



## **Surgery Endorsement Maintenance 2010 Steering Committee**

**Nasim Afsar-manesh, MD**

Director of Quality, Internal Medicine and Neurosurgery—  
UCLA Medical Center

Nasim Afsar-manesh is an Assistant Clinical Professor in Internal Medicine and Neurosurgery at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, where she serves as the Associate Medical Director of Quality and Safety. Dr. Afsar-manesh is the Chair of the Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM) Hospital Quality and Patient Safety Committee, and serves on the Patient Safety Collaborative led by the American College of Chest Physicians. Dr. Afsar-manesh has served as a guest speaker at the SHM National Meeting, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, and Kaiser Permanente. Her presentations touch upon a variety of QI and Patient Safety topics.

**Howard S. Barnebey, MD**

Medical Director- Specialty Eyecare Centre

Howard Barnebey is an ophthalmologist in Seattle and Bellevue, Washington. He is a Board Certified Ophthalmologist with subspecialty training in glaucoma. He founded Specialty Eyecare Centre 25 years ago and has attracted premier ophthalmologists and optometrists to the area and grown the practice into a subspecialty group focusing on glaucoma, cataract, and oculoplastic surgery. He maintains a busy clinical practice and conducts clinical research in addition to being the CEO and medical director of the practice and ambulatory surgical center. He formerly taught at the University of Washington in the Department of Ophthalmology as a Clinical Associate Professor and continues to contribute to academic endeavors. He has been actively involved in multiple local and national organizations including the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons which he is currently a member of the Health Information and Technology Committee, Poster Judge, and formerly Chairman of the CME Committee.

**James Carpenter, MD**

Associate Professor and Chair, Orthopaedic  
Surgery—University of Michigan

James E. Carpenter, M.D. is an orthopaedic surgeon in full-time academic practice at the University of Michigan. After undergraduate training in mechanical engineering at Cornell he completed medical school at the Univ. of Michigan. He was a resident in orthopaedic surgery at the Harvard Combined Orthopaedic Surgery Program in Boston and was a research fellow at the Orthopaedic Biomechanics Laboratory there. He joined the faculty at Michigan in 1990. He has completed a traveling fellowship in shoulder surgery. He is Associate Professor with tenure and has research interests in shoulder conditions and biomechanics. He has been Department Chair since 2003.

**Robert R. Cima, MD, MA, FACS, FASCRS**

Associate Professor of Surgery and  
Vice-Chairman, Safety and Quality—Mayo Clinic

Dr. Robert Cima is a colorectal surgery consultant and Vice-chairman for Quality/Safety in the Department of Surgery at the Mayo Clinic. Currently, he is an Associate Professor of Surgery. He completed medical school at Stanford University. His surgical training included: general surgery residency and research fellowship at Harvard Medical School and a colon and rectal surgery fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. His academic interests include patient related outcomes from surgery in both IBD and colorectal cancer. He leads the Mayo Clinic surgical quality efforts and represents Mayo in numerous national and international surgical quality collaborations and process improvement projects.

Dr. Collins is currently an Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the University of Michigan Health System. He is active in state and regional emergency preparedness efforts as well as several professional organizations such as the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists, and the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP). He is currently a member of ASHP's Council on Pharmacy Practice and has served on the National Quality Forum's Infectious Diseases Technical Advisory Panel as well as the Safety and Healthcare-Associated Infections Work Group.

**Peter W. Dillon, MD, MSc**

Chair, Department of Surgery—Penn State Hershey Medical Center

Peter W. Dillon, M.D., M.Sc. is the John A. and Marian T. Waldhausen Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center. A graduate of Harvard University and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Dr. Dillon did his general surgery training at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center and a fellowship in pediatric surgery at Babies Hospital. He has a masters in outcomes studies from Penn State. A member of the faculty at Penn State since 1990, Dr. Dillon was appointed Chairman of the Department of Surgery in 2007.

**Richard P. Dutton, MD, MBA**

Executive Director—Anesthesia Quality Institute

Richard P. Dutton, MD MBA is Executive Director of the Anesthesia Quality Institute, a related organization of the American Society of Anesthesiologists tasked with creation and maintenance of the National Anesthesia Clinical Outcomes Registry. Dr. Dutton is Visiting Clinical Professor of Anesthesiology, University of Maryland, where he has been the Director of Quality Management and Medical Director of the Operating Room at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center for many years. Dr. Dutton has significant experience in the development and reporting of quality measures in perioperative care, in the creation and use of large registries for research, business and quality management purposes, and in applying data to improving patient care.

**Steven Findlay, MPH**

Senior Health Policy Analyst— Consumers Union

Steven Findlay is a Senior Health Policy Analyst at Consumers Union, the non-profit publisher of *Consumer Reports* magazine. He tracks and develops policy on a range of health care issues, with special focus on: health insurance, provider accountability, clinical care quality improvement, comparative effectiveness research, health information technology, FDA, and prescription drug issues. Steve also works with CU's newly launched Health Ratings Center, the division of CU and *Consumer Reports* responsible for rating medical products and health care services. He joined Consumers Union in August 2004 as the Managing Editor of *Consumer Reports Best Buy Drugs*, a unique experiment in presenting consumers with information that compares drug treatment for over 20 medical conditions. Prior to joining CU, from 2000 to 2004, Steve was Director of Research and Policy at the National Institute for Health Care Management in Washington D.C. In 1998-99, Steve was Senior Policy Analyst at the National Coalition on Health Care (NCHC), also in Washington. His work in both those positions focused on health reform, health insurance coverage, health care cost issues, Medicare, quality of care, and health information technology. Prior to 1998, Steve had a 20-year career as medical and health care journalist and editor. He worked at both trade and mass media publications, including USA TODAY, *U.S. News & World Report* and *Business & Health* magazine. Steve did his undergraduate work at the University of Colorado and has a Masters Degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University.

**Paula R. Graling, DNP, RN, CNS, CNOR**Clinical Nurse Specialist, Perioperative Services—  
INOVA Fairfax Hospital

Paula R. Graling DNP RN CNS CNOR is the Clinical Nurse Specialist of Perioperative Services at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Falls Church, Virginia and Affiliate Faculty in the School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. Graling served on the Board of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and as President from 2006-2007. Graling received her BSN (1982) and her MSN (1996) from George Mason University and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice (2010) with a focus on patient safety at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Vivienne Halpern, MD, FACS**

Chief, Vascular Surgery—  
Carl T Hayden VA Medical Center

I have been a practicing vascular surgeon since 1995. From 1995 until 2008, I was a staff vascular surgeon at North Shore- LIJ as well as being Medical Director of the outpatient wound care center from 2006-2008. I am currently chief, Vascular Surgery at the Phoenix VA Medical Center. In both positions, I have served on multiple committees that have afforded me experience in projects, and program development to improve the quality of patient care. I have also participated in several committees for the Society for Vascular Surgery including most recently the Quality and Performance Measures Committee.

**Ruth Kleinpell, PhD, RN, FAAN**

Director, Center for Clinical Research and Scholarship—  
Rush University Medical Center

Ruth Kleinpell PhD RN FAAN is the Director of the Center for Clinical Research and Scholarship at Rush University Medical Center, and a Professor at Rush University College of Nursing in Chicago Illinois. She has over 28 years of surgical clinical nursing experience and is a certified Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. She has over 80 publications related to various clinical topics and over 200 presentations at national and international venues. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the Institute of Medicine of Chicago, and the American College of Critical Care Medicine.

**Arden Morris, MD, MPH, FACS**

Chief of General Surgery—  
Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Arden M. Morris is Associate Professor of Surgery at the University of Michigan Medical School with funding from the American Cancer Society. Her research focuses on quality of surgical care, including hospital-level disparities in surgical outcomes and processes and outcomes of cancer care. She is currently PI for a mixed methods study to understand variations in processes of care and patient perspectives on use of therapy. Dr. Morris has served as technical advisor and steering committee member to the NQF's measure endorsement process. She is co-chair of ASCRS' quality and outcomes committee and research development committee.

**John Morton, MD, MPH, FACS**

Associate Professor, Director of Bariatric Surgery and Director of Quality,  
Surgery and Sub-Specialties—Stanford University

Dr. John Morton is Associate Professor of Surgery at Stanford University serving as Section Chief of Minimally Invasive Surgery and Director of both Bariatric Surgery and Surgical Quality. He heads the Minimally Invasive Surgery fellowship and the Stanford Center for Outcomes Research and Evaluation (SCORE). Dr. Morton received undergraduate, Masters in Public Health, and Medical Doctor Degrees from Tulane University. As Director of Surgical Quality at Stanford University Medical Center, Dr. Morton led efforts to improve the Department of Surgery's University Health Consortium's annual ranking from 24/98 to 1/98 and their Annual NSQIP mortality ranking from Average to Exemplary.

**Dennis W. Rivenburgh, MS, ATC, PA-C**

Physician Assistant—St. Anthony's Primary Care

Dennis Rivenburgh is a physician assistant practicing primary care sports medicine in St. Petersburg, Florida. He recently transitioned to this position after 13 years with Tampa Bay Orthopaedic Specialists on the surgical team of Dr Phillip A Davidson. He is certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants and licensed in Florida. He is adjunct faculty with Barry University PA Program and University of Tampa Athletic Training Program. Dennis is a member of AAPA and is President of Physician Assistants in Orthopaedic Surgery. Dennis also is an experienced athletic trainer and has co-authored articles and book chapters and lectured nationally and internationally on orthopedics, sports medicine, and primary care.

**Terry Rogers, MD**

CEO—The Foundation for Health Care Quality

Dr. Rogers is board certified in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Diseases and Critical Care Medicine. After 15 years as Director of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine at Swedish Hospital Medical Center in Seattle, he became the Sr. VP of Medical Affairs at King County Medical Blue Shield, then COO of Regence Blue Shield. He currently is CEO of the Foundation for Health Care Quality, an organization deeply involved with quality and patient safety issues, and Medical Director of Lakeside-Milam Recovery Centers. He holds a Clinical Professorship in the Department of Medicine at the University of Washington.

**Christopher Saigal, MD, MPH, FACS**

Associate Professor, Department of Urology—UCLA

Christopher Saigal MD, MPH is Associate Professor of Urology at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He is an NIH-funded principal investigator who leads analyses at Rand Health regarding quality, cost and access to urologic care. He also has research interests in shared decision making in the field of prostate cancer and has an r-01 grant to study this. He is active in health policy on behalf of the AUA. His clinical interests include prostate, kidney, bladder, and testis cancers.

**Nicholas J. Sears, MD**

Chief Medical Officer—MedAssets, Inc

Nicholas Sears, M.D., Senior Vice President is a board certified cardiovascular surgeon with over 25 years of healthcare experience. Before joining Aspen, Dr. Sears worked as a Principal for Cap Gemini Ernst & Young. In this role he was responsible for reducing supply chain expense for high-cost physician preference items, as well as clinical integration and transformation issues centered around leading practices, clinical pathways and LOS reduction, while maintaining high quality patient care. Dr. Sears worked closely with physicians and administrators to ensure smooth, effective management practices. Additionally, Dr. Sears has held several independent consulting positions with a variety of healthcare consulting firms throughout the nation. For 15 years prior to his work as a consultant, Dr. Sears maintained a clinical practice of cardiothoracic surgery in both private and academic settings in Tampa, Florida. Dr. Sears also serves as the Chief Medical Officer for MedAssets.

**Allan Siperstein, MD**

Chairman of Endocrine Surgery—Cleveland Clinic

Allan Siperstein, M.D. is the Chair of Endocrine Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. He is Program Director for the General Surgery Residency, Endocrine Surgery Fellowship and co-directs the Surgical Outcomes Fellowship. MD was obtained at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School at Dallas and general surgery residency / endocrine surgery training at UCSF. Since 1999 he has been a staff member at the Cleveland Clinic. He has had a long interest quality and patient safety. He has experience in improving compliance with the surgical Care Improvement Project measures and is physician champion for the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program.

**Renae Stafford, MD, MPH, FACS**Chief, Surgical Critical Care—  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Dr. Stafford is a general surgeon with additional certification in surgical critical care. She obtained an MPH in Epidemiology from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Stafford is Chief of Surgical Critical Care at the University of North Carolina. She is a hospital service line leader for the surgical ICU, intermediate care unit and trauma ward with responsibilities for quality and safety measurement, core and SCIP measures and leads the adult surgical rapid response team and trainee education. Dr. Stafford has received funding from AHRQ for teamwork training implementation. She is a member of the SCCM Paragon Quality Committee and is enrolled in the Faculty Development Program in HealthCare Quality and Safety at Northwestern University.

**Connie Steed, RN, MSN, CIC**Director of Infection Prevention—  
Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center

Connie Steed, RN, MSN CIC (Clemson University) has practiced in the field of infection prevention and control and epidemiology since 1979. She is currently the Director of Infection Prevention at the Greenville Hospital System University Medical Center (GHS), Greenville, South Carolina where she has been since 1989. Connie has been certified in infection control (CIC) since 1985. Connie is currently a member of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) National Board of Directors. She has held a number of local APIC chapter offices and positions and has served on several national APIC committees. Connie is also a member of the CDC National Healthcare Safety Network steering group and was an early collaborator with the CMS Surgical Infection Prevention Project, serving as the day-to-day leader of the initiative at GHS. Connie has presented over 200 invited lectures since 1990 and has authored several texts and abstracts. She also consults with health care organizations in the areas of occupational health and infection control.

**David Torchiana, MD**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer—  
Massachusetts General Physicians Organization

Dr. David Torchiana is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Massachusetts General Physicians Organization. The MGPO, associated with the Massachusetts General Hospital, is a member of the Partners HealthCare System and a teaching affiliate of the Harvard Medical School. The organization is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation and the largest physician group practice in New England, representing more than 1,500 physicians. Dr. Torchiana graduated from Yale College in 1976 and Harvard Medical School in 1981. He completed residencies in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at the MGH before joining the Department of Surgery in 1989. Dr. Torchiana became Chief of Cardiac Surgery at MGH in 1998 and CEO of the MGPO in 2003, and is an Associate Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School.

**Carol Wilhoit, MD, MS**

Quality Improvement Medical Director—Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois

Carol Wilhoit, M.D., M.S., is Quality Improvement Medical Director for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois. Previously, she practiced general internal medicine for fifteen years. She has degrees from Stanford University, the University Of Washington School Of Medicine, and the University of Wisconsin. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. Responsibilities are related to clinical quality improvement, including the HMO pay for performance program, HEDIS reporting, NCQA accreditation, and annually profiling approximately 200 Illinois hospitals approximately 4000 PPO physicians. She is also involved in the implementation of patient centered medical home and accountable care organization programs.

**Christine Zambricki, CRNA, MS, FAAN**Deputy Executive Director—  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists

Christine S. Zambricki CRNA, MS, FAAN is a senior healthcare executive with over 25 years of successful leadership experience in non-profit healthcare organizations, most recently leading all operational planning and execution for a \$360 million state-of-the-art hospital. Ms. Zambricki excels at establishing continuous quality improvement processes and implementation/analysis of performance measures in the area of surgical care. She championed LEAN methodology for patient safety and performance improvement in the operating room as well as early participation in NSQIP. As Beaumont CNO, Christine collaborated with a surgical physician leader to spearhead implementation of the Keystone OR Project, the first in the State of Michigan.