

September / October 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.

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## AQO 2022 Offers Data Mastery, Data Manager Camaraderie

After 2 years of all-virtual programming, [2022 Advances in Quality Outcomes \(AQO\): A Data Managers Meeting](#) will reunite the STS Database community October 26–28 in Providence, Rhode Island. In-person attendees will enjoy plenty of opportunities to not only explore the latest developments in data analysis but also see live exhibitions of new technologies, participate in discussions with colleagues, and wind down with social lunches and a networking reception. The opening day of the meeting devotes a track to the GTSD, with courses covering the spectrum of thoracic surgical applications, including:

- Using data to improve outcomes
- Esophageal cancer, lung cancer, and other general thoracic surgery—preoperative workup and clinical staging, surgical techniques and pathological staging, and postoperative complications
- The GTSD audit process
- Verification of vital status for operative mortality

There's still time to register and book your hotel rooms. And remember, you can [request a justification letter](#), signed by STS President Dr. John Calhoon, explaining to your supervisor the value of AQO attendance.



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## Research Proposals Due October 31, CMS Analyses Highly Considered

Proposals for new Access & Publications (A&P) clinical research based on GTSD data are due October 31. Now that the GTSD has been successfully linked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) system for long-term outcome studies, A&P submissions that leverage this CMS linkage will receive extra consideration. [Learn more.](#)

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## General Thoracic Surgical Science Will Shine at STS 2023

Cardiothoracic surgical professionals from around the globe will converge on San Diego January 21–23, 2023, for the [STS 59th Annual Meeting](#). It's an exciting opportunity for GTSD participants to witness the latest scientific advancements—including findings in targeted molecular therapy and immunotherapy for lung and esophageal cancer, survival for transplant patients, and research made possible solely because of the robust data in the GTSD. One study demonstrates the association between interstitial lung disease and outcomes after pulmonary resection for non-small cell lung cancer, and another analyzes concordance with guidelines for lung resection and discharge with supplemental oxygen.

STS 2023 also is a place to meet with colleagues and discuss new data trends, techniques, and tips—and take in stunning coastal views from the San Diego Bay. [Register by October 13](#) for discounted rates; STS members save even more.



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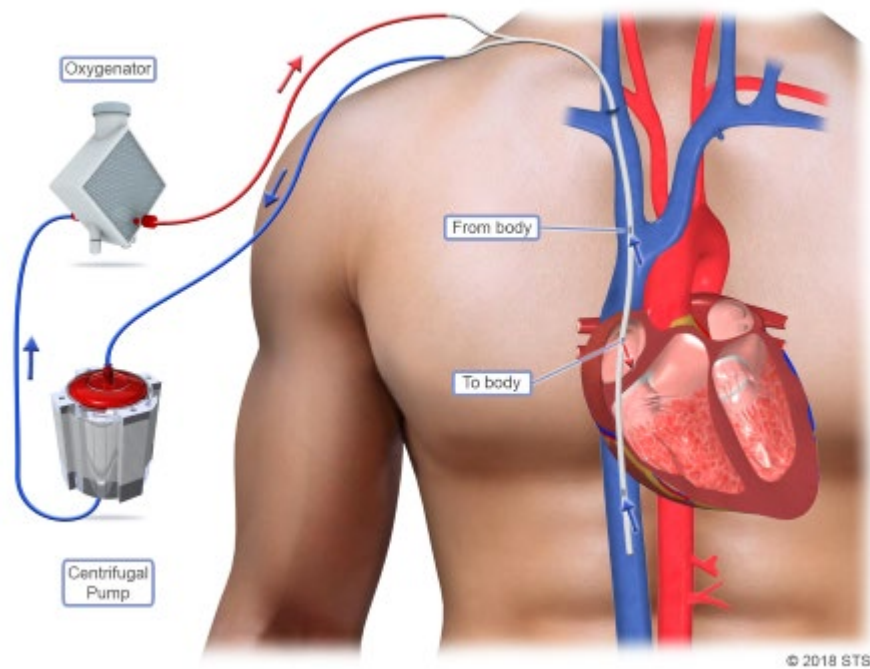
## October 6 Webinar Welcomes New Data Managers

New GTSD participants—or those looking to brush up on the STS National Database—are encouraged to join STS support staff and GTSD consultant Ruth Raleigh on **Thursday, October 6, at 2:30 p.m. CT**, for a live webinar that explains the fundamentals of the Database, including data entry, reporting deadlines, and overviews of the Public Reporting Dashboard and analytical tools. [Add the event to your calendar](#) and [join the call](#).

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## Give Patients and Families Insight into ECMO

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](https://ctsurgerypatients.org), is full of easy-to-understand language, illustrations, and videos that explain a variety of cardiothoracic conditions and procedures. On the [ECMO page](#), for example, patients and their families will find detailed explanations of why and how VA or VV ECMO is performed, and how each member of the interventional team supports them through the process.



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## Become an STS Member

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

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