

Visit Las Vegas for the 2024 ADSA/IFDAS Meeting

The American Dental Society of Anesthesiology (ADSA) and the International Federation of Dental Anesthesiology Societies (IFDAS) will be jointly hosting the 17th International Dental Congress on Anesthesia, Sedation, and Pain Control this coming spring 2024 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Typically, the ADSA holds its annual series of review courses in Las Vegas in February, followed by its Annual Session later in April; however, this year the ADSA is combining both events in anticipation of this combined venture. IFDAS meetings, on the other hand, are triennial affairs, but the last one planned for 2021 in Moscow was unfortunately derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing geopolitical unrest in Eastern Europe. Activities will begin on March 14 and run through March 16. The joint conference will be held at the stylish Aria Resort & Casino and, being the first in-person meeting of IFDAS since Japan in 2018, is sure to be a “can’t miss” affair.

This year’s joint meeting will feature a combination of presentations on sedation-related and general anesthesia-related topics as well as the ADSA House of Delegates and the IFDAS General Assembly. Review courses planned for that Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16, will include content curated explicitly for providers of general anesthesia and deep sedation, minimal and moderate sedation, and pediatric sedation as well as an assistant course for auxiliaries who work in dental practices incorporating sedation and general anesthesia. Lectures by world-renown speakers will cover sedation and general anesthesia complications, issues surrounding local anesthetic toxicity, patient safety and risk management, and future trends in anesthesia. A reception will be held on Friday to cap off that day’s activities, where conference attendees can meet and mingle with colleagues from around the globe. Given the popularity of the past ADSA Las Vegas review courses, this year is expected to be even more highly attended due to the additional draw of IFDAS.

Preceding the start of lectures by a day, the ADSA High-Fidelity Human Simulation Course will be held on Thursday, March 14 at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) simulation center. This is another ADSA course offering that has been quite popular throughout the years, particularly following the move to the state-of-the-art UNLV simulation facility. It utilizes high-fidelity Laerdal SimMan 3G human simulators combined with emergency scenarios specifically tailored by the ADSA course faculty for providers of sedation and general anesthesia for dentistry. The ADSA has received notice from the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS) that the ADSA simulation course is now approved

for recognition of simulation equivalency. This allows AAOMS members to utilize the ADSA simulation course as an alternative to the AAOMS Office-Based Emergency Management course requirement, a newly introduced obligation to maintain AAOMS membership.

The UNLV Simulation Center features 4 hospital rooms fully stocked with actual medical equipment and supplies in addition to mock medications for a true-to-life feeling when responding to a crisis event. Each simulation room has its corresponding classroom for observation, debriefing, and further discussion post-mock drill. Doctors are encouraged to bring along their auxiliary clinical staff to have the ideal team experience managing anesthesia-related urgencies and emergencies, both common and rare. This world-class facility and its ADSA-sponsored educational and training opportunity are only a short bus ride from the Aria hotel. Simply put, it is another “must” on the agenda.

Las Vegas has plenty to offer outside of the conference proceedings, and while the saying goes, “whatever happens in Vegas stays in Vegas,” there will be more to do than just exploring all that the Strip and Fremont Street offer. Meeting attendees looking for a brief respite from the packed meeting itinerary are in luck. The ADSA and IFDAS have arranged for sightseeing tours to the West Rim of the Grand Canyon and Hoover Dam on Friday, March 15. A full-day trip to see one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World and the engineering marvel that is the Hoover Dam is not likely to disappoint. Although cell phones and personal cameras are not allowed while on the Grand Canyon Skywalk, it serves visitors unparalleled scenic views sure to astound. Another choice is a half-day tour on Saturday, March 16 for those wishing to visit Red Rock Canyon and its distinctive rock formations and breathtaking views. The 13-mile scenic loop provides an excellent opportunity to briefly disconnect from society while taking in the unique landscape of this part of the American Southwest. Anyone interested in taking advantage of either tour option should sign up early online through the meeting website.

Las Vegas and its surrounding areas have much to offer for newcomers. While many are likely familiar with this bustling city, all should consider a visit this coming spring to check out the festivities planned by the ADSA and IFDAS. This meeting should have something for everyone and will be an outstanding experience. If you want to join other dentists from across the globe who share interests in all things related to sedation and general anesthesia for dentistry, look no further than the joint ADSA and IFDAS meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada in March 2024.

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