2026 AAHKS Business Course

Friday, Nov. 6, 2026
7:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center
Mesilla 1-2 (Vineyard Tower)

Faculty

Wendy W. Wong, MD, Chair
Michael P. Ast, MD, Vice Chair

Emily Ast, JD
Wael K. Barsoum, MD
Stefano A. Bini, MD
Cory L. Calendine, MD
Jimmy Chow, MD
Eytan M. Debbi, MD, PhD
Charles A. DeCook, MD
John M. Dundon, MD
Stephen M. Engstrom, MD
Brian C. Fuller, MD
George N. Guild, MD
David J. Jacofsky, MD
David C. Markel, MD
Amanda D. Marshall-Rodriguez, MD
Nicholas H. Mast, MD
R. Michael Meneghini, MD
Ajay Premkumar, MD, MPH
Adam J. Rana, MD
Arjun Saxena, MD, MBA
Jonathan G. Yerasimides, MD

Agenda

Breakfast (7:00 – 7:30 a.m.)		
7:00 a.m.	**Breakfast**	*Mesilla 1-2 (Vineyard Tower)*
Welcome & Course Overview (7:30 – 7:35 a.m.)		
7:30 a.m.	**Welcome to the Business of Arthroplasty Course**	Wendy W. Wong, MD, Chair Michael P. Ast, MD, Vice Chair
Introductory Keynote (7:35 – 7:55 a.m.)		
7:35 a.m.	**The Business of Arthroplasty in 2026: The Economic Forces Every Joint Surgeon Must Understand**	R. Michael Meneghini, MD
Session I | The Health Care Landscape (7:55 – 9:05 a.m.) **Moderator: David J. Jacofsky, MD**		
7:55 a.m.	**Why Arthroplasty Reimbursement Keeps Falling — and What Surgeons Can Do About It**	Adam J. Rana, MD
8:10 a.m.	**Private Equity in Orthopaedics: Opportunity, Risk and the Reality of Today's Deals**	David J. Jacofsky, MD
8:25 a.m.	**Hospital Consolidation and the Arthroplasty Surgeon: Who Will Control the Market?**	David C. Markel, MD
8:40 a.m.	**Health Care Finance for Surgeons: How Hospitals, ASCs and Payers Actually Make Money**	Cory L. Calendine, MD
8:55 a.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Session II | Surviving Declining Reimbursement (9:05 – 10:15 a.m.) **Moderator: Wendy W. Wong, MD**		
9:05 a.m.	**TEAMS and CJR-X: Can We Prepare and Prevent the Race to the Bottom?**	Stephen M. Engstrom, MD
9:20 a.m.	**Beyond TEAMS: Government Payment Models that Could Reshape Arthroplasty**	Wael K. Barsoum, MD
9:35 a.m.	**Alternative Revenue Streams for Arthroplasty Surgeons: PCM and Remote Therapeutic Monitoring**	John M. Dundon, MD
9:50 a.m.	**Polishing the Brass on the Titanic: Coding in 2027**	Brian C. Fuller, MD
10:05 a.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Break (10:15 – 10:25 a.m.)		
Session III | Modern Practice Models (10:25 – 11:30 a.m.) **Moderator: David C. Markel, MD**		
10:25 a.m.	**Building a Modern Private Arthroplasty Practice in Today's Market**	Charles A. DeCook, MD
10:40 a.m.	**Leading from the Inside: How Surgeons Can Influence Strategy in an Employed Practice**	Ajay Premkumar, MD, MPH

10:55 a.m.	**Co-Management Agreements: Aligning Surgeons and Hospitals Without Losing Control**	Wendy W. Wong, MD
11:05 a.m.	**Private Bundled Programs that Actually Work: Lessons from the Field**	Arjun Saxena, MD, MBA
11:20 a.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Session IV | Future Alternative Payment Models (11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) Moderator: Charles A. DeCook, MD		
11:30 a.m.	**Opting Out of Medicare**	Amanda D. Marshall-Rodriguez, MD
11:45 a.m.	**Concierge Orthopaedics: Dropping Insurance without Dropping Patients**	Nicholas H. Mast, MD
12 p.m.	**The No Surprises Act and IDR: Winning the Battle for Out-of-Network Payments**	Jimmy Chow, MD
12:15 p.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Lunch Break (12:30 – 12:45 p.m.)		
	Lunch may be picked up outside the Course room. Please return to your seat by 12:45 p.m.	
Working Lunch Keynote Panel | AI and Technology in Arthroplasty: What Matters Today and What's Coming Next (12:45 – 1:15 p.m.) Moderator: Michael P. Ast, MD		
12:45 p.m.	**Artificial Intelligence in Arthroplasty Today: Practical Tools Already Changing Practice**	Eytan M. Debbi, MD, PhD
12:55 p.m.	**The Next Decade of AI and Digital Surgery: How Technology Will Reshape Arthroplasty**	Stefano A. Bini, MD
1:05 p.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Session V | Ambulatory Surgery Centers (1:15 – 2:30 p.m.) Moderator: Arjun Saxena, MD, MBA		
1:15 p.m.	**Do You Need an ASC to Survive? The Strategic Case for Ambulatory Arthroplasty**	Jonathan G. Yerasimides, MD
1:30 p.m.	**ASC Ownership in 2026: What Arthroplasty Surgeons Need to Know Before Buying In**	Michael P. Ast, MD
1:45 p.m.	**Why High-Volume Surgeons Are Building Joints-Only Ambulatory Surgery Centers**	George N. Guild, MD
2:00 p.m.	**Your ASC Operating Agreement Could Cost You Millions: What Surgeons Must Understand**	Emily Ast, JD
2:15 p.m.	**Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A**	All faculty
Closing Remarks & Adjourn (2:30 p.m.)		