



## 2025 MAOO Continuing Education Program October 24-26, 2025

[REGISTRATION](#) is open for our fall conference, offering 20 COPE Accredited CE hours (INSERT NUMBER)

**Location:** Double Tree Park Place, 1500 Park Place Blvd. Mpls, MN 55416 Reserve a room on-line at [DoubleTree](#) October 1 0<sup>th</sup> for MAOO rate of \$129 for standard king standard double, or double/double. \$139 triple, \$149 four persons. To make a reservation by phone, call 952.542.8600, press 0 for front desk, make reservation for MN Association for Optometrists and Opticians or Group Code 90H.

**Full program-** \$550 (20 Credits)

**Friday or Saturday-**\$250 (8 credits per day)

**Sunday -**\$125 (4 Credits)

Payment on Site, Cash or Check only

### **Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>--Speaker—Paul Ajamian, OD**

8-9:45 am **Mitigating Malpractice: A Comprehensive Guide for Optometrists** (2 credits) 94305-EJ--This course will help the attendee understand what circumstances lead to a medical malpractice lawsuit, and how to avoid problems by paying attention to 10 basic practice principles. Actual cases will be discussed.

10-12 pm **Clinical Quandaries: Fighting the Fear Factor!** (2 credit) COPE Pending-- This course will look at actual cases seen in the nation's oldest co-management center, illustrating how to tackle challenging cases without fear of reprisal from malpractice attorneys.

### **Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>—Speaker Eric Schmidt, OD**

1pm-2 pm **Dry Eye- A New Look at an Old Disease** (1 credits) COPE pending. Dry Eye is a disease that is has been around for a long time. Yet, it remains underdiagnosed and greatly undertreated. This course will present a contemporary understanding of ocular surface disease and our enhanced understanding of the various etiologies of ocular surface disease. A great deal of time will be spent on proper diagnosis and on raising the doctors index of suspicion for the prevalence of dry eye. detailed discussion on the various treatments will take place, with a special emphasis on the indications for the newest therapies, including procedures.

2pm-3pm **Unmasking Uveitis (1 credit) 97920-TD** Uveitis is a common ocular condition that can have serious complications. This course will delineate the various presentations of iritis and its differential diagnosis. Treatment options will be presented and strategies on tapering therapy will be discussed. When and what type of laboratory testing should be employed will be detailed as well as the management of side effects of therapy and complicated cases

3pm-5pm **Clinical Conundrums- Tales from the Exam Lane (2 Credits) 97541-GO--** This course will feature case presentations with seemingly innocuous presentations that turn out to be complicated entities. Detailed differential diagnosis schemes will be presented for each case and potential therapy paradigms will be outlined. Each case will be followed to its end so that the attendee will be able to completely work through the presentation from its start to completion. Potential pitfalls of improper diagnosis and therapy will be discussed. Discussions of proper treatment options and proper ancillary testing procedures will occur.

**Saturday, October 25th --Speaker, Kassandra Johnston, O.D.**

8-9:45am **Neuro-Referral Grand Rounds (2 credits) 98243-NO --**We will discuss multiple complex neuro -optometric cases to better understand how to approach complex histories or measurements. We will discuss additional testing to help focus our diagnosis. Topics will span from visual field loss, referrals and co-management, thyroid eye disease and atypical GCA presentation.

10-11 am **Common Questions in Pediatric Eye Care (1 credit) 98245-FV -**Case discussions that integrate common questions and referrals in a pediatric eye exam. The course will discuss when to prescribe and how to determine the most appropriate prescription for your patient. There will be an integration of referrals to other professionals and when that may be appropriate or necessary in pediatric eye care. The course will wrap-up with a short discussion on pediatric medications for eye care.

11-12pm **When Things Don't Line Up — A Crash Course (1 credit) 98244-NO--**This lecture will cover a review of cranial nerve III, IV, & VI anatomy and pathways. We will discuss a clinical approach to assessing, diagnosing and treating double vision in office. Understanding what simple modifications that can be made to improve prism prescribing. Finally finishing up with a discussion of neurological eye alignment issues and diagnosis.

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Speaker Danica Marrelli, OD**

1-2:45pm **Maximizing OCT in the Diagnosis and Management of Glaucoma (2 credits) 95530-GL--**This course covers retinal nerve fiber layer, optic disc, and macular thickness OCT scanning utilized in the diagnosis and management of glaucoma. A systematic strategy for interpretation is provided, and common pitfalls such as artifacts

are reviewed. Progression detection using progression software is presented. Numerous case examples are utilized to show the clinical relevance of this technology.

3pm-4pm     **Visual Fields: What's Old, What's New, What's Out, What's In**(1 credit)  
COPE pending—This 1-hour lecture on glaucoma visual fields; touches on the new headset perimeters as well as other visual field topics.

4pm- 5pm     **Roadmap to Geographic Atrophy**(1 Credit) COPE Pending “Co-managing Geographic Atrophy Patients”

### **Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> Leonid Skorin, DO, OD**

8-9 am         **Spasms, Twitches and Other Eyelid Glitches** (1Credit) COPE Pending --  
This course reviews the neuro-ophthalmic uses of botulinum toxin. Emphasis will be placed on the facial and neck dystonia's. Cosmetic use will be reviewed. Specific clinical cases will be highlighted. Precautions and potential adverse effects of botulinum toxin will be presented.

9-10 am       **Artificial Intelligence: Focusing on the Diabetes Pandemic** (1 Credit)  
COPE Pending--Artificial intelligence (AI) now has the capacity to screen for diabetic retinopathy. The various AI systems will be introduced. Optometrists need to position themselves as both the entry point to the medical system and as co-managers of diabetic patients continued success in coping with their disease. This course will address clinical inertia and how to successfully overcome it.

10-12 pm     COPE Pending--Trauma to the eye is commonly seen in optometric practice. This course will review the necessary examinations and testing for anterior segment ocular trauma. It will cover foreign bodies, blunt trauma, orbital fractures and other anterior segment eye injuries.

All courses will be approved by COPE and State Boards are requiring the use of OE Tracker that allows you to use your smart phone to track your CE credits. If you do not have a smart phone, bring your OE tracker card and we will assist you in recording your attendance to ARBO.

### **Speaker Bios**

**Friday AM – Paul Ajamian, OD** Dr. Paul C. Ajamian, OD is Board Certified by the American Board of Optometry and is the Co-Founder and Director of Omni Eye Services of Atlanta, the nation's first Optometric Co-Management Center. He is an author of two textbooks and

editor of Review of Optometry's popular monthly column "Clinical Quandaries." He is a past president of the Georgia Optometric Association and as Legislative Chairman orchestrated the passage of Georgia's Glaucoma, Narcotic bills, oral meds and injections bills. He is a well-known speaker and has served as General Chairman of the Education Committee for SECO International since 2002. He was appointed to the Georgia State Board of Optometry by Governor Brian Kemp in June of 2021. In 2014 he was the recipient of the AOA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Achievement. In 2015, he was inducted into the National Optometry Hall of Fame. In 2017, he received Review of Optometry's Career Achievement Award.

**Friday Afternoon --Dr. Eric Schmidt** graduated from Indiana University School of Optometry in 1997. Through his years in practice, he has become particularly interested in advancements in contact lens materials, retinal treatments and advancements in technology leading to more efficient examination. He has been involved in clinical trials, and lectures frequently to optometrists nationally on these topics. He has also authored numerous articles in scientific journals. Because of his wide experience in practices and types of practices, he enjoys seeing patients of all ages, especially those with challenging eye conditions. He is a fellow of both the Academy of Optometry and Optometric Retina Society. Dr. Gerson is in private practice at the WestGlen Eyecare & Omni Eye Center of Kansas City.

**Saturday Morning--Dr. Kassandra Johnston** started her career at Schreiner University in Kerville, TX, graduating Magnum Cum Laude with Bachelor of Science Degree. She continued her education at the Houston College of Optometry (UHCO) where she also completed a residency program in Neuro-optometric Rehabilitation and then became a faculty member where she taught for ten years. She served as Director of Pediatric and Binocular Vision Services as well as Neuro-optometric Rehab Clinic. She and her husband moved to Colorado Springs and open a private practice. Dr. Johnson is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, and she continues to teach at both UHCO and RMU optometry schools assisting in courses as well as lecturing at continuing education courses. Her specialties include neuro-optometry, pediatrics, binocular vision and special needs. When not working she enjoys the outdoors with her husband and two children.

**Saturday Afternoon-- Danica Marrelli, O.D.** --Dr. Marrelli received her Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO), and completed a residency in hospital-based optometry at the Baltimore VA Medical Center in Baltimore, MD. She is a Clinical Professor at UHCO, where she serves as Assistant Dean of Clinical Education and Service Director of the Ocular Diagnostic/Medical Eye Service. In the classroom, Dr. Marrelli teaches in the ocular pharmacology, glaucoma and case-based learning courses. Dr. Marrelli became a diplomate in the ocular disease (glaucoma) section of the American Academy of Optometry in November 2009. She is the President of the Optometric Glaucoma Society and serves on the Education and Communication Committee of the Glaucoma Research Foundation.

**Sunday AM Leonid Skorin, Jr., DO, OD, MS, FAAO, FAOCO** -- Dr. Leonid Skorin, Jr. completed his OD at the Illinois College of Optometry and his DO at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He did his osteopathic medical/surgical internship in Tulsa, OK and his ophthalmology residency at Michigan State University/Metropolitan Hospital. He did a neuro-ophthalmology fellowship at the University of Illinois Eye & Ear Infirmary. Dr. Skorin also has a Master of Science in Medical Education Leadership through the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. He is a Consultant in the Department of Surgery, Community Division of Ophthalmology at the Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea and Austin, MN and is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.