



## YES Newsletter—November

**Get to Know Your YES Clinical Committee Member:** Emily Schehlein, MD

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### **Why did you go into ophthalmology?**

My family owns a vacuum cleaner repair shop, so I've always been a tinkerer. Growing up, I had my own piece of wood in our shop that I could whittle, nail, and drill to my heart's content. I knew I wanted to be a surgeon, but I wanted to connect with patients and their families outside of the operating room. Ophthalmology was the perfect mix of 'micro-tinkering' and taking care of patients' most precious sense—their vision.

### **If you weren't an ophthalmologist or even a doctor, what career would you like to try?**

If I weren't a doctor, I would probably be in a performance-related field. I am a classically trained singer, and I love music, so perhaps I would have pursued a career on Broadway and tried to 'make it' in the Big Apple. I really enjoy performing—there is nothing more thrilling than landing a joke or meaningful monologue in a packed house. And similarly, there is nothing more devastating than making a mistake or bombing a joke in the same environment. I like to live on the edge of that thrill and disappointment. I love learning new ways to improve my performance and public speaking skills.

### **What do you look forward to most at the ASCRS Annual Meeting?**

I really look forward to teaching the wet labs at the ASCRS Annual Meeting. The wet labs are a chance to interact with trainees or established physicians who I may not otherwise be able to meet. There is such a range of experience and ability, but we are all united toward a common goal: improving our skills to help patients. It is so exciting and heartening to see a first-year resident complete their first phaco in an artificial eye



or to see a seasoned comprehensive ophthalmologist successfully complete their first MIGS.

### **What place is still on your travel wish list?**

My husband and I love to travel, and we have been to India, multiple countries in Europe, Japan, and many states in the U.S. in the last few years. I was fortunate to be a recipient of the ASCRS Young Eye Surgeons International Service Grant and will be traveling back to India in 2025. However, my extended family lives in Pescara, Italy, and there is no feeling like enjoying an aperitivo with family and friends and gazing out at the sea.

### **What's your go-to movie theater snack?**

A boring, yet unique preference: unsalted popcorn. What can I say? I'm a purist.

I will say another movie-must, and that is to watch at home. You can pause! Your own personal bathroom! No need to put on shoes (an ophthalmologist's dream)!

## **Last Day! Resident Excellence Award Nominations Due Friday**

The ASCRS Foundation is accepting **nominations** for its 2025 [Resident Excellence Awards](#) until Friday, November 8.

This award [recognizes 10 exemplary residents](#) with consideration given for performance in research, patient care, leadership, and education. Awardees receive a travel grant, 4 nights' accommodation, complimentary meeting registration, and invitations to select leadership and social events at the 2025 ASCRS Annual Meeting.

[Submit a nomination.](#)

## **Register for the Annual Meeting!**

Registration for the [2025 ASCRS Annual Meeting](#), April 25–28 in Los Angeles, California, is now open!

Registration is complimentary for residents and U.S. fellows and is discounted for surgeons in their first 5 years of practice. In recent years, ASCRS has greatly expanded YES specific offerings at the Annual Meeting. You won't want to miss it!

There are a range of activities and opportunities at the Annual Meeting, specifically for YES attendees. [Learn more about these here.](#)

## **Submit Your Video for the Annual Meeting**

The YES Clinical Committee is in search of case videos for the [Good to Great Surgeon: Working Through Complications Video Symposium](#), taking place at the [2025 ASCRS Annual Meeting](#) in Los Angeles, California, April 25–28.

Submissions are open now through **January 17**.

The Good to Great Surgeon: Complicated and Challenging Cases Video Symposium session, which will take place April 26 from 8:00–9:30 a.m., is an interactive video symposium where presenters, including current residents and fellows, showcase difficult cases and complications that occur in the OR. A panel of surgeons then provides guidance for these complicated cases. Each of the cases will be followed by didactic video pearls concerning complex cases.

[Click here](#) for more information, submission instructions, and other case video submission opportunities. Contact Sheela Patel ([spatel@ascrs.org](mailto:spatel@ascrs.org)) with any questions.

### **Attend an ASCRS Live! Event**

[ASCRS Live!](#), the new educational dinner series making its way to several cities across the U.S., has open registrations in the following states.

- [Charlotte, North Carolina](#): November 14, 6:30 p.m.
- [Denver, Colorado](#): December 5, 6:30 p.m.

[Learn more](#) about these CME and networking events. More to come in 2025!

[ASCRS Live! Online Modules](#) are free. Find and watch all three CME programs now!

### **Take Advantage of These Educational Opportunities with ASCRS**

- [YES Connect Webinars](#): “Speak with Confidence and Command the Stage: A Physician's Public Speaking Webinar” with moderator Emily Schehlein, MD, and presenters Dagny Zhu, MD, John Berdahl, MD, Rob Melendez, MD, Paul Singh, MD, Lorraine Provencher, MD, is online now. Access this new webinar [here](#).
- [Ophthalmology Quicksand Chronicles—Eureka Moments! Podcast](#): Hosts Nicole Fram, MD, and Elizabeth Yeu, MD, welcomed guest Sumitra Khandelwal, MD, in the [latest episode](#) of their popular ASCRS podcast. [Watch the episode](#).
- [ASCRS Grand Rounds](#): The latest episode [“A Different White Dot Syndrome”](#) is on demand.

**Helpful Links and Resources:**

[ASCRS YES Membership](#)

[ASCRS YES Education](#)

[ASCRS Clinical Education](#)

[ASCRS Online Tools](#)

Official YES Hashtag: #ASCRSYES

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