Technicians & Nurses Program

The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO®) is pleased to sponsor the Technicians & Nurses Program, May 4-6, 2019 at the San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA. IJCAHPO is the national certifying agency for allied ophthalmic personnel. Certification is available at 3 levels: assistant, technician, and medical technologist, along with subspecialty certifications available for surgical assisting, ultrasound biometrist, diagnostic sonographer, scribe certification, and corporate assistant. In pursuit of its mission, IJCAHPO also provides education, certification and services for allied ophthalmic personnel.

In addition to the IJCAHPO-sponsored Technicians & Nurses Program, ATPO® (Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology) is offering additional programs such as the COA/COT/COMT Certification Exam Review Sessions, the Train the Trainer program, and Who Wants to be a Super Tech? on Friday, May 3, at the San Diego Convention Center. Additional registration and fees apply.

Also, and NEW for 2019 – ASCRS and IJCAHPO are co-sponsoring Biometry Learning Labs on Friday, May 3. There are two lab sessions available (an AM session/and a PM session) to a limited number of attendees. Additional registration and fees apply. Please visit the ASCRS registration area, onsite, regarding ticket availability.

Registration for the main Technicians & Nurses program is separate from the following programs: ATPO’s Certification Exam Review Sessions, Train the Trainer, Who Wants to be a Super Tech? and the Biometry Learning Labs. Attendees must register and pay fees separate and independent of the main program. Please visit the registration desk outside of each of these session rooms for onsite ticket availability.

For the three-day Technician & Nurses Program, attendees do not register for each course independently. They can choose to attend individual courses from either of the two sessions, each day. There are no individual tickets sold for courses; your badge allows access to any of the courses in this two-track program.

A joint registration category is available for those interested in attending both the ASOA and Technicians & Nurses programs. Crossover between the ASOA and Technicians & Nurses programs will be permitted to those registered in the joint registration category only. Those registered solely for either the ASOA or Technicians & Nurses program will not be allowed to crossover. All registrants in either category are welcome to attend the ASCRS program.

Available handouts for the various programs are included in the Program app, as well as posted on the meeting web site.

Further information regarding the Technicians & Nurses Program, ATPO’s Certification Exam Review Sessions, Who Wants to be a Super Tech? and Train the Trainer, or IJCAHPO certification, is available by calling IJCAHPO at (800) 284-3937 or by visiting jcahpo.org.

Continuing Education Credit

All courses in the Technicians & Nurse Program have been approved for IJCAHPO (Group A) credits. Select courses are approved for CA BRN, OPS and AOC credits. Credits awarded appear in this Final Program. A maximum of 21 (IJCAHPO Group A) credits are available for this program.

Additionally, allied ophthalmic personnel can earn continuing education credits in IJCAHPO Group B by attending physician courses/symposia/paper sessions at ASCRS that are designated forAMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. The following criteria applies: COAs and COTs receive 1 credit for 2 hours attended; COMTs receive 1 credit for 1 hour attended.
SATURDAY, MAY 4

Technicians & Nurses Courses

Session A
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 33ABC

TNC-101  Testing for Premium IOLs – Highlighting the Importance of the Corneal Surface
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.  Sponsored by the Ophthalmic Photographers’ Society (OPS)

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC  1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Sarah Armstrong, CRA, OCT-C, FOPS  1.0 AOC-NC
Faculty: Kenneth L. Cohen, MD  0.5 OPS CEC (1:2)

Synopsis & Educational Value: Determining the proper Premium IOL can only be done with accurate test results. This course will discuss the way that a surgeon uses the test results to determine which lens to use and the best surgical method based on different types of patients. A special interest in the importance of the posterior corneal surface will be discussed. Tips for acquiring accurate test results will be reviewed.

TNC-102  Formulas, Formulas, and More Formulas: Keeping Up
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC  1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Rhonda Waldron, MMSc, COMT, CRA, ROUB  1.0 AOC-NC

Synopsis & Educational Value: IOL calculation formulas are changing at a rapid pace, not only for standard IOLs, but also for toric lenses and for patients who have had prior refractive surgery. This course will discuss the most highly recommended formulas for all three categories.

TNC-103  What is the Association Between Refractive Errors and Retinal Diseases?
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced                  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Michael W. Stewart, MD      1.0 AOC-NC
                      1.0 OPS CEC (1:1)

Synopsis & Educational Value: High magnitude refractive errors usually correlate with the eye’s axial length and both abnormally long (myopia) and short (hyperopia) axial lengths predispose to the development of pathologic retinal conditions. This course will discuss many of these conditions from a clinical perspective.

TNC-104     Optic Neuropathies
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced                  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Thomas Ableman, MD      1.0 AOC-NC
Faculty: Steven A. Newman, MD       0.5 OPS CEC (1:2)

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course features a didactic presentation of optic neuropathies including presentation, work-up, and management with emphasis on the role of allied health personnel in caring for these patients.

TNC-105     Sub-Specialty Session: Advances in Cataract Surgery
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced                  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Daniel H. Chang, MD     1.0 AOC-NC
Instructor: D. Brian Kim, MD
Instructor: Yuri McKee, MD

Synopsis & Educational Value: This session will feature a panel of speakers addressing the following cataract surgery topics: Femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery, miLOOP, Zepto, and phacoemulsification.

TNC-106     Sub-Specialty Session: Update in Retinal Therapies
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced                  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: William F. Mieler, MD     1.0 AOC-NC
Instructor: Michael W. Stewart, MD 1.0 OPS CEC (1:1)
Instructor: Christina Y. Weng, MD

Synopsis & Educational Value: This session will feature a panel of speakers addressing the following retinal therapy topics: Eylea, Avastin, Lucentis, and Jetrea; as well as retinal detachment repair.

**TNC-107 Mystery Retina 2019: Interactive Discussion of Challenging Cases**
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: William F. Mieler, MD 1.0 AOC-NC
Faculty: Christina Y. Weng, MD 1.0 OPS CEC (1:1)

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss several diagnostically challenging “mystery retina” cases. Many of the presentations will include interpretation of fluorescein angiography and OCT test results. When indicated, additional studies will be shown. The cases will be presented as unknown and audience participation will be encouraged.

**Session B**
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 32AB

**TNC-108 Medication Management the Right Way**
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Regina Boore, RN, BSN, MS, CASC 1.0 AOC-NC

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will review medication management practices in the ASC and their relationship to regulatory requirements and patient safety.

**TNC-109 Understanding Anesthesia for Outpatient Ophthalmic Surgery**
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: James W. Cage, MD 1.0 AOC-NC
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss the steps to prepare the patient for a safe and comfortable anesthetic experience during their ophthalmic procedure. It will emphasize the reasons behind what is done throughout the perioperative period and describe opportunities to strengthen the perioperative care team to help improve the patient’s experience, OR efficiency, and job satisfaction.

TNC-110 ASC Accreditation
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Victoria Samper, MS

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will provide a detailed review of the steps for obtaining ASC accreditation, requirements of accreditation, and common errors found during survey.

TNC-111 Sterile Processing: Best Practices
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Jeffrey Whitman, MD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will review the current recommendations for ophthalmic instrument cleaning and sterilization.

TNC-112 What’s New in Uveitis?
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Introductory
Instructor: Wendy M. Smith, MD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will use a case-based format to review the basics of uveitis as well as discuss current methods of diagnosing uveitis, including molecular techniques (PCR) and imaging modalities (OCT, autofluorescence, angiography), and newer ocular and systemic treatments.

TNC-113 Orbital Surgery: Indications and Techniques
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss the various orbital diseases and will use surgical video to highlight the different approaches to orbital surgery - including transcutaneous, transconjunctival, transcranial, and lateral orbitotomies. It will present advantages and disadvantages to each of these approaches, as well as indications for orbital surgery.

**TNC-114 Cranial Nerve Palsies: Which Ones the Technician Cannot Afford to Miss**
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course features a didactic presentation of interesting cases of cranial neuropathies with pearls and tips for the technician.

**SUNDAY, MAY 5**

**Technicians & Nurses Courses**

**Session A**
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 33ABC

**TNC-201 Blue Light: Science, Fact and Future**
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will explore the current scientific understanding of the implications of exposure to blue light for patients, explore innovation in related ophthalmic lens products, and consider the appropriate portrayal of both the blue light hazard and related lens products.
TNC-202   Ocular Motility Assessment Techniques
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Sharon Alamhodaei, COMT, OCS 1.0 AOC-CORE

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will demonstrate and discuss various ocular motility assessment techniques for examining patients and qualifying and quantifying defects. Techniques will include cover testing, Worth Four Dot, prism tests and more.

TNC-203   Graves’ Ophthalmopathy
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Andrea A. Tooley, MD 1.0 AOC-CORE

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will provide a general overview of Graves’ ophthalmopathy including the clinical findings of the various phenotypes of Graves’ ophthalmopathy and the multiple clinical grading systems to score disease activity. Treatment options including surgical procedures and new advances in medical therapy, as well as post-operative care and continued monitoring will also be discussed.

TNC-204   Sub-Specialty Session: Advances in Corneal Surgery
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Clara C. Chan, MD, FRCS 1.0 AOC-NC
Instructor: David R. Hardten, MD
Instructor: Soosan Jacob, FRCS, MS

Synopsis & Educational Value: This session will feature a panel of speakers to address the following corneal surgery topics: Corneal Allogenic Intra-Stromal Ring Segments with Corneal Cross-Linking, corneal inlays, and DMEK and DSEK.

TNC-205   Optimizing Patient Flow for Technicians & Nurses
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Synopsis & Educational Value: Patient flow can be a challenge for most; however, by applying a thoughtful and systematic approach, one can achieve their practice goals. This course will assist the technician/clinical staff with collaborating as a team to formulate simple solutions to complex problems; i.e., patent flow, while increasing morale, thinking outside the box, and learning how to use simple project management tools and techniques to achieve success.

TNC-206  Disaster Strikes! Prepare, Respond, Then Face the Music
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC  1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Introductory  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Diana Hatsis, BSN, RN, COT

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will help ensure your ophthalmic practice staff are ready to respond to almost any emergency. It will describe the organizations available to assist with disaster preparedness and response and discuss how to prepare office equipment and unstable medications for any impending power outage.

TNC-207  Sub-Specialty Session: Imaging in 2019
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC  1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Michael W. Stewart, MD  1.0 AOC-NC
Instructor: Denice A. Barsness, CRA, COMT, ROUB  1.0 OPS CEC (1:1)
Instructor: Craig Simms, COMT, ROUB, CDOS

Synopsis & Educational Value: This session will feature a panel of speakers to address the following imaging topics: wide-field angiography, OCT-A, and slit-lamp photography.

Session B
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 32AB

TNC-208  Surgical Treatment of Eyelid Disorders
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB  1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Introductory  1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Andrea A. Tooley, MD  1.0 AOC-NC
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will feature a didactic discussion of the surgical treatment of eyelid disorders and will cover a variety of eyelid conditions including ptosis, dermatochalasis, ectropion, entropion, trauma, skin cancers, and more. It will focus on various surgical approaches for managing ptosis and eyelid malposition and discuss the options for treating eyelid defects secondary to skin cancers.

**TNC-209 Stem Cell Transplantation**
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Advanced
Instructor: Elizabeth M. Wright, LPN
Faculty: Kasey Pierson, MD
Faculty: Erin Rolfes, OD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss several key aspects to stem cell transplantation. It will review the role of the technician/nurse in stem cell transplantation including immunosuppression management, post-op care, and systemic complications; the clinical role of the optometrist in ocular surface patients; and the surgical aspect of the ocular surface patient.

**TNC-210 Prep, Drape and Role**
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Introductory
Instructor: Maria Tietjen, RN, BSN

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss eye preparation, draping, and other important points for ophthalmic procedures. It will include the importance of eye preparation, the method and products for eye preparation, who performs the eye preparation, the draping process including the types of drapes used, and verification and time out procedures.

**TNC-211 Do’s and Don’ts in the Era of Electronic Health Records**
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Michelle Pineda, MBA

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will follow the course outline of the AHIMA course and focus on complying with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements including electronic health records.
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will review what to look for in good patient documentation and tips to reduce risk of a claim or lawsuit when documenting in an EHR. Real case examples will be presented to demonstrate how good patient care can look bad in the EHR.

TNC-212    Glaucoma Surgery Update
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate               1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Syril Dorairaj, MD     1.0 AOC-NC
                                          0.5 OPS CEC (1:2)

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will review surgical treatment for glaucoma commonly used in today’s practice. Traditional glaucoma surgical techniques, as well as new procedures will be presented.

TNC-213    Primary Glaucoma Medical Management: 1st Line, 2nd Line, 3rd Line
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate               1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Syril Dorairaj, MD     1.0 AOC-NC
                                          0.5 OPS CEC (1:2)

Synopsis & Educational Value: Glaucoma is a disease that has a multifaceted approach to treatment. This course will cover glaucoma treatments from medications to surgery and how each one fits into the modern approach to treating glaucoma.

TNC-214    Extended Depth of Focus Optics in the Symfony Intraocular Lens
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB       1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced                   1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Rahul Pandit, MD      1.0 AOC-NC

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss the optical properties of the Symfony extended depth of focus intraocular lens. The discussion will include how the lens works optically, patient selection, and the advantages and disadvantages of the Symfony lens over other options available.

MONDAY, MAY 6
Technicians & Nurses Courses

Session A
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 33ABC

TNC-301 Sub-Specialty Session: Axial Length Measurement
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Advanced 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Robin R. Vann, MD 1.0 AOC-NC
Instructor: Craig Simms, COMT, ROUB, CDOS

Synopsis & Educational Value: This session will feature a panel of speakers to address the following axial length measurement topics: ultrasound biometry and optical biometry.

TNC-302 How to Be the Tech Your Doctor Can’t Live Without
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Sharon Alamalhodaei, COMT, OCS

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will share the findings of a nationwide survey the instructor conducted. She asked ophthalmologists and ophthalmic practice administrators two questions: "What do you value in a tech?" and "What would make a tech indispensable to you?"
She got thousands of replies and culled those replies into the top eleven traits. Methods for achieving this level of engagement will be discussed.

TNC-303 Ocular Surface Disease
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 33ABC 1.0 Group A IJCAHPO
Level: Intermediate 1.0 CA BRN contact hour
Instructor: Darby Miller, MD, MPH 1.0 AOC-NC

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss with photographs the exam findings, differential diagnoses, workup and management of ocular surface disease in patients undergoing cataract or refractive surgery.

TNC-304 Impact of Documentation on Coding and Billing Process
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will address areas of technicians' documentation that affect the claim and discuss how to improve documentation to simplify the billing process, improve accuracy of claims and minimize claims errors.

**TNC-305 When It Counts: Advanced Ecographic Imaging that Guides Surgical or Clinical Intervention**
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss the use of advanced ultrasound imaging techniques and standardized strategies to answer the diagnostic dilemma that will guide surgical intervention or clinical decision pathway. Discussion will include case reports with accompanying echographic images as well as surgical video, photography, OCT and FA to illustrate the findings.

**TNC-306 Everything You Need to Know About FDA-Approved Crosslinking**
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will focus on keratoconus and post-refractive corneal ectasia. It will discuss how to recognize progressive keratoconus and include a review of treatment options, including the FDA approved crosslinking procedure to halt the progression of the disease. Post-op crosslinking management will be discussed as well as expected outcomes of treatment.

**TNC-307 Sub-Specialty Session: MIGS Surgical Approaches**
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Session B
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. San Diego Convention Center, Upper Level, Room 32AB

TNC-308 Move Toward Value-Based Payment and How It Applies to Technicians & Nurses
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Introductory
Instructor: Nancey McCann

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will provide attendees with an update on the MIPS Program for 2019. It will address the MACRA law that created MIPS, discuss program participation, and explore the program from an ophthalmology perspective.

TNC-309 Toxic Anterior Segment Syndrome: TASS
9:15 – 10:15 a.m.
SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Kevin Adely, RN, CSPD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss instrument decontamination and sterilization processes that help your facility avoid cases of TASS. It will also provide a brief history of TASS and discuss the signs and symptoms.

TNC-310 Avoiding ASC Liability Arising from Nursing Scope of Practice and Nursing Practice Issues
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Elethia Dean, RN, PhD
Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will cover aspects of nursing practice that may lead to liability issues for the ambulatory surgery center. Nursing scope of practice requirements and limitations will be addressed to assist ASC staff in avoiding liability issues related to patient care.

**TNC-311 Establishing the Right Leadership and Staffing Patterns**
11:35 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Michelle R. Carroll, RN

Synopsis & Educational Value: CMS sets clear standards for how we should structure the governance of our surgery centers and staff them, but those standards do not offer clear direction on how to comply. This presentation will define CMS standards for governance and staffing and offer tips for compliance.

**TNC-312 Surgical Management of Astigmatism**
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: Jonathan B. Rubenstein, MD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will discuss pre- and post-operative evaluation for astigmatism management. It will also discuss intraoperative assessment and intraoperative management of astigmatism.

**TNC-313 Unexplained Vision Loss**
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

SDCC Upper Level, Room 32AB
Level: Intermediate
Instructor: John J. Chen, MD, PhD

Synopsis & Educational Value: Course will review the differential diagnosis of vision loss and discuss the workup and treatments. Recent advances and neuro-ophthalmic emergencies will be highlighted.

**TNC-314 Making EHR Work for You**
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Synopsis & Educational Value: For those who have made the leap to EHR some time ago, those making the leap now, and those frustrated with the plusses and minuses of EHR, this course will explain best practices for efficiency, compliance, and increased productivity.