



**ACADEMY
OF APPLIED
MYOFUNCTIONAL
SCIENCES**

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Dear AAMS Community,

We hope you have managed as well as possible for you and your loved ones in these tumultuous times around the world!

As you know, our society elected to transform our live 5th Academy of Applied Myofunctional Sciences Congress, with a lead theme "Myofunctional Orthodontic Intervention At the Earliest Age Possible For the Most Amount of People," originally scheduled for June 26-29, 2020, in Paris, France to a virtual, on-line setting. There was so much enthusiasm from our speakers, registrants, and members to not cave to the dismay caused by the coronavirus, to not give up on meeting in 2020 so as to further science, knowledge, and clinical applications for our dynamic and rapidly emerging area of myofunctional therapy and its essential allied fields.

All of our original 30+ speakers enthusiastically elected to join us, as did practically every registrant, with more joining in for our virtual meeting.

Then, something tremendous happened.

Speakers whose schedules wouldn't allow them travel to Paris, came forward and submitted to speak--- renowned authorities offered to contribute workshops! Leaders brainstormed on how we might develop position statements and stepping stones towards position papers.

Upon much discussion, research, and exploration, our program committee and board have worked to rethink how we can deliver a virtual congress. How do we move beyond "Zoom burnout?" How can we make everything accessible across timezones? How can we best facilitate presentations being digested and put to work, taking advantage of the virtual, online format?

To date, we have 75+ presentations, organised within 9 symposia tracks, and a 1/2 dozen workshops, with yet more submissions being processed. With such a wealth of resources, reflecting the best in treatment and research in 2020, we decided to reimagine the Virtual Congress, with a dynamic format.

To process this abundance of contributions, we have decided to transform the meeting to A Virtual Congress Reimagined: A live/on-demand hybrid, with all 75+ speakers, in 9 tracks, on demand, with featured live keynotes, panels, and workshops, over the month of August, 1-30. Kickoff, August 1st, with the opening ceremony & panel discussion + 2 live keynotes, with closing panel discussions by track, with live voting on position statements, August 29-30. The symposia tracks include:

- Pediatric Orthodontic Intervention at the Earliest Age Possible: A Call for an International Pediatric Orthodontic Society (IPOS)
- The 1st 1000 Days of Life: A Call To Radically Reimagine Prevention, Screening, & Care With Myofunctional Principles
- Orofacial Myofunctional Therapy & Orthodontics
- Breathing: Function & Dysfunction
- Frenulum Inspection, Surgery, & Rehabilitation Across the Lifespan
- Craniofacial Morphology & the Physical Body
- Sleep & Myofunctional Therapy
- Nutrition, Chewing, & Systemic Health
- The Multi-Disciplinary Team & OMT

- We will have a call for position statements for each track, that all attendees will be able to contribute to.
- We will have at least a 1/2 dozen workshops and breakouts (TBA) scheduled across the month of August.
- On August 22nd at our 5th AAMS Hippocrates Gala (Virtual) we will celebrate lifetime achievements, profound contributions, and rising stars whose work and leadership have changed medicine and pave the way forward for future help for untold millions
- All presentations will be accessible on demand, available for comment, feedback, and interaction.
- All will be included for the same congress registration.

We offer our sincere apologies for anyone whose schedule is impacted by these changes. Our program committee has worked tremendously hard to deliver the best resources in a format that will make the most of the virtual format, that can best suit our times. We are very excited to commence regular and compelling announcements and updates in the run up to the congress, commencing with this message.

Please join us as we continue our passionate work to change medicine, advancing myofunctional sciences and their relationship to all allied fields. In our short history, the AAMS has had a profound impact in the advancement of this work, helping people across the world, and we are just getting started...

This is a call to action, and to not allow COVID-19 to slow our progress in any way, shape or form.

You, your colleagues, and your respective communities will not want to miss this meeting!

Registration is open at <https://aamsinfo.org/2020-congress>

Sincerely,

The 2020 AAMS 5th Congress Committee & AAMS Board