

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

> Inspiring Quality: Highest Standards, Better Outcomes

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

The Value of Membership for the International Fellow

INTERNATIONAL FELLOW

FELLOW ASSOCIATE FELLOW RESIDENT MEMBER MEDICAL STUDENT AFFILIATE MEMBER



# Realize the potential of your profession.

More than 65,000 ACS Fellows are shaping the future of surgical care today.

HE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS (ACS) is the largest organization of surgeons in the world, uniquely positioned to lead the way in optimal patient care, surgical research, health policy, continuing education, and networking opportunities. The ACS is the single strongest voice for surgeons in all specialties and, since its foundation in 1913, has been at the forefront of providing quality care for surgical patients and supporting surgeons wherever they practice. The College works on behalf of our members and their patients by:

*Developing* innovative education and training programs to support practicing surgeons, surgery residents, and members of surgical teams.

**Improving** care for surgical patients through American College of Surgeons Quality Programs, including the Commission on Cancer (CoC), the Committee on Trauma (COT), and the ACS National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP).

*Fostering* the growth of the next generation of promising surgeons through scholarships and fellowships.

*Conducting* research to provide cutting-edge best practices in patient care.

*Giving* surgeons from across the U.S. and around the globe opportunities for networking and professional engagement.

**Promoting** the image of the surgical profession, today and tomorrow.

# *There is strength in numbers.*

You're one of more than *80,000 members* of the American College of Surgeons worldwide.



### INTERNATIONAL FELLOW

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Papua New Guinea

American Samoa >

New Zealand

## Member benefits you can use every day

### Induction into the College represents an important milestone in a surgeon's career.

As a Fellow of the College, you receive *exclusive* access to a wide variety of "members-only" benefits. The College's top priority is providing value for its members. Member benefits include the following valuable opportunities and resources:

EDUCATION	ADVOCACY	COMMUNITIES
RESEARCH	SCHOLARSHIPS	COMMITTEES
PUBLICATIONS	NETWORKING	

### As an ACS Fellow, you automatically receive:

**MEMBER BENEFITS** 

Free subscriptions to all ACS periodicals and e-newsletters

Access to the ACS members-only section of the website and online ACS Communities

ACS Fellows have participated in a rigorous evaluation of their education and training, professional qualifications, surgical competence, and ethical conduct, which were found to be consistent with the high standards established by the College.

### ACS activities and programs of interest to international surgeons

The ACS International Relations Committee aims to promote relationships between the College and surgeons throughout the world in the areas of clinical practice, education, and research in order to provide a basis for the delivery of quality surgical care. The College strives to provide the best information regarding surgical practice and patient safety to all practicing surgeons; moreover, the ACS members-only website houses a forum in the ACS Communities for international surgery, and Operation Giving Back provides surgical volunteerism opportunities around the world.



PROUDLY DISPLAY THAT YOU'RE A FELLOW OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS. DOWNLOAD ARTWORK AT FACS.ORG.

FACS FELLOW AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

## Take advantage of continuing education opportunities

Online, in person, and in print, the College supports knowledge and skill advancement for you to perform at your highest potential. As a Fellow, you can benefit from these meetings and programs:

### The premier annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons

### CLINICAL CONGRESS

This five-day meeting offers high-quality educational programs designed to educate and train surgeons and improve the health and safety of surgical patients. Take advantage of all the Clinical Congress has to offer, including a vast array of educational opportunities such as Named Lectures, Panel Sessions, Postgraduate Courses, abstractdriven Scientific Forum Sessions, Town Hall Meetings, Video-Based Education Sessions, Meet-the-Expert Luncheons, and general and specialty sessions designed specifically for you. A low registration fee is offered to all ACS Fellows. For more information about the Clinical Congress, visit *facs.org*.

### Key surgical knowledge and skills resources

Details about these and other programs and courses can be found at *facs.org/education*.

*Surgical Education Self-Assessment Program (SESAP®)* and *SESAP® Sampler*: Since 1971, *SESAP* has been a premier educational resource for practicing surgeons to assess and maintain their clinical knowledge. *SESAP Sampler* offers an annual subscription to 12 monthly online modules consisting of previously unpublished questions. The topics for both products mirror the American Board of Surgery's content outline for the Recertification Examination.

Selected Readings in General Surgery (SRGS®) and SRGS® Connect: SRGS is the premier literature review in general surgery. It is an easy way to stay current with the surgical literature, improve patient outcomes, and earn CME self-assessment credit from your home or office. SRGS Connect is an online subscription format that can be read on mobile devices. DIVISION OF EDUCATION

**Evidence-Based Decisions in Surgery:** The Evidence-Based Decisions in Surgery modules are derived from practice guidelines to help address diagnoses and conditions most relevant to general surgeons for the purpose of decision support, patient-focused interactions, and patient education. These modules were developed through a multi-step, peer-review process and are available to ACS members electronically through a mobile device, tablet, or computer.

**ACS Comprehensive General Surgery Review Course:** This three-and-a-half-day intensive review of the essential content areas in general surgery includes online modules that can be accessed after the course. The course will help fulfill the requirements for Maintenance of Certification, Part 2 and should be helpful in preparing for recertification examinations.

ACS Multimedia Atlas of Surgery: The four volumes in the series cover liver surgery, hernia surgery, colorectal surgery, and pancreatic surgery. Each volume includes a DVD and accompanying book that provides an interactive demonstration. Each procedure is presented in a step-wise fashion, offering expert commentaries that highlight special nuances and actions to be taken to prevent errors.

**Ultrasound for Surgeons, The Basic Course, 3rd Edition:** This online course provides a basic core of education and training in ultrasound imaging as a foundation for specific clinical applications. There are additional curricula available in advanced topics, such as FAST Ultrasound, ECHO Ultrasound, Thyroid and Parathyroid Ultrasound, and Ultrasound for Pediatric Surgeons.



### Other core competency resources

Details about these and other programs and courses can be found at *facs.org/education*.

**Surgeons as Leaders, From Operating Room to Boardroom:** This live course is designed for surgeons who want to enhance their leadership skills across a wide variety of settings, from operating room to boardroom.

**Professionalism in Surgery, Challenges and Choices:** This DVD addresses the principles of professionalism using 24 vignettes that depict realistic dilemmas surgeons face in everyday practice. The vignettes offer possible courses of action and highlight elements of professionalism.

**Case Studies in Ethics:** The cases on this interactive DVD present commonly encountered ethical scenarios that have ambiguous options for action with uncertain results. Each case is debated by two surgeons and a variety of ethics, legal, and other experts.

**Communicating with Patients about Surgical Errors and Adverse Outcomes:** The focus of this DVD is the essential principles of communicating with patients about surgical errors and adverse outcomes. A range of communication strategies with varying levels of effectiveness are shown and discussion points are provided.

**Disclosing Surgical Errors, Vignettes for Discussion:** Designed for teaching, this DVD shows the interactions of a surgeon with a patient's family. Examples of typical interactions regarding surgical errors are provided, along with examples of communication strategies that are more effective.

**Patient Education Resources:** The Patient Education Program is dedicated to improving the quality of surgical patient care and promoting a better recovery. Home skills kits to prepare patients for complex care, a surgical prep and brochure series, procedure-specific informed consent forms, a surgical cancer series, and a professional surgical patient education certification program are just some of the programs available to members. Many of these materials are available in Spanish and Chinese.

# Learn the fundamental elements of trauma care

The American College of Surgeons trauma programs are designed to help health care professionals develop the necessary skills for trauma care in local, regional, national, and international areas. Details about these and other courses and programs can be found at *facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/education*.



### Advanced Trauma Life Support course (ATLS)

One of the COT's best known courses, ATLS has given more than 1 million providers in more than 65 countries an easily remembered method for evaluating and treating the victims of traumatic events.



### Trauma Evaluation and Management (TEAM)

Adapted from the ATLS course, TEAM introduces the concepts of initial assessment and management to medical students during their clinical years.



### Advanced Trauma Operative Management (ATOM)

Through a combination of lecture and lab instruction, ATOM provides caregivers with increased surgical competence and confidence in the operative management of penetrating injuries to the chest and abdomen.



**Rural Trauma Team Development Course (RTTDC)** Emphasizing a team approach to the initial evaluation and resuscitation of trauma patients at rural facilities, RTTDC

assists health care professionals in achieving optimal outcomes for injured patients in rural environments.



### **Disaster Management and Emergency Preparedness** (**DMEP**) Through lecture-based learning and interactive scenarios, DMEP teaches planning methods, preparedness, and medical management of trauma patients in mass casualty disaster situations.



### Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) Using human cadavers, ASSET teaches surgical exposure of anatomic structures that, when injured, may threaten life or limb.

# Enjoy access to innovative research with ACS publications

Stay up to date on current research and receive news from the College and surgical community through multiple publications and products. The following resources are a **free benefit** of ACS membership. You will receive the publications automatically; program-specific products and posters can be ordered from the ACS online catalog at *facs.org*.

Journal of the American College of Surgeons (JACS), a monthly peer-reviewed journal publishing original contributions on all aspects of surgery; online access to full-text articles is free for ACS members and subscribers, and the mobile-friendly JACS Continuing Medical Education (CME) website allows you to earn CME credit toward Maintenance of Certification

*Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons,* a monthly publication of news, information, and events from the College

**ACS NewsScope,** a weekly e-newsletter distributed by the College containing news, information, and events

**YFA E-News,** a quarterly newsletter produced by the Young Fellows Association designed to provide information specific to Fellows 45 years and younger

Program-specific publications, products, and posters



## Capitalize on scholarship and fellowship opportunities

ACS Fellows have access to a variety of scholarships and fellowships offered by the American College of Surgeons. Several opportunities are available throughout the year. Details, including deadlines and application information, can be found at *facs.org*.

**International Guest Scholarships** provide scholars with an opportunity to visit clinical, teaching, and research activities in North America and to attend and participate fully in the educational opportunities and activities of the ACS Clinical Congress.

**Community Surgeons Travel Awards** provide international surgeons with the opportunity to attend and participate fully in the educational activities of the ACS Clinical Congress.

**International Scholarships for Surgical Education** provide young faculty members with the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational opportunities for faculty development and enhancement that will result in acquisition of new knowledge and skills in surgical education and training.

### International ACS National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP)

scholarships for surgeons, who demonstrate strong interests in surgical quality improvement, provide two awardees an opportunity to attend the annual ACS NSQIP National Conference, meet program leadership and surgeon champions from ACS NSQIP participating hospitals, and visit one to two hospitals that reflect the candidate's specific clinical interests.

"This scholarship was an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge that I can immediately apply to my patient care and research, as well as inspiration that will help me invigorate my career."

# ACS Quality Programs can benefit you and your hospital

For more than a century, the American College of Surgeons has led initiatives to improve overall quality in hospitals as well as in the specific areas of trauma, cancer, and



surgical care. The ACS has established expert bodies to set the highest standards and achieve the best outcomes through our accreditation, verification, and quality programs.

### **Commission on Cancer**



The Commission on Cancer (CoC), an accreditation program, recognizes cancer centers that meet the CoC standards in the areas of prevention, research, follow-up,

education, and the monitoring of comprehensive quality care. Through the CoC, cancer programs have access to reporting tools to aid in benchmarking and improving outcomes.

For more information, call 312-202-5085 or visit *facs.org/coc*.

### **National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers**



Established in 2005, the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC) is comprised of professional organizations dedicated to improving the quality of care

and monitoring outcomes of patients with diseases of the breast. The mission is pursued through standard-setting, scientific validation, and patient and professional education. NAPBC accredited centers meet evidence-based standards that focus on multidisciplinary, patient-centered care including screening, risk assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. Today, there are more than 600 accredited breast centers in the United States and one internationally accredited program.

For more information, call 312-202-5185 or contact the NABC at napbc@facs.org.

### ACS National Surgical Quality Improvement Program



One of the nation's most prominent quality programs, the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP), provides the actionable

data hospitals need to drive tangible improvements in surgical quality. The nation's leading surgical quality program, ACS NSQIP helps nearly 700 hospitals across the country gauge the quality of their surgical programs with unrivaled precision, enabling them to achieve measurable improvements in surgical quality while lowering costs.

For more information, call 312-202-5441 or visit *facs.org/nsqip*.

ACS QUALITY PROGRAMS

# ACS QUALITY PROGRAMS

### **Surgical Risk Calculator**

The Surgical Risk Calculator is a Web-based, decision-support tool to estimate patient-specific risks of complications for more than 1,500 surgical procedures across multiple specialties. It estimates the potential risks for mortality and comorbidities, including length of hospital stay and discharge destination. This tool can be an effective resource for improving shared decision making and informed consent. The Surgical Risk Calculator was developed using ACS NSQIP data and now contains information from more than 2.3 million ACS NSQIP cases. Visit *riskcalculator.facs.org* to access the Surgical Risk Calculator at no cost.

### Pediatric Option of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality **Improvement Program**



Developed in collaboration with the American Pediatric Surgical Association (APSA), the Pediatric Option of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality

Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP Pediatric) is the nation's first and only risk-adjusted, clinical, outcomes-based program to measure and improve pediatric surgical care.

For more information, call 312-202-5607 or visit *facs.org/pediatric*.

### **Children's Surgery Verification Quality Improvement Program**



The ACS and the Task Force for Children's Surgical Care developed standards designed to optimize pediatric surgical care in today's evolving health care environment. These standards are the nation's first and only multispecialty

standards for children's surgical care. With the launch of the new Children's Surgery Verification Program, the ACS will embark on a process for designating hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers that provide surgical care for children.

For more information, call 312-202-5623 or visit facs.org/childrensverification.

### Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program



The Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP), jointly ACCREDITATION AND GUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM developed by the American College of Surgeons and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, accredits bariatric surgery centers that maintain certain physical and human resources, standards of practice, and documentation of outcomes to advance quality and safety in the treatment of severely obese patients. Nearly 750 bariatric surgery centers in the U.S. and Canada currently participate in the MBSAQIP.

For more information, call 312-202-5565 or visit facs.org/mbsaqip.

### **Committee on Trauma**



Since its formation, the Committee on Trauma (COT) has led groundbreaking improvements in trauma care and injury prevention through its internationally recognized quality programs. These programs support all involved trauma care

providers, prehospital professionals, hospitals, and hospital systems that focus on identifying and implementing improvements across the continuum of trauma care, from preinjury through hospital discharge.

For more information, call 312-202-5155 or visit facs.org/trauma.

### Verification, Review, & Consultation



The Verification, Review, & Consultation (VRC) Program validates the resources for adult trauma centers, adult trauma centers that treat children, and pediatric trauma centers. The

program is designed to assist hospitals in evaluating and improving trauma care to achieve verification at their desired level and to provide objective, external review of institutional capability and performance. Participating trauma centers must meet COT-VRC standards and undergo validation every three years. There are more than 450 COT-VRC Program-verified trauma centers nationwide.

For more information, call 312-202-5134 or visit facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/vrc.

### **Trauma Quality Improvement Program**



ACS QUALITY PROGRAMS

While the VRC Program emphasizes trauma center structure and processes, the Trauma Quality Improvement

Program (TQIP) focuses on outcomes. TQIP helps improve care by providing validated, risk-adjusted benchmarking for Level I, II, and III adult and pediatric trauma centers. Risk-adjusted results let hospitals gauge their own outcomes against national results, providing a "dashboard monitor" that helps them accurately gauge outcomes. Risk-adjusted benchmarking, combined with training and collaboration with other TQIP participants, helps TQIP hospitals to track outcomes, address data quality issues, identify patient care challenges, and focus performance improvement activities to raise the quality of patient care.

For more information, call 855-278-7982 or visit acstqip.org.

### **Trauma Systems Consultation**

TRAUMA<br/>SYSTEMS<br/>CONSULTATIONThe Trauma Systems Consultation (TSC) Program evaluates<br/>state and regional trauma systems and provides consultative<br/>guidance on the organization and optimization of a varietyof resources necessary to ensure patients are treated at the right facility in the right<br/>amount of time. The program also supports and assesses future trauma system<br/>development in the specified area. The consultation process and final report can help<br/>the region to leverage change or provide assistance in securing additional resources.<br/>During a three-and-a-half-day on-site Trauma System Consultation, a select<br/>multidisciplinary team of six to eight national trauma system experts provides an<br/>independent and comprehensive assessment.

For more information, call 312-202-5599 or visit facs.org/quality-programs/trauma/tsep.

### **Surgeon Specific Registry**



The Surgeon Specific Registry (SSR) is a Web and mobile software application and database that allows surgeons to track their cases and outcomes in a convenient, easy-to-use manner.

It also facilitates participation in an increasing number of regulatory programs for the individual health care professional. The system supports Part 4 of Maintenance of Certification (MOC) and provides for electronic transmittal of cases to the American Board of Surgery for recertification. The SSR is a Physician Quality Reporting System qualified registry and has been refined to continue addressing many of the regulatory requirements for individual surgeons. Visit *facs.org/ssr* to participate.

"Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons provides me with opportunities for a cross-fertilization of ideas and collaboration. It means being part of a world-wide family of surgeons who share a commitment to excellence and learning."

YOUR MEMEBERSHIP

# Network with surgeon leaders

Attending the annual Clinical Congress, Leadership and Advocacy Summit, and local Chapter meetings offers Fellows opportunities to build strong professional relationships and also provides access to College leaders and colleagues.

Contact your member of the ACS Board of Governors, who serves as the official communication link between the Fellows and the ACS Board of Regents. Governors are allocated by state, province, or country. You are encouraged to reach out to your Governor and share your perspectives on what the College should be doing on your behalf. Visit the ACS website, *facs.org*, to connect with your Governor.

Join one of the many online ACS Communities. This networking tool provides an environment for ACS members to connect, engage, and share information and best practices in real time, as well seek advice, share experiences, exchange resources, and build professional relationships.

# Proudly display that you're a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons

By using the FACS designation on your business card, lab coat, website, and letterhead, you can show your pride in being a Fellow. In addition, proudly display the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Fellowship Pledge poster in your waiting room, exam rooms, and offices, and let your patients know your commitment to improving the care of surgical patients and to safeguarding standards of care in an optimal and ethical practice environment. Both of these items can be downloaded from the ACS website at *facs.org*.

"I am proud to have been a Fellow for 20 years of my 23-year career."

# Additional benefits specifically for you

Take advantage of these services available to ACS Fellows via the members-only section of the ACS website, *facs.org*:

Update your profile and share your information with the public through our Find a Surgeon database.

Take advantage of exclusive members-only discounts and benefits, including discounted publications from Elsevier and Springer and access to procedure-specific informed consent documents.

Search for surgical career opportunities through the ACS career center.

# Your Membership Matters—Get Involved TODAY!

Visit the members-only section of the ACS website to update your profile, find colleagues, join one of the many online member communities that match your interests, order publications and products at the member rate, and take advantage of a wide variety of other members-only resources.

Join your ACS Chapter; for more information, visit *facs.org* or call 1-888-857-7545.

Join a College committee.

Visit Operation Giving Back and consider participating in either a domestic or international surgical volunteerism opportunity.

Encourage your colleagues to join the College as a Fellow or as an Associate Fellow, Resident Member, Medical Student, or Affiliate Member!

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS FOR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS

Member Benefits

1-800-621-4111 or ms@facs.org

Chapter Hotline

1-888-857-7545

Enjoy all that ACS Membership offers become a member today. Visit facs.org/member-services/join.

For additional information, e-mail us at ms@facs.org or visit *facs.org*. Or visit us on: 



The IRC promotes relationships between the College and surgeons throughout the world in the areas of clinical practice, education, and research in order to provide a basis for optimal health care delivery.

# Board of Governors International Chapters Workgroup

The International Chapters Workgroup serves as an advocate for all the College's International Chapters and monitors and reports on the International Chapters' activities, resources, and issues.



American College of Surgeons

*Inspiring Quality:* Highest Standards, Better Outcomes

**100**+*years* 



COMMITTEES

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Member Benefits Chapter Hotline 1-800-621-4111 or ms@facs.org 1-888-857-7545

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For additional information, e-mail us at ms@facs.org or visit *facs.org*. Or visit us on: **f in () ()** 



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**100**+*years* 



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# The Fellowship Pledge

Recognizing that the American College of Surgeons seeks to exemplify and develop the highest traditions of our ancient profession, I hereby pledge myself, as a condition of Fellowship in the College, to live in strict accordance with the College's principles and regulations.

I pledge to pursue the practice of surgery with honesty and to place the welfare and the rights of my patient above all else. I promise to deal with each patient as I would wish to be dealt with if I were in the patient's position, and I will respect the patient's autonomy and individuality.

I further pledge to affirm and support the social contract of the surgical profession with my community and society. I will take no part in any arrangement or improper financial dealings that induce referral, treatment, or withholding of treatment for reasons other than the patient's welfare.

Upon my honor, I declare that I will advance my knowledge and skills, will respect my colleagues, and will seek their counsel when in doubt about my own abilities. In turn, I will willingly help my colleagues when requested.

*I recognize the interdependency of all health care professionals and will treat each with respect and consideration.* 

Finally, by my Fellowship in the American College of Surgeons, I solemnly pledge to abide by the Code of Professional Conduct and to cooperate in advancing the art and science of surgery.



### American College of Surgeons

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