The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 created a unique and challenging environment in which to provide safe care for hip and knee arthroplasty patients. This symposium will discuss the latest data-driven and evidence-based recommendations involving preoperative testing, optimal personal protective equipment (PPE), perioperative care, protocols and methodologies to minimize personal contact such as outpatient same day discharge and utilizing telehealth and remote monitoring technology. Further, practice and surgical efficiencies will be detailed for surgeons to provide low-cost and high-quality care essential to accommodate the backlog of elective hip and knee arthroplasty patients created by cessation of elective surgeries during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Finally, an exploration of the Medicare claims database will be detailed to understand the impact of the pandemic on total hip and knee arthroplasty in the United States.

Learning Objectives:

1. To understand the latest data-driven protocols that enable elective hip and knee arthroplasty with optimal safety for surgeons, surgical teams and patients.

2. To understand the latest strategies to minimize personal contact during patient care including telemedicine and early discharge outpatient environments.

3. To understand the latest safe strategies in efficient office throughput and surgical and operating room efficiency to care for the COVID-induced backlog of elective TJA patients.

4. To understand what Medicare claims data reveals about the impact of COVID-19 on total joint arthroplasty.

Outline:

Introduction
R. Michael Meneghini, MD

Perioperative Medical and Surgical COVID Issues: Keeping Surgeons, OR Teams and Patients Safe!
James I. Huddleston III, MD

Techniques and Strategies to Optimize Efficiencies in the Office and OR: Getting Through the Patient Backlog
R. Michael Meneghini, MD

Leveraging Early Discharge and Telehealth Technology to Safely Conserve Resources and Minimize Personal Contact
James A. Browne, MD

What Comprehensive Medicare Claims Data Reveals About the Impact of COVID-19 on Total Hip and Knee Arthroplasty
C. Lowry Barnes, MD

Discussion
All Faculty