



American College of Surgeons

633 N Saint Clair St
Chicago, IL 60611-3211

Voice: 312-202-5000
Fax: 312-202-5001

e-mail: postmaster@facs.org
ACS Web site: www.facs.org

Officers

President

LaMar S. McGinnis, Jr., MD, FACS
Atlanta, GA

President-Elect

L. D. Britt, MD, MPH, FACS
Norfolk, VA

First Vice-President

Kirby I. Bland, MD, FACS
Birmingham, AL

Second Vice-President

Karen E. Deveney, MD, FACS
Portland, OR

First Vice-President-Elect

Richard J. Finley, MD, FACS, FRCS
Vancouver, BC

Second Vice-President-Elect

Frederick L. Greene, MD, FACS
Charlotte, NC

Secretary

Courtney M. Townsend, Jr., MD, FACS
Galveston, TX

Treasurer

Andrew L. Warsaw, MD, FACS
Boston, MA

Executive Director

David B. Hoyt, MD, FACS
Chicago, IL

Chief Financial Officer

Gay L. Vincent, CPA
Chicago, IL

Board of Regents

Chair

A. Brent Eastman, MD, FACS
San Diego, CA

Vice-Chair

Carlos A. Pellegrini, MD, FACS
Seattle, WA

H. Randolph Bailey, MD, FACS
Houston, TX

Barbara L. Bass, MD, FACS
Houston, TX

Bruce D. Browner, MD, FACS
Farmington, CT

Martin B. Carmins, MD, FACS
New York, NY

Julie A. Freischlag, MD, FACS
Baltimore, MD

Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS
Memphis, TN

Rene Lafreniere, MD, FACS, FRCS
Calgary, AB

Charles D. Mabry, MD, FACS
Pine Bluff, AR

Mark A. Malangoni, MD, FACS
Cleveland, OH

LaMar S. McGinnis, Jr., MD, FACS
Atlanta, GA

Robin S. McLeod, MD, FACS, FRCS
Toronto, ON

Raymond F. Morgan, MD, FACS
Charlottesville, VA

Leigh A. Neumayer, MD, FACS
Salt Lake City, UT

Karl C. Podratz, MD, FACS
Rochester, MN

J. David Richardson, MD, FACS
Louisville, KY

Valerie W. Rusch, MD, FACS
New York, NY

Marshall Z. Schwartz, MD, FACS
Philadelphia, PA

Howard M. Snyder III, MD, FACS
Philadelphia, PA

Mark C. Weissler, MD, FACS
Chapel Hill, NC

Thomas V. Whalen, MD, FACS
Allentown, PA

Board of Governors

Chair

Michael J. Zinner, MD, FACS
Boston, MA

Vice-Chair

Timothy C. Flynn, MD, FACS
Gainesville, FL

Secretary

James K. Eisey, MD, FACS
Atlanta, GA

To Whom It May Concern

The Committee on Perioperative Care of the American College of Surgeons is pleased to provide a letter of strong support of the Surgical Technologist Credentialing Act, a bill that will require that surgical technologists in the operating rooms be appropriately credentialed and certified in the State of Michigan.

The Committee on Perioperative Care of the American College of Surgeons developed a Statement (see attached) in 2005 recommending appropriate training and certification for all surgical technologists:

"The American College of Surgeons strongly supports adequate education and training of all surgical technologists, supports the accreditation of all surgical technology educational programs, and supports examination for certification of all graduates of accredited surgical technology educational programs."

Surgical technologists are integral and valuable members of the surgical team. Patients assume that all personnel caring for them are properly educated and have appropriate clinical experience; however, surgical technologists remain the only members of the surgical team who are not required to meet threshold educational and certification criteria in order to practice in their area of expertise. Passage of a surgical technologist credentialing bill will obviate this alarming disparity and ensure that all personnel caring for patients undergoing surgery are appropriately educated and meet minimum continuing education standards.

Surgical patient care is enhanced when all members of the surgical team work collaboratively and are appropriately educated. Threshold competency requirements for surgical technologists will help achieve this goal. Patients undergoing surgery in Michigan deserve no less.

Very truly yours,

T. Forcht Dagi (M-T-A)

T. Forcht Dagi, MD, FACS, Chair
Committee on Perioperative Care
American College of Surgeons