



AAMS 9th Annual Spring Symposium Marks 20 Years of Commitment to Education

The Armenian American Medical Society (AAMS) held its 9th annual CME/CDE Spring Symposium Saturday, May 21, at the Universal Sheraton Hotel. The day-long symposium featured a variety of medical and dental

educational updates on a wide variety of medical and dental topics, including cardiology, caring for the LGBTQ+ community, pain management, employment law, and anxiety and depression.

Garni Barkhoudarian, MD, FAANS, AAMS President, kicked off the event by welcoming the nearly 120 symposium participants. “This is the first in-person symposium the AAMS has held since 2019,” according to Dr. Barkhoudarian. “It’s good to be back. Nothing compares to being in a room together. There’s a sense of camaraderie that you can’t replicate via a computer monitor.”

Vicken Sepilian, MD, FACOG, AAMS CME Chair, and past president, recapped the continuing education program’s growth since its inception in 2002. “This year, the AAMS surpassed the 500 CME credit landmark,” noted Dr. Sepilian. “We’ve been able to reach this milestone, in part, because of the committee members who have nurtured and cultivated this program over the past 20 years. This year’s planning committee is no exception. I want to thank them for their diligence in crafting a thoughtful and relevant program for our members.” Dr. Sepilian also recognized and expressed gratitude to Dr. Armen Cherik whose efforts led to the AAMS being accredited to provide CME to its members.

The AAMS has extended its educational reach, working with major education granting bodies in Armenia, including the Ministry of Health, the NIH in Armenia, and Yerevan State Medical University. The AAMS has also provided the CME activities for multiple international Armenian Medical World Congresses and the International Medical Congresses of Armenia.

In addition to educating the healthcare community, the AAMS had the foresight to initiate community education programs in tandem, echoing the same messaging. The AAMS uses numerous vehicles to deliver health-related education to the community, including its television program, “Your Health,” and the annual Glendale Health Festival.

AAMS CME/CDE Planning Committee

Medical

Chair: Vicken Sepilian, MD, FACOG
Arsinee Kalfayan, PharmD
Garnii Barkhoudarian, MD, FAANS
Sherwin Hariri, MD, FAAAAI, FAAAAI
Hasmik Keyribarian
Armond Kotikian, DDS, MD, FACS
Arthur Ohannessian, MD

Dental

Chair: Armond Kotikian, DDS, MD, FACS
Michael Aznavour, DDS
Narine Danielian, DDS
Rene Ghotanian, DDS, MSc
Sako Karakozian, DDS

Talar Tejirian, MD, FACS
Astkhik Zakian, PharmD

Symposium Quiz Tests Members' Knowledge. Who was Victorious?

At the close of Saturday's symposium, the event shifted gears to fun and games. Dr. Barkhoudarian moderated a quiz testing participants on their knowledge of the AAMS and the material presented during the symposium. Contestants not only battled for bragging rights but also prizes including Apple AirPods and AirTags sponsored by the First Citizens Bank.

And the winners are...



First Place
Anna Arabyan, PharmD



Second Place
Talar Tejirian, MD



Third Place
Marianne Demirdji, DDS

THE AAMS THANKS OUR DISTINGUISHED PANEL OF SYMPOSIUM SPEAKERS

Anna Arabyan, PharmD

Azniv Ksachikyan, Esq.

Hripsime Avagyan, DO

Dr. Ramella Markarian

Harry Balian, MD, FACC, FSCAI

Edgar Martirosyan, Esq.

Jouliana Davoudi Chegani, DDS, MS

Lara Shirikjian, DO

Martina Elenkova DDS, MDM, MDS

Alen Voskanian, MD, MBA

Eric J. Kezirian, MD, MPH

Astkhik Zakian, PharmD

See the Faces from the Symposium The Photo Gallery is Just a Click Away



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TO OUR EXHIBITORS

PRODUCT THEATER

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SILVER LEVEL EXHIBITOR

First Citizens Bank – Piunik Shabani, Rick Lam and Ann Galdjian

EXHIBITORS

Abbott – Barton Muhlfeld

Abbie – Marcus West

CVRx – Chris Craigo & Paige Smith

ED Biomedical, Inc. – Ed Acob

Johnson & Johnson – Melanie Baghoumian and Katrine Davtyan

Terumo Medical – Klauss Endrissat

Trust & Estate Realty – Arsen Kobramasihi