



MESSAGES

1

Monthly Electronic SCOPE 2.0

February 2025



We can't wait to see you for a week of learning, camaraderie and FUN in Long Beach next month!

If you're bringing the family, there's still time to sign up for **Camp SAGES Daycare**. There's also lots to do within walking distance of the Convention Center. See below for details and links for discounts.

Also in this issue:

Foundation Lunch registration; Hands-on course Availability; Wellness Activity Sign Up; Member Spotlight Dr. Kevin Wasco; SAGES Podcast featuring Dr. Butch Rosser; NBT Summary, FLS testing appointments, newly published SAGES guidelines and, other news.

IMPORTANT DATES/ALERTS

TAVAC Committee Tech Alerts

Upcoming Free Webinars

SAGES SMART Videos

SAGES 2025
Long Beach
March 12-15

SAGES Wellness Activity
Sign Up

Foundation Awards
Luncheon
March 12

Mini Med School 2025
March 15

Visually Exceptional

KARL STORZ has spent nearly 80 years pursuing perfection in surgical imaging. The IMAGE1 S™ system has purpose-built optics, cameras and visualization modalities for every surgical specialty.



STORZ
KARL STORZ - ENDOSKOPI

Learn more at
karlstorz.com

SAGES 2025 - Activity and General Reminders

There are lots of family-friendly activities close to the Long Beach Convention Center--from the Aquarium of the Pacific to Pine Avenue's great restaurant scene. Go [here](#) to watch a video for the many ways to spend your downtime and gets discounts if you show your SAGES 2025 badge (bottom of the page for Show Your Badge Coupons).

You won't want to miss the Friday Main Event at the Aquarium of the Pacific with great food, bands, dancing and the first annual SAGES Got Talent--all against the backdrop of amazing marine life exhibits at one of the country's largest and most well-known aquariums. And there's still time to register for **Wellness activities**.

For other important meeting information, including airport transportation go [here](#).

SAGES 2025 - Hands On Course Availability

Laparoscopic/Robotic Common Bile Duct Exploration and Imaging SOLD OUT

Endosuturing

March 13, 2025, 8am-12pm PT, Lab Course in Long Beach
Year-Long mentorship with monthly webinars

This year-long course includes an introduction to the equipment, indications for surgery, and hands-on practice of the procedures and associated techniques. Earn up to 20 CME credits.

Intracorporeal Anastomoses (ICA)

March 14, 1:30-6:00pm PT

This course is designed for surgeons in practice who perform MIS colon and/or rectal operations and desire to incorporate intracorporeal anastomoses into their practice. The course will include a virtual didactic materials and hands-on training in right and left colon intracorporeal anastomoses. Earn 4.5 CME credits.

Endo-Flip (non-CME)

March 13, 1:30-5:30pm PT

This session is a comprehensive review of impedance planimetry and luminal imaging utilizing EndoFLIP^(tm). The hands-on course will include stations for participants to simulate various clinical scenarios and become comfortable integrating EndoFLIP^(tm) into clinical practice.

Click [here](#) to register for the meeting or contact registration@sages.org to add a course to your existing meeting registration. For more details, please contact Erin Schwarz, erin@sages.org.

SAGES Member Spotlight Kevin Wasco, MD FACS



Kevin Wasco, MD FACS

General Community Surgeon
Neanah, WI
AHP Co-Chair
SAGES CPT Representative

Community surgeon Dr. Kevin Wasco is a master multi-tasker, personally and professionally. The Wisconsin-based Dr. Wasco (father of six biological children and guardian of three Bosnian American children) and well-known soccer fanatic, has served on a long list of SAGES committees, including SAGES Advocacy & Health Policy (AHP) committee.

As committee co-chair since 2016, Dr. Wasco, who also serves as SAGES CPT representative with AHP chair Dr. Scott Roth, says, "My current involvement and focus is on local, state and national advocacy, reimbursement for surgery, endoscopy and endoluminal procedures, and CPT with focus on new technology and procedures."

To read more about Dr. Wasco, please go [here](#). To learn more about SAGES membership and access an online application form, please go [here](#).

FLS Testing Appointments Still Available at SAGES 2025

Testing will take place Wednesday, March 12-Friday, March 14 during the SAGES meeting. To purchase a test voucher or schedule a test appointment please select FLS.

Annual Foundation Awards Luncheon - Wednesday, March 12

We look forward to celebrating all the SAGES and Foundation awardees at the Annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, March 12 in Long Beach. Proceeds benefit the SAGES Foundation and its mission to advance endoscopic, laparoscopic and emerging minimal access surgical methods and patient care. Please go [here](#) to purchase tickets.

SAGES 2025 NBT (Next Big Thing) Innovation Weekend Summary

SAGES NBT (Next Big Thing) Innovation Weekend took place January 23-25, 2025 in Houston, TX, chaired by Dr. Christopher Schlachta. This year's conference consisted of a strategic planning retreat focused on digital surgery, the 20th NOSCART meeting and the 10th SDTS symposium. This year's meeting was chaired by Drs. Rahila Essani on behalf of SAGES and Geri Keane, on behalf of ASGE. To read the full summary, go [here](#).

Support the Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act

House members on Jan. 31 introduced a bill to stop the 2.83% Medicare physician pay cut this year and provide a 2% pay bump to stabilize physician practices and protect patients' access to care. If passed, effective April 1, the "Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act" would prospectively cancel the 2.83% cut that took effect Jan 1. SAGES signed on to the letter of support and encourage members to reach out to their representatives.

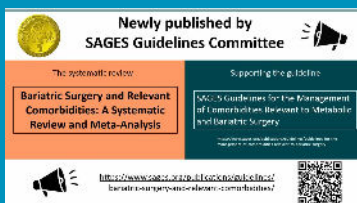


Medicare Patient
Access and Practice
Stabilization Act
of 2025



Dr. Butch Rosser Featured on SAGES Stories

In this episode, Drs. Kevin El-Hayek and Jenny Shao talk to Dr. James "Butch" Rosser, a surgeon, patient, top-notch educator, the originator of the Top Gun contest, and the catalyst behind the SAGES Mini Med School happening on March 15 in Long Beach.



Newly Published SAGES Guidelines

SAGES Guidelines Update to Laparoscopy in the Era of COVID-19

<https://www.sages.org/publications/guidelines/update-to-laparoscopy-in-the-era-of-covid-19/>

Bariatric Surgery and Relevant Comorbidities: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis
<https://www.sages.org/publications/guidelines/bariatric-surgery-and-relevant-comorbidities/>

SCOPE / MESSAGES
Archives

www.sages.org / www.sages2025.org



Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons | 11300 West Olympic
Bld Suite 600 | Los Angeles, CA 90064 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!