nails. How “PRECISE” is it? How to Decide Which is the Best Approach? Is There a Retrograde Tibial Option?
<i>Jason Hoellworth, MD</i> |

THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026

5:30 pm – 6:00 pm	Hexapod Deformity Correction with Motorized Struts: Taking the Patient Out of the Correction Schedule. Will It Improve Results? <i>Guido LaPorta, DPM</i>
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Dinner (on your own)
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Expanding the Reconstructive Ladder! Tibial OsteoIntegration for Amputation Patients. There Is an Alternate Choice. <i>Jason Hoellworth, MD</i>
7:30 pm – 8:15 pm	Orthoplastic Surgical Principles for Musculoskeletal Deformity and Trauma. Soft Tissue Reconstruction in a One Vessel Extremity. (Includes the Required Work-Up Prior to Any Soft Tissue Reconstruction) <i>Christopher Bibbo, DO</i>
8:15 pm – 9:00 pm	Bioengineering Mobility: The Role of Regenerative Medicine in Healing the Musculoskeletal System. Stem Cells and Beyond. <i>Selene Parekh, MD</i>
9:00 pm – 9:30 pm	The Vascularized Fibular Bone Graft: Technique and Other Strategic Options for Supercharging Bone Healing. <i>Christopher Bibbo, DO</i>
9:30 pm	Recess

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

6:30 am	Breakfast (included)
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CHARCOT FOOT AND ANKLE

MODERATOR: Guido LaPorta, DPM

7:00 am – 7:30 am	Understanding the Complex Etiology, Pathophysiology, and Healing Pathways of Charcot Neuroarthropathy. Theory vs. Molecular Biology. How Does it Affect Treatment? <i>Lisa Grant-McDonald, DPM</i>
7:30 am – 8:00 am	Strategies for Acute One-Stage Correction of Charcot Midfoot Deformity. Internal vs. External vs. Integrated Fixation. The Rocchio “Mini-Flipper” Foot! <i>Thomas Rocchio, DPM</i>
8:00 am – 8:30 am	The Rationale and Science of “Beams” and “Truss Screws”. Is It Better, Equivalent or Just Quicker? What’s the Evidence? <i>Lisa Grant-McDonald, DPM</i>

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

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| 8:30 am – 9:00 am | Antegrade vs. Retrograde Beams. Is There A Preferred Method? Is It Evidence Based? Should Lateral Column Beams Include The 4th And 5th Metatarsal? If Not, Is It Really A Beam?
<i>Michael Subik, DPM</i> |
| 9:00 am – 9:30 am | Lengthen, Align, Beam (LAB). Strategies For Gradual Two-Stage Correction of Midfoot Charcot Deformity with Hexapod Constructs. Why And When This Technique Is Useful.
<i>Kelsey Millonig, DPM</i> |
| 9:30 am – 10:00 am | Health Break |
| 10:00 am – 10:30 am | The Flipper Foot Strategy. When And Why Is It Indicated? What Do You Do with the Forefoot? How Do You Know When to Do It?
<i>Jeffrey Loveland, DPM</i> |
| 10:30 am – 11:00 am | Hindfoot/Ankle Stabilization for Unstable Charcot Deformity. The Use of Locking Plate Technology and other Complimentary Strategies.
<i>Lawrence DiDomenico, DPM</i> |
| 11:00 am – 11:30 am | The Use of Dynamic Nails, Beams and Compression Screws in Charcot Neuroarthropathy. Is Charcot Bone an Indication or Contraindication for Continuous Compression.
<i>Douglas Pacaccio, DPM</i> |
| 11:30 am – 12:00 pm | Minimally Invasive and Mini-Open Fusion and Osteotomy Techniques for Midfoot, Hindfoot and Ankle Charcot Neuroarthropathy.
<i>Jacob Wynes, DPM</i> |
| 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm | Random Flaps, Muscle Flaps, Grafts and other Soft Tissue Reconstruction Strategies in the Charcot Foot and Ankle.
<i>William Brownell, DPM</i> |
| 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm | Revisional Charcot Deformity Surgery. How Do I Salvage My Original Limb Salvage Procedure. When Have I Done Enough?
<i>Jeffrey Loveland, DPM</i> |
| 1:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Lunch (included) |

COMPLEX FOOT AND ANKLE DEFORMITY

Moderator: Gudio LaPorta, DPM

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| 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm | Angular and Rotational Alignment of the Lower Extremity. The Basis of Reconstructive and Salvage Strategies. Do Proximal Deformities Need to Be Corrected First
<i>Jason Hoellworth, MD</i> |
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FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Management of Complex Foot, Ankle and Leg Deformity (From Classification to Surgical Reconstruction) <i>Alexander Cherkashin, MD</i>
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Clinical Strategies for the Management of Dropfoot <i>Lawrence DiDomenico, DPM</i>
3:00 pm -3:30 pm	Comprehensive Surgical Management Principles of Neurologic Deformity of the Lower Extremity. Prevalence, Work-Up, Interventions and Bracing Strategies) <i>Byron Hutchinson, DPM</i>
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Health Break

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Module #1: Charcot Midfoot Deformity: Static Frame (Stryker) Acute Correction and “Steering Wheel” Static Circulator Fixator Facilitator: Thomas Rocchio, DPM Faculty: LaPorta, Scanland, Scheland, Woodley, Zimmerman
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Module #2: Charcot Midfoot Deformity 6-Axis External Fixation (Stryker) Gradual Correction Utilizing a 6 Axis Correcting Butt Joint Facilitator: Johanna Godoy, DPM Faculty: LaPorta, Millonig, Hutchinson, Scanland, Scheland, Woodley, Zimmerman
6:30 pm	Recess

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

6:30 am – 7:00 am	Breakfast (included)
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NEW TECHNOLOGY: ENHANCEMENT OF SOFT TISSUE PERFUSION

Moderator: Guido LaPorta, DPM

7:00 am – 7:30 am	The Theoretical and Clinical Basis of Transverse Distraction Histiogenesis for Improvement of Distal Perfusion in the At-Risk Population. <i>Alexander Cherkashin, MD</i>
7:30 am – 8:00 am	Fixator Assisted Soft Tissue Repair (FASTR) For Diabetic Foot Ulcers (Proximaltibia) Biomechanically Stable Constructs. <i>Michael Theobolu, DPM</i>

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Transverse Bone Traction (TBT) With A Uniplanar External Fixation. (Distal Tibia) “Elevate” Your Results! <i>Lisa Grant-McDonald, DPM</i>
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Distal Tibial Osteotomy (With or Without Distraction) A Cut Above! <i>Kelsey Millonig, DPM</i>
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Periosteal Distraction. Do I Really Need a Tibial Osteotomy? <i>Guido LaPorta, DPM</i>
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Health Break
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Is Amputation a Failure? The Use of Reconstruction and Local Amputation Strategies to Preserve Function and Promote Limb Integrity. <i>Lawrence DiDomenico, DPM</i>
11:00 am – 11:40 am	Prosthetic Management of Partial Foot Amputations-A Comprehensive Model <i>Robert Meier, CO</i>
11:40 am – 12:10 pm	Equinus Deformity: Biomechanics and Pathomechanics. Gait Considerations and Treatment Strategies. Acute Vs Gradual Correction. How To Prevent Overlengthening. Osseous Contributions to Equinus Deformities <i>Noman Siddiqui, DPM</i>
12:10 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch (included)

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Module #3: Transverse Bone Transport. (Orthofix, Blue Ocean, Stryker, Biodynamik) Patient has DFU which has not healed after 6 months of comprehensive wound care. Decision is made to perform Fixator Assisted Tibial Distraction to enhance distal perfusion. Facilitators: 1. FASTR: Michael Theobolu, DPM 2. ELEVATE Mini-Rail: Alexander Cherkashin, MD and Lisa Grant-McDonald, DPM 3. DISTAL OSTEOTOMY: Kelsey Millonig, DPM 4. PERIOSTEAL DISTRACTION: Guido LaPorta, DPM
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Health Break
3:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Module #4: Charcot Fixation Strategies (Paragon28)
6:30 pm	Recess

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026

6:30 am – 7:00 am Breakfast **(included)**

Ankle Joint Deformity, Disease and Allied Pathology

Total Ankle Arthroplasty and Allied Procedures

MODERATOR: Guido LaPorta, DPM

7:00 am – 7:30 am **Is Total Ankle Arthroplasty Now the “GOLD” Standard? When is Fusion a Better Option? Decision Making and Management Strategies!**
Jennifer Van, DPM

7:30 am – 7:55 am **Factors that Influence Choice and Survivorship of Total Ankle Replacements**
Steve Brigido, DPM

7:55 am – 8:20 am **Management of Intraoperative Obstacles (Gutter Disease, Ankle Instability, Soft Tissue Complications, Ligament Balancing)**
Jason Miller, DPM

8:20 am – 8:50 am **Revision Surgery for Metal Component Failure in Total Ankle Arthroplasty (TAA)**
James Lachman, MD

8:50 am – 9:20 am **Is There an Optimum Protocol for Debridement, Antibiosis, And Implant Retention(DAIR) In The Infected Total Ankle Arthroplasty (TAA). (Type And Volume of Irrigation Solution, Etc., Etc.)**
David Pedowitz, MD

9:20 am – 9:35 am **Health Break**

9:35 am – 10:05 am **Repair of Cartilage Defects of the Talus And Distal Tibial Plafond. Is There a Consensus?**
David Pedowitz, MD

10:05 – 10:35 am **Subtalar Joint Instability, Subluxation or Dislocation. Diagnosis And Management. Should We Attempt Ligament Stabilization or Just Fuse It?**
Zachary Ritter, DPM

10:35 am – 11:00 am **The Role of 3D Printed Patient Specific Implants in Reconstructive, Revision and Salvage Surgery. Considerations for Total Talus Replacement**
Selene Parekh, MD

11:00 am – 11:30 am **Ankle Fractures in the Diabetic Patient. Strategies To Improve Outcomes! Is It a Matter of Fixation Construct, Time or Both?**
Michael Troiano, DPM

SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2026

11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Pilon Fractures. Does Every Patient Deserve an Attempt at ORIF or are there Certain Patterns Which Will Benefit from Immediate Fusion? <i>Zachary Ritter, DPM</i>
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Sagittal Plane Deformity Planning and the Use of The Solomin Method for Evaluation of Mangled Feet. Analysis And Planning of Hindfoot Deformities and Forefoot Deformities in the Sagittal Plane. Davinci Got It Right! <i>Guido LaPorta, DPM</i>
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Lunch (on your own)
<u>AFTERNOON WORKSHOP</u>	
1:15 pm – 3:15 pm	Module #5: Longitudinal Bone Segmental Defects: Bone Lengthening, Bone Transport, Cages, Cubes, and Spheres A patient had an infected TAR which required 50mm of resected bone. A decision is made to repair segmental bone defect with a Bone Transport utilizing a Hexapod followed by tibial talar fusion at docking site. Facilitator: Guido LaPorta, DPM Faculty: Scanland, Scheland, Woodley, Meier
3:15 pm	Adjourn: See You Next Year!