The STS 52nd Annual Meeting Finally Begins

Welcome to the STS 52nd Annual Meeting! I’m thrilled to welcome you to Phoenix for this preeminent educational event in cardiothoracic surgery. The STS Workforce on Annual Meeting has put together an outstanding program that will provide you with knowledge and skills that you can take back home and put to use right away. Over the next 5 days, you’ll experience thought-provoking lectures from renowned faculty and guests, exciting hands-on learning, an abundance of networking opportunities, and a chance to view the latest products and services in the specialty.

New offerings at the 52nd Annual Meeting include a how-to session featuring intraoperative videos of common cardiac surgical procedures and a session about the resuscitation of patients who arrest after cardiac surgery. Additionally, STS/AATS Tech-Con 2016 has sharpened its focus on new devices and procedures that have yet to be approved by the US Food and Drug Administration, but could be available (with FDA approval) within 1-3 years from the time of presentation. A number of sessions will feature perspectives from international experts. A Monday session from STS, the Canadian Association of Thoracic Surgeons, and the Canadian Society of Cardiac Surgeons will provide actionable information on the topics of online physician marketing, “physician review” websites, and the application of three-dimensional printing in cardiothoracic surgery. Also on Monday, the International Symposium & Reception will focus on the viability and ethics of employing new technologies to treat rheumatic heart disease, endocarditis, and mitral valve disease in various parts of the world.

STS and the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery will host a session on specialized aortic valve-sparing surgery and aortic valve repair on Tuesday. Another Tuesday session, with the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons, will feature controversial coverage, daytime support for facilities without critical care services in the specialty.

Critical Care Symposium to Examine Role of Tele-ICUs in Improving Quality, Value

Formal teledicine ICU programs support 11% of critically ill adult patients in non-federal hospitals, according to a 2014 study. This statistic speaks volumes in an era when 24/7 critical care units must meet quality improvement standards and continue to advance levels of care, while showing efficient use of ICU beds.

“Tele-ICUs allow critical care physicians to provide care for an exponentially larger volume of patients and at facilities that cannot afford or cannot obtain adequate critical care physician support,” said Scott Lindblom, MD, Specialty Medical Director of Adult Pulmonary and Critical Care and Chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Consultants at Carolinas HealthCare System in Charlotte, N.C.

Dr. Lindblom will be among the presenters at the STS/AATS Critical Care Symposium: Quality and Value in the CT ICU. The symposium, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sunday in Room 128AB, will focus on the role of postoperative quality and value improvement initiatives in reducing morbidity and mortality, as well as leveraging expertise with telehealth solutions, hospital-acquired infections (HAI), and advanced life support.

CarolinaHealthCare System has operated a virtual critical care telemedicine program since May 2013 and currently covers 10 facilities with more than 250 ICU beds. The tele-ICU program provides after-hours coverage, daytime support for facilities without intensivists, and a method to obtain risk-adjusted data for quality reporting and process improvement.

“We have demonstrated improved clinical outcomes and clinical efficiency by implementing a virtual critical care physician evaluation on all patients within 1 hour of admission. We currently have 24/7 critical care RN support and 16-hour critical care physician support,” Dr. Lindblom said. “The daytime physicians have had a significant reduction in after-hours calls, and bedside RNs have a resource for clinical questions and bedside needs.”

The program operates in conjunction with the Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute under the direction of Kevin W. Lobdell, MD, who is co-moderator of the symposium.

Exhibit Hall Opening Reception Sunday!
4:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.
Exhibit Halls 4-5
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Presentation by H. Edward Garrett, Jr. M.D.
Monday, Jan. 25 at 3:45pm • Booth #136

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Mosaic® Porcine Bioprosthesis: Indications: For the replacement of malfunctioning native or prosthetic aortic and/or mitral heart valves. Contraindications: None known. Warnings/Precautions/Adverse Events: Accelerated deterioration due to calcific degeneration of bioprosthesis may occur in: children, adolescents, young adults, and patients with altered calcium metabolism (e.g., chronic renal failure, hyperparathyroidism). Adverse events can include: angina, cardiac arrhythmia, cardiac dysrhythmias, death, endocarditis, heart failure, hemolysis, hemolytic anemia, hemorrhage, transvalvular or paravalvular leak, myocardial infarction, nonstructural dysfunction, stroke, structural deterioration, thromboembolism, or valve thrombosis. For additional information, please refer to the Instructions For Use provided with the product.

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STS Staff Welcomes You to Phoenix!

On behalf of the Society’s staff, I join STS President Mark Allen in welcoming you to The Society of Thoracic Surgeons 52nd Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Phoenix, Arizona. As in the past, the Annual Meeting will provide you with a wide range of educational, networking, and social offerings. Because there is so much to experience between Saturday and Wednesday, this STS Meeting Bulletin will help you keep track of what’s happening and provide up-to-date information about new sessions, meeting room locations, exhibitor descriptions, and much more.

Watch for the Monday and Tuesday/Wednesday editions of the Bulletin; the newspapers will be placed in bins throughout the Phoenix Convention Center during the Annual Meeting. Check the front-page left-hand column in each issue for a quick summary and update of the day’s activities. The Bulletin also provides a handy reference to the Exhibit Hall, which is an important component of the meeting experience. The Exhibit Hall is a great place to learn about new and improved technology and products, and it offers the perfect opportunity to see and meet with colleagues and friends. Surveys from past meetings show that the majority of attendees make a point of visiting with the exhibitors at least three times over the course of the meeting. The STS Exhibit Hall opens its doors at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, with a reception that runs through 6:30 p.m. Snacks and refreshments will be served throughout the Exhibit Hall.

While you’re there, take advantage of the free services offered at the Tech Bar. Experts can help you with both personal and professional tasks, such as downloading and using the STS Annual Meeting Mobile App, utilizing social media, improving your work productivity, troubleshooting issues with your smartphone or tablet, and more—all as a benefit of meeting registration.

I hope you also will stop by the STS booth (#523) in the Exhibit Hall. Staff members will be there, eager to talk with you about—and provide updates on—all things STS. Be sure to ask about the first outcomes report from the STS/ACC TVT Registry™, plans to upgrade and expand the STS National Database, our public reporting initiatives, exciting developments from the STS Research Center (now in its fifth year), and upcoming educational programs, such as the STS ECMO Symposium that will be held in March 2016.

You also will want to take a moment and talk with the STS Government Relations staff, who can bring you up to date on the Society’s many efforts on Capitol Hill. From coding and reimbursement issues to the implications of health care reform to important legislation relevant to cardiothoracic surgeons, STS continues to champion the specialty in Washington. Stop by and learn more. There’s a lot going on—and you’ll want to understand the implications for your practice.

If you are not already an STS member, please stop by the STS booth and learn about the many membership benefits we have to offer, including a complimentary subscription to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery. Those attendees who are not cardiothoracic surgeons—i.e., other physicians, CT surgery and general surgery residents, medical students, and all allied health care professionals—should especially note that our rolling admission process for Candidate, Pre-Candidate, and Associate Membership allows for the prompt disposition of their STS membership applications, typically within a week or two, so that they can start enjoying the benefits of STS membership almost immediately. And if you are an STS member, please pick up a membership packet to take home to a colleague; you will be helping both your colleague and your Society.

In Washington, the STS continues to champion the specialty in legislation relevant to cardiothoracic surgeons. STS continues to champion the specialty in Washington. Stop by and learn more. There’s a lot going on—and you’ll want to understand the implications for your practice.

See the CryoFlex Surgical Ablation System at Medtronic Booth #713.

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UC201604909 EN ©2015 Medtronic 12/2015, Minneapolis, MN
STS/ACC Session to Delve Into TAVR for Low-Risk Patients

The potential for transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) in low-risk patients is quickly becoming a hot topic for cardiothoracic surgeons and cardiologists. The issue will debuted during a joint STS and American College of Cardiology session from 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday in Room 120D. STS Past President Michael J. Mack, MD will go head-to-head with ACC Past President David R. Holmes Jr., MD on this timely topic.

“Right now, TAVR can be performed safely and effectively on medium- and high-risk patients. Some are now questioning the use of TAVR for low-risk patients,” said Vinod H. Thourani, MD, co-moderator of ACC @ STS. “Quite honestly, some surgeons are concerned that the management of aortic stenosis may leave the decision-making of surgeons in the hands of cardiologists. The question remains: What role will surgeons have? The role of valve thrombosis going into younger patients also has been discussed recently. This debate, by two icons in our specialty, is not to be missed.”

The session also will illustrate the importance of the heart team in the management of patients with aortic valve disease, coronary artery disease, and mitral regurgitation.

“We see these patients on a daily basis, and they can do well through the coordinated efforts of a cardiovascular team—a true heart team approach—instead of with a surgeon or cardiologist alone,” said Dr. Thourani, Professor of Surgery and Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, Co-Director of the Structural Heart and Valve Center at the Emory Heart and Vascular Center, and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Emory University Hospital Midtown in Atlanta.

Throughout the session, some of the world’s most well-known and thoughtful cardiothoracic surgeons and cardiologists will share their insights, technical videos, literature reviews, data-driven guidelines, and case examples.

In one presentation, STS Past President Robert A. Guyton, MD, will discuss “My Worst Case: Why Did I Ever Take This STS Level Myocardial Infarction to Surgery?” Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) usually is the first-line treatment for emergencies involving myocardial ischemia.

“Cardiac surgeons are called upon to treat patients with unusual situations, especially those not easily amenable to primary PCI. It is sometimes difficult, especially in emergency situations in the middle of the night, to determine which of these patients should be emergently taken to the operating room and which should be treated medically,” said Dr. Guyton, Charles Ross Hatcher, Jr., Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta.

He noted patients who should be treated medically include those with extreme comorbidities and frailty, elderly patients, and patients with only a small amount of myocardium at risk.

Another controversial group includes patients with suspected or actual acute neurologic injury, related perhaps to hemodynamic compromise caused by the acute coronary syndrome.

“If there is a neurologic deficit, then placing the patient on cardiopulmonary bypass is likely to extend the neurologic injury and perhaps make it permanent. This risk must be balanced against the likelihood of hemodynamic deterioration and death, which might be reversed by myocardial revascularization,” Dr. Guyton said. “I will present such a patient and discuss the risk-benefit analysis. This is a difficult situation both for the interventional cardiologist and the surgeon.”

An update on research from the STS/ACC Transcatheter Valve Therapy (TVT) Registry™ also will be provided. The TVT Registry is releasing its baseline outcomes report in the February 2016 issue of The Annals of Thoracic Surgery.

A follow-up report on the National Institutes of Health Cardiothoracic Surgical Trials Network Moderate and Severe Ischemic Mitral Regurgitation Trials also will be featured. Michael A. Acker, MD will explain how to best manage these patients, based on the results of these highly contested and controversial trials.

“Surgeons continue to struggle with the appropriate therapy for replacement in patients with severe ischemic mitral regurgitation or coronary bypass alone for those with moderate ischemic mitral regurgitation,” Dr. Thourani said. “The entire ACC @ STS session is unique in that attendees will learn about some of the most perplexing, yet commonly presented patient situations from world-class cardiologists and surgeons alike.”

Apply Today to Become an STS Member

As an attendee of the STS 52nd Annual Meeting, you are participating in the most exciting specialty in medicine. But if you are not yet an STS member, you may not be experiencing the profession to its fullest.

STS membership comes with a wide range of benefits, including subscriptions to The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, STS News, and personalized e-mail communications. Additionally, you’ll receive reduced registration rates at future Annual Meetings and many other educational events throughout the year, as well as the potential for excluding your participation fees in the STS National Database.

Several categories of membership are offered to include anyone with an interest in cardiothoracic surgery. If you are not already a member, please stop by the STS booth (#523) in the Exhibit Hall to talk with staff and pick up an application. If you are a member and know someone who has not yet joined, pick up an application for them! By encouraging membership in STS, you’ll help your colleagues, the Society, and the specialty.

ANNUAL MEETING

issues in general thoracic surgery, including the management of high-risk patients diagnosed with early stage lung cancer, solitary pulmonary nodules/ground glass opacities, achalasia, and paraesophageal hernias.

I am very pleased to welcome two outstanding guest speakers at the General Session on Tuesday morning. The Thomas B. Ferguson Lecture will be given by former NASA astronaut and emergency medicine physician Scott Parazynski, MD, who—in addition to logging a total of 8 weeks in space—has summited Mount Everest and invented a number of medical devices and other technologies for life in extreme environments. The C. Walton Lillehei lecturer will be Gary Taber*, an award-winning science journalist who has challenged conventional wisdom regarding diet, weight gain, and heart disease with his New York Times-bestselling books Good Calories, Bad Calories and Why We Get Fat.

You can read about these presentations and more in your Program Guide and Abstract Book—two publications that you will find invaluable for planning your schedule in Phoenix and also for reference when you’re back home.

On behalf of the Society’s leadership and the 52nd Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee, thank you for joining us here in Phoenix. Welcome to the meeting!

Mark S. Allen, MD
STS President

*For more information on this speaker, please visit www.phbspeakers.com.
Claim Your Annual Meeting CME Credit

T he STS 52nd Annual Meeting utilizes an entirely electronic evaluation and CME/Perfusion CEU credit claim process. Both physicians and perfusionists can use this system to claim credit, complete evaluations, and print CME/Perfusion CEU certificates. Certificates of Attendance also are available for other attendees and international physicians not wishing to claim CME credit. Attendees will not be able to evaluate and claim CME/Perfusion CEU credit for ticketed sessions unless they have registered for those sessions. Please note that CME credit is not available for the Residents Symposium, Residents Luncheon, or STS/AATS Tech-Con 2016.

Attendees can complete the overall meeting evaluations and all individual session evaluations onsite at CME Stations located near Room 120D, Room 121A, and Registration on the Lower Level. Certificate printing is available.

Attendees also can access evaluations and CME/Perfusion CEU credit by visiting the online evaluation site through personal computers or handheld devices at www.sts.org/2016evaluation. You also can access the site through the STS Mobile App. In order to make this process more convenient for attendees, the meeting evaluations will be available online through Thursday, February 11, 2016. Attendees can log in to the website with the following information: Username: 6-digit member ID number located at the lower left-hand side of the meeting badge
Password: First initial and last name

Photography and Recording Policy

Photography and recording of STS/AATS Tech-Con 2016 sessions are strictly prohibited, except by authorized personnel. Recording of STS 52nd Annual Meeting sessions is strictly prohibited, except by authorized personnel.

General Thoracic Symposium Emphasizes Audience Participation

P articipants in the Parallel Surgical Symposium: General Thoracic will play a vital role in the educational direction of the program, which will be presented from 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday in Room 122ABC.

“We’ve incorporated clinical vignettes and audience polling to highlight the immediate clinical relevance of the topics we’ll discuss. This format not only will engage our audience, but it also will allow the speakers to tailor their talks to the knowledge base of the participants,” said co-moderator Leah M. Backhus, MD, MPH.

Speakers will discuss minimally invasive approaches to thymectomy, with and without myasthenia gravis, advanced surgical techniques for lung resection, including bronchoplastic procedures, and localization strategies for small, non-palpable lung nodules. They also will discuss barriers to participation in national databases and provide advice for incorporating quality improvement initiatives into cardiothoracic surgical practice.

“There is not a single standard approach to thymectomy, so this is an opportunity to see three surgical approaches highlighted alongside each other. The format also will allow for back-and-forth discussion among the panelists and with audience members to debate their options regarding the best approach to the thymus,” said Dr. Backhus, Associate Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Stanford University and the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Health Care System in California.

CRITICAL CARE

continued from page 1

“We approached the symposium through the phases of care, along with risk assessment and mitigation, and then we considered each body system through these same phases of care,” said Dr. Lobdell, Director of Quality for the Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute at Carolinas HealthCare System. “Our comprehensive and systematic planning included historic registration data and feedback to ascertain that our offering would be current and respectful of what’s been done in the past, but also one that would allow us to learn and improve on how we presented these topics.”

THE IMPORTANCE OF HAI PREVENTION

Emily Landon, MD will discuss infection prevention, HAIs, and antibiotic stewardship, including the Hospital Microbiome Project, which aims to collect microbial samples from surfaces, air, staff, and patients at The University of Chicago’s new Center for Care and Discovery. Dr. Landon, Medical Director of Infection Control at The University of Chicago, is the hospital investigator for the project.

STRATEGIES FOR LUNG RESSECTION

The next portion of the symposium will focus on advanced techniques in lung resection, highlighting limits and frontiers for complex minimally invasive lung resection.

“Many surgeons are pushing their limits and exploring surgical treatment options for patients who may have traditionally been considered as unresectable. Experience in advanced bronchoplastic thoracoscopic techniques can help define whether someone receives a potentially curative resection or not,” Dr. Backhus said.

Videos will be used to show the technical aspects of procedures so participants can leave with tools that they immediately can apply to their clinical practices.

INCORPORATING QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

The final portion of the symposium centers on the importance of database participation, public reporting, and quality improvement initiatives. It will conclude with an update on Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part IV for the American Board of Thoracic Surgery. “MOC Part IV is not an onerous challenge,” Dr. Backhus said. “We will show how to minimize some of the perceived barriers for meeting the new MOC requirements by providing guidance on implementing quality improvement programs.

“I encourage people to attend this symposium. We’ve built on the great feedback from last year and put together an exciting program with high-profile speakers. It will be a lot of fun, and participants will leave with a tremendous amount of knowledge.”

LEARN MORE ABOUT MOC

The recently changed requirements for ABTS Diplomates to remain compliant with MOC activities also will be discussed during Early Riser Session 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday in Room 224B. The program will include a review of MOC goals, changes in specific MOC practices and requirements in surgery and cardiothoracic surgery, and the responsibilities for board-certified cardiothoracic surgeons. All cardiothoracic surgeons are welcome, but the approaching the 5th or 10th year of their ABTS cycle will find the session valuable.

Sanger’s Tele-ICU Program: By the Numbers

A fter implementing a tele-ICU program, Carolinas HealthCare System has seen a 7.3% increase in patient acuity and 1.7% more patients. Despite these rises in patient acuity and volume, the organization has provided more efficient and effective care:

- Overall risk-adjusted mortality
  - ICU length of stay: Reduced 5.2%
  - Hospital length of stay: Reduced 7.4%
  - Reduced 2.3%

“Tele-ICUs allow critical care physicians to provide care for an exponentially larger volume of patients.”

SCOTT LINDBLOM, MD
Strong when you need it.†
Gone within 30 days.‡

Postoperative hemostasis protection in a resorbable surgical sealant.†,‡,3

Resorbed within 30 days of application. Remains at application site for up to 7 days.²
†Preclinical data. Results may not correlate to performance in humans.
‡,³

COSEAL Surgical Sealant Indication: COSEAL is indicated for use in vascular reconstructions to achieve adjunctive hemostasis by mechanically sealing areas of leakage.

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Symposium Looks at Options for Common Congenital Problems

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Symposium: Congenital, from 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday in Room 126ABC, speakers will discuss alternative surgical techniques for treating neonates, infants, children, and young adults with commonly encountered congenital cardiac conditions. The talks will focus on three areas: atrioventricular septal defect (AVSD) repair, aortic valve repair or replacement for aortic valve disease.

“The two-part program will kick off with video-based presentations for AVSD treatment, the switch technique for transposition of the great arteries, and treatment of tetralogy of Fallot. These well-respected surgeons are experienced at doing their chosen operation. Each technique is effective, but there are pros and cons to each one,” said Dr. Fiore, Professor of Surgery at St. Louis University. “The second part of the symposium will examine whether new data should spur surgeons to change the way they manage common congenital cardiac pathologies. For example, most surgeons initially perform reconstructive operations for patients with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, but some surgeons believe these patients initially should undergo transplantation.”

“We tend to favor reconstructive techniques as the first operation, but there may be a role for transplantation in the treatment of certain high-risk patient subgroups at various stages of their palliation for hypoplastic left heart syndrome,” said Dr. Fiore, adding that attendees will hear data on the pros and cons of reconstruction versus transplantation.

Next up, a cardiologist and a cardiothoracic surgeon will look at indications for closure of the restrictive VSD. Controversy surrounds the low but potential risk associated with surgical VSD closure versus the potential complications of continued observations, such as aortic valve incompetence, endocarditis at the VSD site, and the potential difficulty of obtaining health insurance in adulthood.

The third area, aortic valve disease, brings its own controversy with respect to valve repair or replacement. “Aortic valve repair is technically more challenging, but has become more refined, more popular, and with acceptable early durability,” Dr. Fiore said. “On the other hand, mechanical aortic valve replacement adds the important burden of lifelong anticoagulation, but greater long-term structural integrity.”

The Ross procedure, usually recommended for the growing child, avoids anticoagulation, but late complications of autograft dilatation, aortic insufficiency, and pulmonary homograft structural failure can emerge with now two valves, aortic and pulmonary, placed at the time of repair. “While we will not completely resolve these complex controversial issues, we hope that with an open exchange of new ideas and knowledge between surgeons and cardiologists at all levels of experience, we can better serve the neonates, infants, children, and adults with congenital heart disease that we are so privileged to care for every day,” Dr. Fiore said.

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PARALLEL SURGICAL SYMPOSIUM: CONGENITAL
Sunday
1:15 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Room 126ABC
Weekend Pass required

Join the Conversation
Like the STS Facebook page at www.facebook.com/societyofthoracsurgeons and follow STS on Twitter at @STS_CTSurgery for information about Phoenix and the Annual Meeting. If you tweet about the Annual Meeting, be sure to use the hashtag #STS2016.

After the Annual Meeting is over, the STS Facebook and Twitter pages will continue to deliver news on future STS events and CME credit opportunities.
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Symposium Preps Residents for Practice

Making the move from completing medical training to starting a practice can seem like a road with endless choices. “From when cardiothoracic surgery residents first apply to medical school to completing their residencies, they move from one job to the next without a lot of input. They go through clear processes for getting into medical school, residency, and fellowship. It’s all orchestrated for them,” said Ara A. Vaporciyan, MD, Professor and Chair of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Dr. Vaporciyan is a co-moderator of the Residents Symposium, which will provide residents with practical information to help them transition from residency to a successful practice. The symposium will be from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday in Room 231ABC. All residents, no matter their year, are encouraged to attend the program. “The first time they have a choice and have to make deep decisions is when they complete their residency. The ones who don’t think about it and only focus on superficial issues, such as location and salary, have the worst outcomes with the jobs they choose,” said Dr. Vaporciyan. His co-moderators will be Sidharta P. Gangadharan, MD, Associate Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, and Sandra L. Starnes, MD, the Dr. John B. Flege, Jr. Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery, Associate Professor of Surgery, and Director of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at the University of Cincinnati. All are members of the Society’s Workforce on Thoracic Surgery Resident Issues, with Dr. Vaporciyan as Chair.

The program will feature five 15-minute talks on how to find the right position, interviewing tips, contract negotiation, how to be successful in developing a clinical practice, and early career development, which will be followed by group breakout sessions and discussions with experienced surgeons. “To make the discussions more useful, they will not concentrate on broad concepts, but rather, specifics about the best way to find your first job, key points of a successful interview, the nuts and bolts of your contract, and so on,” Dr. Starnes said. “Most residents have never seen a contract, so they’ll learn how to break down the specifics of what is a typical contract and what things to avoid.”

Feedback from last year’s participants has brought a new format to the group discussions. Previously, each table discussion was dedicated to a specific topic from the symposium; this year, the format allows residents to pose questions related to any of the symposium topics at any table. “Each table will have three faculty members from a variety of academic and private practices,” Dr. Starnes said. “Over the years, they have done a great job and have been committed to helping engage the residents.”

Beyond attending the symposium, Dr. Vaporciyan recommends that residents become STS members and get involved with the Society’s leadership opportunities. “Getting involved in the STS Workforces is a great way to give back, network, and meet mentors,” he said. “Yes, it’s a little work, but it’s rewarding. I’ve met many people, and I clearly get more out of it than I think I put into it.”

Looking for a new opportunity?

Visit the STS/CTSNet Career Fair in the 100 aisle of the Exhibit Hall!

Sunday, January 24  4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Monday, January 25   9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 26  9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

www.sts.org/careerfair

Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School and Chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, and Sandra L. Starnes, MD, the Dr. John B. Flege, Jr. Chair in Cardiothoracic Surgery, Associate Professor of Surgery, and Director of the Division of Thoracic Surgery at the University of Cincinnati. All are members of the Society’s Workforce on Thoracic Surgery Resident Issues, with Dr. Vaporciyan as Chair.

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Looking for a new opportunity?

Visit the STS/CTSNet Career Fair in the 100 aisle of the Exhibit Hall!

Sunday, January 24 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Monday, January 25 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 26 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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New Protocol Increases Postoperative Survival Rates After Cardiac Arrest

Joel Dunning, PhD, FRCS
Jill Ley, RN, MS

The protocol calls for a person trained in CSU-ALS, who could be a physician’s assistant or a nurse practitioner, to be available 24 hours a day.

“The first steps of reopening the chest are straightforward, and, if practiced on a manikin simulation, can be performed safely,” said Dr. Dunning, adding that manikins like the ones session attendees will practice on have been sent to about 50 institutions throughout the United States.
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LDCT Screening Detects High Lung Cancer Rates in Underserved Area

A free program to screen high-risk individuals for lung cancer showed triple the number of overall cancer incidence than reported in the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST).

Carsten Schroeder, MD, PhD, Director of the Cancer Center Thoracic Surgery Service and Associate Professor of Surgery, and resident Erika Simmerman, MD, both at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, will report on the findings during Monday’s General Thoracic Session: Lung Cancer I—Diagnosis and Staging, which will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 120A.

“In the NLST, they found 1 in 100 cancers. We found 1 in 32 cancers,” said Dr. Schroeder, adding that the NLST was done throughout the United States, while the Augusta trial was conducted in an underserved area in the Southeast.

The NLST randomly assigned participants to undergo three annual screenings with either low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) (26,722 participants) or single-view chest X-ray (26,732).

The men and women were ages 55 to 74 with at least 30 pack-years of smoking and were either current smokers or had quit within the past 15 years.

Results from the NLST, which were published in 2011, found a 20% reduction in lung cancer mortality among patients screened with LDCT, compared to patients screened with plain chest radiography.

As a result of the NLST findings, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network recommended that high-risk individuals undergo annual LDCT screenings.

In February 2015, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released a final National Coverage Determination that provides coverage of LDCT lung cancer screening in certain high-risk patients.

GEORGIA SCREENING

The researchers conducted their thoracic surgery-driven 1-year LDCT trial beginning in June 2014 at the major academic hospital in Augusta, Georgia. The trial had two screening groups of people ages 55 to 80. (See modified screening criteria at right.)

Augusta, a 2-hour drive from Atlanta, has about 200,000 residents, with the metro area totaling about 545,000. A 2014 Brookings Institution report found that between 2008 and 2012, 63.9% of Augusta’s poor lived in the suburbs.

Of the 255 patients screened, four had pathologically proven malignancies, four had a clinical diagnosis of cancer, seven had equivocal findings for workups, four were false positives, and four chose to avoid intervention and instead underwent serial imaging surveillance.

“Early detection of lung cancer is important because if we don’t detect it early, it is not operable,” Dr. Schroeder said. “Once an individual starts coughing up blood or has pain, it’s normally too late because you are already in stage 3 or 4. If we can detect lung cancer early, we can offer patients longer survival, if not a cure.”

Source: Carsten Schroeder, MD, PhD

Screening Criteria

GROUP 1
- 55–80 years old
- Currently a smoker or have quit within the past 15 years
- Smoked at least a pack of cigarettes a day for 30-plus years

GROUP 2
- 50–80 years old
- Smoked at least a pack of cigarettes a day for 20-plus years
- Have at least one of the following additional lung cancer risks:
  - Personal cancer history (lung, head and neck, and/or lymphoma)
  - Family history of lung cancer (parent, sibling, or child)
  - Emphysema or chronic bronchitis
  - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
  - Long-term exposure to asbestos
  - Asbestos-related lung disease or pulmonary asbestosis
  - Long-term exposure to silica, cadmium, arsenic, beryllium, chromium, diesel fumes, nickel, radon, uranium, or coal smoke and soot

Available in both English and Spanish, this website is easily viewable on computers, tablets, and smartphones.

All information has been reviewed by STS members and is divided into the following sections:
- Adult Heart Disease
- Pediatric and Congenital Heart Disease
- Lung, Esophageal, and Other Chest Diseases
- Heart and Lung Transplantation
- Before, During, and After Surgery

You now have a trustworthy resource to share with your patients.

c tsurgerypatients.org – new!
The Patient Guide to Heart, Lung, and Esophageal Surgery
A Website Presented by Cardiothoracic Surgeons Committed to Improving Patient Care

Visit www.sts.org/patient-information to download a printable PDF for referring your patients to this website.
A study being presented Tuesday has found that allowing trainees to participate in esophagectomies does not influence patient outcomes. And while the specialty of the surgeon performing the procedure doesn’t affect mortality, it may have an impact on other outcomes.

Senior author Daniela Molena, MD and her colleagues conducted a retrospective analysis using the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement databases (2005–2013). Zeyad Khoushal, MD, MPH will report on the findings during Tuesday’s General Thoracic Session: Esophageal, which will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Room 125AB.

More than 15,000 esophagectomy patients, who were 18 years and older, were divided into two groups, those with surgeries performed by general surgeons (69.8%) and those with surgeries performed by cardiothoracic surgeons (30.2%). Dr. Khoushal and his colleagues compared intraoperative and postoperative outcomes.

They found that while patients treated by cardiothoracic surgeons had significantly higher comorbidities, cancer rates, and trainee involvement with their surgeries, there was no significant difference in mortality.

However, they found that in those procedures performed by general surgeons, patients experienced an increase in serious morbidity, longer hospital stay, and decreased odds for home discharge.

When researchers evaluated trainee involvement as an independent factor, no significant differences were seen in patient outcomes. Dr. Khoushal conducted the study while working on his master’s degree in public health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in Baltimore. He is now a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto. Dr. Molena was his mentor.

“As academic surgeons, it’s our responsibility to train residents and students. I am happy to see there was really no difference in the outcomes when there was trainee involvement,” Dr. Molena said. “At the end of the day, the responsibility of the case is on the attending. It is important that the operation is done in a way that is safe for the patient and provides an optimal outcome, but, at the same time, it allows trainees to learn how to become good surgeons. These data are important because they show that the outcome doesn’t change whether the trainee is involved or not.”

She noted that patients who seek treatment from cardiothoracic surgeons typically are sicker.

“I’m not surprised to see more cancer, more COPD, and more congestive heart failure. Patients who are sicker are going to see specialists for care,” said Dr. Molena, who is now an Associate Attending and Director of the Esophageal Surgery Program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and an Associate Professor at Weill Cornell Medical College, New York.

**Get Free Tech Support at the Tech Bar**

A exciting amenity at the 2016 Annual Meeting is the Tech Bar, which is located at Booth #616 in the Exhibit Hall. Stop by for answers to all of your technical questions—experts can help you with personal and professional tasks, such as downloading and using the STS Annual Meeting Mobile App, troubleshooting issues with your smartphone or tablet, and more.

A complimentary charging station also is available, and you can attend these free demos on various technology topics of interest:

- **Twitter 101:** Want to share your thoughts and links with the world? Get on Twitter. The Tech Bar team will get you set up and Tweeting in minutes. (Hands-on tutorial with your device.)
- **Note Taking and Capturing Data:** Learn about apps that will help you with everything from productivity to travel.
- **Wearables in the Medical World:** You’ve seen the gadgets—Google Glass, smart watches, and many other devices that help track lifestyle improvements. Come hear how these technologies are changing the way health is monitored.

**SUNDAY**

4:30 p.m.–5:10 p.m.  
Note Taking and Capturing Data: Let’s Go Paperless!  
5:15 p.m.–5:55 p.m.  
Twitter 101  
6:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.  
5 Apps to Tame Your Inbox

**MONDAY**

10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.  
Twitter 101  
12:30 p.m.–1:15 p.m.  
5 Productivity Apps  
3:30 p.m.–4:15 p.m.  
5 Apps to Tame Your Inbox

**TUESDAY**

10:00 a.m.–10:45 a.m.  
Note Taking and Capturing Data: Let’s Go Paperless!  
12:00 p.m.–1:00 p.m.  
Wearables in the Medical World  
3:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.  
5 Productivity Apps

**THANK YOU!**

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons gratefully acknowledges the following companies for providing educational grants for the STS 52nd Annual Meeting. This list is accurate as of December 28, 2015.

**STS Platinum Benefactors**
- Provided $50,000 or above
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**PRODUCT SHOWCASE**

**The ORIGINAL: COSGROVE®, McCarthy and GILLINOV™ Heart Retractors**

**The Original Cosgrove® Mitral Valve Retractor**
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**Gillinov™ Heart Retractor**
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**McCarthy Mini-Sternotomy Retractor with Universal Lift**

**Booth 1032!**

**Visit Us At:**
- Booth #616
- STS Annual Meeting
- St. Jude Medical
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**ISO 13485:2003**
The information listed here is accurate as of December 17, 2015. The information for these products and services was provided by the manufacturers, and inclusion in this publication shall not constitute as a product endorsement by STS.

A&E Medical Corporation 211
Durham, NC
A&E Medical’s products include MYO/Wire® tamponade hanging wires, MYO/mite disposable cutting wire, MYO/Punch rotational surgical punch, MYO/Match disposable patient table, and DoubleWire high-strength sternal closure system.

Abbott Vascular 231
Santa Clara, CA
Abbott (NYSE: ABT) is a global health care company devoted to improving life through the development of products and technologies that span the breadth of health care. With a portfolio of leading, science-based offerings in diagnostics, medical devices, nutritionals, and branded generic pharmaceuticals, Abbott serves people in more than 150 countries and employs approximately 70,000 people.

Abbomed Inc. 844
Danvers, MA

ACUTE Innovations 1023
Hillsboro, OR
Furthering its reputation as a leader in the thoracic surgeon's environment, ACUTE Innovations® continues to move advancements in chest wall stabilization technology. Stop by Booth 1023 to learn about ACUTE’s cutting-edge products: ROLLOf U Plus Chest Wall Plating System and AccuTite™ II Sternum Closure System.

Admedus 320
Minneapolis, MN
Admedus, a global health care group, is working with renowned medical leaders to bring new medical technologies to market. CardioCor®a cardiovascular scaffold, is the first of its ADAPT® family of tissue-engineered bioimplants and is being used for clinical trials.

Advanced Cardiothoracic Consultants, LLC 932
Indianapolis, IN
Utilizing over 40 years of clinical expertise in cardiotoracic surgery and cardiovascular disease, Advanced Cardiothoracic Consultants, LLC manufactures, develops, and markets surgical bioprosthetic heart valves and surgical delivery systems. Atraicus® is a carbon dioxide-based, tissue-engineered scaffold and is being used for clinical trials.

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Aegis Medical 270
Centennial, CO
Aegis Medical, a member of the B. Braun family of health care companies, is the world’s largest manufacturer of surgical instrumentation. For more than 138 years, Aesculap has provided customers with surgical instrumentation for ENT, plastic and reconstructive, thoracic, microvascular, cardiovascular, and laparoscopic surgery.

American Association for Thoracic Surgery 1121
Beverly, MA
Founded in 1917, the American Association for Thoracic Surgery is dedicated to excellence in research, education, and innovation in cardiothoracic surgery and has become an international professional organization of members representing the world’s foremost cardiothoracic surgeons. www.aats.org

AtriCure Inc 915
West Chester, OH
AtriCure is committed to reducing the global Afib epidemic and healing the lives of those affected through cardiothoracic surgery, science, and education. The company is a leading Afib solutions partner with the only FDA-approved surgical treatment for Afib and a fully implantable coating device, device for left atrial appendage management.

Atrium Health 210
Dearfield, IL
As a global, diversified health care company, Baxter International Inc applies a unique combination of expertise in medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology to create products that benefit patients worldwide.

BayCare Medical 551
Mississauga, Canada

Bay Scott & White 100
Temple, AZ
BD (formerly CareFusion) 1035
San Diego, CA
BD is a medical corporation helping clinicians and hospitals measurably improve patient care. The PleurX® Catheter System allows patients to manage symptoms associated with recurrent plural effusions and malignant ascites at home, reducing length of stay and cost of care while improving quality of life. Visit BD at Booth 1035 to learn more.

Belmar Heart Inc 1039
The Woodlands, TX
Belmar Heart is the only company worldwide that develops, manufactures, and distributes ventricu- lar assist devices for patients of every age and body size. EXCOR Pediatric is approved for use in the United States under Humanitarian Device Exemption regulations by the Food and Drug Administration.

BFW Inc 438
Lexington, KY
BFW is known as a world-leading technological leader in surgical illumination and headlight video imaging. Visit Booth 438x to experience the foremost innovations in portable LED headlights offering intense, clean, bright white light and the new Hattner™ LED light source—unmatched intense fiberoptic illumination for headlight and instrumentation.

Biolase Inc. 650
Boulder, CO

Bolton Medical 1032
Sunrise, FL
Bolton Medical is a subsidiary of the WerfenLife Group and manufactures and distributes medical diagnostic solutions and medical devices worldwide. Bolton’s vision is to become the world’s undisputed provider of advanced solutions for aortic disease. Bolton develops, markets, and distributes innovative products to high-quality products solely focused on the aorta.

Bovie Medical Corporation 540
Clearwater, FL
Bovie Medical Corporation will be featuring its JFlashe™ the helium-based gas plasma technology that is transforming the way surgeries are performed. JFlashe™ is precision with versatility, across open and laparoscopic procedures. Bovie will also exhibit its complete line of electrosurgical products.

Biorad Medical 450
Winston-Salem, NC
The SurgiSILHUM™ System creates sterile shell inside secure, reusable, sterile containers with no exposure to costly, vulnerable sluice drapes that can tear or perforate, unintentionally contaminating your sterile sluice. Users eliminate long exposure to open basins and the ambient, non-sterile environment.

Bioscaffold Devices Inc 923
New York, NY
Bioscaffold Devices Inc markets its ECM® porous bio-scaffold devices for vascular repair, pericardial repair and reconstruction, cardiac tissue repair, and CuroGel ECM Envelope and is currently conducting preclinical studies to evaluate future applications in other cardiovascular and other cardial vascular applications.

CryoLife 321
Kennesaw, GA
CryoLife® is a leader in the development and implementation of advanced technologies associated with organ preservation and cryopreservation. CryoLife also pioneers research in the development of novel biologic devices, surgical adhesives, hemostatic agents, and biomaterials for cardiac, vascular, and general surgery.

CT Assist 341
Philippi, WV
CT Assist is a managed service provider of cost-effective cardiovascular surgery advanced procedures and technologies. CT Assist provides workflow management solutions from long-term to locum tenens and vacation coverage. The company is a physician-assistant-owned nationwide employer of talented and experienced cardiovascular,其中 CT Assist is a managed service provider of cost-effective cardiovascular surgery advanced procedures and technologies. CT Assist provides workflow management solutions from long-term to locum tenens and vacation coverage. The company is a physician-assistant-owned nationwide employer of talented and experienced cardiovascular, among other specialties.

CTN Network 531
Chicago, IL
CTN Network (www.ctn.org), headquartered in Chicago, is the leading international source of online resources related to cardiothoracic surgery, as well as the major hub of the international online community of cardiothoracic surgeons and allied health care professionals.

David Inc., a BARD COMPANY 831
Winston-Salem, NC
BARD is the market leader in comprehensive soft tissue reconstruction. In addition to this exten- sive line of products its Biolog™ family is delivering a growing line of enhanced sealants and hemostatic products to complement surgical techniques across thoracic, cardiovascular, and other surgical specialties.

Designs for Vision 1001
Ronkonkoma, NY
Just See It™ with Designs for Vision’s lightweight and flexible line of glasses and contact lenses. Designs for Vision specializes in low vision, aphakia, and poor vision correction.

Devices for Vision 900
New York, NY
AtriCure Inc is a global health care company that develops, manufactures, and markets surgical bioprosthetic heart valves and surgical delivery systems. Atraicus® is a carbon dioxide-based, tissue-engineered scaffold and is being used for clinical trials.

DiaMedica Therapeutics Inc 939
Exeter, United Kingdom
DiaMedica Therapeutics is the global leader in the science of heart valves and hemodynamic monitoring. Driven by a passion to help patients, the company partners with clinicians to develop innovative technologies in the areas of structural heart disease and critical care monitoring, enabling them to save and enhance lives. Additional company information can be found at www.dia-medica.com.

Elsevier 938
Philadephia, PA
Elsevier is the proud publisher of The Annals of Thoracic Surgery and a world-leading provider of information and tools to enhance the perfor- mance of science, health, and technology profes- sionals. Elsevier empowers better decision making and delivers the best care. www.elsevier.com.

EndoEvolution, LLC 124
Raynham, MA
EndoEvolution, LLC is the leading innovator in advanced automated suturing device technology. The Endo360™ MS suturing device is the only re- useable suturing device available on the market using a cutting needle that precisely replicates the traditional method of suturing used by surgeons to place stitches and tie intracorporeal knots.

Enova Illumination 125
St. Paul, MN
NEW from Enova Illumination: Cyclops XLT-225 LED surgical headlight system. The world’s brightest LED surgical headlight designed for deep cavity surgery HD Camera system with six adjustable camera sharing.

Essential Pharmaceuticals 206
Ewing, NJ
Supporting the preservation and growth of hu- mans. From the cell to the entire organ, Essential Pharmaceuticals looks to advance medical research to create solutions that advance patient care worldwide.

Essentia, a company from Japan, provides the original beating heart solution for many transplant centers.

EVT Surgical Supplies 222
Bangor, ME
Eastern Maine Medical Center is a major source of technology to a broad array of surgical specialists.

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Eastern Maine Medical Center is a major source of technology to a broad array of surgical specialists.
and surgical management of patients to education, training, and credentialing of thoracic surgeons worldwide. The 24th European Conference on General Thoracic Surgery will be held on 29 May–1 June, 2016, in Istanbul, Turkey.

**Fehling Surgical**

Acworth, GA

Fehling Surgical features the CERAMO® instrument line, SUPERPLAST probes, and new innovative retractor systems for minimally invasive cardiac surgery. The CERAMO® surface means high efficiency through enhanced performance, increased endurance, and minimal maintenance. BREAKING NEWS: See the Reusable Papillary Muscle Exposure Device and Atrial Lift System!

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**General Cardiac Tech/Heart Hugger**

1019 San Jose, CA

The Heart Hugger sternum support harness is a patient-operated support harness applied postoperatively to splint surgical wounds. Benefits include improved patient compliance, faster return to preoperative respiratory levels, fewer wound complications, and better postoperative mobility. It is useful for open heart surgery, thoracotomy, fractured rib, and other chest trauma patients.

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The Gore Medical Products Division has provided creative solutions to medical problems for three decades. More than 35 million Gore medical devices have been implanted worldwide. Products include vascular grafts, endovascular and interventional devices, surgical materials, and sutures for use in vascular, cardiac, and general surgery. For more information, visit www.goremedical.com.

**HeartWare**

Framingham, MA

HeartWare is dedicated to delivering safe, high-performing, and transformative therapies that enable patients with heart failure to get back to life. The HVAD® Pump is designed to be implanted in the pericardial space, avoiding the more invasive surgical procedures required with older LVAD technologies. The HVAD Pump is commercially available around the world.

**Heart Hospital Baylor Plano, The**

647 Plano, TX

Heart Valve Society, The (HVS)

843 Beverly, MA

The HVS held its inaugural meeting in May 2015 at the Grimaldi Forum in Monte Carlo, Monaco, with more than 430 medical professionals and 80 industry partners in attendance. Whether you are a cardiologist, surgeon, researcher, or another member of the crucial valve disease treatment team, the HVS welcomes you to become a part of something very unique. Membership is available online.

**Hospital Corporation of America**

107 PI Lauderdale, FL

HCA-affiliated facilities are a part of a quality health care network in East Florida and the Treasure Coast with 14 affiliated hospitals, 12 surgery centers, one integrated regional lab, and one consolidated service center. Together, the network employs more than 12,500 individuals and has close to 6,000 physicians on staff.

**INFINITE TRADING INC.**

447 Las Vegas, NV

**Inlion Inc.**

Weston, FL

**International Biophysics Corp**

1038 Austin, TX

SternaSafe is an active, adjustable-stability sternum support brace that gives patients hands-free mobility, enhancing patient recovery after sternotomy, coronary artery bypass graft surgery, thoracotomy, lung operations, and rib fractures.

**IsoRay Medical**

Richland, WA

IsoRay Medical manufactures and distributes radiation therapy sources for direct implantation into cancer or surgical margins following resection of cancer. IsoRay markets cesium-131 based brachytherapy meshes and strands for resection line treatment following surgery for high-risk lung cancers, resulting in highly conformal adjuvant radiation therapy that spares critical thoracic structures.

**International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiovascular Surgery** (ISMICS)

Beverly, MA


**Intuitive Surgical**

Sunnyvale, CA

Intuitive Surgical, Inc. designs, manufactures, and distributes the da Vinci® Surgical System, technology designed to allow surgeons to perform many complex procedures minimally invasively.

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Inion Inc provides unique devices for cardiothoracic surgery, including a bovine pericardium tissue patch, sternal/thoracic valve retractors, instruments for minimally invasive aortic, transcatheter aortic valve implantation, and robotic surgeries, coronary graft markers, suture guards, retraction clips, and myo-

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**Inion Inc.**

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Learning Opportunities Available in the Exhibit Hall

exhibiting companies and others will present talks and demonstrations in the new Learning Labs in the Exhibit Hall. The Large Theater is located to the far left of the 100 Aisle and the Small Theater is located toward the back of the 900 Aisle.

SUNDAY

Medstim
A Practical Introduction to Graft Assessment and Intraprocedural Guidance
4:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
Small Theater

Joint Council on Thoracic Surgery Education, Inc.
Jeopardy Championship—Round 1
5:10 p.m.–6:40 p.m.
Large Theater

MONDAY

MAQUET
Preventing POAF by Reducing Retained Blood
5:10 a.m.–11:20 a.m.
Small Theater

Cook Medical
Lunch & Learn: Hands-On and Didactics of the Ethicon
3:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Small Theater

Efthoc
Practical Skills in Cardiothoracic Surgery
3:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Small Theater

Joint Council on Thoracic Surgery Education, Inc.
Jeopardy Championship—Round 2
3:30 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
Large Theater

2016 ANNUAL MEETING EXHIBITORS cont. NEW EXHIBITORS MEETING BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

JACE Medical
Winona Lake, IN
JACE Medical pioneered the world’s first rigid sternal closure system applied presystenotomically. The Grand Prelude JACE Medical is a company and culture committed to creating innovative, transformational technologies that facilitate optimal patient treatment, recovery, and future wellness. Visit Booth 121 and see how the company thinks outside the parameters. Get more information at JACEMED.com.

Just Co, Ltd
Torrance, CA
742

Kappa Surgical
Cleveland, OH
Kappa Surgical is a custom design shop that designs surgical instruments and implants, manufactures them, and sells them, as well as distributes domestically and internationally. Kappa’s exclusive products include the Cosgrove Heart Retractor, Strip T’s surgical organizer, and countless surgical devices. All FDA-approved with several pending approval.

Karl Storz
El Segundo, CA
Karl Storz, a leader in endoscopic equipment and instruments, offers solutions for video-assisted thoracic and cardiac surgery. EnduCArMesaRicher® Laparoscope enables surgeons to adjust the viewing direction from 0° to 120° throughout procedures. And its Video Mediastinoscope with DCI®-D1 Camera allows video recording while working under direct vision for documentation and teaching.

Kinamed, Inc.
Camarillo, CA
549

KLS Martin
Jacksonville, FL
KLS Martin, a responsive company, is focused on the development of innovative products for oral, plastic, and craniofacial/otolaryngological surgery. New product developments in the company’s titanium osseointegration staging systems allow these products to be used for rigid sternal fixation and reconstruction.

Koros USA, Inc.
Mooresville, CA
243

For the past 30 years Koros USA, Inc. has been designing and distributing state-of-the-art surgical instruments, like the Cervical Blade Retractor, Super Slide, and ALIF Polars Lateral Retractors, along with the Rotating Osteo Punch, Ejector Punch Rongeurs, and many more fine hand instruments.

LifelNet Health
Virginia Beach, VA
LifelNet Health helps save lives, restore health, and give hope to thousands of patients each year. It is the world’s most trusted provider of transplant solutions, from organ procurement to new innovations in bioprosthetic and cellular therapies—a leader in the field of regenerative medicine, while always honoring the donors and health care professionals who allow the healing process.

LivaNova (formerly Sorin Group)
Aravada, CO
201

LivaNova is a world leader in the treatment of cardiovascular disease. Its innovative product portfolio includes aortic and mitral valve replacement and repair, perfusion equipment, cannula, and minimally invasive cardiac surgery instruments. For more information, visit www.livanova.com.

LoupeCam
Scottsdale, AZ
643

LoupeCam® is the market leader in head-mounted HD surgical cameras and is the ONLY company offering cross platform (Mac, Windows, and soon Android compatibility). The company offers five different magnification lenses to match all surgical points of view, along with a Bluetooth foot pedal that allows for hands-free control of the camera.

LSI Solutions
Victor, NY
101

Victor NY® delivers superior titanium suture fastening technology worldwide. COR-KNOT reduces cardiopulmonary bypass time and cross clamp time, reducing overall OR time. Find out how COR-KNOT can benefit your OR by visiting Booth 101.

MAQUET
Wayne, NJ
901

MAQUET Medical Systems is a market leader focused on improving patient care and quality of life. The company offers a comprehensive portfolio of innovative products designed to meet the needs of clinical professionals in the areas of advanced hemodynamic monitoring, cardiovascular, and vascular surgery, thoracic drainage, cardiac intervention, perfusion, anesthesia, and ventilation.

Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN
440

Mayo Clinic surgeons are on the leading edge of research and treatment in the areas of advanced heart failure, complex rhythm disorders, preventive cardiology, and cardiovascular and thoracic surgery. Their state-of-the-art facilities provide comprehensive care for patients with cardiovascular disease. For more information, visit www.mayoclinic.org.

Med Alliance Solutions
Richland, WA
Med Alliance Solutions is a medical specialty equipment and implant distributor with over 25 years of experience serving the Pacific Northwest. Our commitment to excellence has enabled us to become one of the most respected distributors in the region. We provide a wide range of products and services to meet the needs of our customers.

Medtronic
Minneapolis, MN
Medtronic is a global leader in medical technology, services, and solutions. Medtronic’s quality assessment technology offers surgeons quantitative validation and guidance during cardiovascular, vascular, transplantation, and neurosurgery.

Medtronic
Moorpark, CA
923

Medtronic is the market leader in breast feeding education and research, provides medical vacuum solutions featuring Swiss technology in over 90 countries. Medela Healthcare optimizes patient care through pioneering and intelligent, mobile, digital chest drainage therapy and advanced wound management with negative pressure wound therapy.

Medtronic
Minneapolis, MN
713

Medtronic is a global leader in medical technology, services, and solutions. Medtronic improves the lives and health of millions of people each year. The company uses its deep clinical, therapeutic, and economic expertise to address the complex challenges faced by health care systems today. Let’s take health care Further, Together. Learn more at Medtronic.com.

Microsurgery Instruments, Inc.
Belair, TX
122

Microsurgery Instruments is one of the leading suppliers of surgical instruments and loupes. The company’s instruments include titanium scissors, needlers, and holders, and DelBayke forces. Its SideCut scissors are the sharpest in the market, and its newly designed surgical loupes offer up to 11x magnification.

Myriad Genetic Laboratories, Inc.
Virginia Beach, VA
239

Myriad Genetic Laboratories, Inc. is a leading molecular diagnostic company dedicated to making a difference in patients’ lives through the discovery and commercialization of transformative tests to assess a person’s risk of developing disease.
risk of developing disease, guide treatment decisions, and assess risk of disease progression and recurrence.

Nadia International
614
Austin, TX
Eduational/surgical bronze sculptures specifically for the thoracic surgeon. These museum-quality limited editions are created by the world famous sculptor, John Candia. More than 7,200 surgeons in 77 countries collect his fine works of art. His works are on display at the Smithsonian Institution and many medical universities throughout the world. Introducing MIRACLE OF LIFE II at the 2016 meeting.

nContact
217
Morristown, NC
nContact is a leader in the development of disease management programs with the goal of opening unmet markets, minimizing rehospitalizations, and improving health care savings. nContact’s mission is to transform the underserved arrhythmia market and benefit the entire cardiovascular service line.

NeoChord, Inc.
1104
Eden Prairie, MN
NeoChord is a medical device company, intends to transform mitral valve repair by providing minimally invasive technology that enables beating heart surgery, thereby improving implantation of artificial chord tendineae.

New Wave Medical
446
Madison, WI
New Wave Medical Inc has the first and only Intelligent Ablation System for microwave ablation of soft tissue lesions with a total solution for ablating lesions of any size and depth, while providing for improved accuracy, safety, and control. The computer-controlled platform with Ablation Confirmation software, an integrated in-procedure confirmation, assists physicians with proper probe placement and confirms success of procedures.

Olympus America Inc
1130
Center Valley, PA
Olympus is a precision technology leader in designing and delivering imaging solutions in healthcare, life science, and photography. Through its health care solutions, Olympus aims to improve procedural techniques and outcomes and enhance the quality of life for patients.

On-X Life Technologies, Inc.
617
Austin, TX
On-X Life Technologies is proud to announce FDA approval to reduce INR to 1.5–2.0 for On-X® Heart Valve patients starting 3 months after surgery. Chord-X® 4PTFE stent for mitral repair is now available in an innovative Pre-Measured stent system.

Orami
343
Foxboro, MA
Orami specializes in research, development, and distribution of noninvasive patient monitors specializing in the field of tissue and cerebral blood flow. Its bedside product, c-FLOW™, is based on the patented ULight™ technology designed to provide physicians with unique monitoring capabilities and feedback relative to individualized and personalized patient care.

OSF HealthCare System
110
Peoria, IL

Oxford University Press
213
New York, NY

Pinnacle Biologies
648
Ithaca, NY
Pinnacle Biologies, Inc. specializes in revitalizing biological tissue healthcare by identifying and managing innovative approaches to the commercialization of products with a focus on oncology and orphan diseases. PD T with Photofrin® is an effective therapy for select thoracic malignancies.

Providence Health & Services
347
Portland, OR
Providence Health & Services is affiliated with Swedish Health Services, Pacific Medical Centers, and Joint Venture Together, its organizations include more than 5,000 employed providers, 35 medical centers, and more than 600 clinics in Alaska, California, Oregon, and Washington. Providence is the company currently recruiting candidates in need of all medical specialties throughout the West. Providence.org/ProvideAXIS

QED Medical
342
Lexington, KY
QED Medical introduces the new XL 10-watt OR-ready Portable Light Headset System featuring unobstructed mobility, maximum intensity, and a lightweight design with intensity and spot size controls. Since 1971, QED Medical has developed a comprehensive line of American-made headlight illumination and video headlight systems for applications from examination to surgery.

Quest Medical Inc.
931
Allen, TX
Quest Medical Inc is a medical device manufacturer and worldwide distributor specializing in protecting the heart during cardiac surgery with the Liposomal Antithrombin, the Liposomal Antithrombin, and the Liposomal Antithrombin. The company is a leader in providing unique a variety of aortic patches, safety valves, vascular loops, and an anesthesia line designed for optimum cardiovascular surgery.

Regional Data Managers: STS National Database
735
Ann Arbor, MI
The Regional Data Managers Booth provides opportunities for surgeons to interact with data managers from around the country who are actively involved with regional STS National Database efforts and collaborative STS groups. Come learn about regional activities and initiatives!

rEVO Biologics
747
Framingham, MA
rEVO Biologics, Inc. is a commercial-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of specialty therapeutics to address unmet medical needs in patients with rare, life-threatening conditions. The company’s lead product, Atyn, is the first and only plasma-free antithrombin concentrate.

Rose Micro Solutions
930
West Seneca, NY
Rose Micro Solutions sells high-quality optical lupes and LED lights for less! The company’s lupes start at $279. Rose Micro Solutions is a family business consisting of four brothers who manufacture their own products. To learn more about Rose Micro Solutions, visit booth 930, visit www.rosemicrosolutions.com, or call (716) 809-0007.

RTI Surgical
849
Alachua, FL
RTI Surgical™ is a leading global surgical implant company providing surgeons with safe biologic, metal, and synthetic implants. RTI provides surgeons with metal, cable, and plating systems, as well as biologic options for cardiothoracic and trauma surgical procedures. Cardiothoracic implants offer increased stability and flexibility for anterior chest wall fixation for all types of closures.

Rutrack/Pemco Inc.
839
Billings, MT
Pemco has designed and manufactured precision surgical instruments for the cardiovascular field. The company has the experience to create any coronary ostial canal, and cardia suctors offer cost savings over disposables. Additional products include reusable slabstein and femoral canal, anesthesia screens, and the Rutrack retractor.

Skanlan International
511
St. Louis, MO
Skanlan International is the largest global surgical implant company providing surgeons with safe biologic, metal, and synthetic implants. RTI provides surgeons with metal, cable, and plating systems, as well as biologic options for cardiothoracic and trauma surgical procedures. Cardiothoracic implants offer increased stability and flexibility for anterior chest wall fixation for all types of closures.

SheerVision
242
Reston, VA
SheerVision designs, develops, and manufactures loupe and headlight systems that enhance vision through exceptional optical quality and advanced optical illumination. SheerVision also is the exclusive provider of Under Armour Performance Eyewear. Also on display is the new loupe-mounted, hands-free HD video camera allowing you to “Shoot. Store. Share.” with state-of-the-art technology.

Society of Thoracic Surgeons, The 523
Conference
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons represents more than 7,200 surgeons, researchers, and allied health care professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lung, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest. The Society offers a wide variety of member benefits, including reduced participation fees in the renowned STS National Database**, a complimentary subscription to The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, educational offerings, online patient information resources, and much more. The Society also supports cutting-edge research via STS Research Centers and advocates in Washington, DC, on behalf of cardiovascular surgery professionals and their patients. Stop by Booth 523 or visit www.sts.org to learn more.

Sontec Instruments
310
Centennial, CO
Sontec Instruments is a medical device manufacturer and worldwide distributor specializing in protecting the heart during cardiac surgery with the Liposomal Antithrombin, the Liposomal Antithrombin, and the Liposomal Antithrombin. The company is a leader in providing unique a variety of aortic patches, safety valves, vascular loops, and an anesthesia line designed for optimum cardiovascular surgery.

Thoratec Corporation
730
Pittsburgh, PA
Thoratec is the world leader in mechanical circulatory support with the broadest product portfolio to support the full range of clinical needs for patients suffering from advanced heart failure. Thoratec’s products include the HeartMate II, Thoratec, VAD, CentriMag, and PediMag/PediVAD.

Thornet Surgical
935
Rochester, MN
Thornet Surgical Products sells the most complete line of VATS instruments available. Produced in the USA in the company’s own facilities, they are the surgeon’s choice. Come to Booth 935 to see their unique versatility. Thoramet has the feel you want, the actuation you need, and the patterns you demand.

Thoracic Surgeons Foundation for Research and Education (TSFRE)
731
Chicago, IL
TSFRE is the charitable arm of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons. The mission of TSFRE is to foster the development of surgeon scientists in thoracic surgery who will bring new knowledge and innovation to benefit patient care. The foundation represents thoracic surgeons in the American Thoracic Society, and its research and educational initiatives support the broad spectrum of thoracic surgery.

Transonic
730
Ithaca, NY
Transonic creates the world leader in mechanical circulatory support with the broadest product portfolio to support the full range of clinical needs for patients suffering from advanced heart failure. Thoratec’s products include the HeartMate II, Thoratec, VAD, CentriMag, and PediMag/PediVAD.

Transonic
745
Ithaca, NY
You’ve carefully constructed several challenging anastomoses, and you’re confident that they’re good... but are they? Before you close your patient, take a few seconds and get precise blood measurements on critical flows. Know if there is a problem now, before the patient lets you know later. Visit Transonic and see how its meters and flow probes can help improve your outcomes.

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)
348
Pittsburgh, PA

VasoPrep
132
El Segundo, CA
VasoPrep Medical, Inc. specializes in revitalizing biological tissue healthcare by identifying and managing innovative approaches to the commercialization of products with a focus on oncology and orphan diseases. PD T with Photofrin® is an effective therapy for select thoracic malignancies.

Virtual Pediatric Systems, LLC
246
Los Angeles, CA
With more than 100,000 ICU cases, VPS Cardiac bridges the critical care continuum of patient care, offering comprehensive data collection, analysis, and interpretation to improve critical care. Benchmarking takes place against VPS peers, nationwide averages, and industry norms and includes the Pediatric Index of Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care (PISCIC) as a percentage and score for the pediatric cardiac surgical population. Please visit VPS at Booth 246 to learn more about the impact the company is making.

Vascutek, a Terumo company, will display an extensive range of seeded woven and knitted polyester grafts for peripheral, abdominal, and cardiovascular surgery. Terumo will display the Virtuoso+ Plus Endoscopic Vascular System, Beating Heart, and Surgical Stabilization products, and Terumo® Perfusion Products.

Thompson Surgical
441
Traverse City, MI
Thompson Surgical has been a leader in expertly precision engineered surgical cardiovascular solutions that benefit from the Thompson Surgical Belling Retractor, which provides low profile, stable, uncompromised exposure of the heart structure. The company provides innovative, high-quality systems that deliver safe, versatile retraction.

STS Meeting Bulletin Advertisers

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2016 ANNUAL MEETING EXHIBITORS cont.

- VitaHEAT Medical
  Rolling Meadows, IL
  Visit VitaHEAT Medical (Booth 215) to see the next generation in patient warming: an under-body mattress that is safe, effective, easy to use, and cost efficient. It is battery operated for portability with an AC power option. Finally, one versatile system that meets all your patient warming needs.

- Vitalcor, Inc./Applied Fiberoptics
  533 Westmont, IL
  Vitalcor, Inc. is a supplier of medical devices used primarily in cardiothoracic surgery. Since 1975, Vitalcor has provided products that take input from teaching and practicing surgeons to make their practice easier. The company prides itself on offering quality products and providing exceptional customer service.

- Vitalitec Geister
  Plymouth, MA
  Vitalitec Geister will be displaying all its products, highlighting the Peters CV Suture, Enclose II Anastomosis Assist Device, Cygnet Flexible Clamps, Intrack Atraumatic Temporary Clamps and Inserts, and Geister ValveGate and ValveGate PRO line.

- Wexler Surgical, Inc.
  1009 Houston, TX
  Wexler Surgical designs and manufactures a variety of titanium and stainless steel specialty surgical instruments and products for cardiac, vascular, thoracic, and microsurgery. Come see their VATS/MICSI instruments and ask about the Optimus Series. Visit www.wexlersurgical.com for more information about products and services, or email sales@wexlersurgical.com.

Wolters Kluwer
Phoenix, AZ

Z Health Publishing, LLC
Brentwood, TN

Zimmer Biomet Thoracic (formerly Biomet Microfixation)
Jacksonville, FL
Founded in 1927 and headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida, Zimmer Biomet is a global leader in musculoskeletal health care. The company designs, manufactures, and markets a comprehensive portfolio of innovative thoracic products and treatment solutions for surgeons and patients, including the RobFix™ Blu Thoracic Fixation System and the StennaLock® Blu Primary Closure System.

Zipper Belt
Dallas, TX

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STTS MEETING BULLETIN
JAN. 23–27, 2016 • PHOENIX, ARIZONA

STTS-365.ASCENDEVENTMEDIA.COM

Opportunities Abound for Annals Education

Meeting attendees interested in improving their scholarly research abilities have a number of opportunities at the Annual Meeting to learn more about publishing in The Annals of Thoracic Surgery. A Tuesday morning Early Riser session, The Annals Academy, will provide authors with the necessary tools to turn their data into interesting and potentially practice-improving scholarly articles. The session will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. in Room 222A; unlike in previous years, you do not need to purchase a separate ticket to attend. Annals editorial staff also will be available to assist attendees with new submissions, figure editing, journal CME, mailing address changes, and other questions in Room 121C from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Finally, Annals editorial staff will host several tutorials in the Exhibit Hall. Visit Booth #938 to participate in any of the following sessions:

- **New Submissions**—Staff will help meeting presenters and other authors navigate the online process to submit their manuscripts.

- **Journal CME**—Learn how to access CME content on the Annals website and how these activities are developed.

- **Figure Clinic**—Authors can bring their figure files and learn how to optimally display images, including how to identify figure resolution and font size, as well as how to submit files for Annals peer review.

How To: Technical Tricks and Pitfalls to Simplify Cardiac Surgery Procedures
Room 131ABC

Parallel Surgical Symposium: Congenital Heart Disease
Room 131ABC

Parallel Surgical Symposium: General Thoracic
Room 131ABC

Resuscitation of Patients Who Arrest After Cardiac Surgery
Room 126AB

Scientific Posters
Room 120 Foyer

CT Surgery Interprofessional Education Symposium: Multidisciplinary Team Approach to Patient Safety, Quality, Outcomes, and Reimbursement
Room 126AB

Opening Reception in STS Exhibit Hall
Exhibit Halls 4-5

The Schematic representation of the cascade of events that may lead from a healthy aortic wall to an aneurysm...
Inspired by a belief that quality designs lead to a better quality of life.
Driven by a passion and respect for the aortic anatomy.
Committed to crafting advanced endovascular solutions for every patient.

We are Aortic by Design. We are Bolton Medical.
Celebrating 20 years of putting our very best in your hands.

Maquet EVH.
Partnering great technology with great talent.

For over 2 decades, your commitment to EVH has helped us build and evolve more than 11 generations of industry-leading products, and that trust continues to drive positive clinical outcomes.

• A wide range of best-in-class systems for all needs and skill levels
• The best conduit quality possible, with virtually zero thermal spread*
• Over 2 million procedures successfully completed, and counting
• End-to-end services and support, from training to surgical planning to vessel handoff and beyond
• Proud to partner with your passion and expertise

*With the VASOVIEW HEMOPRO 2

Maquet | The Gold Standard

At STS 2016, visit Maquet Booth #901

www.maquetusa.com