

July / August 2022

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.

Now Is the Best Time to Register for AQO

Discounted early bird registration is available through August 26 for the [2022 Advances in Quality Outcomes \(AQO\): A Data Managers Meeting](#) in Providence, Rhode Island. You have options to register for one or multiple in-person tracks—Friday, October 28, features a track devoted to the CHSD—or choose a virtual pass to get access to digital content. [Register your team](#) and [book your hotel rooms](#) today. And keep in mind:

- [STS members](#), including non-physician associate members, save even more.
- You can [request a justification letter](#), signed by STS President Dr. John Calhoon, explaining to your supervisor the value of AQO attendance.

ADVANCES IN QUALITY & OUTCOMES:
A Data Managers Meeting
October 26-28, 2022 • PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

Register Now at Early Bird Rates!

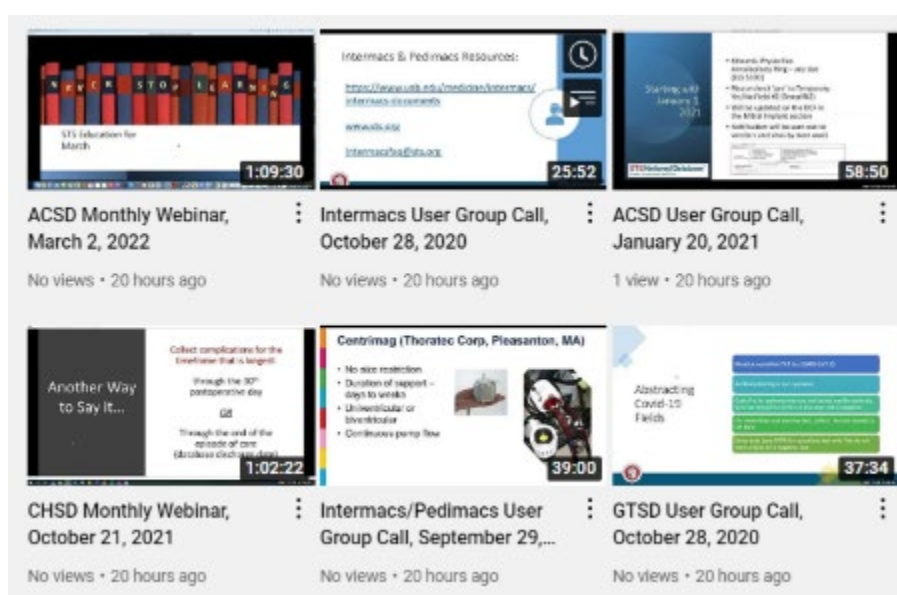
Share Your Talent: Mentor a Colleague

You don't need decades of experience to make a big difference among your fellow data managers. Mentees from the [STS National Database Mentorship Program](#) are

waiting to be paired with knowledgeable Database users who can provide tips, guidance, and troubleshooting. You'll be matched according to your areas of expertise, and STS will facilitate an ongoing learning relationship. [Apply to be a mentor.](#)

STS National Database Has Its Own YouTube Channel

Data managers and participating surgeons now can access webinars, user group calls, and other recordings—including the [August CHSD User Group Call](#)—on a [YouTube channel](#) dedicated exclusively to the STS National Database. The channel provides a rich library of resources for users to stay abreast of the latest updates and learn best practices for data entry and coding. Subscribe and opt in for notifications on the latest videos.



Annals Short Reports Spotlights Quick, Accessible Original Research

The Annals of Thoracic Surgery recently launched *Annals Short Reports*—its new fully open access companion journal. This e-only publication provides a contemporary venue for authors to present their research in a digestible format, and it's supported by the same expert *Annals* Editorial Board. The journal [now is accepting submissions.](#)



September 8 Webinar Welcomes New Data Managers

New CHSD participants—or those looking to brush up on the Database—are encouraged to join STS support staff, data experts, and surgeon leaders on **Thursday, September 8**, for a live webinar that explains the fundamentals of the STS National Database, including data entry, harvest timelines, public reporting, and more. [Add the event to your calendar](#) and [join the call](#).

Prepare for Fall Harvest Close

The fall 2022 data harvest is scheduled to close Friday, September 16, at 11:59 p.m. ET. Opt out by September 20. This harvest will include OR dates through June 30, 2022. Bookmark the [Harvest Schedule and Information](#) page to stay abreast of upcoming harvest dates.

Support Parents through Their Experience with Tetralogy of Fallot

Interacting with patients at your medical center gives you the opportunity to help answer their questions and allay their concerns. The STS patient website, ctsurgerypatients.org, is full of easy-to-understand language, illustrations, and videos that explain a variety of cardiothoracic conditions and procedures. For parents of babies with the condition, the [Tetralogy of Fallot](#) page describes its

features and symptoms, provides questions to ask the doctor, and explains the surgical procedures that can help the child survive and thrive.

Printable handouts, in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), are available to keep on hand to let your patients know about the STS patient website. Questions or feedback? Contact Jennifer Bagley, jbagley@sts.org.

The screenshot shows the STS Patient Guide website. The main heading is "The Patient Guide to Heart, Lung, and Esophageal Surgery". Below this is a navigation menu with categories: "Adult Heart Disease", "Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease", "Lung, Esophageal, and Other Chest Diseases", "Procedures", and "Before, During, and After Surgery". The current page is titled "Tetralogy of Fallot". The content includes a definition: "Tetralogy of Fallot (te-trai-uh-jee; fa-loh) is a rare, complex series of four congenital (present at birth) heart defects that occur while your baby is still growing inside the womb." It also features two diagrams: "Normal heart" and "Heart with tetralogy of fallot". The normal heart diagram shows the pulmonary artery arising from the left ventricle. The TOF diagram shows the pulmonary artery arising from the right ventricle, with a ventricular septal defect (VSD) between the ventricles. Text next to the TOF diagram states: "Although the condition is rare, Tetralogy of Fallot (TOF) is the most common congenital (present at birth) heart defect causing a 'blue baby.'" According to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), TOF affects roughly 5 out of every 10,000 babies. The defect is

Become an STS Member

Save on STS National Database participation fees with STS Membership! Find out [how to apply](#) today.

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**The Society
of Thoracic
Surgeons**

633 N. Saint Clair St., Suite 2100
Chicago, IL 60611
312-202-5800



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