

November / December 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.

Register Now for Best Rates, Rooms at STS 2022

At the STS 58th Annual Meeting, January 29–31 in Miami Beach, Florida, you can see the surgical discoveries and breakthroughs you've helped make possible as CHSD contributors. Special STS hotel rates are available through January 4, and you must register for the Annual Meeting before you can book your housing. Don't delay—[register now](#).

Can't make it to Miami Beach but want to connect with colleagues and see surgical innovation brought to light? A virtual option is available as well, with livestreamed content, digital posters, and on-demand sessions. [See what STS 2022 has to offer](#).



**JANUARY 4: LAST DAY TO SECURE
DISCOUNTED HOTEL RATES**

Register now at [sts.org/annualmeeting!](https://sts.org/annualmeeting)

Join a 5K Fun Run Team and Support Your Surgeons

In conjunction with the Annual Meeting, The Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF) Virtual Fun Run and Walk gives attendees and supporters an exciting way to help the Foundation and compete with colleagues. This virtual race allows participants to join

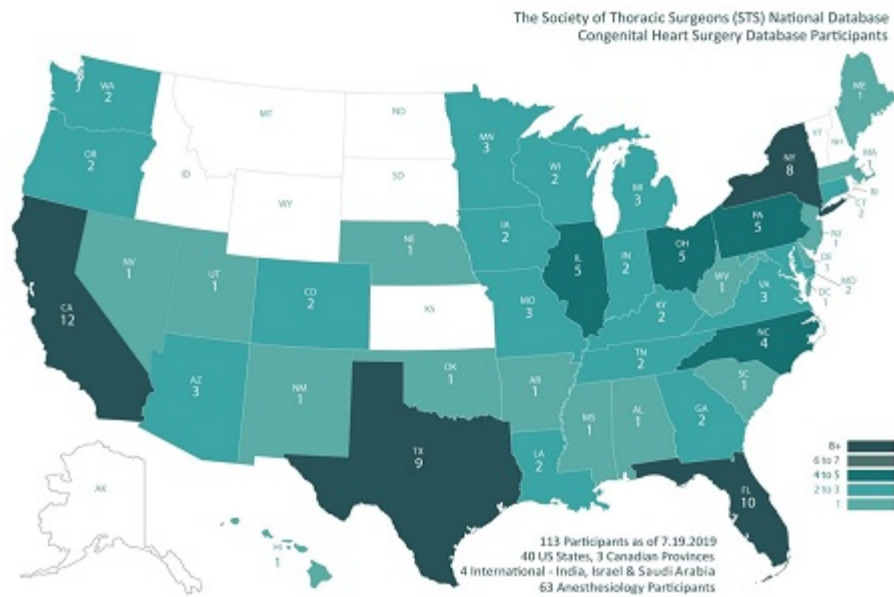
the fun from anywhere in the world, anytime from January 21–February 1. All proceeds will benefit TSF cardiothoracic research programs. Finisher medals and exclusive t-shirts are available while supplies last. [Represent your team!](#)



#TSF5K

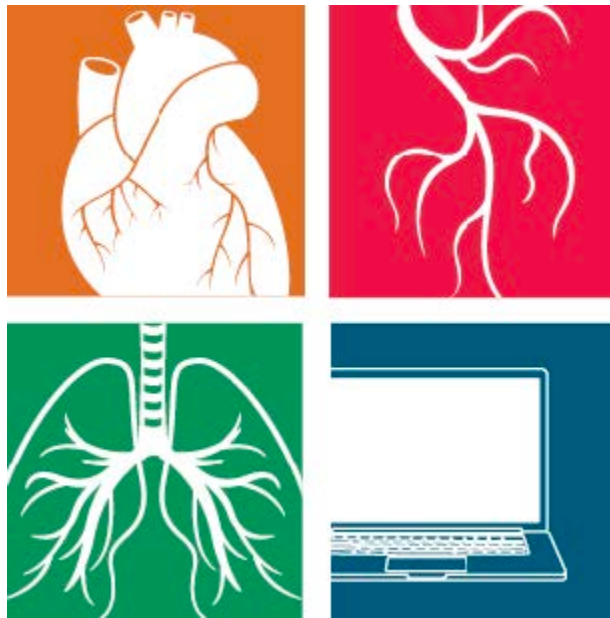
Review Findings from CHSD Annual Report

The annual report, "[The Society of Thoracic Surgeons Congenital Heart Surgery Database: 2021 Update on Outcomes and Research](#)," summarizes current national aggregate outcomes for 10 benchmark congenital and pediatric cardiac operations, as well as related quality and research initiatives. The authors, who include Drs. Ram Kumar Subramanian, John Mayer, and David Overman, write: "This article can serve as a platform for benchmarking performance and improving quality. These activities of outcomes analysis and quality improvement will ultimately allow congenital and pediatric cardiac surgeons to provide better care for our patients." The report appears online in [The Annals of Thoracic Surgery](#) and will be in the December print issue.



AQO Digital Archive Is Now in STS Learning Center

Registrants now can access on-demand content, archived live presentations, e-posters, and the virtual resource library from the 2021 Advances in Quality & Outcomes (AQO): A Data Managers Meeting in the [STS Learning Center](#). A record-breaking 1,403 individuals attended the conference, and the discussions among experts and colleagues were invaluable. Take advantage of this opportunity to catch up on sessions you missed and examine the latest research findings and recommendations. The meeting content is available until October 26, 2022. To receive continuing education credit, attendees must watch all content for a particular registry and then evaluate all presentations. The deadline to complete the evaluations and claim credit is **Saturday, January 15, 2022**.



Audit Policy Formalizes Top-Notch Reporting Standards

Now published on the STS website, the [STS National Database Audit Policy](#) details expectations for all four Database components—not only to monitor accuracy but also to alert sites to any dips in accuracy and provide the guidance needed to get back on track. Meanwhile, formal audit reports continue to demonstrate that Database participants have maintained phenomenal accuracy and curated quality data. “The data managers have done an amazing job despite the challenges brought by COVID,” said Dr. Felix Fernandez, who serves on the STS Workforce on Quality. “Some were reassigned, many were working remotely or even furloughed. The audit policy has really just formalized the standards that STS has had in place for years.”

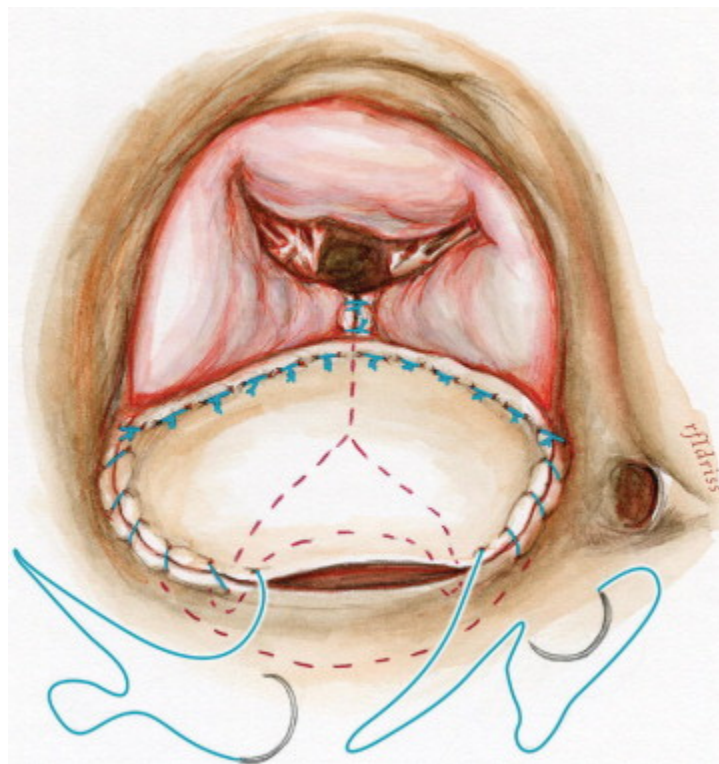
Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Group Discussions

Live discussions with your colleagues are the best way to stay up to date on the latest Database developments and to get your questions answered by surgeon leaders and data management experts. The next CHSD User Group Call takes place **January 11, at 12:00 p.m. CT**, and the next CHSD Monthly Webinar is scheduled for **January 18, at 12:00 p.m. CT**. Mark your calendar, and join the discussions from links on the [Database webinars page](#).

Show Families How AV Canal Surgery Gives Their Child a Fighting Chance

If you interact with patients at your institution, you're in a unique position to support your surgeons and empower patients and families by providing resources from ctsurgerypatients.org. The Society's patient information website, with content reviewed and contributed by member surgeons, offers animations, videos, and easy-to-understand language to explain numerous cardiothoracic conditions and procedures—and help patients know what to expect. For example, on the [Atrioventricular Canal Defect page](#), families can learn about the origins and types of AV canal defects, the surgical correction procedure and the team performing it, and questions to ask their doctor.

You can download and print handouts in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#) to let your patients know about this important resource. Contact Jennifer Bagley at jbagley@sts.org with feedback or questions about the patient website.



Become an STS Member

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

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