

# ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting

## Post-Conference Report

*April 25-28, 2018 • Hilton Chicago • Chicago, Illinois*





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## Executive Summary

The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) hosted its 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, April 25-28, 2018. The meeting had record breaking attendance with over 620 participants including registered delegates, exhibitors and other corporate representatives from 29 countries. Conference delegates included Physicians/PhDs (38%), Allied Health Professionals (31%), and Industry Professionals (31%).

The Apheresis Review Session took place as a pre-conference activity at the Hilton Chicago on April 25<sup>th</sup>. A number of expert speakers came together to provide an overview of the theory and applications of apheresis medicine to help apheresis professionals prepare for the Qualification in Apheresis (QIA) exam offered by the ASCP Board of Certification. With 138 participants and a series of informative lectures, the Review Session was a great success.

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting provided a number of exciting features including a 5K Fun Run with proceeds benefiting Camp One Step by Children's Oncology Services, two dinner symposiums, delegate tour of Northwestern & Lurie Children's Hospital, the Vascular Access Tips & Tricks hands on Education Session, and an offsite networking event at the Art Institute of Chicago which was generously supported by Fresenius Kabi.

101 abstracts were submitted to the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting. The abstracts were graded by the Abstracts Committee and those accepted were published in the Journal of Clinical Apheresis. The People's Choice Poster Abstract Award returned for its third year. Delegates had the opportunity to vote for the best poster and the winner was announced at the ASFA Annual Business Meeting.

The following five abstract awards were presented:

- Allied Health Abstract Award (*Sarah Angela R. Anonuevo-Yuvienco, BSN, RN*)
- Best Abstract Award (*Curtis Jones, BS*)
- Best Abstract Award (*Ruchika Goel, MD, MPH*)
- Junior Investigator Abstract Award (*Manasa Reddy, MD*)
- People's Choice Poster Abstract Award (*Danica Uzelac, RN, BSN, CCRC*)

To honor outstanding individuals in the field of apheresis, the following ASFA society awards were presented:

- Francis S. Morrison Lecture Award (*Don L. Siegel, PhD, MD*)
- Lecturer Award (*Anand Padmanabhan, MD, PhD, QIA*)
- Presidential Award (*Haewon Kim, MD*)
- SHS Award (*Eileen Galvin Karr, RN, BSN, HP(ASCP)*)

The ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting received generous support from four corporate sponsors and 21 exhibitors. The corporate sponsors held various symposia, focus groups and gave unrestricted grants for the educational program and awards.

Overall, ASFA's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was a great success. We are excited to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon from May 15-18, 2019 at the Hilton Portland. We hope to see you there to celebrate this milestone!

## Introduction

The American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) officially formed in 1981 and has been the proud host of 39 highly successful scientific conferences. The annual meeting is the only one of its kind that offers a focus on apheresis medicine in both the donor and patient settings. It is a key educational and networking event for physicians, scientists and allied health professionals in the field of apheresis medicine.

## Apheresis Review Session

The Apheresis Review Session took place as a pre-conference activity at the Hilton Chicago in Chicago, Illinois on April 25<sup>th</sup>. 138 registered delegates participated in this important educational activity. The Review Session provided a basic overview of the theory and applications of apheresis medicine. Experts in the field provided a broad overview of each of the topics and participants had an opportunity to work with various case studies. The Review Session served as a preparatory course for the Qualification in Apheresis (QIA) Exam, offered by ASCP and also covered the steps necessary to apply, test, and become Qualified in Apheresis. New this year, delegates could attend the Apheresis Review Session at no additional cost provided they take the QIA Exam after the Review Session.

## Conference Program

The ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting Scientific and Educational Program covered all aspects of apheresis medicine over the span of three days (April 26-28, 2018). The 2018 Organizing Committee structured the meeting to provide delegates with a roadmap of apheresis from the most basic overview to the innovations and advances in the field today. The scientific sessions were carefully selected around apheresis in solid organ transplantation and featured world-renowned speakers who are experts in the areas of heart, lung, liver, and kidney transplantation.

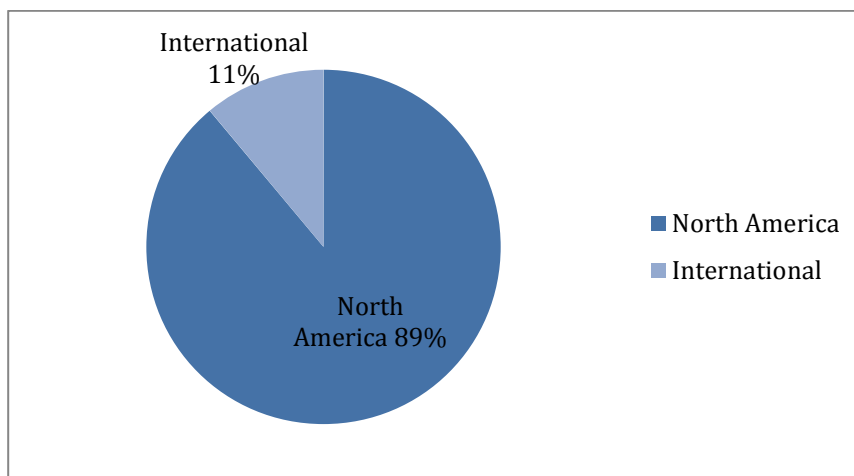
Please review the [ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting Program](#) for a complete summary of the presentations given and note that the majority of [conference presentation slides](#) are now available online.

## Participation Statistics

The ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting attracted approximately 620 delegates from 29 countries. Approximately 89% of the attendees originated from North America while about 11% traveled from another region. Please see Table 1 and Figure 1 for more detail. **Table 1 – Delegate Breakdown by Region**

Delegate Breakdown by Region		
Region	Number of Delegates	Percentage of Total
North America	554	88.92%
Asia	4	0.64%
Australia/New Zealand	7	1.12%
Europe	37	5.93%
Middle East	7	1.12%
South America	14	2.24%

**Figure 1 – Delegate Breakdown by Region**

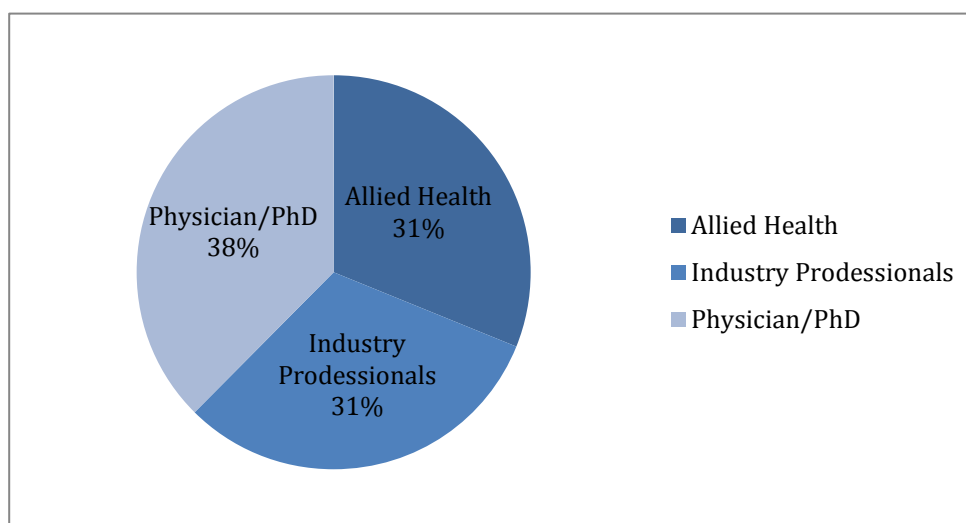


The ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting delegates were made up of physicians/PhDs, allied health professionals and industry professionals who practice donor or therapeutic apheresis medicine. Please refer to Table 2 and Figure 2 for more detail.

**Table 2 – Delegate Breakdown by Profession**

Delegate Breakdown by Profession		
Profession	Number of Delegates	Percentage of Total
Allied Health	194	31.14%
Physician/PhD	234	37.56%
Industry Professionals	195	31.30%

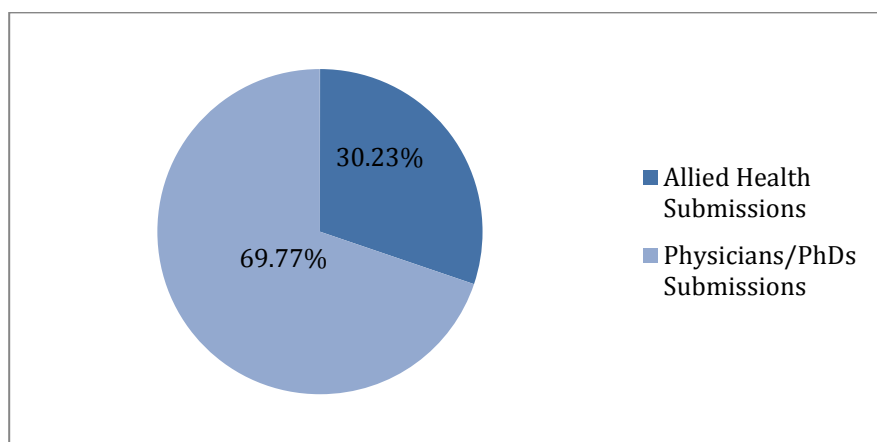
**Figure 2 – Delegate Breakdown by Profession**



## Abstract Submission

A total of 101 abstracts were submitted for presentation at the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting. Eight abstracts were selected to be presented during the Plenary Abstract Session; 16 abstracts were selected for the Oral Concurrent Sessions and 71 abstracts were chosen as poster presentations. Of the 101 abstracts, 69.77% were submitted by physicians/PhDs and 30.23% by allied health professionals (refer to Figure 3). The submitted abstracts were based on all aspects of apheresis medicine, including but not limited to research, clinical, educational, and administrative topics and projects. All of the accepted abstracts were published in the Journal of Clinical Apheresis.

**Figure 3 – Abstract Submission by Profession**



## Abstract Awards

ASFA is pleased to offer five best abstract awards. The Abstracts Committee was responsible for grading all of the submitted abstracts and determining the recipients of most of the awards at the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting. All accepted poster abstracts were eligible for the People's Choice Poster Abstract Award where delegates had the opportunity to vote for the best poster.

The Allied Health Abstract Award is given to the primary author of an outstanding abstract submitted by an allied health professional who is a member of ASFA. This year's recipient was Sarah Angela R. Anonuevo-Yuvienco, BSN, RN for the abstract titled *'IS ASPIRIN HELPFUL TO PREVENT PLATELET CLUMPING DURING HEALTHY DONOR MNC/HPC COLLECTIONS USING THE OPTIA CMNC PLATFORM?'*

The Best Abstract Awards are given to the primary authors of two outstanding abstracts. This year's recipients were Curtis Jones, BS for the abstract titled *'NORMAL PLASMA IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN 5% ALBUMIN FOR HIT TREATMENT IN AN IN VITRO MODEL OF TPE'* and Ruchika Goel, MD, MPH for the abstract titled *'NATIONWIDE PRACTICES IN THERAPEUTIC PLASMA EXCHANGE IN HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS: 2010-2014.'*

The Junior Investigator Abstract Award is given to the primary author of an outstanding abstract submitted by a junior investigator who is a member of ASFA. This year's recipient was Manasa Reddy, MD for the abstract titled *'COMPARISON OF STANDARD VERSUS LOW DOSE RITUXIMAB TO TREAT ACUTE THROMBOTIC THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA AND TO PREVENT RELAPSE DURING REMISSION.'*

The ASFA Abstracts Committee continued to offer the People's Choice Poster Abstract Award at this year's Annual Meeting. Meeting delegates voted for the poster they believed to be the best and the People's Choice Poster Abstract Award was presented at the Annual General Meeting. This year's recipient was Danica Uzelac, RN BSN CCRC for the abstract titled '*EXTRACORPOREAL PHOTOPHERESIS KIT PACKAGING: A UNIQUE, SINGLE ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER USE OF RECYCLABLES.*'

## Society Awards

ASFA presented four individuals with society awards for outstanding work in both apheresis medicine and within the society at the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting.

The Francis S. Morrison, MD Memorial Lecture Award is presented to an individual that has made a lasting difference in apheresis on a national level. This award was first created to keep alive and honor the memory of Francis S. Morrison, MD, a leading apheresis professional. This year it was presented to Don L. Siegel, PhD, MD.

The Lecturer Award is bestowed upon a member of the Society who has consistently contributed to the Society as a speaker, teacher, or mentor. This year the award was presented to Anand Padmanabhan, MD, PhD, QIA.

The Presidential Award is bestowed upon a member of the Society who has consistently made major contributions to, and performed outstanding service for the Society over a number of years. This year it was presented to Haewon Kim, MD.

The SHS Award commemorates the pioneering efforts of the Society for Hemapheresis Specialists which have culminated in the high standards and sophistication which characterize the field of American apheresis. Its recipient is a hemapheresis specialist who has demonstrated sincere commitment to apheresis and who has emerged as a leader and role model in the field. This year the award was presented to Eileen Galvin Karr, RN, BSN, HP(ASCP)



## Supporters and Exhibitors

The ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting supporters, symposia supporters and exhibitors are listed below.

### Conference Support

Keynote Level Supporter

# TERUMOBCT

Unlocking the Potential of Blood

Platinum Level Supporter



Bronze Level Supporter

# *Baxter*

Symposia and Focus Group Support



# TERUMOBCT

Unlocking the Potential of Blood





## 5K Fun Run Support



## Award Supporter



## Exhibitors

The following organizations exhibited at the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting:

- AccuVein
- Alexion Pharmaceuticals
- Angiodynamics
- Baxter Healthcare
- BD (formerly Bard Peripheral Vascular)
- Fresenius Kabi USA, LLC
- Fresenius Medical Care/Apheresis Care Group
- Kaneka Pharma America, LLC
- Kite Pharma
- Machaon Diagnostics
- Macopharma
- Mallinckrodt
- Mallinckrodt, Medical Affairs
- Miltenyi Biotec
- Norfolk Medical Products, Inc.
- Octapharma
- Sanofi Genzyme
- Terumo BCT
- TrakCel
- UC San Diego
- University of Virginia

## Overall Conference Evaluation

A total of 334 attendees completed the online conference evaluation. Taking into account all aspects of the meeting, approximately 92% of the attendees rated the quality of the conference as "Excellent" or "Very Good". Almost all delegates felt the program met its stated objectives with approximately 93% of delegates stating that this activity will change the way they practice.

## ASFA 2018 Regional Meeting



ASFA is proud to announce that the 5th Regional Meeting of the American Society for Apheresis (ASFA) will take place September 7, 2018 at UC College of Medicine, Kresge Auditorium in Cincinnati, Ohio. The ASFA Regional Meeting was created in order to fulfill the unmet need for a smaller and more intimate apheresis educational meeting. The goals of this meeting are to provide improved topic-specific learning and an additional educational and networking opportunity for apheresis professionals, especially for those who may be unable to travel to the Annual Meeting.

The corporate opportunities are available on the [2018 Regional Meeting webpage](#). More information including the registration fees and preliminary program will be available next month.

## ASFA 2019 Annual Meeting



The 40<sup>th</sup> ASFA Annual Meeting will take place May 15-18, 2019 at the Hilton Portland Downtown Portland, Oregon. More information regarding corporate opportunities, abstract submission and pre-conference activities along with the preliminary program will be made available on the [2018 Annual Meeting webpage](#) throughout summer 2018.

We look forward to seeing you in Portland, Oregon for ASFA's 40<sup>th</sup> celebration!

## Conclusion

Overall, the ASFA 2018 Annual Meeting was a great success with a high number of abstract submissions and over 620 attendees representing 29-countries. ASFA provided an excellent forum for apheresis professionals to meet and discuss the past, present, and future of apheresis medicine. Through the symposia, exhibit hall and the comprehensive conference program, our delegates had ample opportunity to interact with both our corporate partners and fellow apheresis professionals.

The next meeting will be the ASFA Regional Meeting taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio while the next annual meeting will take place in Portland, Oregon. We look forward to seeing you again soon!