

# The Society of Thoracic Surgeons Regional Group Information Form

ID# \_\_\_\_\_ (for internal STS use only)

## 1. Primary Contact Person for the Region:

Name of contact person: Mary Schrader  
Title: Special Projects Coordinator  
E-mail address: mschrade@ifmc.org  
Telephone #: 515-223-2891  
Fax #: 515-222-2411  
Name of regional group: Iowa Society of Thoracic Surgeons  
Regional group Web page address: none

### Additional Contacts for the Region:

Name of contact person:  
Title:  
E-mail address:  
Telephone #:  
Fax #:

Name of contact person:  
Title:  
E-mail address:  
Telephone #:  
Fax #:

Name of contact person:  
Title:  
E-mail address:  
Telephone #:  
Fax #:

## 2. Please list all Institutions that are in the Region:

Institution name: Mercy Medical Center  
City and state of institution: Des Moines, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name: Mercy Health Center  
City and state of institution: Dubuque, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name: Iowa Methodist Medical Center  
City and state of institution: Des Moines, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name: Allen Memorial Hospital  
City and state of institution: Waterloo, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name: Mercy Medical Center - North Iowa  
City and state of institution: Mason City, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution Name: University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics  
City and state of institution: Iowa City, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution Name:Trinity Regional Hospital  
City and state of institution:Fort Dodge, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:Genesis Heart Institute  
City and state of institution:Davenport, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:Mercy Medical Center  
City and state of institution:Sioux City, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:Mercy Hospital  
City and state of institution:Iowa City, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:St. Luke's Hospital  
City and state of institution:Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:Iowa Lutheran Hospital  
City and state of institution:Des Moines, Iowa  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name: Nebraska Methodist Hospital  
City and state of institution: Omaha, Nebraska  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

Institution name:Nebraska Heart Hospital  
City and state of institution:Lincoln, Nebraska  
Regional member:  Non-Regional Member:

If additional spaces are needed, please submit a second form. On the second form please complete the regional group's primary contact person information (item #1) again.

2. How often does your regional group meet?

2-3 times per year

3. Is your regional group incorporated? Yes  No

4. Does your regional group represent one state or a group of states? Please list the state(s).

- 1.Iowa
- 2.Nebraska
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

5. Is your region/state required to submit data to a state agency? Yes  No

6. If "yes," name of the state agency.

7. State agency primary contact person information:

Name of contact person:  
Title:

E-mail address:  
Telephone #:  
Fax #:

8. Mission statement for your regional group.

**Mission Statement**

The Iowa Society of Thoracic Surgeons (IASTS) is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to bring together the thoracic surgeons of Iowa to engage in activities of mutual benefit. These activities include consideration and response to governmental and payor data requests, consumer education, standardization of outcomes data and quality improvement (CQI).

It is anticipated that the major focus of the IASTS will be on quality improvement. This will be accomplished by providing peer review of audited, standardized outcomes data, engaging in reciprocal site visits to other institutions, and identification of "best practice protocols."

The CQI activities will be carried out under the auspices of the Iowa Foundation for Medical (IFMC), the state's authorized quality improvement organization. The most important activity relates to collection and analysis of data from cardiac surgery operations within the state. These data will be collected by individual institutions or groups and entered into the national Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) database, which will be maintained by the Duke Clinical Research Institute. All members of the Iowa Society of Thoracic Surgeons have agreed to participate in the STS national database and to acquire the software necessary for entering data from a vendor approved by the STS. The IFMC will assist in organizing CQI activities and in auditing data submitted from Iowa sites to the national database, thereby ensuring that all Iowa data is accurate and validated.

The benefits of these activities will include:

1. improved patient care by identifying best practices and by educating one another
2. reduced costs
3. collection of data which is both accurate and reliable that will become the standard in analyzing cardiac surgery statistics within the state of Iowa
4. providing reliable outcomes data to each institution which it may use in negotiating contracts with payors, for internal CQI activities, and for benchmarking

9. Goals of your regional group.

**Goals**

The Iowa STS Data Managers' purpose is to facilitate improvement in patient outcomes.

- To achieve consensus on the operational definition of data elements resulting in the collection and submission of consistent, reliable data.
- To interpret variations in practice for the purpose of identifying opportunities to enhance the outcome of cardiothoracic surgery patients.
- To facilitate the quality improvement process through evidence based data.

10. Do surgeons actively participate in your region's meetings? Yes  No

11. If "yes", name of the state board.

Iowa Society of Thoracic Surgeons

12. Do surgeons in your region meet separately? Yes  No

13. Any additional information concerning your regional group that you think the STS and other Data Managers will find beneficial.

14. What are your suggestions for the STS Regional Group Web page?