

ASTS 2026 Winter Symposium
January 22 – 25, 2026
Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass | Phoenix, AZ

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026		
Start	End	Session Title
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Sponsored Symposia - To be determined
12:30 PM	12:35 PM	Introduction & Welcome
12:40 PM	1:35 PM	Advocacy
		Welcome
		Don't Stop Believin': An overview of the year from the Legislative & Regulatory Committee
		"I want in on the action!" - How Do I Get Involved in Advocacy?"
		Congress and the Politics of Transplant
		Regulatory Developments Affecting Transplantation
		Change is the Only Constant: The Present and Future of Allocation Out of Sequence
		Q&A
1:40 PM	2:30 PM	Physical Pain and Mental Strain of the Transplant Business
		Surgeons Get Sick and Injured Too: Health Maintenance, Prevention, Managing Life after Illness
		What I wish I Knew: Preventative Strategies to Avoid Ergonomic Pitfalls
		Defining, Recognizing, Managing Microaggression in Clinical Practice
		Discussion Panel

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2:35 PM	3:15 PM	Oral Abstract Session I
		Achieving Reproducibility in Total Robotic Liver Transplantation: A U.S. Program's Stepwise Experience with Deceased and Living Donors
		Intraabdominal Versus Thoracic Cannulation Techniques for Abdominal Normothermic Regional Perfusion
		Continuous Multiparametric Monitoring of Donor Livers During Normothermic Perfusion
		Delayed Immune Tolerance via Donor Stem Cell Infusion Years after Kidney Transplantation: A Case Series
3:15 PM	3:35 PM	<i>Break</i>
3:35 PM	4:05 PM	Najarian Lecture
4:15 PM	5:45 PM	Innovations in Transplantation
		Robotic Auxiliary Liver Transplant in Pediatric Recipient
		Path to Robotic Heart Transplant
		Bioengineered External Liver Support with Porcine Scaffold and Human Cells
		Stem Cell-Derived Islets for Type I DM
		First Human Bladder Transplant
		Panel Discussion
5:45 PM	7:15 PM	Opening Reception & Poster Session A

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026		
Start	End	Session Title
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	11:10 AM	Advanced Transplant Provider Session
		APP Committee Updates and Welcome
		On the Steady Rise: The Evolving Landscape of Heart-Liver Transplants
		Maximizing Organ Utilization: Leveraging Accelerated Placement and Open Offer Lists to Reduce Waste
		Integrative Behavioral Health in Clinical Care: Promoting Patient Self-Management of Steatotic Liver Disease
		Bridging the Gap: Transition from Pediatric to Adult Transplant Care
		<i>Break (5 minutes)</i>
		AI for the APP: What Should I Know?
		Transplant ID Pearls: National and Regional Considerations
		Case Study of Meningo-Myeloencephalitis in a Liver Transplant Recipient
		Liver Lesions and Malignancies- Pathway to Transplant
		Exploring Non-Directed Donation and Its Impact on Liver Transplant
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Session A: Expanding Indications and Advancing Outcomes in Transplant Oncology
		Neoadjuvant Therapies in HCC Update on Protocols and Outcomes
		Precision Transplant Oncology
		CRLM in North America in the Post Transmit Trial Era
		Multi-Disciplinary Clinics in Txp Oncology-- Who, What, Why?
		Panel Discussion
8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Session B: Unlocking the Pancreas: A Missed Opportunity in Every Donor?
		Expanding the Donor Pool: Strategies for Pancreas Assessment and Utilization in the Era of NRP
		Simultaneous Pancreatic Islet and Bone Marrow Transplant from Deceased Donor for Type 1 DM
		Pancreas for Research or Transplant? Ethical, Logistical, and Clinical Considerations
		Panel Discussion

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9:10 AM	10:10 AM	Session A: Always Learning: Training the Future
		What I wish I had known during residency and fellowship
		“You Pick Two” - Applying to And Selecting a Fellowship - What Do You Focus on?
		Applying and Starting Your First Job
		Work-Life Integration
		Panel Discussion
9:10 AM	10:10 AM	Session B: Evolving Candidate, Recipient, and Program Considerations in Kidney Transplant
		IOTA Rules
		HIV Positive Donors & Recipients in Kidney Transplantation
		Management of obesity in kidney & pancreas transplant candidates and recipients
		Panel Discussion
10:20 AM	11:20 AM	Surgeon Scientist Session - Basic, Translational and Innovation
		What is the Benefit of Research to a Transplant Program and Academic Institution
		Building Versatile Research Team in Basic Science World
		Building Versatile Research Team in Healthcare Outcomes World
		Creating Financial Security in Transplant Research in an Era of Federal Funding Uncertainty
		The Transplant Surgeon Inventor: Intellectual Property
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Sponsored Symposia - To be determined
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Sponsored Symposia - To be determined
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	Navigating Leadership in Extraordinary Times
		Leading Organization Change
		Multigenerational Leadership and Team Dynamics in Transplant Surgery
		The EQ of Transplantation (Emotional Intelligence from the Conference Room to the Operating Room)
		What Do You Need to Know About Transplant Finances
		Panel Discussion

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1:35 PM	2:20 PM	Research Grants Session
		2022 ASTS-Veloxis Fellowship in Transplantation Grant
		2021 Jon Fryer Resident Scientist Scholarship
		2024 Socio Economical & Racial Disparity Grant
2:25 PM	2:45 PM	Award Ceremony I
2:50 PM	3:25 PM	Hume Lecture
3:25 PM	3:45 PM	<i>Break</i>
3:45 PM	4:25 PM	Oral Abstract Session II
		From ICU Hunches to PACU Preference: A Culture Shift in Liver Transplant Postoperative Care
		Autologous Mitochondrial Transplantation to Mitigate Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury in a Porcine DCD Auto Transplant Model
		Who Gets Skipped When a Deceased-Donor Kidney is Allocated Out-of-Sequence?
		The Use of Pediatric Donors in Pancreas Transplantation
4:30 PM	5:45 PM	How We Train
		How To Train a Pediatric Transplant Surgeon
		Training for New Procedure: Living Donor Liver, HPB, MIS
		Evolution of Training in Deceased Donor Procurement: Who Trains, Who Certifies?
		Help Your Fellows to Transition into Faculty Role
		Panel Discussion
5:45 PM	7:30 PM	Poster Session B & Trivia!
7:30 PM	8:30 PM	APP Reception
7:30 PM	9:30 PM	<i>Night out in Chandler (Shuttles will be available)</i>

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026		
Start	End	Session Title
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	9:15 AM	Pushing the Boundaries of Pumping
		NRP + NMP - When to Use & What are the Challenges
		NRP + HOPE + Splitting Livers
		What If Pump Did Not Work: Results of Consensus Guidelines among US Liver Transplant Centers on Ischemic Cholangiopathy Management in 2026
		Renal NMP
		Panel Discussion
9:20 AM	10:05 AM	Allocation Out of Sequence- It saves patients and leads to decrease in organ discard
		Debate: Out of Sequence Allocation - Pro
		Debated: Out of Sequence Allocation - Con
		How Can We Find a Solution?
		Panel Discussion
10:25 AM	11:25 AM	Global Impact of Transplantation
		Establishing LDLT Program in Other Countries
		Global transplant surgery: The Rwandan living donor kidney transplant program experience
		Growing role of international transplant surgery training
		Panel Discussion
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Sponsored Symposia - To be determined
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	Exhibit Hall Open

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12:35 PM	1:05 PM	Oral Abstract Session III Moderators: Keri Lunsford, MD, PhD, FACS Rutgers University Justin Steggerda, MD Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
		A Novel Comprehensive Pre Transplant Risk Calculator to Predict Post Kidney Transplant Outcomes
		24h OrganBank decreases DGF compared to LifePort in porcine 30min DCD kidney auto-transplantation
		Improved Outcomes and Resource Use With Normothermic Machine Perfusion in Liver Transplantation
1:10 PM	1:40 PM	Award Ceremony II
1:45 PM	2:55 PM	Controversies in Living Donation
		Debate: PRO Living donor liver in transplant oncology
		Debate: CON Living donor liver in transplant oncology
		Debate: Pro Donor Paired Exchange
		Debate: CON Donor Paired Exchange
		Panel Discussion
2:55 PM	3:30 PM	President's Address
3:30 PM	4:30 PM	The US Transplant System: Progress towards Modernization
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Fellows Networking Event
6:00 PM	7:00 PM	Pipeline Networking Event
7:00 PM	9:30 PM	Saturday Night Dinner

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026		
Start	End	Session Title
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	8:40 AM	Mini Oral Abstracts
		Estrogen Receptor-alpha Signaling Modulates Sex-Specific Differences in Dendritic Cell-Mediated Alloimmune Responses
		Machine Perfusion Improves Liver Graft Utilization from Older Circulatory Death Donor Organs
		Variation in the Landscape of Heart Transplant Allocation
		Redefining Delayed Graft Function: From Binary to Dynamic Using a Trajectory-Based Model to Evaluate Renal Recovery After Kidney Transplantation”
		Multi-national Risk-Matched Comparison of Hypothermic-Oxygenated and Normothermic Machine Perfusion in Liver Transplantation: Predicting Cost Effectiveness and Clinical Efficacy Using 1,026 Cases
		Staged or Simultaneous Heart-Kidney Transplantation: Effects of Delayed Renal Allograft Implantation on Recipient Outcomes
		Hybrid Protocol for Split Liver Preparation Using Normothermic Machine Perfusion
		Xenotransplantation of Pancreatic Islets with MMP-9-Enhanced Human Mesenchymal Stem Cells for the Treatment of Type 1 Diabetes in Mice
8:45 AM	10:00 AM	Cases When You Need Attendier Attending
		Hepatic Artery Pseudoaneurysm
		Caval Stenosis/Complex Portal Inflow Reconstruction
		Arteroenteric Fistula Post Pancreas Transplantation
		NRP Disaster
		Pediatric Transplant with Monosegment
		Panel Discussion

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10:05 AM	11:30 AM	Controversies in MIS Transplantation: Let's Talk it Out
		Robotic Living Donor Hysterectomy for Uterus Transplant: Donor and Recipient Considerations
		Robotic Assisted Kidney Transplant & Bariatric Surgery
		Discussion
		Debate: Robotic vs Laparoscopic Donor Nephrectomy - Is It Worth the Environmental Footprint - Yes
		Debate: Robotic vs Laparoscopic Donor Nephrectomy - Is It Worth the Environmental Footprint - No
		Discussion
		Debate: Robotic Liver Transplant - Is There a Benefit - Yes
		Debate: Robotic Liver Transplant - Is There a Benefit - No
		Discussion