



## OFFICERS

### President

Felix Lui, MD, FACS

### President-elect/Treasurer

*Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee*  
David Shapiro, MD, MHCM, FACS

### VP, Annual Meeting

Roselle Crombie, MD, FACS

### VP Legislative

Brendan Campbell, MD, FACS  
Kathleen LaVorgna, MD, FACS

### VP, Membership

Lindsay Bliss, MD

### Secretary

Royd Fukumoto, MD, FACS

### Immediate Past President

Alan Meinke, MD, FACS

### ACS Governors-at-Large

Philip Corvo, MD, MA, FACS  
Kathleen LaVorgna, MD, FACS

## COUNCILORS

### Term Ending 2021

Kevin Dwyer, MD, FACS  
Shea Gregg, MD, FACS  
Scott Kurtzman, MD, FACS  
J. Alexander Palesty, MD, FACS  
Rekha Singh, MD, FACS  
Brian Shames, MD, FACS

### Term Ending 2022

Lindsay Bliss, MD  
Adrian Maung, MD, FACS  
Manuel Moutinho, MD, FACS  
Richard Weiss, MD, FACS

## EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Jeanne Capasse, MD, FACS  
*Chair, Commission on Cancer*  
Kevin Schuster, MD, FACS  
*Chair, CT Cmte. on Trauma*  
Shawn Leichty, MD  
*Chairs, Residents Committee*  
Scott Kurtzman, MD, FACS  
*Chair, Awards Committee*  
Christine Finck, MD, FACS  
*Chair, Women in Surgery Committee*  
Neil Floch, MD, FACS  
*CTASMBS Liaison*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Christopher Tasik  
65 High Ridge Road, PMB 275  
Stamford 06905  
T: 203-674-0747 - F: 203-621-3023

www.ctacs.org

CTACS\_PA

CTACSPA

# 2021 Call for Abstracts

June 2021

Dear Surgical Colleague:

The Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Surgeons will be held on **Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>** IN-PERSON once again at the Trumbull Marriott in Trumbull, CT.

Resident and medical student papers will be presented in the morning. We encourage you to spend the entire day at the Annual Meeting and to participate both the afternoon resident lectures and the Surgical Skills Competition. **All** residents are welcome and encouraged to attend **all** sessions.

## Paper Competitions

We accept submissions in the following areas of clinical study:

- Trauma/Critical Care\* - *Sponsored by the CT Committee on Trauma*  
*See separate rules for this competition in the guidelines.*
- Clinical Oncology - *Sponsored by the CT Commission on Cancer*
- General Surgery - *Sponsored by the CTACSPA*
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery- *Sponsored by the CTACSPA*
- Surgical Subspecialties- *Sponsored by the CTACSPA*
- Surgical Quality, NSQIP and ERAS - *Sponsored by the CT Surgical Quality Collaborative*
- Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery - *Sponsored by the CT Chapter of the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery*
- Medical Student Research Competition

*\*The winner of the Trauma competition will be competing in the COT Region One Resident Paper Competition at the Fairmont Copley Hotel in Boston in November.*

The **Medical Student Research Paper Competition** follows the same presentation format rules and procedures as the resident paper competition. We ask that you submit papers focused on the surgical sciences.

Prize(s) for all competition sessions will be awarded based on the total number of submissions.

Presentations are 7 minutes long followed by 3 minutes for questions and answers. The abstract must describe work performed during residency or research training or by a medical student or a physician assistant and should indicate the mentor and institution where the work was performed.

The Connecticut Commission on Cancer is pleased to announce that the winning paper from the Clinical Oncology competition will be submitted to the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer's national competition. The Commission on Cancer can, at its discretion, submit both a basic science and a clinical research paper. The author of the first-place abstract in the ACS-CoC Research Paper Competition will receive a plaque and cash award of \$1,000,



travel expenses to the American College of Surgeons Clinical Congress with the opportunity to make a presentation on their research to the Annual Meeting of the Commission on Cancer. The authors of the second and third place winning abstracts will receive a cash award of \$500, and an invitation to present a poster presentation of their research during the Annual Meeting of the Commission on Cancer.

The Connecticut Committee on Trauma participates in the national COT Trauma competition. The first prize winner will present at the New England Regional Trauma Competition in Boston in November.

*Any unpublished work that has previously been presented at national or regional meetings is eligible. Presentation at our meeting may preclude future presentation at upcoming meetings depending on the individual societal rules.*

**Resident and Physician Poster Session** – *At the sole discretion of the Program Committee, abstracts may be selected for a poster presentation, if one is offered.*

### Acceptance Policies

Papers will be reviewed for acceptance in all sessions for all categories by the Chapter. Final decisions regarding placement will be made by the CTACSPA Program Committee. All submissions must conform to the procedures outlined in the submission template and on the submission website. Prizes will be awarded for the best presentations of the meeting.

### Deadlines

All abstracts are submitted at <http://www.ctacs.org>

Submission Start Date: August 16, 2021

Submission Deadline: **5pm** Tuesday August 31, 2021

Acceptance Notification: End of day - Friday, September 17, 2021 – by email and online

Presentation Deadline: 5PM Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Authors of all accepted papers will be required to comply with the Chapter's CME Conflict of Interest disclosure policy and meet ALL deadlines or risk the removal of your paper from the competition.

We encourage you to attend the Chapter's business meeting to learn more about how your Chapter is run. No matter where your surgical career takes you, there will be a local College chapter there to help you and hopefully you will choose to help lead it forward. The meeting features lectures on topics of interest to surgeons **and special resident focused lectures**. We encourage you to join us for the entire day to take advantage of this excellent program.

We thank you for your continued support of the Connecticut Chapter of the American College of Surgeons Professional Association and look forward to seeing you on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>!

Sincerely,

Roselle Crombie, MD, FACS  
Vice President, Annual Meeting

#### **2021 Annual Meeting Program Committee**

*Felix Lui, MD, FACS, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT*

*Daniel Ricaurte, MD, Hartford HealthCare Medical Group, Hartford, CT*

*David Shapiro, MD, FACS, St. Francis Hospital, Hartford, CT*

*Christopher Tasik, CT Chapter of the American College of Surgeons Professional Association, Inc.*

*Richard Weiss, MD, FACS, Connecticut Children's Hospital, Hartford, CT*



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES SUMMARY

### **DEADLINE:**

All submissions of abstracts for all competitions must be received on or before 5:00 PM on **Monday, August 16, 2021.**

All abstracts must be submitted in MS-Word (Macintosh files will not be accepted) adhering to the guidelines outlined below, including fonts and type size. Please go to [www.ctacs.org](http://www.ctacs.org) after August 16 to submit your paper. Contact Christopher Tasik at 203-674-0747 or [info@ctacs.org](mailto:info@ctacs.org) with questions.

### **OVERALL FORMATTING INSTRUCTIONS**

The abstract should clearly state the reason for doing the study, the exact results obtained, and the conclusions reached. Vague descriptions and promises to explain the importance of the work should not be included. Submission of an abstract that deals with experimentation on humans or animals implies that the authors adhere to the federal and institutional guidelines dealing with human or animal experimentation and that the appropriate approval has been granted from the institutions review committees.

### **Notification of Acceptance/Rejection & Oral Presentation Guidelines**

Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance *no later than* end of day Friday, September 17, 2021 by email and online at [www.ctacs.org](http://www.ctacs.org)

The Chapter requires you to submit your PowerPoint presentation to us by 5PM on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 or your paper will be ineligible for presentation.

We will do everything in our power to get notifications out earlier. *If you **make the effort** to conform to the submission template and instructions, it makes it much easier to process papers and notify you earlier.*

- Presentations must conform to the time length specified for your session or you will be cut short by the moderator to allow the program to run on time.
- An LCD video projector and a laptop will be provided. You are not permitted to present from your own equipment nor can you make any changes to your presentation once it is submitted.

### **Submission Guidelines – PLEASE follow exactly**

#### **Trauma Competition ONLY**

- The abstract should be no more than three pages and provide adequate information and objective data to evaluate the abstract properly.
- The abstract should be submitted electronically, preferably as a Word document. It is permissible to single space the abstract. Charts and graphs may be embedded in the document as .jpeg files.
- The paper must have a title page (not included in the page count) that includes the principal author's name, the title of the abstract, the author's institution, the author's



preferred mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address. (Please use the ACS title page template <http://goo.gl/kB93Bd>). Template also available at [www.ctacs.org](http://www.ctacs.org)

- The first page of the abstract must include the full title of the abstract and full name of the principal author with academic degrees listed.

### ALL Other Competition Categories

- Abstracts are limited to one page at a minimum 11pt font, including title box, charts, tables and photographs (B&W) and must be submitted using the template at [www.ctacs.org](http://www.ctacs.org)
- Imbed all charts, tables and photographs. Do not link them.

### Rules that APPLY to ALL Submissions for ALL Competitions

- **Reduce all photos to 72dpi** prior to or after imbedding them in MS-WORD.  
<https://support.office.com/en-us/article/Reduce-the-file-size-of-a-picture-8db7211c-d958-457c-babd-194109eb9535>
- **Save your abstract file using the following naming convention:**  
Author's Last Name and First 15-20 Characters of Title  
For example, if your name is Samantha Smith and your paper is New Laparoscopic Surgery Techniques you would save your files as **"Smith New Laparoscopic"**

**ALL abstracts should have the following information and sections.**

***(Please see next page for a properly formatted abstract to use as a model/template or this [Template download](#))***

[Title: Title of Paper Use "Title" Case, i.e. This is the Title of my Paper]

[Author(s) Name(s):]

[Institution:]

**Introduction:** [state the reason for doing the study]

**Method(s):** [state the methods you employed]

**Results:** [state the exact results you obtained]

**Conclusion(s):** [state the conclusions you reached]

Thank you and good luck!



**Sample of a properly formatted submission. Please follow this exactly.**

**American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS-NSQIP) Supports the Use of an Early Warning System in Identifying Postoperative Patients at Risk for 30-day Occurrences**

Bruna Babic MD, Sharon Weintraub MD, MPH, FACS, Christine Bartus MD, FACS, FASCRS, Rekha Singh MD FACS

**Introduction:** Hospitalized patients may experience clinical deterioration which, if recognized in a timely fashion, can be acted upon to mitigate potential morbidity and mortality. Early Warning System (EWS) (Cerner Millennium®) is an evidence-based Electronic Medical Record (EMR) screening tool which triggers alerts based upon physiologic or laboratory abnormalities reflective of SIRS or organ dysfunction. ACSNSQIP is used to measure and improve quality of care in surgical patients. We hypothesize that postoperative EWS alert correlates with 30-day occurrences in our NSQIP database.

**Method(s):** A single institution new to NSQIP (9/2013) examined data prospectively for the period 9/23/2013 to 12/10/2013. EMR data for this period identified EWS alerts. Records of postoperative patients generating an alert (EWS+) were compared to those with no alert (EWS-), and 30-day outcomes were examined for both groups. Categorical data was analyzed using Fisher’s Exact test, and continuous data was analyzed using Student t test.

**Results:** All NSQIP cases for the study period were included (n=365), with 48 patients having 1 or more occurrences at 30 days, and 20 patients generating one or more postoperative EWS alerts during this period. There was no difference in patient characteristics (age, gender, ASA class, elective vs. emergency surgery) between the EWS+ and EWS– groups. EWS+ was positively associated with NSQIP reportable occurrences (p<.0001).

**Conclusions:** Using our early experience with NSQIP, we found that EWS identified postoperative patients at risk for 30-day occurrences. Integration of NSQIP and EWS may drive process improvement, leading to better postoperative outcomes.

	EWS+	EWS-	Total	Fishers		EWS+ Expected	EWS- Expected
OCCURRENCE +	13	35	48	<i>p 2-Tail</i>	2.86E-08	2.630136986	45.36986301
OCCURRENCE -	7	310	317	Chi-Sq	49.80515	17.36986301	299.630137
Total	20	345	365	<i>p</i>	1.7E-12		