

Submit an Abstract for AQO

Abstracts are now being accepted for presentation consideration at [Advances in Quality & Outcomes: A Data Managers Meeting](#), October 18-20 in Chicago. AQO is the perfect forum to share valuable research and important clinical findings with hundreds of your peers. Your input can make the STS National Database even better! Abstracts must be submitted **no later than Tuesday, May 30, at 11:59 p.m. CDT**. Registration and housing information for AQO will be posted in the coming months. If you have questions about the abstract submission process, contact Emily Conrad at econrad@sts.org.

Complete Important Data Manager Survey

The Society is asking for your input on the amount of time it takes to abstract cases, surgeon involvement in data collection, and more details on your organization's participation in the STS National Database.

Please take 5-7 minutes to complete this [important data manager survey](#) by Monday, May 15. *Please note:* If you abstract for more than one component Database, you may choose to complete the survey based on the component that is most time consuming, or you may complete the survey once for each component for which you abstract. The results of this survey will be presented at AQO. Additionally, please watch for a separate survey regarding postoperative neurological complications that will be sent later this week to Adult Cardiac Surgery Database (ACSD) participants.

Reminder: ACSD Lock Period Begins May 26

Data submission for the ACSD will close on Friday, May 26, at 5:00 p.m. ET for the next analysis lock period; the suggested data capture window is April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017. Data submission will reopen on June 5.

Site Audits Begin Soon

STS National Database audits are designed to complement internal quality controls by examining the accuracy, consistency, and completeness of the data collected within the Database. Ten percent of participating sites will be selected at random for an independent audit and will be notified within the next month. Please make sure your Primary Data and File Contact is current by checking the DCRI portal; [fill out this form](#) if you need to make changes. Logistics pertaining to the audit will follow at a later date.

Information Coming on PQRS

STS has received many calls and e-mails regarding participation in the Physician Quality Reporting System. The Society is still waiting to hear from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding the STS National Database's status as a Qualified Clinical Data Registry and will update participants as soon as possible. Watch future issues of *Database News* for more information.

Quick Hits: Public Reporting Webinar, Regional Groups, Clinical Questions

- The STS Public Reporting Online webinar, released last December, recently was updated to include information about General Thoracic Surgery Database public reporting. [Check out the newly revised webinar.](#)

- STS National Database regional groups offer a collaborative networking environment for peer-to-peer support and non-clinical guidance related to data abstraction. [Find a regional group in your area.](#)
 - Are you struggling with a clinical question regarding data abstraction? Fill out the [Clinical Question Request Form](#) and get a response within 30 days.
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Provide Your Feedback

The Society is considering five different cities in which to hold AQO 2019. Which would you most prefer?

Answer Now

