



ONLINE RESOURCES

Harvest Schedules

Submit FAQs

Forms

Public Reporting Results Posted

Newly updated overall scores from the ACSD and CHSD are now available on [STS Public Reporting Online](#). For more information, contact Sydney Clinton at sclinton@sts.org.

Add a Backup Contact

Ensure that your organization stays up to date on STS National Database news by adding a Backup Data and File Contact to your [Participant Contact Form](#). You also can [forward this e-mail](#) to others at your site.

FAQs for New Participants

Learn what steps to take after your contract is signed, who to contact for help, and more with this [new PowerPoint](#) created by STS. Even long-time Database participants can benefit from this refresher.

Patient Resource from STS

Direct your patients to the Society's new patient information website: ctsurgerypatients.org. Available in both English and Spanish, the website covers all aspects of cardiothoracic surgery in easy-to-understand language.

July/August 2016

AQO Early Bird Registration Deadline Is August 31

Time is running out to register for Advances in Quality & Outcomes (AQO): A Data Managers Meeting at the early bird rate! [Register by August 31](#) to save \$100 off regular pricing. [View the preliminary program](#), which will cover each of the three STS National Database component databases, including an overview of the 2017 specification upgrade for the Adult Cardiac Surgery Database (ACSD) and rule changes for the Congenital Heart Surgery Database (CHSD); see below for more information. Don't miss this opportunity to network with your colleagues and learn from experts in Baltimore, Md., September 28-30.

Members Needed for GTSD Core Group

STS is looking for data managers to join the General Thoracic Surgery Database (GTSD) Core Group. Core Group members develop answers to clinical questions submitted through the STS website, help plan and present at AQO, and contribute to data specification upgrades. If you are willing to volunteer about an hour of your time each month (more during AQO planning and data specification upgrades), have attended at least one AQO meeting, and have been a data manager in the GTSD for at least 3 years, contact Susan Becker at sbecker@sts.org.

New ACSD Version to be Implemented July 2017

STS and DCRI staff, along with a dedicated team of surgeons and data managers, have been reviewing and revising the data specifications for the ACSD. Additionally, members of the STS Quality Measurement Task Force have been updating the risk models for key procedures included in the ACSD. Although these initiatives are nearing completion, it will be fall before the final package is ready for vendors, who will need at least 6 months to complete programming, testing, certification, and distribution of software. For these reasons, *implementation of the new ACSD version will now be July 1, 2017.*

CHSD Rule Changes for Fall Harvest

The CHSD Task Force has made some changes to Database rules, rule exceptions, and analytic processes pertaining to the CHSD. After hearing from data managers and surgeon participants regarding specific issues, members of the Task Force re-evaluated various components and approved [several updates](#). Rule changes and exclusions will become effective with the 2016 Fall Harvest. If you have questions, contact Susan Becker at sbecker@sts.org.

Apply to Work at STS

Are you interested in a challenging, exciting opportunity working for STS and the world-renowned STS National Database? The Society has an immediate opening for an STS National Database Manager—Adult Cardiac Surgery in the STS HQ office in Chicago. The STS National Database Manager will manage clinical and operational aspects of the ACSD, including data collection and software specification upgrades, data manager training, and Core Group support. [View the position description and qualifications here.](#)