The 2023 Coalition for the Life Sciences’ Congressional Life Science Fair
Wednesday, July 19, 2023
Rayburn House Office Building, Capitol Hill

On the evening of July 19, 2023 the Academy attended the Congressional Life Science Fair on Capitol Hill, hosted by the Coalition for Life Sciences (CLS). This event provided devoted life science researchers, and their advocates, the opportunity to present their recent achievements and breakthroughs to the public. This event also allowed researchers and organizations to connect with members of Congress and their staff to explain the significance of these discoveries and draw connections to how research improves and saves lives. By making the connections between researchers and members, the event showcases the importance of research funding for institutions like the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The possibility of groundbreaking discoveries increases with sustained and strong support by members of Congress.

The Academy highlighted advancements in imaging research through two of our members – Dr. Natasha Sheybani, an imaging researcher from the University of Virginia, who leads a translational research program centered on advancing acoustic therapy, quantitative imaging, and liquid biopsy for non-invasive precision cancer management, and Dr. Karun Sharma, an interventional radiologist from Children’s National Hospital working for over 15 years to advance minimally-invasive and non-invasive therapies for adult and pediatric patients with cancer. Drs. Sheybani and Sharma presented innovative practices and discoveries in the field of radiology from both the research and clinical perspectives. Throughout this event, these imaging stakeholders conversed with a wide range of congressional staff, as well as other life science researchers. They were able to share the impact of their important work as well as the value of advocacy for increased imaging research funding and its positive impacts on patient outcomes.

The Academy is grateful to the CLS for including us in this year’s fair. Our presence on Capitol Hill continues to be a priority as we continue to elevate the Academy’s mission, vision, and diverse community of researchers.
The Academy’s 2023 booth space at the CLS Congressional Life Science Fair on Capitol Hill. (L-R, Austin Davis, Academy 2023 Summer Intern, Dr. Karun Sharma, Children’s National Hospital, Dr. Natasha Sheybani, University of Virginia.)

Academy members and booth presenters, Dr. Karun Sharma, Children’s National Hospital and Dr. Natasha Sheybani, University of Virginia, speak with a Life Science Fair attendee about their research.