AMERICAN FOREGUT SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2025

Join the AFS Community Now on SurgeOn!

The mission of the American Foregut Society has always been to improve the diagnosis and management of foregut disease through meaningful collaboration between gastroenterologists and foregut surgeons. That's why we're excited to announce our new partnership with SurgeOn—a secure digital platform built to foster deeper connections and expand access to high-quality education across specialties.

This community serves as a hub for AFS members to engage in meaningful case-based discussions, share challenging or unique clinical cases, and tap into the collective expertise of our diverse membership.

JOIN NOW AND SEE WHAT'S NEW

Missed the Webinar?

Evaluation of GERD in the Bariatric Patient: What You Need to Know

On May 21, AFS hosted its webinar Evaluation of GERD in the Bariatric Patient, featuring a multidisciplinary panel of experts—Dr. Leena Khatkar, Dr. Anthony Stanzyk, and Dr. Michael Lipke, moderated by Dr. Anh Nguyen. The session provided a case-based review of best practices for pre- and post-bariatric surgery evaluation of reflux, while also highlighting key knowledge gaps in managing this common surgical complication.

If you were unable to attend or would like to revisit the conversation, the recording is now available.

LISTEN ON-DEMAND (coming soon)

Fellow of the American Foregut Society (FAFS)

Submit your nomination for the title of Fellow of the American Foregut Society (FAFS). This honor recognizes members' commitment to excellence and their achievements in foregut disorders.

All nominations must be submitted by July 1, 2025.

LEARN MORE HERE

Record-Breaking Abstract Submissions for the 2025 AFS Annual Meeting

We're excited to share that AFS received a record number of abstract submissions for the 2025 Annual Meeting—.80 in total! The review process is now underway. Selected abstracts will be assigned as poster presentations, with the highest-ranked submissions invited for oral (podium) presentations. We look forward to showcasing this outstanding research and innovation in foregut disease at our meeting this September.

AFS Annual Meeting Whova App Launches June 11

We're excited to share that the AFS Annual Meeting will once again use the Whova mobile app!
The app will be available to registered attendees and includes all meeting details—schedules, session info, speaker bios, and more.

Reminder: We are paperless, so all event information will be in the app.

Be sure to download Whova before the meeting
(Download on Google | Download on Apple)

Don't Forget to Register for the 2025 Annual Meeting!

The American Foregut Society is thrilled to invite you to the 2025 Annual Meeting, happening September 11-13 at the Gaylord Texan in Dallas, TX, with optional Post-Graduate courses happening on September 10. This year, we're Better Together as we partner with The Upper GI International Robotic Association (UGIRA), which will host its annual meeting on September 13-14, 2025. Join us for a collaborative day on Saturday, September 13!

REGISTER HERE

Robotics Mentorship Program Now Accepting Participants

AFS is proud to offer a unique Robotics Mentorship Program designed for surgeons with moderate experience in foregut surgery and foundational training with the Da Vinci robotic system. This six-month, mentored pathway provides a structured curriculum to support participants in advancing their robotic foregut surgical skills. The program includes in-person and remote case observations, proctoring, and access to advanced courses offered by Intuitive. Mentees will be paired with a dedicated AFS mentor for consistent, personalized guidance and will benefit from shared learning and professional networking opportunities throughout the experience. Commitment to developing expertise in both foregut and robotics is required.

APPLY TODAY

Trainee Membership Grant

1 Year AFS Membership & Registration to Annual Meeting

APPLY TODAY

Motility and pH Testing Equipment Grant

The AFS in collaboration with Laborie has launched a Motility and pH testing equipment grant. This grant provides one compact motility system and one alpHaONE wireless pH receiver for up to three sites.

Laborie contribution to up to 3 sites:

- Motility system x1
- AlphaOne system x1

Institution contribution:

- Purchase 1 reusable motility catheter (at minimum)
- Purchase Alpha One capsules as needed
- Commit/train sufficient GI lab personnel to conduct testing as detailed below

AFS contribution:

- Review and choose up to 3 sites to participate in the grant program
- Facilitate communication between chosen sites and Laborie for execution of the grant
- AFS Mentorship- during the 2-year grant, participants will have a remote mentor assigned to be available for non-urgent questions regarding editing, reporting, interpreting motility and pH studies.

Criteria for Eligibility:

- Surgeon or GI to be primary supervisor of motility devices
  - Supervise operator of the motility testing for high quality tests and reading
  - If Surgeon or GI has no experience with manometry / pH reading, need to prove having been to at least one training or proctoring session for pH and manometry or to have been fellowship trained with exposure to manometry and pH reading
- Surgery / GI collaboration
  - Preference for Foregut trained surgeon and motility / advanced GI with AFS membership
  - Preference given to programs demonstrating GI/Surgeon collaboration
- No current access to reflux / manometry testing
  - These devices will be new to the institution
  - Needs to show a commitment to receive training for the operator and supervising parties (IE Laborie clinical education to all parties involved with the devices)
- Mentorship- Mentee and Mentor
  - Both the GI and the Surgeon involved to be a mentee
- Provide data entry to the AFS database.
  - Participants agree to enter appropriate data into the AFS QIP database.
- Institution support to provide personnel for operating the testing devices
  - AlphaOne devices are deployed with endoscopy. Must have access to endoscopy suite or ambulatory surgery center with endoscopy access
  - pH devices require a space available to house the tower, buffer solution, catheters and tubes and processing for sterilization.
  - Personnel identified as the operator for testing IE APP or dedicated endo/GI RN with physician supervision.
  - Institution commitment to follow and replenish inventory
  - *Can consider a commitment letter from the Division chief or Department chair to provide support for developing a foregut testing center.*
- Provide a business plan to show intended use and growth once devices are in place
- Provide an intended timeline to mas growth with alphaOne and motility devices once in place
- Provide a written summary at 6 months, 1 year and 2 years to show progress of motility center and how it impacts care in their system for patients with foregut disease.
- *Will consider having the hospital leadership also provide written summary for how introduction of this system affects their healthcare system or hospital.*

Laborie to provide to each of the chosen sites:

1. **On-Site Installation and Training:**
   When a Solar GI system is ordered, a technical representative will visit the center to install the equipment and ensure everything is set up correctly.
2. **Clinical Training with Live Cases:**
   Following installation, we coordinate with the center to schedule live cases. During these sessions, a clinical representative provides hands-on training for the physicians, focusing on the practical aspects of operating the system software effectively.
3. **Remote Support and Education:**
   To supplement on-site training, we offer the capability to remotely log in to the system. This allows us to provide additional training, troubleshooting, and ongoing support as needed.

FILL OUT GRANT FORM HERE

Industry Event Highlight

Don't Miss the Biggest Digestive Health Symposium of the Year!

Register today for the 2025 Hoag Digestive Health Symposium on September 26-28 in Newport Beach, California. Led by Dr. Kenneth Chang, the Executive Medical Director of Hoag's Digestive Health Institute, this event features live cases, expert presentations, interactive panels, and a hands-on endoscopic session.

Hear from global leaders, including keynote speaker Dr. Haruhiro Inoue, Professor & Chairman at Showa University Koto Toyosu Hospital, Tokyo Japan.

Register before July 11 to receive 20% off published registration fees!

LEARN MORE HERE

**This event is shared as part of a marketing partnership with Hoag to keep our community informed about relevant opportunities. While it is not sponsored by the American Foregut Society (AFS), we're happy to help spread the word!*

Stay Connected – Explore the New AFS Calendar

We're excited to launch a brand-new calendar feature on the AFS website—your go-to source for all upcoming AFS events, committee activities, and various industry highlights. Whether you're looking to join an upcoming webinar, listen to an episode of our podcast, or plan ahead for society events, the AFS calendar makes it easier than ever to stay informed and engaged.

Bookmark it, check it often, and never miss a beat!

VISIT CALENDAR

Shop the Official Merch Store

Show your AFS pride with professional apparel and gear from our Merchology store. Whether you're in the office, attending a conference, or keeping it casual, you'll find options that let you represent AFS in style. Explore the collection today!

LET'S GO SHOPPING

MEMBERSHIP FOR FREE AFS MEMBERSHIP

Get a FREE Membership with the AFS Membership Grant!

The AFS Foundation will give a limited number of grants each year to cover AFS membership fee for trainees.

APPLY HERE

This email was sent to prudhvi.cabalu@crystal.com by kate@foregut.org
American Foregut Society | 1601 Utica Ave. S, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416, United States - 312.618.0992
Remove My Email or Manage Preferences - Privacy Policy
powered by MemberClicks