

January / February 2022

STS National Database News

GENERAL THORACIC



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.

STS/ACC Launch TAVR Public Reporting Site

The STS/American College of Cardiology (ACC) TVT Registry Public Reporting site is now open to the public, providing benchmarked ratings for outcomes in transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedures in the United States. The new platform employs a “site difference” method to give participants the evidence they need to understand their institution’s performance and consequently improve quality of care—as well as show off their success. A 3-star rating system provides a visual illustration of how each hospital performs for transcatheter aortic procedures. Participation in this program is voluntary for all sites. [Learn more about the launch.](#)

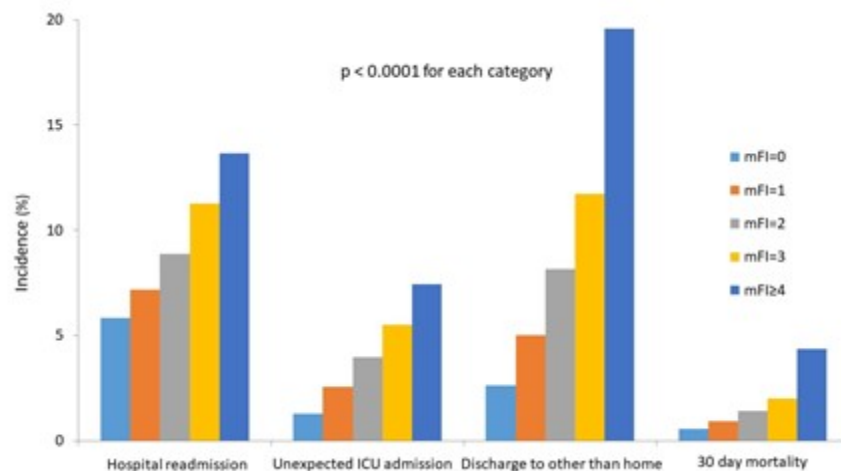
STS 2022 Presentations Highlighted Utility, Integrity of GTSD

During the STS Annual Meeting last month, several scientific abstracts used data from the GTSD to illuminate trends in surgical outcomes, touting the Database as an outstanding resource for multifactor analysis. Your hard work and dedication helped enable important discoveries like these:

- **“The 5-Factor Modified Frailty Index Is an Independent Predictor of Outcomes after Lung Resection”** illustrated that frailty scores predicted clinical and administrative outcomes—and that the scores can be calculated from data typically collected for GTSD.
- **“Association of Lymph Node Sampling and Clinical Center Volume in Pulmonary Lobectomy for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer”** explored the relationship between hospital lobectomy volume and adherence to guidance from the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer.
- **“Establishing Evidence-Based Opioid Prescribing Guidelines after Thoracic Surgery for Lung Cancer: A Prospective, Multicenter Analysis”** identified patient-reported opioid use as a means to guide more targeted prescribing—tackling a topic that has received much attention in the cardiac surgery realm—and finally breaking guidance ground for thoracic surgeons.

- “**Robotic Esophagectomy Trends and Early Surgical Outcomes: The US Experience**” found that within one decade, the dominant surgical approaches for esophagectomy have become minimally invasive and robotic methods.

Registrants can access these presentations as part of the [full STS 2022 program](#). For those who were unable to attend the meeting, Annual Meeting Online will be available for purchase in mid-March.



Keep These Harvest Dates in Your Almanac

- The Spring 2022 harvest is scheduled to close on March 4, 2022, and the Spring 2022 analysis will include the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.
- The Fall 2021 harvest analysis will be available in the coming weeks. It will be the first to include the *NEW* Pulmonary Resection Composite—covering all pulmonary resections performed for lung cancer and serving as a broad measure of participant performance.

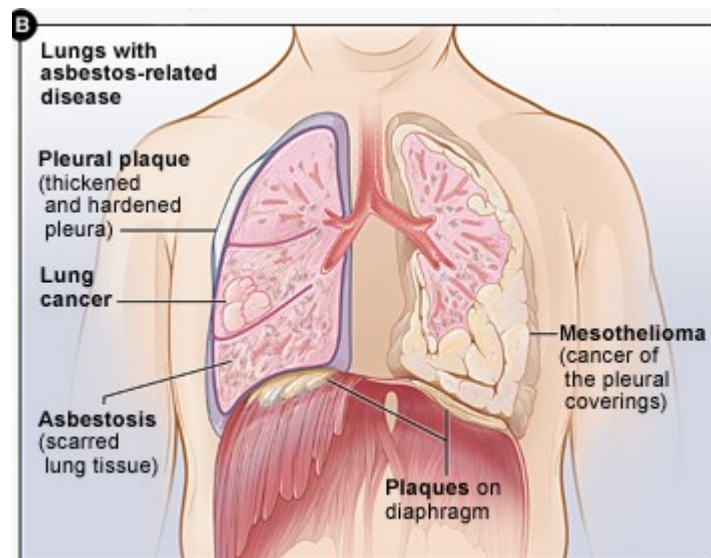
Catch Up on User Group Calls and Webinars

Discussions with your colleagues, surgeon experts, and Database support staff are the best way to stay informed of the latest GTSD developments, get your questions answered, and workshop solutions to issues you encounter. [Don't miss the conversation](#) during the next User Group call, February 23 at 2:30 p.m. CT. If you need to catch up on past calls, the [GTSD webinar playlist](#) is available for your review on YouTube.

Illuminate Mesothelioma for Your Patients

If you interact with patients at your institution, you have the opportunity to help them make sense of their medical conditions. The STS patient website, ctsurgerypatients.org, is filled with easy-to-understand language and helpful illustrations, animations, and videos for explaining cardiothoracic conditions and procedures. The [Mesothelioma page](#), for example, describes possible causes and symptoms of the disease and walks patients through their options for diagnosis and treatment, complete with a list of 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.



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