



ONLINE RESOURCES

Advances in Quality
& Outcomes

Submit FAQs

Harvest Schedules

Save the Date for AQQ 2016

[Advances in Quality & Outcomes](#) will be held September 28-30 in Baltimore. More details will be coming soon, including how you can submit abstracts for your scientific research and/or quality improvement projects.

Contact for Contract Issues

If you have questions regarding contracts and adding surgeon participants, contact Susan Becker at sbecker@sts.org or (312) 202-5828.

Audit Sites Selected Soon

STS annually audits Database participants, and 10% of sites will be selected this year. Selected sites will be notified soon.



Please add stsheadquarters@sts.org to your e-mail contacts or safe-sender list to help ensure delivery of STS e-mails.

January/February 2016

Submit Public Reporting Consent Forms by March 11

Consent forms for participating in the next round of [STS Public Reporting Online](#) are due March 11 for both the Adult Cardiac Surgery Database (ACSD) and Congenital Heart Surgery Database (CHSD). If you are not currently enrolled but wish to participate, [fill out the appropriate consent form](#) and fax it to (312) 202-5867.

CHSD public reporting data are updated every summer on the STS website. For the next round of CHSD public reporting, data from the Spring 2016 Harvest will be posted on the STS website in late July/early August 2016.

ACSD public reporting data are updated twice a year (i.e., every January and late July/early August). The summer data update corresponds to participants' Harvest 1 data, and the January update is based on Harvest 3 data from the previous year. For the next round of ACSD public reporting, 2016 Harvest 1 data will be posted on the STS website in late July/early August 2016. To learn more about the Society's public reporting initiatives, contact Jane Han at jhan@sts.org.

Harvest Deadlines Coming Up

The final day to submit your Harvest 1 data for the ACSD is tomorrow, February 19. Final sign-off paperwork is due Friday, February 26.

Spring 2016 harvest data submissions for the CHSD and General Thoracic Surgery Database will begin Monday, February 29.

[Review all 2016 harvest dates here.](#) Please note that all dates are subject to change as the three Database components move toward continuous harvesting in 2016.

Important ACSD Reminders

1) Prolonged ventilation time is determined by the answer to field #4835, "Prolonged Ventilation." While the software calculation may round up or down (which will be remedied in the next version), you should answer this field based on the actual time ventilated postoperatively. Anything longer than 24 hours is considered prolonged ventilation.

2) If the inpatient admission is delayed and comes after the surgery date, use the surgery date as admission date. This will prevent the file from being rejected and ensure that postoperative length of stay is calculated correctly.

Tips for New Data Managers

Welcome to the STS National Database! So that you receive important communications regarding your Database participation, please make sure your contact information is up-to-date by [filling out this form](#). You also are encouraged to [join a regional database group](#). These groups bring together surgeons and data managers for peer-to-peer support and guidance related to data abstraction.