

STS, AATS and AMA Conducting Physician Practice Information Survey

For the first time in nearly a decade, the AMA, STS, AATS and more than 70 other health care professional organizations, have worked together to coordinate a comprehensive survey of America's cardiothoracic practitioners. The survey will collect up-to-date characteristics of thousands of practices from virtually all disciplines, and be used in efforts to positively influence national decision makers to ensure accurate and fair representation for all health care professionals and patients.

Getting our nation's policy-makers to understand today's landscape and the requirements for care is critical. These data will allow the health care community to articulate the challenges of running a practice that provides expert patient care, while operating a business that is sustainable. The study results will not only help in the short-term but will allow future generations of cardiothoracic practitioners to continue providing superior care to their patients.

One particularly important section of the study pertains to practice expenses and the amounts that are attributable to you. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have indicated that the results of this study will be used to help determine Medicare payment. Please encourage your staff to make this information available as the survey's success depends on accurate and complete data. This information will remain confidential. The survey firm, Dmrkynetec, will not identify any individuals or entities participating in this research.

Dmrkynetec, a survey firm with extensive experience in the area of healthcare finance, has been retained to administer the survey. Dmrkynetec will contact randomly selected practitioners and practice managers in order to collect their confidential responses. Please watch for this survey and complete it thoroughly and accurately. Do your part to represent our profession.