

NASS SPRING BREAK 2009: BACK TO REALITY

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



April 23-25, 2009
Rio Mar Beach Resort
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

Registration Deadline:
April 2, 2009

SPRINGBREAK
NASS '09

DEAR SPINE CARE PROFESSIONALS:

On behalf of the North American Spine Society Spring Break Program Committee, we invite you to attend **Spring Break 2009: Back to Reality** to be held April 23-25, 2009 in beautiful **Rio Grande, Puerto Rico**. NASS' Spring Break promises to be a high-energy interactive meeting focusing on controversial and non-traditional topics. This meeting continues to be different from the typical meeting format. Look forward to interactive symposia and debate sessions, as well as opportunities for physicians to share current information and concepts relating to spinal problems in an open, interactive relaxed atmosphere.

NASS Spring Break will be held at one of Puerto Rico's finest resorts—the Rio Mar Beach Resort and Spa. This resort, nestled in a lush hideaway on the “Isle of Enchantment,” was created to pamper and impress. The Rio Mar offers breathtaking ocean views, two championship golf courses, tennis, one mile of secluded beach, two oceanfront swimming pools, and an array of water sports. Be sure to visit the exclusive Mandara Spa with fitness center, and don't forget about the on-site casino. There is truly something for everyone!

Join your colleagues for Spring Break 2009: Back to Reality. It will be a NASS meeting unlike any you've ever attended!

Ray M. Baker, MD
Kenneth S. Yonemura, MD
Program Co-chairs

Program Committee

Charles L. Branch, MD
Jeffrey C. Wang, MD
Alexander J. Ghanayem, MD
Venu Akuthota, MD
Christopher J. Standaert, MD
Reginald Q. Knight, MD
Louis G. Jenis, MD
Daniel Fassett, MD
Jerome Schofferman, MD



MEETING DESCRIPTION

The meeting's theme "Back to Reality" will focus on three patient populations that spine professionals are faced with in reality every day: the Active Spine, the Working Spine, and the Aging Spine. Each day will be devoted to one of these groups, and the symposia will examine gold standards of treatment and cost-effective healthcare for each population.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

The purpose of Spring Break is to:

- Evaluate the spectrum of non-operative and operative treatment options in the target populations of the active, working, and aging spine.
- Debate controversies related to care in these same populations.
- Examine the unique issues relevant to these specific patient populations.
- Consider situations where the gold standard of patient care and the most cost-effective health care are in conflict.
- Assess the role of new technologies relative to their efficacy and cost.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The meeting is open to the multidisciplinary spine care community, including orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons, radiologists, physiatrists, pain management specialists, anesthesiologists, psychologists, chiropractors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, physical therapists, researchers, administrators and all other health care professionals with an abiding interest in the spine.

ABOUT NASS

NASS is a multidisciplinary medical organization dedicated to fostering the highest quality, evidence-based, and ethical spine care by promoting education, research and advocacy. Since its start in 1985, NASS has grown to 5,000 members in 24 spine-related specialties. NASS fulfills its mission to advance spine care through a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of spine providers.

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) CREDIT

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essentials and Standards of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The North American Spine Society is accredited with commendation by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians and takes responsibility for the content, quality and scientific integrity of this CME activity.

NASS designates this educational activity for a maximum of 15.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.* Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**15.25 credits is based on the preliminary agenda; the final number will be determined and published once the program is finalized in January 2009.*

CME CERTIFICATES/EVALUATIONS

Meeting evaluations will be submitted electronically and CME certificates can be printed once the evaluations have been completed. A Web link for the evaluation and certificate will be e-mailed to all registered attendees immediately after the meeting. Once the meeting evaluation is completed, attendees will be able to print CME certificates.

DISCLAIMER

The material presented at Spring Break 2009 is made available by the North American Spine Society for educational purposes only. The material is not intended to represent the only, nor necessarily the best, method or procedure appropriate for the medical situations discussed; rather, it is intended to present an approach, view, statement or opinion of the faculty, which may be helpful to others who face similar situations. NASS disclaims any and all liability for injury or other damages to any individual attending the meeting and for all claims which may arise out of the use of the techniques demonstrated therein by such individuals, whether these claims shall be asserted by physicians or any other person. On occasion, slight changes in program content or faculty may occur after the Preliminary Program has been distributed. The Final Program will contain confirmed program content, faculty and presenters. Any further changes from the published Final Program will be announced at the beginning of the session.

DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

As a sponsor accredited by the ACCME, the North American Spine Society must ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all its sponsored activities. Therefore, anyone speaking at Spring Break must provide disclosure of potential conflicts of interest. Disclosure information will be made available orally and visually on a PowerPoint® slide before the presentation begins and in the Final Program.

FDA Disclosure

If a device or drug requiring FDA approval is identified as an important component of a presentation, the authors must indicate the FDA status of those devices or drugs as Approved, Investigational or Not Approved for distribution within the United States. The Final Program will include all FDA status information.

Certain medical devices and drugs identified at the NASS Spring Break may have FDA clearance for use for specific purposes only, or for use in restricted research settings. The FDA has stated it is the responsibility of the physician to determine the FDA status of each drug or device he or she wishes to use in clinical practice and to use these products in compliance with applicable law.

Commercial Support Disclosure

All individuals participating in a sponsored activity are expected to disclose to the activity audience any significant financial interest or other relationship (1) with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in an educational presentation and (2) with any commercial supporters of the activity. (Significant financial interest or other relationships may include: grants or research support, employee, consultant, major stockholder, member of the speaker's bureau, etc.) The Final Program will indicate whether the authors have this type of relationship.

The intent of this disclosure is to ensure that all conflicts of interest, if any, have been identified and have been resolved prior to the speaker's presentation. By doing so, the North American Spine Society has determined that the speaker's or author's interests or relationships have not influenced the presentation with regard to exposition or conclusion; nor does the Society view the existence of these interests or commitments as necessarily implying bias or decreasing the value of the presentation.

New Disclosure Policy

In October 2008, the NASS Board of Directors approved a new disclosure policy. The new policy requires speakers to not only define the type of relationship and the organization with which that relationship exists, but also the exact amount of financial and non-financial remuneration provided as a result of that relationship. Spring Break 2009 will be the first NASS meeting to utilize the new disclosure method. Please go to www.spine.org to view the policy in its entirety.

PRESENTER INFORMATION

Speaker Ready Room

Trained staff will be available to assist with any audiovisual needs. It is REQUIRED that each speaker visit the Speaker Ready Room located in Caribbean Ballroom – Salon 1 to submit their presentation materials or convey any last minute requests at least 3 hours prior to the scheduled session start time. Speakers will not be permitted to use their own laptops for their presentations.

The Speaker Ready Room will be open according to the following schedule:

Wednesday	2:00–6:00 p.m.
Thursday	6:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Friday	6:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Saturday	6:30–9:30 a.m.

Paper Presenters

Please note that you have five minutes to present your paper in a digital format such as PowerPoint® or Keynote. This will be an electronic-only meeting. The presentations will be restricted to a maximum of 20 slides; no exceptions will be made.

Special Note to all Speakers

If you are unable to present at your designated time, you must send someone in your place. Please contact Karly Senesac immediately by phone at (630) 230-3666, by e-mail at kzenesac@spine.org if there is a change in presenters.

EXHIBIT HALL

See the latest in technology, products and services from companies who can help you manage your professional goals and strategic objectives.

Exhibit Hall Hours:

Thursday, April 23	6:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Friday, April 24	6:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 25	6:45–10:00 a.m.

Absolutely no cameras are allowed in the Exhibit Hall! Violators will be removed from the premises and cameras will be confiscated.

WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception marks the official start of Spring Break on Wednesday, April 22 from 6:30–8:00 p.m. on the Sea Breeze Terrace.

REGISTRATION

All registrations are processed electronically. Go to www.spine.org to register for Spring Break today. Note: Participation is limited to the first 300 registrants.

Hotel

Rio Mar Beach Resort
6000 Rio Mar Boulevard
Rio Grande, PR 00745
Main Telephone: (877) 636-0636

Hotel Reservations

Once your Spring Break registration is processed, you will be provided with a link to electronically secure your hotel accommodations online. Hotel rooms may NOT be reserved until you have registered for the meeting. Hotel reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. The official cut-off date for the group rate is March 18, 2009. After that date, the resort may have availability; however, the discounted hotel rate will no longer apply. There are instances where the room block will sell out prior to the cutoff date.

NASS will continuously check the housing list to ensure that those with hotel reservations are also officially registered and reserves the right to cancel housing reservations that do not meet these criteria.

Reservation Methods are as follows:

Online: Housing link will be provided once your meeting registration has been processed and paid.

Telephone: (416) 203-2500 or (866) 371-0398

Hotel Room Rates & Fees

Standard Hotel Room: \$229.00

Ocean View Room: \$259.00

Group room rate applies to single/double occupancy and is subject to Puerto Rico Accommodation tax, which is currently 11%. There is an additional charge of \$40.00 per day for each additional person eighteen (18) years and over in the room. This group rate will be extended up to three (3) nights prior and three (3) nights after above stated program dates, subject to group room and rate availability. Any dates outside of the pre and post dates shall be extended at the prevailing published rate.

Resort Fee

In addition, all room rates are subject to a resort fee of 14%, which includes: toll-free long distance and local calls, internal resort transportation, unlimited use of health club, in-room coffee and tea, daily beach and pool amenities, "New York Times fax" daily delivery, \$10.00 casino match play per person, laptop-size in-room digital safe, complimentary high-speed wireless internet (WiFi) in lobby area, and unlimited driving range golf balls.

TOURS

To make reservations for one of the exciting tours being offered please call (877) 636-0636 or go to <http://wyndhamriomar.com/grouptours/>.

AIRPORT SHUTTLE SERVICES

To arrange airport transfers/shuttle service (reservations must be made at least 24 hours in advance), call (787) 888-6000, ext. 83 or go to <http://www.wyndhamriomar.com/location.html>.

Wednesday, April 22	
12:00–6:00 p.m.	Attendee Registration
6:30–8:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception—Sea Breeze Terrace

Thursday, April 23 Day Theme: The Active Spine	
6:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.	Registration
6:45–7:15 a.m.	Breakfast and Exhibits
7:15–7:20 a.m.	Welcome Remarks <i>Ray Baker, MD and Ken Yonemura, MD</i>
7:20–7:50 a.m.	EBM Debate <i>Moderator: Jerome Schofferman, MD</i>
7:50–9:05 a.m.	Symposium: Cervical Stenosis <i>Moderator: Dan Fassett, MD</i>
9:05–9:45 a.m.	Papers*
9:45–10:15 a.m.	Break and Exhibits
10:15–11:30 a.m.	Symposium: Athletic Adolescent Spines <i>Moderator: Chris Standaert, MD</i>
11:30 a.m.–12:10 p.m.	Papers*
12:10–1:10 p.m.	Lunch and Exhibits
1:10–2:25 p.m.	Symposium: Lumbar Disc Herniation <i>Moderator: Ken Yonemura, MD</i>
2:25 p.m.	Day Adjourns

**Paper presentation sessions on all days will consist of five papers, each with a five-minute presentation, followed by 10 minutes of discussion.*

Friday, April 24		Day Theme: The Working Spine
6:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Registration	
6:45–7:15 a.m.	Breakfast and Exhibits	
7:15–7:20 a.m.	Announcements	
7:20–8:35 a.m.	Symposium: EBM and the Injured Worker <i>Moderator: Jerome Schofferman, MD</i>	
8:35–9:15 a.m.	Papers*	
9:15–9:45 a.m.	Break and Exhibits	
9:45–11:00 a.m.	Symposium: Patient Selection with Injured Workers <i>Moderator: Alex Ghanayem, MD</i>	
11:00–11:40 a.m.	Papers*	
11:40 a.m.–12:25 p.m.	Lunch and Exhibits	
12:25–1:40 p.m.	Symposium: Return to Work Issues <i>Moderator: Venu Akuthota, MD</i>	
1:40 p.m.	Day Adjourns	

Saturday, April 25		Day Theme: The Aging Spine
6:30 a.m.–12:05 p.m.	Registration	
6:45–7:15 a.m.	Breakfast and Exhibits	
7:15–7:20 a.m.	Announcements	
7:20–7:30 a.m.	Economics Discussion <i>Moderator: Ray Baker, MD</i>	
7:30–8:10 a.m.	Papers*	
8:10–9:25 a.m.	Symposium: Compression Fractures <i>Moderator: Charles L. Branch, Jr., MD</i>	
9:25–9:55 a.m.	Break and Exhibits	
9:55–10:35 a.m.	Papers*	
10:35–12:05 p.m.	Symposium: Symposium: Adjusting Treatments in the Osteoporotic Spine and Novel Technologies in the Aging Spine <i>Moderator: Warren Yu, MD</i>	
12:05 p.m.	Meeting Adjourns	



7075 Veterans Blvd.
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