

26th Annual Georgia Foot & Ankle Summit
Faculty Biographies & Disclosures

Trevor Black, DPM

Disclosures: None

Trevor Black is a graduate of Western University College of Podiatric Medicine and Grant Medical Center Foot and Ankle Surgery Residency. He is a past fellow of and a current attending at The Southeast Permanente Foot and Ankle Trauma and Reconstructive Fellowship.

Andrea Cass, DPM

Disclosures: None

Andrea D. Cass, DPM, is an esteemed foot and ankle surgeon whose dedication to excellence and compassionate care has made her a respected figure in her field. Dr. Cass's journey in medicine began with a solid educational foundation, earning her BS in Biological Science from the University of Cincinnati and her Doctorate of Podiatric Medicine from the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine. Following her academic pursuits, she completed her residency at DeKalb Medical in Decatur, Georgia, further refining her skills in foot and ankle surgery.

Specializing in reconstructive foot and ankle surgery, Dr. Cass has a particular focus on Pediatric Reconstruction and Diabetic Charcot Reconstruction. Her dedication to advancing the field extends beyond her clinical practice; she is also a prolific medical author, contributing multiple chapters to McGlamry's Comprehensive Textbook of Foot and Ankle Surgery and publishing numerous scientific articles in prestigious journals.

Dr. Cass's expertise is not confined to her practice in Atlanta; she is also a sought-after lecturer and educator. As a faculty member of The Podiatry Institute, she shares her knowledge internationally, lecturing in countries like Germany and Spain, and participating in medical missions to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Board certified in Foot Surgery and Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, Dr. Cass is dedicated to staying at the forefront of her field. She is an active member of professional organizations such as the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and the American Podiatric Medical Association, where she contributes to the advancement of podiatric medicine.

Dr. Cass's passion for pediatric foot and ankle surgery is deeply personal. As a mother of three young boys, she understands the importance of compassionate care and building trust with her young patients and their families. She also provides comprehensive treatment for adult foot and ankle conditions, including reconstructive flatfoot surgery, revisional surgery, and the management of Charcot deformity. Beyond her practice, Dr. Cass enjoys outdoor adventures with her family, including wakeboarding, hiking, and biking.

Craig Camasta, DPM

Disclosures: None

Dr. Camasta is a licensed podiatric surgeon in the U.S., Canada and Australia. He is a widely sought after international lecturer. As a surgical consultant for Helios Hospital Group in Germany, Dr. Camasta teaches reconstructive foot & ankle surgery to orthopedic, trauma, and general surgeons. Dr. Camasta specializes in pediatric and adult reconstructive foot & ankle surgery. He pioneered numerous surgical procedures including primary repair of the ruptured plantar plate in overlapping second hammertoe deformities, reconstruction of the unstable rearfoot & ankle in Charcot patients, tarsal coalition surgery in pediatric patients, and bone-graft repair following failed bunion surgery.

Dr. Camasta is well known for treating difficult bone and soft tissue tumors and infections, and specializes in revision surgery in patients with previously unsuccessful surgical results. Operation Walk, Inc, a non-profit, established by Dr. Camasta, provides lower extremity surgery and educates surgeons in underserved countries. Dr. Camasta uses his surgical expertise to treat complex deformities including neonatal and neglected clubfoot, congenital deformities (polydactyly, macrodactyly, arthrogryphosis, calcaneovalgus), trauma and burn victims, neurological conditions affecting the lower extremity (spina bifida, polio, cerebral palsy, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease), infectious diseases (bone infections), and various acquired conditions such as flatfoot, tarsal coalition, cavus foot, arthritis, and juvenile bunions.

Luke Cicchinelli, DPM

Disclosures: ProAssurance/PICA (Employee - Self)

Dr. Luke Cicchinelli, DPM, is the Chief Medical Director with over 30 years' experience both domestically and internationally as a podiatric surgeon, consultant, speaker, and educator in sports medicine, reconstructive surgery of the foot and ankle, and diabetes limb salvage, including 28 years as a lead surgeon on humanitarian missions in pediatric surgery in Central and South America. His wife, Dr. Devonne Roman, DPM is also a podiatrist and they have worked together in private practice and he as a consultant surgeon in multiple clinics throughout the US, Spain and the European Union as well as Saudia Arabia, and Australia. He has been a senior consultant in medical education and product invention and development throughout North America and EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa). Dr. Cicchinelli is a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (USA), a Fellow of the Australasian College of Podiatric Surgery (Australia) and the Colegiado in Galicia and Austurias (Spain). Dr. Cicchinelli and Dr. Roman have 3 children: Angelica 24, Estela 21 and Gianluca 19, currently studying and living between Spain and the United States.

Anthony DePalma, MD

Disclosures: None

Anthony "Dre" DePalma is an Assistant Professor at Emory University where he serves as the director of Vascular and Interventional Radiology at Grady Memorial Hospital. He trained at Rush University in Chicago where he became passionate about limb salvage. His clinical focus at Grady is in the management of patients with critical limb ischemia as well as complex venous reconstructions.

Sequoia DuCasse, DPM

Disclosures: None

As the Chief Operating Officer of USNeuropathy Centers, Dr. Sequoia DuCasse brings years of extensive experience in the field of peripheral nerve pathology. After completing her residency in Miami, Florida, and Peripheral Nerve Fellowship training in Atlanta, Georgia with Dr. Stephen Barrett, she pursued her passion for advancing the field by serving on the board of the Association for Extremity Nerve Surgeons. Leveraging her clinical expertise and leadership skills, Dr. DuCasse plays a pivotal role in driving initiatives aimed at enhancing education and collaboration among nerve surgeons worldwide. Her dedication to excellence extends beyond patient care, demonstrating a commitment to advancing the field through professional collaboration and innovation.

Amish K. Dudeja, DPM

Disclosures: None

Dr. Amish K. Dudeja is a fellowship-trained podiatric surgeon specializing in complex lower extremity conditions. Currently practicing at Ankle and Foot Centers of Georgia in Johns Creek, GA, Dr. Dudeja brings a wealth of expertise and dedication to patient care. After earning a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, Dr. Dudeja completed the foot and ankle surgical residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, MA. Dr. Dudeja furthered his training with a fellowship in foot and ankle reconstructive surgery and limb salvage at the Village Podiatry Centers, working closely with experts like Dr. Allen Raphael and Dr. Andrea Cass. Beyond medicine, Dr. Dudeja finds joy in hobbies such as playing tennis, drums, and hiking with his wife.

Lauren Epstein, MD

Disclosures: None

Lauren Epstein is the hospital epidemiologist at the Atlanta VA Medical Center and an assistant professor of medicine at Emory University School of Medicine. Prior to her current role, Dr. Epstein was a medical officer in the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion at CDC, where she focused on healthcare-associated infections, multi-drug resistant organisms, and sepsis. Dr. Epstein's clinical interests include optimizing treatment of diabetic foot infections through development of multi-disciplinary clinics.

Ryan H. Fitzgerald, DPM

Disclosures:

Dr. Fitzgerald is a podiatric surgeon with extensive training in elective and reconstructive surgery of the foot and ankle. With expertise that includes minimally invasive surgery, arthroscopy, pediatric deformity correction, diabetic foot care, and lower extremity wound care, plastic surgery techniques, external and internal fixation, and reconstructive limb salvage.

Dr. Fitzgerald has authored numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and trade publications. Dr. Fitzgerald has been featured as a speaker in both national and international conferences. Dr. Fitzgerald is board certified in reconstructive rearfoot and ankle surgery as well as in foot surgery by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery. He is a Fellow of the American

College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS) and is a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA).

Lee Hlad, DPM

Disclosures: Paragon 28 (Consultant - Self, Stock Shareholder - Self), Treace Medical Concepts (Consultant - Self), Metalogix (Consultant - Self), Red Port Medical (Stock Shareholder - Self), TriMed Bone Alive (Honorarium - Self), Vilex (Other, Design Surgeon - Self), Metalogix (Other, Design Surgeon - Self)

Dr. Hlad grew up in upstate NY, near the Canadian border. He attending undergrad at Mount Saint Mary College in NY and then obtained his podiatric Degree from New York College of Podiatric Medicine. He completed a Three year residency at Grant Medical Center, A trauma one Facility and was chief resident. He then completed a one year Pediatric and Adult Limb Lengthening and Deformity Correction Fellowship at the Rubin Institute for advanced orthopedics, at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore Maryland under direction of John Herzenberg a pediatric orthopedist. Dr. Hlad has been in private practice for over 11 years and currently resides in Waycross Georgia. He is Board Certified and is the director of the Deformity Correction and Advanced surgical skills fellowship within his practice. He has a wife(Dr. Mckenna) who is also a podiatrist and 4 children.

Warren S. Joseph, DPM

Disclosures: PICA (Consultant - Self, Honorarium - Self)

Dr. Warren S. Joseph is a specialist in the treatment of lower extremity infectious diseases. He received his podiatric degree from the Wm. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago. Dr Joseph completed his postgraduate training in podiatric medicine/surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital, and a fellowship in infectious diseases at Hahnemann University School of Medicine, both in Philadelphia. He is currently an Adjunct Clinical Professor at the Arizona College of Podiatric Medicine at Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ.

Dr Joseph is a fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and is an author on the IDSA Diabetic Foot Infection Guidelines. He is also certified by the American Board of Podiatric Medicine, and currently serves as Editor of the *Journal of the American Podiatric Medical Association*. Dr Joseph lectures extensively and his presentations have focused on the treatment of bacterial and fungal infections of the lower extremity. He has authored close to 100 publications in the field of lower extremity infections.

Richard Kaufman, DPM

Disclosures: None

Dr. Richard Kaufman is a Foot and Ankle Surgeon and Wound Care Specialist Physician who proudly serves the metro Atlanta area. He is a Fellow of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons, a Diplomate of the American Board of Wound Management, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Podiatric Medicine.

Dr. Kaufman subspecializes in management and treatment of complex lower extremity wounds, foot and ankle reconstruction, deformity correction with external fixation, and the

Charcot foot and ankle. He practices Podiatry in Roswell, GA and at Piedmont Atlanta's Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center.

Neil Kornfeld, JD

Disclosures: None

Neil Kornfeld is a founding partner of Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP. Neil's practice focuses on the defense and counseling of physicians, podiatrists, dentists, hospitals, and nursing homes. Neil has tried over 100 cases to verdict in courts throughout New York State. Neil has lectured at medical and insurance conferences and at many metropolitan hospitals on issues relating to medical malpractice and risk management. He has conducted mock trials and spoken on topics ranging from Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy to expert testimony. Since 1998, he has been a faculty member at the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and teaches a class on issues related to malpractice.

Jeffrey Lehrman, DPM

Disclosures: American Podiatric Medical Association (Consultant - Self), Lehrman Consulting LLC (Principal - Self)

Dr. Lehrman is a podiatrist and a Certified Professional Coder and Certified Professional Medical Auditor. He operates Lehrman Consulting, LLC which provides guidance regarding coding, compliance and documentation. Dr. Lehrman serves as a staff liaison at the AMA CPT® Editorial Panel meetings where CPT codes are created, edited, and deleted.

Kevin Little, JD

Kevin Little has over 31 years of experience as an attorney and is committed to protecting healthcare providers. He is a skilled, experienced problem solver who represents successful medical practices and other healthcare providers, licensed professionals and healthcare related business owners in transactions and difficult legal disputes. He is licensed to practice law in Georgia and South Carolina and often represents clients throughout the country in accordance with applicable requirements.

Kevin is a Georgia native. During law school, among other internships and clerkships, Kevin served in the IRS District Counsel's office in Atlanta. Kevin worked his way through both college and law school. After completing his legal education, Kevin began his legal career with back-to-back Federal Judicial Clerkships, first for Hon. John S. Dalis, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Georgia (1991-1993), then for Hon. Dudley H. Bowen, Jr., U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia (1993-1995). He then entered the private practice of law as a business litigation associate for Hicks Maloof & Campbell (now McKenna Long & Aldridge) in Atlanta, then held a similar position with Henderson & Salley (now Hull Barrett), in Aiken, South Carolina. Kevin has maintained his own law practice for over 25 years, both in partnership with other lawyers and as a solo practitioner.

Having extensive litigation-based experience representing healthcare providers, businesses and professionals in many state and federal courts, Kevin focuses his law practice exclusively on the healthcare industry, representing medical practices, individual physicians and physician groups, other licensed healthcare providers and professionals, and closely held healthcare-

related businesses. Kevin advises and represents his healthcare clients in transactions, contracts and operations, often dealing with unique and esoteric regulatory, administrative and medical board matters. He also represents and advocates for his healthcare clients in complex civil litigation in state and federal court, at the trial and appellate levels, as well as arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution. Kevin is honored to have been selected to *Super Lawyers* as a top rated healthcare attorney and by *Best Lawyers* as a healthcare and commercial litigation attorney. Kevin has held *Martindale Hubbell's* prestigious AV-rating for over fifteen years and is rated "10" by *AVVO*. When not practicing law, Kevin enjoys cycling and other fitness activities, boating, golf, traveling abroad and, above all, the company of his family and friends.

John Martucci, DPM

Disclosures: MiRus LLC (Consultant - Self), AROA Biosurgery (Consultant - Self), ACFAS (Honorarium - Self)

Dr. Martucci is a native of Kansas City, MO. He obtained a dual degree in Biology and Economics at Boston College followed by his doctorate at Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine. He returned to Boston, MA, for his surgical training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a Harvard Medical School-Affiliated Hospital, and then pursued a fellowship in advanced reconstructive foot and ankle surgery in Youngstown, OH, with Dr. Lawrence DiDomenico. Outside of his time as a foot and ankle surgeon, he also enjoys exploring the restaurant scene, golfing, and spending time with his family.

Suhail Masadeh, DPM

Disclosures: None

SUHAIL MASADEH, DPM, FACFAS: 3-Year Residency (2005-2008), Saint Vincent Charity Hospital, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio; American Health Network of Indiana Advanced Foot and Ankle Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship (2008-2009), Avon, Indiana; Fellow, American College of Foot & Ankle Surgeons; Board Certified in Foot Surgery and Reconstructive Rearfoot and Ankle Surgery, American Board of Foot & Ankle Surgery; Associate Professor of surgery, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio; Residency Program Director Podiatric, University of Cincinnati, Surgical podiatry Program; Member and Education and Research Coordinator, American Microsurgical Orthoplastic Society (AMOS), Chicago, Illinois; Author and International Speaker; Chief and Staff, Surgical Podiatry Division, Cincinnati VA Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Samantha Miner, DPM

Disclosures: None

Dr. Miner is a fellowship-trained podiatric surgeon in Smyrna, GA. She completed her residency training at Mount Auburn Hospital, a major teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. This was followed by a fellowship in foot and ankle reconstructive surgery at Lehigh Valley Health Network in Bethlehem, PA. She has extensive training in advanced foot and ankle techniques, including total ankle replacement, management of osteochondral lesions, arthroscopy, flatfoot reconstruction, and minimally invasive surgery. She is published on a variety of topics, but her primary research focuses are ankle arthritis and sports medicine.

Robert Phillips, DPM

Disclosures: Com'analysis (Owner - Self)

Robert Phillips graduated from the California College of Podiatric Medicine in 1979. He had entered the profession because of my interest in biomechanics. After graduation, Dr. Phillips worked for 5 years under the preceptorship of his father, who also had a great interest in biomechanics. Robert Phillips became board eligible by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery in 1982, and completed my board certification in 1986. In 1987, he became full time faculty at Des Moines University, and specialized in teaching biomechanics. While there, he published several research articles on biomechanics, including 5 that were awarded research awards. In 1993 Dr. Phillips was also given Diplomate status by the American Board of Podiatric Medicine. In 1997, he entered the service of the Department of Veterans Affairs, first in Coatesville, Pennsylvania, and then in 2006 at the Orlando VA. He served as residency director in Coatesville, and then started the residency program at the Orlando VA. In 2020, Dr. Phillips retired from clinical practice, but has continued to serve as a volunteer lecturer for the VA in all aspects of biomechanics. He also continues to serve as the associate editor for biomechanics for the Journal of the American Podiatric Medical Association and also continued biomechanical research.

Bela Pandit, DPM

Disclosures: Bako Diagnostics (Speaker's Bureau - Self)

Dr. Bela Pandit is the Chair of the Practice Management committee for the last two years for the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and based in Chicago. She is the only podiatrist on the MACRA board for Medicare. The has been in private practice since residency and which maintains several locations and a medical spa.

Andrew Schneider, DPM

Disclosures: None

Dr. Andrew Schneider is in private practice in Houston, TX at Tanglewood Foot Specialists. He is President and a Fellow of the American Academy of Podiatric Practice Management (AAPP), Board Certified by ABPM, and a Fellow of ACPM. Dr. Schneider speaks internationally on topics related to practice management, marketing, wound care, and biomechanics. Dr. Schneider is a frequent contributor to Podiatry Management and Podiatry Today magazines.

Mohammad Sharif, DPM

Dr. Sharif graduated from North Carolina State University where he obtained a B.S. in Chemistry. He received his doctorate from Dr. William Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Sharif's post-doctoral training included a one-year internship at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. He completed a three-year surgical residency, including a Reconstructive Foot/Ankle Fellowship, at the Harris County Podiatric Surgical Residency Program in Houston, Texas. During his last year of residency, he served as chief resident.

Dr. Sharif received his certification in Microvascular Surgery from M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. In private podiatric practice, Dr. Sharif provides comprehensive treatment and surgery for all ages. His special interests include diabetic limb salvage, and pediatric and adult reconstructive foot and ankle surgery.

John Thompson, DPM

Disclosures: None

Born and raised in central Ohio, Dr. Thompson's interest for surgery began during his years of undergraduate studies at The College of Wooster completing his B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology while also shadowing various orthopedic physicians. He subsequently attended medical school at Kent State College of Podiatric Medicine and completed his residency at OhioHealth Grant Medical Center in Columbus, OH. Dr. Thompson then completed an orthopedic foot and ankle reconstructive fellowship at Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Center located in Columbus, OH.

Tracey Vlahovic, DPM

Disclosures: Bako Diagnostics (Consultant - Self), Sagis Diagnostics (Consultant - Self), Ortho Dermatologics (Consultant - Self)

Dr. Vlahovic is a graduate of Yale University with a BS in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry and received her podiatric medical degree from Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine, Philadelphia, PA. After finishing her surgical residency at St Luke's University Health Network in Allentown, PA, she was the first podiatrist in the US to complete a fellowship in podiatric dermatology under the supervision of Stephen Schleicher, MD. Currently, she is a Clinical Professor and J. Stanley and Pearl Landau Faculty Fellow at the Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine in Philadelphia and a member of the Faculty of Podiatric Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons (Glasgow). She is an adjunct professor in the Department of Microbiology, Temple University School of Medicine.

She is board certified in foot surgery by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery and board certified in podiatric medicine by the American Board of Podiatric Medicine. Dr. Vlahovic currently teaches the Fundamentals of Dermatology course at Temple and has received numerous teaching awards. She has authored several articles in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters, co-authored the texts: "Skin Disease of the Lower Extremities: A Photographic Guide," and "Onychomycosis: An Illustrated Guide to Diagnosis and Treatment" (along with CND member Antonella Tosti, MD), and is involved in multiple clinical research trials for various dermatological therapies and devices.

Michael G. Warshaw, DPM

Disclosures: None

Michael G. Warshaw, DPM, CSFAC, CPC, CPODCS, COCS, CMSCS is a practicing podiatrist and a Certified Professional Coder with over 25 years of successful coding, management, and training experience for podiatric practices. His local and national views come from active participation as a practicing podiatrist, having the distinction of being a Certified Professional Coder, and years of serving as a national lecturer concerning coding issues.

Dr. Warshaw's experience is unique and comprehensive. He has had the additional advantage of participating in all facets of the Medicare Appeals Process, including Redeterminations, Reconsiderations, and Administrative Law Judge Hearings, as well as the appeals processes of most commercial insurance companies and state Medicaid programs. Dr. Warshaw has also served as an expert witness in the actual court system, at both the federal and state levels.

Dr. Warshaw is also the author of THE Podiatry Coding Manual, a comprehensive coding manual specific for podiatry that is updated on an annual basis. This unique prospective provides Dr. Warshaw with the ability to provide solutions to insurance and coding problems from 'real world' experience. Dr. Warshaw is committed to assist practices in learning to code appropriately, obtain the proper reimbursement, and to avoid the wrath of the carriers by coding and billing in an appropriate fashion.

Jacob Wynes, DPM

A podiatric surgeon, Dr. Wynes manages all facets of foot and ankle care for children and adults. Dr. Wynes has special interest in management of foot and ankle arthritis, adult and pediatric flatfoot, and cavus conditions. He also specializes in infection, malunion, and nonunion management of the foot and ankle.

Dr. Wynes is co-director of the University of Maryland Limb Preservation Program and program director for the Deformity Correction Fellowship. He is a national lecturer on Charcot neuroarthropathy, limb salvage, and other foot and ankle disorders. Dr. Wynes was recognized as 2021 "Physician of the Year" at University of Maryland Midtown Campus. He also has been recognized as a "Top Doctor" in the specialty of Podiatry by *Baltimore* magazine.

Scientific Committee

Javan Bass, DPM

Disclosures: None

Cheree Eldridge, DPM

Howard Gale, DPM

Disclosures: None

Shahzad Ghori, DPM

Disclosures: None

Saluja Mahabamunuge, DPM

Disclosures: None

Richard Mistretta, DPM

Disclosures: None

Adrienne Ross, DPM

Disclosures: None

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Disclosures: None

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Disclosures: None