STS National Database™
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STS General Thoracic Surgery Database

New Data Manager Training – Session 2

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New Data Manager Training – Session 2

- Session 1at a Glance
- Data Collection Form Review – Sections C, D, E

GTSD New Data Manager Training Webinars



Session 1 – October 7th at 1:00 p.m. ET – Navigating the STS Website, Data Manager Resources, and DCF Sections A, B

Session 2 – October 21st at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections C, D, E

Session 3 – November 4th at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections F, G

Session 4 – November 18th at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections H, I

Session 5 – December 2nd at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections J, K

Session 6 – December 16th at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections L, M

Session 1 at a Glance

Key takeaways from our first GTSD New Data Manager webinar

Navigating the STS Website

Where to find the For Data Managers page, database access through IQVIA, and key guidance.

Data Manager Resources

Training manuals, data collection forms, data specs, and who to contact for help.

DCF Review

Case inclusion, general coding guidance, and highlights from Sections A and B.

Up Next: Session 3 – November 4 at 1:00 p.m. ET – DCF Sections F, G

Finding Your Resources on sts.org

Path to the Data Manager page

1. **sts.org**
   STS website home page
2. **Research & Data**
   Top navigation menu
3. **For Data Managers**
   Under Registries
4. **Access the Database**
   Log in through IQVIA

Data Manager Guidance

Clinical Question Request Form, contact and support, essential forms, and how-to videos

GTSD Data Collection Resources

Training Manual (updated August 2026), DCF effective January 1, 2026, and Data Specifications v5.26.1

Stay Connected

Monthly webinars, the AQO Data Managers Meeting, and the STS National Database News e-newsletter

Who to Contact

FAQ Mailbox

stsdb-faq@sts.org

CLINICAL QUESTIONS

- Coding questions
- Clinical questions or concerns
- Data specs and training manual questions
- Request form response within 30 days

STS Help Desk

stsdb_helpdesk@sts.org

PLATFORM AND REPORTS

- Login and access issues
- Data submission, including Direct Data Entry
- Report and analysis questions
- Vendor and REDCap questions

STS Database Operations

stsdb@sts.org

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

- Contract questions
- Database sign-up, including anesthesia module
- Invoice questions

Public reporting questions: contact STS Public Reporting via publicreporting@sts.org.

Case Inclusion & General Guidance

Lung Cancer

Include: Therapeutic pulmonary resections for new lung cancer. Operative outcome, not surgeon intent, determines “therapeutic.”

Exclude: Metastatic disease to the lung and non-lung chest cancers (e.g., mesothelioma).

Esophageal Cancer

Include: Therapeutic esophageal resections for any esophageal cancer, including salvage esophagectomy after definitive chemoradiation.

Exclude: Gastric cancers.

Text fields

With no yes/no/unknown option, leave the field blank if the answer is unavailable.

Out-of-range values

Verify the unit, then code the highest or lowest allowable value (e.g., age 111 is coded 110).

30-day status

Keep a log of verification source, date, mortality, and readmission. Absence of EMR or CareEverywhere documentation is not sufficient.

Highlights: Sections A & B

Section A: Demographics

Seq 140	SSN: code ‘No’ if not submitted or incomplete, not ‘Patient refused.’
Seq 160	Multiple addresses: use where the patient spends most of their time.
Seq 220	No STS-related clinical trials are currently underway.
Seq 230	Double-check the birth year; age is key to risk calculation.
Seq 260	Race must be self-reported. ‘Hispanic, Latino or Spanish’ alone is ethnicity, so code race as declined/N/A.

Section B: Admission

Seq 370	Medicare Advantage is coded ‘Medicare.’ Medi-Share = None/Self; VA/Tricare = Military. Other includes paid for by prisons, charity care
380/430	Commercially managed Medicare = Medicare Advantage plan. Code ‘yes’ to 430 for patients with Medicare Advantage plans
Seq 410	Medicare FFS is ‘Yes’ for patients with Part B; always ‘No’ for Medicare Advantage.
Seq 420	Secondary payor pays after primary; Medicare Advantage plans have no secondary supp payor.
Seq 490	TIN is collected because it links to Medicare’s MIPS program.



540 Height in Centimeters

- Range: 54–251 cm
- Use height closest to OR from pre-op notes
- Priority source: Anesthesia record
- Used for BSA/risk calculations
- Use original height for lower-extremity amputees

550 Weight in Kilograms

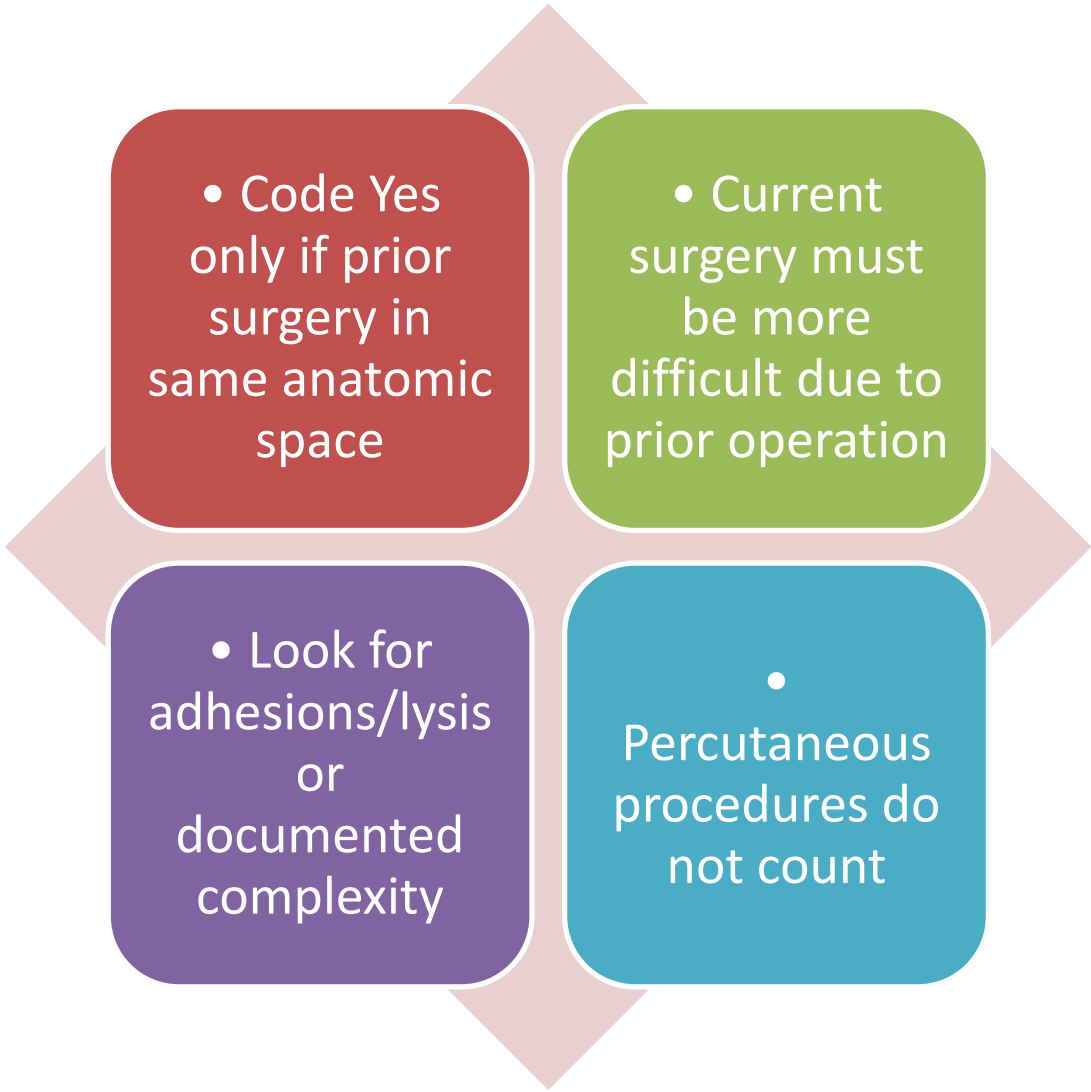
- Range: 10–250 kg
- Closest to OR from pre-op notes
- Priority: Anesthesia record
- Used for BSA/risk calculations
- Use **fixed**/pre-op weight closest to OR

560 Calculated BMI

- System calculated from height & weight
- Range: 0–200
- No manual calculation required



580 Prior Surgical History in Planned Operative Field



590 History of Cardiopulmonary Disease

- Multi-select
- HTN, CAD, AF/AFlutter, PH, CHF, MI
- Valve disease types and ILD
- Requires provider documentation

591 Aortic Valve Disease Type



- Parent: Aortic Valve Disease



- Options: Stenosis, Insufficiency, Combined



- Use echo closest to surgery

592 Mitral Valve Disease Type

- Parent: Mitral Valve Disease
- Options: Stenosis, Insufficiency, Combined
- Use echo closest to surgery

600 Preoperative Ejection Fraction

- Most recent diagnostic report before surgery
- Enter 1–99%
- Prefer within 6 months (up to 12 months)
- Use mean for ranges; descriptive values allowed

610 History of Vascular Disease

- Multi-select
- Major vascular disease
- DVT/PE, TIA, CVA
- Provider documentation required

620 Permanent Neurologic Impairment

- Only if history of CVA

- Code Yes for permanent deficits after stroke

630
Endocrine/GI/Renal
Disease

- Multi-select
- Diabetes
- Liver dysfunction
- Dialysis

640 Diabetes Therapy

- Most aggressive therapy wins
- Insulin > SQ meds > Oral > Diet
- None if prescribed but not taking



650 History of Cancer

- Multi-select
- Preop chemotherapy
- Immunotherapy/targeted therapy
- Thoracic radiation

676 Preop Chemotherapy Timing

- Same disease ≤6 mo
- Same disease >6 mo
- Unrelated disease ≤6 mo
- Unrelated disease >6 mo

686 Neo-Adjuvant Therapy



- Yes if preop targeted/immunotherapy used



- No for chemo/radiation only



- N/A if not primary lung/esophageal cancer

690 Preoperative Medication History

- Multi-select
- Immunosuppressive therapy
- Chronic anticoagulation
- Home oxygen

700 Creatinine Measured



- Was creatinine measured within 30 days pre-op?



- Yes/No

710 Last Creatinine Level

- Closest value before surgery
- Range 0.10–30.00
- Use pre-fluid value
- Enter to 2 decimals

720 Hemoglobin Measured



- MEASURED WITHIN 30 DAYS PRE-OP?

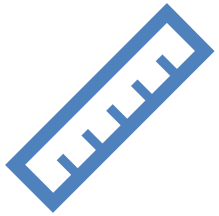


- YES/NO

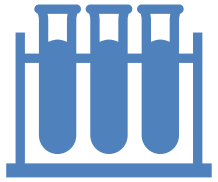
730 Last Hemoglobin Level



- Closest pre-op value



- Measured Hgb only



- Use lab report first

731 Albumin Level Measured

- Measured within 30 days pre-op?
- Yes/No



732 Last Albumin Level

- Closest pre-op albumin
- Range 1.00–10.00
- Enter to 2 decimals

740 Pulmonary Function Tests

- Performed within 12 months?
- FEV1 alone qualifies
- Bedside PFTs acceptable

750 FEV1 Predicted

- Use most recent PFT
- Highest % predicted on closest test
- Round to whole number

770 DLCO Test Performed

- DLCO within 12 months
- Need numeric value
- Corrected-only DLCO still = Yes

781 DLCO Lowest Predicted

- Lowest uncorrected % predicted DLCO
- Round to whole number
- Minimum entry = 10

790 History of Substance Abuse

- Smoking
- Vaping
- Illicit drug abuse
- Alcohol use disorder

800 Cigarette Smoking History

- Past smoker >30 days before surgery
- Current smoker within 30 days

830 Dementia/Neurocognitive Dysfunction



- TRUE DEMENTIA OR SIGNIFICANT COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT



- DO NOT INFER FROM MILD MEMORY LOSS

840 Major Psychiatric Disorder

- DSM-5 diagnosis documented
- Examples: depression, PTSD, bipolar, schizophrenia

850 Living Status

- Lives alone
- With family/friend
- Assisted living
- Nursing home
- Homeless

Thank You!

We appreciate you joining us for Session 2 and look forward to continuing the series together.

STAY CONNECTED

- STS Website – sts.org
- Data Manager Training Sessions
- Monthly Webinars
- Advances in Quality Outcomes Conference (AQO)
- Database News newsletter



Upcoming Sessions

All sessions at 1:00 p.m. ET

Nov 4	**Session 3** DCF Sections F, G
Nov 18	**Session 4** DCF Sections H, I
Dec 2	**Session 5** DCF Sections J, K
Dec 16	**Session 6** DCF Sections L, M