

July / August 2021

STS National Database News

CONGENITAL



Do you have any colleagues who should be receiving *STS National Database News*? [Fill out this form](#), and they will be added to the mailing list for future issues.

New Version 3.41 Training Manual Update Available

The latest updates to the CHSD Training Manual are now live, reflecting enhancements as of August 2021. This extensive manual includes comprehensive guidance on Database transition, education for data managers, version-specific data collection resources, Public Reporting guidance, and much more. Be sure to [download the current version](#) to give your site access to the latest information.

Explore Agenda, Register, Submit Questions for AQO

Registration is under way for [Advances in Quality Outcomes: A Data Managers Meeting](#), free to all STS National Database data managers. You can now view the preliminary agenda, including live sessions and on-demand content that will be available to registrants. Friday, October 15, will be dedicated entirely to the CHSD and feature a “What Data Managers Want to Know” panel. Submit your questions to Leigh Ann Jones (ljones@sts.org) by September 15 for an opportunity to have them addressed during the session.



User Group Calls, Monthly Webinars Have More Answers

During CHSD User Group calls and monthly webinars, you can get insights on commonly encountered scenarios, as well as updates on Database enhancements and coding procedures. You're encouraged to tune in live whenever possible, but you also can review them on the [STS YouTube Channel](#).

- The [July monthly webinar](#) featured education on mortality variable(s) coding procedures.
- During the [8/10 User Group Call](#), attendees received a progress report on the version 6.22 upgrade, heard a review of platform issues and resolutions, and participated in a Q&A with surgeon leaders, staff, and developers.
- The [August monthly webinar](#) detailed proper procedures for coding Episode of Care.
- A schedule of both upcoming and past webinars is available [on the STS website](#).

Spring/Fall 2020 Harvest Report Is Coming Soon

For data managers patiently awaiting the release of the Spring/Fall 2020 Harvest results, STS expects to release the report next month. In addition, a decision has

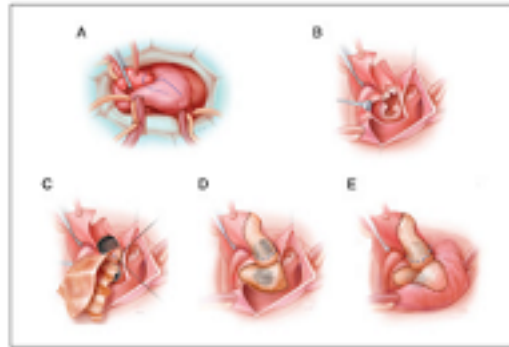
been made to combine the Spring and Fall 2021 Harvests; the analytic time window and harvest close date are to be determined. STS aims to ensure that CHSD participants will have access to their 2020 reports prior to the 2021 Harvest close. Once additional harvest information has been confirmed, STS will send an email update to the CHSD community. Meanwhile, data managers are encouraged to continue uploading data to the platform and using the available tools to optimize data submission.

Read International Consensus on Congenital BAV

[*The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*](#) and three other journals have published an international, evidence-based nomenclature and classification consensus document on the congenital bicuspid aortic valve (BAV). The document, developed by Dr. Hector Michelena and colleagues, is intended to be used by clinicians, interventional cardiologists, advanced-imaging specialists, geneticists, researchers, and others. The consensus is available as a [summary](#) and a [full document](#).

THE ANNALS OF THORACIC SURGERY

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Illustrations showing: (A) the planned aortotomy/extended superior transeptal incisions; (B) both the inflow and outflow of the left ventricle are now connected; (C) the mitral and aortic prostheses are secured and the intervalvular fibrosa is constructed; (D) the completed aortic and left atrial closures; and (E) the final reconstruction with the completed right atrial closure. From Said et al in this issue, pp. e139-e141.



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Empower Patients and Parents Anticipating Congenital Heart Surgery

The STS patient information website, ctsurgerypatients.org, offers animations, videos, and easy-to-understand language to explain various cardiothoracic conditions and procedures. In addition, the site helps patients and parents understand what to expect as they prepare for and recover from their operations. For example:

- [Before Congenital Heart Surgery](#) describes preoperative testing, practical tips on advance preparation, and guidelines for the night before the operation.
- [Day of Congenital Heart Surgery](#) introduces the heart care team and explains their roles in the operating room.

- [After Congenital Heart Surgery](#) explains what will happen in the hospital immediately after surgery and walks through the process of ongoing care at home.

If you or your colleagues interact with patients at your institution, make sure to share this important resource—handouts are available for download in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Contact Jennifer Bagley at jbagley@sts.org with feedback or questions about the patient website.

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

The Patient Guide to Heart, Lung, and Esophageal Surgery
A Website Presented by Cardiothoracic Surgeons Committed to Improving Patient Care

English/Spanish

Adult Heart Disease | Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease | Lung, Esophageal, and Other Chest Diseases | Procedures | **Before, During, and After Surgery** | Heart & Transplant Topics | What is a Cardiothoracic Surgeon? | Resources

Before Congenital Heart Surgery

Once your son/daughter has been referred for heart surgery, you will have a meeting with a cardiothoracic surgeon who will explain the operation and what will be done to help your child.

You will need to complete paperwork that gives your consent for the surgery. Typically, your child also will be scheduled for a "pre-operative work-up day." Make sure that if you have questions about anything regarding your child's condition or operation that you ask those questions and understand the answers.

Physicians and other healthcare providers understand that you may have no medical background, and they will be willing to explain things in a way that you understand. There is no such thing as a stupid question when it comes to your child's health. If questions come up after a physician visit, write them down so that you can call or remember to ask the doctors at another time.

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