

Preliminary program

# AOSpine Davos Courses 2012

## Masters Symposium

- Meet the expert

## Advanced Courses

- Degenerative cervical spine and spinal trauma
- Degenerative lumbar spine, deformities and tumors
- Degenerative cervical spine, deformities and tumors
- Degenerative lumbar spine and spinal trauma

December 9–13, 2012 Davos, Switzerland



[AOSpine](#)—the leading global academic community for innovative education and research in spine care, inspiring lifelong learning and improving patients' lives.

## Welcome to Davos, Grüezi und Willkommen in Davos

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of AOSpine International, a truly global spine community, we would like to welcome you to the AOSpine Davos Courses 2012. Prepare yourselves to discuss with open minds the new challenges in the Spine field that we face in our daily practice. Traditionally for AOSpine members, and Spine specialists all over the world, the Davos Courses have a special flavor and meaning. They are not just one more course during the year. They are THE COURSE!

AOSpine Davos Courses have become the world's most renowned courses in our specialty. And why? Because they are dynamic. Following the tradition they renew themselves every year: In the new interactive format a renowned international faculty will share with the participants the most up-to-date information on the different areas of Spine Pathology. This year, the State of the Art on Trauma, Cervical and Lumbar Degeneration, Tumors and Deformities will be discussed intensively during four days at five courses—four Advanced Courses and one Masters Symposium.

The different courses will align themselves with the AOSpine Curriculum, which defines specific learning outcomes to meet the level and needs of participants. The AOSpine Principles of stability, alignment, biology, and function will constitute the cornerstone of the different educational activities.

The participants are encouraged to integrate and involve themselves in the courses: by discussion during the sessions, or by bringing cases to the traditional Spine and Wine sessions. There will be a special award for the best case presentation and discussion.

Do you need more reasons to join us? Here are some: besides the academic and scientific activities THE COURSE also offers a relaxed learning environment as well as a warm social atmosphere. In fact the charm of Davos, its mountains prepared for skiing, the magic of the fresh air and the winter sports are ready to welcome you.

We invite you to enjoy a unique experience: the combination of very exciting scientific programs with the relaxing and romantic setting of Davos. Furthermore you will have the opportunity to interact with participants and Faculty coming from different cultures from all over the world. We hope that at the end of the week, you will return home with new experiences and expertise that will benefit you and your patients.

Don't miss THE COURSE.

Sincerely,



**Germán Ochoa**

Chairperson AOSpine Education Commission  
Course Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Germán Ochoa', with a horizontal line underneath.

## Course overview

	Sunday Afternoon, December 9, 2012	Monday, December 10, 2012	Tuesday, December 11, 2012	Wednesday, December 12, 2012	Thursday, December 13, 2012
<b>Degenerative cervical spine and spinal trauma Advanced Course</b>	Registration and welcome ceremony	Degenerative cervical spine	Degenerative cervical spine	Spinal trauma	Spinal trauma
<b>Degenerative lumbar spine, deformities, and tumors Advanced Course</b>	Registration and welcome ceremony	Degenerative lumbar spine	Degenerative lumbar spine	Deformities and tumors	Deformities and tumors
<b>Degenerative cervical spine, deformities, and tumors Advanced Course</b>	Registration and welcome ceremony	Deformities and tumors	Deformities and tumors	Degenerative cervical spine	Degenerative cervical spine
<b>Degenerative lumbar spine and spinal trauma Advanced Course</b>	Registration and welcome ceremony	Spinal trauma	Spinal trauma	Degenerative lumbar spine	Degenerative lumbar spine
<b>Masters Symposium</b>	Registration and welcome ceremony	Meet the expert	Meet the expert	Meet the expert	Meet the expert

## Course description

### **Masters Symposium**

This mainly interactive course will be delivered in a case-based format. Clinical case presentations will be followed by small group discussions, led by renowned international faculty. Conclusions for each case will be presented in a plenary session, followed by an evidence-based review of the literature.

### **Advanced Courses**

Four simultaneous Advanced courses are available—each offering a predefined combination of **two modules** from a total of five areas of pathology: cervical degeneration, lumbar degeneration, deformities, tumors, and trauma.

Please refer to the table on the opposite page to identify the course that corresponds to your topics of interest.

The modules mainly focus on interactive case discussions and evidence-based practice, including lectures and workshops.

Over the next pages you will find descriptions of each of the individual modules.

**The lectures, cases, discussions, and practicals will cover specific competencies and learning outcomes, based on the AOSpine Curriculum and the AOSpine Principles (stability, biology, alignment, and function).**

## Course Director

### **Germán Ochoa**

Hospital Universitario Clinica San Rafael  
Bogota, Colombia

## Chairpersons

### **Advanced Courses**

#### **Degenerative cervical spine module**

##### **Abdulaziz Al-Mutair**

Alrazi Hospital, Ministry of Health  
Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialization  
Adailiya, Kuwait

## Educational Advisors

##### **Abdulrazzaq Alobaid**

Alrazi Orthopaedic Hospital  
Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialization  
Kuwait City, Kuwait

#### **Degenerative lumbar spine module**

##### **Richard Emery**

Mater Hospital  
Belgian Gardens, Australia

##### **Christopher Cain**

University of Colorado Denver  
Aurora, USA

#### **Deformities & tumors module**

##### **Michael Daubs**

University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, USA

##### **Laurence Rhines**

University of Texas, M D Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, USA

#### **Spinal trauma module**

##### **Mario Taricco**

Faculdade Medicina USP  
São Paulo, Brazil

##### **Ufuk Aydinli**

Medicabil Hospital  
Bursa, Turkey

## Masters Symposium

#### **Meet the expert**

##### **Luca Papavero**

Schön Klinik Hamburg-Eilbek  
Hamburg, Germany

##### **Roberto Postigo**

Clinica Las Condes  
Santiago, Chile

## AOSpine Masters Symposium

### **Target participants**

This symposium is targeted at surgeons with more than 10 years of experience in spine surgery. Participants should have a special interest in improving their knowledge and clinical judgment based on the best available evidence.

### **Aims**

The symposium will evaluate critically "standards of care" and focus on controversial aspects of spine pathology in an interactive case-based environment. This will provide participants with the latest information and the best current evidence, based on up-to-date literature and the experience of leading spine surgeons.

### **Description**

This mainly interactive course will be delivered in a case-based format. Clinical case presentations will be followed by small-group discussions, led by renowned international faculty. Conclusions for each case will be presented in a plenary session, followed by an evidence-based review of the literature. Special focus will be placed on difficult cases and controversial treatment strategies. Each case will be reviewed from diagnostic studies through treatment options, pitfalls, possible complications, and avoidance of complications, to outcome measures.

### **Objectives**

Participants will be able to:

- Evaluate different treatment options in managing difficult spinal conditions, based on the best available evidence and clinical judgment
- Discuss the latest advances and controversies
- Present and debate the conclusions of the small discussions groups
- Consider changing their own clinical practice in terms of decision making, surgical techniques, and management of complications, in order to strive for the best possible clinical outcome for each patient

## AOSpine Advanced Courses

### Degenerative cervical spine module

#### Target participants

This module is targeted at surgeons with more than five years of experience in spinal management and with a special interest in improving their knowledge and skills in treating degenerative diseases in the cervical spine.

#### Aims

This module focuses on the most frequent pathologies that surgeons face in their daily practice, and also addresses complex cases. It aims to meet participants' needs for the benefit of their patients.

#### Description

Renowned international faculty will present and discuss the most common pathologies and management options for the degenerative cervical spine using evidence-based medicine. Cases will be discussed by faculty and participants so that different treatment options, outcomes, and the latest developments can be shared. Practical exercises will further the outcome of this course with regard to instrumentation of degenerative diseases in the cervical spine. Different sessions will cover non-operative and surgical treatment options, anterior and posterior approaches, fusion versus non-fusion, and how to avoid and manage complications.

#### Objectives

Participants will be able to :

- Compare various non-operative treatment options for cervical disc degeneration and herniation, discuss indications and timing, and review clinical examination protocols for surgical management
- Evaluate different surgical alternatives for the management of degenerative cervical spinal diseases
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of motion preservation versus fusion based on current clinical results
- Describe the benefits and possible complications of anterior and posterior approaches in multilevel cervical disorders and discuss different treatment options (with and without instrumentation)
- Recognize the most common complications in cervical spine surgery and explain different ways to manage these during and after surgery



## Degenerative lumbar spine module

### Target participants

This module is targeted at surgeons with more than five years of experience in managing degenerative disorders of the lumbar spine, and who are willing to update their current knowledge.

### Aims

Expert surgeons will openly discuss controversies in managing lumbar degenerative disorders. Participants will be actively involved in discussing diagnosis, investigations and treatment, including emerging technologies based on case presentations covering most lumbar degenerative disorders.

### Description

Lumbar degeneration is an unavoidable and universal process. A general increase in life expectancy is likely to increase the incidence of this pathology and the need for treatment. It is our duty to understand these pathologies and offer appropriate treatment to the right patient at the right time. Controversies arise simply because of human nature, but it is important to share experience and therefore improve our management. This interactive course is designed to facilitate discussion between participants and experts, exchange ideas and experience, and most importantly to summarize clear take-home messages. Cases discussions involving participants in groups will be the main format of the course; lectures will mainly emphasize the key points from the experts. Workshops will also facilitate interaction.

### Requirements

Participating surgeons will be required to have the following skills and knowledge prior to the course:

- Obtain a comprehensive history relevant to the assessment and management of degenerative disease of the lumbar spine
- Perform a comprehensive clinical examination
- Have an understanding of investigational modalities for assessing degenerative lumbar disease

### Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe the pathogenesis and natural history of degeneration disease of the lumbar spine.
- Select and interpret appropriate diagnostic tools
- Review the current evidence regarding available treatment methods and apply this knowledge appropriately in the management of patients
- Use appropriate non-operative modalities
- Explain strategies for minimizing complications and understand how to deal with complications as they arise
- Use outcome measures and tools to assess and evaluate interventions undertaken

## Deformities and tumors module

### Target participants

This module is targeted at surgeons with more than five years of experience in spinal management and with a special interest to improve their knowledge and skills in treating deformities and tumors.

### Aims

This module comprehensively addresses pediatric and adult spinal deformities, and spinal tumors. The fundamentals of diagnosis, classification, treatment and outcomes will be presented.

### Description

Decision making, operative and nonoperative treatments, and outcomes will be presented and discussed based on reviews of the current evidence. Controversial issues will be debated by experts, and participants will be encouraged to interact through open discussions and the use of the Audience Response System (ARS). A practical exercise will provide hands-on demonstrations of surgical techniques. Case-based sessions will reinforce strategies for diagnosis and management.

### Deformity objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Clinically and radiographically evaluate patients of all ages with spinal deformities
- Order and interpret x-rays to evaluate sagittal and coronal balance, and curve flexibility
- Appropriate use advanced imaging to evaluate spinal cord anomalies in deformity
- Describe the natural history of the various types of scoliosis and use evidence based decision-making when recommending operative and non-operative treatment
- Apply surgical strategies and manage complications associated with the procedures utilized to treat scoliosis, coronal and sagittal imbalance
- Recognize the role of clinical outcome measures in evaluating the success of treatment

### Tumor objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Recognize signs and symptoms of neoplastic disease of the spine
- Discuss relevant diagnostic studies pertaining to spinal tumors and factors impacting survival
- Recognize the importance of histologic diagnosis and the role of biopsy
- Outline current treatment alternatives for metastatic and primary spinal column tumors and spinal cord tumors
- Recognize the role of embolization, cement augmentation, and spinal stereotactic radiosurgery
- Recognize surgical indications and techniques including intradural en bloc resection
- Explain the impact of each spinal region on the surgical approach

## Spinal trauma module

### Target participants

This module is targeted at surgeons with more than five years of experience in spinal management and with a special interest in improving their knowledge and skills in treating spinal trauma.

### Aims

This module addresses the most common and critical patient problems due to spinal fractures from the craniocervical junction to the sacrum, and manage postinjury and postoperative complications.

### Description

Sessions will start with case discussions and will be followed by short lectures on specific topics. The best available scientific evidence, technical tips and tricks, and advantages and disadvantages of different treatment methods will be delivered to the participants by the expert faculty members and audience participation and discussion will be strongly encouraged.

### Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Identify the patient problems using appropriate clinical examination and radiological studies
- Apply evidence-based decision making to the management of the patient
- Plan treatment with the help of the AOSpine Principles
  1. Apply biomechanical principles of internal fixation
  2. Protect the neural elements and enhance bone healing
  3. Restore normal alignment
  4. Preserve motion segments
- Identify and manage postinjury and postoperative complications

# HONG KONG

EXHIBITION &  
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**Call for abstracts**  
Opens May 14, 2012



## The Global Spine Congress heads for Asia

Following the tremendous success of the GSC 2009 in San Francisco and the GSC 2011 in Barcelona, Hong Kong hosts the GSC 2013.

This 3rd GSC represents a unique academic platform that is open to all surgeons, spine practitioners, and researchers. We offer you a packed program presenting the very cutting-edge of spine care.

Join the GSC in Hong Kong and profit from opportunities to acquaint yourself with the latest technological developments and to connect with your peers from around the world.

**For more information visit: [www.globalspinecongress.org](http://www.globalspinecongress.org)**

## Course schedule and social events

### **Sunday, December 9, 2012**

Registration is mandatory 13:00–17:00 at the Congress Center  
Opening ceremony and welcome cocktail 17:00  
The participants will have the opportunity to meet the faculty and to get to know each other.

### **Monday, December 10, 2012**

Scientific program 08:00–approx 19:00  
Lunch break 12:00–16:00  
Social activity 20:00–approx 24:00

### **Tuesday, December 11, 2012/Wednesday, December 12, 2012**

Scientific program 08:00–approx 19:00  
Lunch break 12:00–16:00

### **Thursday, December 13, 2012**

Scientific program 08:00–approx 16:00  
Lunch break 12:00–13:00  
(lunch provided at Congress Center)

# AOSpine presents, **Global Spine Journal**



## **Why publish in the Global Spine Journal?**

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[www.aospine.org](http://www.aospine.org)

## Course organization

AOSpine International  
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[vcapaul@aospine.org](mailto:vcapaul@aospine.org)

### **Information and registration**

[www.aospine.org/davoscourses](http://www.aospine.org/davoscourses)  
Online registration opens in July 2012

## Course venue



### **Advanced Courses & Masters Symposium**

Congress Center Davos  
Talstrasse 41  
7270 Davos Platz  
Switzerland

## Course information

### Course fee

AOSpine Advanced Courses CHF 2'700.–

AOSpine Masters Symposium CHF 2'700.–

AOSpine members are eligible for a discount of 10%.

### Course registration

The online registration on the website [www.aospine.org/davoscourses](http://www.aospine.org/davoscourses) opens in July 2012.

### Included in course fee

Conference bag with scientific documentation, use of instruments for the practical exercises, bus transportation in Davos, welcome drink, coffee breaks, social event, and course certificate.

### Course language

English

### Payment options

Online payment with credit card

Accepted credit cards: American Express, Visa, Eurocard/Mastercard

Invoicing is possible on request

### Cancellation policy

Cancellation will be charged as follows:

Until September 9, 2012 50% of course fee

Until November 9, 2012 75% of course fee

After November 9, 2012 100% of course fee

Participants should make sure that they have cancellation insurance.

Bank fees including commission for payment by credit card (approx 4%) will be charged in addition to the cancellation fee.



**Accreditation**

AOSpine courses are accredited for continuing medical education (CME) programs. The number of credit points or hours varies from country to country.

The certificate and accreditation information with credit points will be distributed at the courses.

**No insurance**

The course organization does not take out insurance to cover participants against cancellation of course, accidents, or other risks. Personal belongings deposited in the Congress Center are the responsibility of the individual participant.

**Security**

There will be security checks at the entrance of the building. Wearing your course badge is mandatory during lectures, workshops, and group discussions.

**Mobile phone & camera use**

The use of mobile phones and cameras is strictly prohibited in the lecture halls and in the practical exercise areas. Please be considerate of others and turn your mobile phone off.

**Dress code**

During the course: casual or sportswear

Social activity: smart casual

Davos is a mountain resort therefore warm clothes and suitable shoes are advisable.

## Accommodation

Please refer to the event page [www.aospine.org/davoscourses](http://www.aospine.org/davoscourses) for the link to the official hotel booking system from "Davos Congress". This page is available starting the same day as course registration opening.

Accommodation must be paid directly by the participant when checking out. As a guarantee for your hotel booking your credit card number is required. In case of withdrawing from a reservation the following conditions/fees shall apply:

Up to 14 days prior to arrival      Cancellations are free of charge

From 13 days prior to arrival      100% of the total cancelled revenue will be charged.

Cancellations will only be charged if the hotel cannot resell the cancelled nights.

The Congress Center is situated in the middle of the town; every hotel is within 20 minutes walking distance or 5 minutes by local bus (free for all visitors of Davos).

Davos Congress will confirm your hotel reservation in November.

Private apartments can also be rented directly through Davos Congress.

### **Contact details**

Davos Congress

Davos Destinations-Organisation

Tourismus- und Sportzentrum

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7270 Davos

Switzerland

Phone +41 81 415 21 62

Fax +41 81 415 21 69

Email [aohotel@davos.ch](mailto:aohotel@davos.ch)

[www.davoscongress.ch](http://www.davoscongress.ch)

## Transportation

### **By plane**

From Zürich Airport either by train or car.

### **By train**

Traveling comfortably without hassle—the trains will take you and all your luggage to Davos.

A regular train service throughout the day will conveniently bring you from Zürich main station or Zürich Airport to Davos; travel time approximately 3 hours.

Last trains to Davos:

Departure from Zürich Airport	21:13*
Departure from Zürich main station	21:37*
Arrival at Davos Dorf	23:53*

\*For detailed information please check: [www.sbb.ch](http://www.sbb.ch)

### **By car**

Davos is located in the heart of Grisons (Graubünden) in the east of Switzerland. You will find your way to Davos easily by taking the highway to Landquart (direction Chur). The route is about 150 km and it takes approx 2 ½ hours from Zürich to Davos.

Depending on road conditions, in winter, you may need snow chains once you reach Klosters.

