

Welcome to Chicago



Dear colleagues!

As the chairman of the 5th Annual RAMA/RADA International Conference, I have the privilege to welcome you to Chicago. Chicago is the largest city in the Midwest, and with a population of almost 3 million people, it is the third largest city in the United States. Since the Chicago World's Fair in 1893, the "Windy City" has been regarded as one of the ten most influential cities in the world. It is now is a U.S. applicant city for the 2016 Summer Olympics.

In addition to world-renowned museums, Chicago is home to a variety of spectacular attractions. Navy Pier is the city's lakefront playground and the state's most popular attraction, offering visitors a unique blend of family-oriented attractions. This famed attraction boasts a 150-foot high Ferris wheel, a musical carousel, the Wave Swinger ride in Pier Park, a 3-D Time Escape ride, the Chicago Children's Museum, a variety of restaurants, and the famed Chicago Shakespeare Theater.

With six medical schools and more than 40 hospitals in the city, Chicago ranks among the world's leading centers for health care, medical training, and research. Of particular interest to our medical community, the International Museum of Surgical Science on Lake Shore Drive offers four floors of medical artifacts, instruments, and other collections documenting centuries of international medical history.

The John Hancock Observatory on Michigan Avenue is an amazing experience, with spectacular views spanning up to 80 miles and 4 states. Chicago's newest global icon is Millennium Park which opened in 2004. The 24.5 acre park has instantly become a world-class attraction and a Chicago landmark. It contains an outdoor performing arts pavilion, an indoor year-round theatre, restaurants, an ice-skating rink, a contemporary garden, public art, fountains, a promenade area for special events, landscaped walkways, and green spaces.

Other Chicago attractions not to miss include Buckingham Fountain at Grant Park, the Shedd Aquarium, the Adler Planetarium, and the Sears Tower Skydeck. And of course, don't forget about the opportunities for world-class shopping, dining, and entertainment found along the Magnificent Mile.

We Chicagoans love our city and hope that you find your time here both enjoyable and educational. Our goal, as organizers of this meeting is to provide our international Russian-speaking medical community with opportunities to grow together professionally and to collaborate on numerous national and international projects, both scientific and humanitarian.

Welcome to Chicago! We are glad you are here!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yevgeniy Khavkin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yevgeniy Khavkin, M.D.

Chairman, 2007 RAMA/RADA Annual Conference