

Atlanta gets healthy dose of medical conventions

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The medical industry is supporting a healthy prognosis for Atlanta. In 2012, more than 65 medical groups selected the city as the site for future meetings, conferences and expos, representing the largest number of rooms booked in Atlanta for this segment since 2008. Many of these meetings have never been held in Atlanta or are returning for the first time in more than a decade.

For the first time since 1999, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' annual Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo will return to Atlanta in 2014 and 2022.

New to Atlanta's lineup are two larger meetings that have never met in the city. The Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections will bring more than 4,000 of the world's top researchers in HIV/AIDS to Atlanta this March. Approximately 9,000 attendees will gather for the American Academy of Otolaryngology Annual Meeting and OTO Expo in 2018.

"Atlanta's large medical community and reputation as a leading research hub attracts medical meetings to Atlanta," said William Pate, president and CEO, Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau. "The accessibility of the new Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal and variety of flexible meeting space also enhances Atlanta's offering for these meetings."

More than 50 hospitals and several university research centers also call Atlanta home.