

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration & Fees

Register online at <https://cartilage.org/focus-meeting-chicago/registration>

	Early Bird until May 31	Normal Fee Jun 1 – Aug 23	Late Fee from Aug 24
Junior Members, Residents, Students & Physician Assistants, Physiotherapists*	€ 500* US\$570**	€ 575* US\$655**	€ 650* US\$740**
ICRS Members	€ 650 US\$740**	€ 750 US\$855**	€ 850 US\$970**
Non-ICRS Members	€ 750 US\$855**	€ 850 US\$970**	€ 950 US\$1085**
Industry Associates	€ 850 US\$970**	€ 950 US\$1085**	€ 1050 US\$1200**

All attendees must register online through the website.

*Students, residents, physiotherapists, nurses and PAs must provide proof of their training /residency or professional status to receive our highly reduced registration rates.

**USD amounts are approximate and provided for reference only. Registration fees are charged in EUR. The final amount in USD may vary depending on the exchange rate and your payment provider at the time of transaction.

The registration fees include: access to all lectures & exhibition, Chicago-style welcome reception, breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks, course registration material and certificate of attendance.

Payment

Fees are in Euro and are accepted as follows: Bank Transfer, VISA, AMEX, Mastercard.

Course Cancellations

Please note the following refund policy for paid registrations:

- 50% refund for cancellations before May 31, 2026.
- No refunds thereafter

Written notification is required for all registration cancellations and changes. Requests should be sent to the Cartilage Executive Office office@cartilage.org.

Cancellation of the Congress by the Organizer Congress fees will be reimbursed if the Congress is cancelled for reasons other than war, warlike events, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or sickness epidemics. In the latter circumstances, only a proportion of the congress fee would be refundable.

Name Changes

Name changes of registrations will be charged with an administrative fee of € 100.

ICRS Membership Benefits

Attendees who apply for ICRS membership right before registration will immediately benefit from reduced registration fees. Membership applications should be done online before course registration. Please note that ICRS Members who are not in good standing with their membership dues 2026 will automatically be charged with the non-member fee.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accommodation

The ICRS has secured a block of rooms at competitive rates at the iconic **Palmer House, a Hilton Hotel** (course venue). We encourage participants and industry partners to take advantage of this opportunity by booking their hotel rooms as early as possible, ideally **before July 31, 2026** (first-come, first-served).

For more information visit our [website](#).

Course Language

English, no simultaneous translation will be available.

CME

This is a non-CME event.

Disclaimer

ICRS and the course organizers cannot accept any liability for the acts of any suppliers to this meeting nor of the safety of any attendee while in transit to or from, or at the event. ICRS Event participants are responsible for securing their own insurance coverage for illness, accidents (including rescue and repatriation), theft, and accidental damage to property belonging to themselves or others.

Event Cancellation

ICRS may elect to cancel the Focus Meeting due to circumstances beyond our control, such as disaster, severe weather, pandemic disease, civil commotion or government laws or regulations. In the event of such cancellation, all congress registrants will be notified by email at the address provided in the ICRS database and registration fees will be partially refunded. Other costs incurred by the registrant, such as airline or hotel penalties, are the responsibility of the registrant.

Updated Information

For updated information (topics, faculty, registration fees, etc.) please scan the QR code:



Diamond Partners



Ruby Partners



ICRS FOCUS MEETING

PATIENT-CENTERED & EVIDENCE-BASED

CARTILAGE TREATMENT OF THE KNEE

REAL-WORLD APPROACHES TO THE PATHOLOGY SPECTRUM

CHICAGO, USA
SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2026

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

WWW.CARTILAGE.ORG

WELCOME

We are delighted to announce the upcoming non-CME ICRS Focus Meeting in Chicago on September 24-25, 2026. This 1.5-day meeting will address the rapidly evolving landscape of knee cartilage treatment in the US, with multiple new non-operative and operative solutions recently introduced and approved.

The program emphasizes knee joint preservation and supports clinical decision-making through a practical, evidence-based framework featuring case-based presentations, re-live surgical videos, and expert-led discussions that follow realistic patient scenarios and reflect both clinical experience and current literature.

We look forward to welcoming you to the historic Palmer House, a Hilton Hotel, in the heart of downtown Chicago. Alongside high-level scientific exchange on evidence-based cartilage treatment of the knee, participants will enjoy the full Chicago experience: iconic architecture, renowned Chicago-style cuisine, and the city's vibrant energy.

Your Course Directors



Brian J. Cole, MD, MBA



Adam B. Yanke, MD, PhD

Expert Faculty

Don **Bufford** (US)
William **Bugbee** (US)
Camila **Cohen-Kaleka** (BR)
Brian **Cole** (US)
Simon **Goertz** (US)
Allan **Gross** (CA)

Aaron **Krych** (US)
Christian **Lattermann** (US)
Seth **Sherman** (US)
Adam **Yanke** (US)
Tim **Wang** (US)

Course Directors

Brian **Cole**, MD MBA – Rush Medical College, Chicago, USA
Adam **Yanke** MD PhD – Rush Medical College, Chicago, USA

Course Organising Office

Cartilage Executive Office (CEO) GmbH, Spitalstrasse 190A,
CH-8623 Wetzikon, Switzerland
Email: office@cartilage.org | www.cartilage.org

Course Venue & Official Hotel

The Palmer House, a Hilton Hotel
Adams / Monroe, 6th Floor
17 East Monroe Street, Chicago, IL, 60603, US

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

2:00 - 2:30 PM WELCOME COFFEE & NETWORKING

Bracing — Techniques, Indications & Outcomes (Adam Yanke)

2:30 – 5:45 PM SESSION 1

CREATING THE FOUNDATION FOR KNEE JOINT PRESERVATION

OCA Graft Procurement & Processing – JRF Ortho

- Describe the process of donor procurement
- Graft sizing and matching
- Live video of the processing steps

Natural History – Aaron Krych

- Focal chondral defects
- The meniscectomized knee (medial / lateral / root / bucket excision)

Non-Operative Biologics for the Knee: Techniques, Indications & Outcomes – Don Buford – IOF Collaboration

- Non-operative use for early knee osteoarthritis

Surgical Augmentation with Knee Biologics: Cartilage & Meniscus Repair – Seth Sherman

- Intra- and post-operative use around cartilage transplantation or osteotomy

Optimize the Environment – Christian Lattermann

- What should a clinician know about PTOA
- DMOAD: fact or fiction?
- Serum and synovial biomarkers

3:45 – 4:15 PM COFFEE BREAK/EXHIBITION

OCD: Young & Old – Managing It at Any Stage – Brian Cole

- Natural history if left alone
- Surgical and non-surgical management

The Subchondral Bone: Where Are We Today? – Brian Cole

- Evidence that it's a pain generator
- Relevance to surface-based or reconstructive cartilage transplantation
- Treatment options

Modern Osteotomy: PSI & Advances in Technology – Adam Yanke

- Perioperative planning
- Overview of available systems
- 3D printing
- Unmet need: TTO planning

The Biomechanical Role of the Meniscus – Seth Sherman

- Radials / roots – medial/lateral effect on contact pressures and stability
- Evidence of restoration of natural state in vivo or in vitro

The Treatment Algorithm: A View From the Top – Simon Goertz

- Review of the most commonly available cartilage treatments with their strengths & weaknesses

Are We Ready for Metal in the Young Patient? – William Bugbee

- Actual survivorship of TKA / UKA / PFA in a 30-40 year old
- Do prior preservation surgeries hinder outcome?
- Detailed outcomes: does a revision-free patient equal a happy patient?

Discussion / Q&A

6:00 – 8:00 PM CHICAGO STYLE WELCOME & NETWORKING RECEPTION

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8:00 – 8:20 AM HISTORICAL LECTURE

The History of Osteochondral Allograft Transplantation (OCA/OAG) – Allan Gross

8:20 – 10:00 AM SESSION 2 THE PATELLOFEMORAL JOINT

Panel: Seth Sherman, Adam Yanke, Camila Cohen Kaleka, Christian Lattermann

Case 1: Patellofemoral Pain with Chondromalacia & No Bone Loss – Adam Yanke

Case 2: PF Chondral Damage in the 1st-Time Dislocator with Fragment – Camila Cohen Kaleka

Case 3: Uni-polar Trochlear Defect (no PFI) – Christian Lattermann

Case 4: Bipolar PF Cartilage Loss in the 30-Year-Old – Seth Sherman

10:00 – 10:30 AM COFFEE BREAK/EXHIBITION

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM SESSION 3 THE MEDIAL KNEE

Panel: Brian Cole, Aaron Krych, William Bugbee, Tim Wang

Case 1: 2.5 cm² MFC Cartilage Defect in a 20-Year-Old – William Bugbee

Case 2: MFC OCD Lesion – Role for Removal in 2026? – Aaron Krych

Case 3: MFC Lesion with 4.5° of Varus – Christian Lattermann

Case 4: Medial Knee Pain with Chondral Heterogeneity & Bone Marrow Signal – Brian Cole

Case 5: Management of the Lateral Tibial Plateau – Christian Lattermann

Case 6: KL 3 Changes in the Active 40-Year-Old – William Bugbee

12:30 – 1:30 PM LUNCH SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY VERICEL

1:30 – 2:20 PM SESSION 4 THE MENISCAL DEFICIENT KNEE

Panel: Brian Cole, Aaron Krych, Seth Sherman, Simon Goertz

Case 1: Post-Meniscectomy Knee with Pain – Simon Goertz

Case 2: ACL Patient with Acute Bucket Medial Meniscus (irreparable) – Aaron Krych

Case 3: MAT in the Revision ACL – Brian Cole

2:20 – 2:45 PM COFFEE BREAK/EXHIBITION

2:45 – 3:45 PM SESSION 5 COMPLEX & COMBINED TREATMENT WITH LIGAMENT DEFICIENCY

Panel: Adam Yanke, Seth Sherman, Christian Lattermann, Simon Goertz

Case 1: MPFL / PF Cartilage / TTO – Seth Sherman

Case 2: ACL / Osteotomy / Cartilage Transplant – Adam Yanke

Case 3: Salvage PF OA – Shell Graft – Simon Goertz

3:45 – 4:45 PM SESSION 6 COMPLICATIONS & MANAGEMENT

Panel: Christian Lattermann, Aaron Krych, William Bugbee

4:45 PM ADJOURN

SESSION
DETAILS

