

NOVEMBER 2023

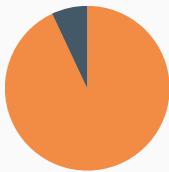
APDCRS FALL NEWSLETTER



ABCRS

ORAL EXAMINATIONS

The American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery successfully held the in-person Oral Examination in Chicago this past September. Congratulations to the newly board-certified surgeons.



The pass rate was 120/129 (93%) and the failure percentage was 7%.

In addition to the results, candidate surveys were obtained and reviewed by the Oral Board Examination Committee members with plans to make minor changes going forward.



APDCRS OFFICERS

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ACGME

UPCOMING SUMMIT

The Colon and Rectal Surgery Review Committee (RC) and the ACGME are in the process of rewriting the program requirements for colon and rectal surgery residents. A Scenario Based planning workshop occurred in March and an upcoming Stakeholder Summit is taking place on November 13th in Chicago. The purpose of the Summit is to assist the writing committee with requirements and the future of CRS training. More to come after the Summit.

ASCRS

RISING STAR AWARD

The Research Foundation of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Rising Star Award is seeking applications. This Rising Star Award provides funding for a trainee embarking on a career in colorectal surgery or a junior colorectal surgery faculty member to engage in a professional development opportunity. The goal is to develop a diverse group of colorectal surgeons with skills to advance the field across the domains of clinical practice, research, and education and ultimately become the next generation of national and international colorectal surgery leaders. The professional development plan should directly align with the applicant's goals.

Awardees may receive up to \$7,000 to be used for coach air travel, hotel accommodations, meals, and registration for a career development course, with residual funds available for direct research assistance.

Applications must be received by November 27th, 2023, to be considered for the 2024 grant cycle.

[Click here](#) to read more about eligibility requirements and the submission process.

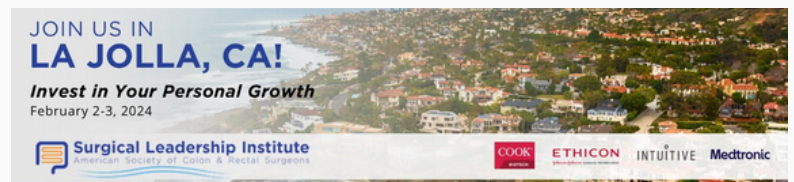
YOUNG SURGEONS COMMITTEE

This committee is an integral part of career development as a new surgeon after clinical training. They provide several resources for the new career surgeon including:

- "Mock Orals and More" symposium specifically for young surgeons
- Annual Networking Event during ASCRS Annual Scientific Meeting
- EPIC (EMR) templates
- Collaborative research projects (robotics, anal fissure, and anal dysplasia management)
- Please apply to become a member of ASCRS at <https://fascrs.org/healthcareproviders/join>

ASCRS SURGICAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE WORKSHOP

The ASCRS Surgical Leadership Institute Workshop is open for registration and takes place in February in La Jolla. Please sign up!



CARSITE Committee

QUESTION WRITING SEMINARS

The CARSITE examination is to be administered between November 3-8, 2023. Syed G. Husain, MD, MBBS is the current chair of the CARSITE Committee, and he continues to promote ongoing engagement to improve the question-writing process, reviews, and the examination itself. There are several opportunities to participate in the Question Writing Seminars led by Glenn Ault, MD with short talks and a hands-on session with the attendees, offered at the annual APDCRS meeting and ASCRS annual scientific meeting.



Curated Fellowship Committee

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The initial goals are to examine the current curriculum design, examine job retention, burn out and career satisfaction for ongoing professional development. This provides an insightful look into our current, possibly outdated system for training and career transition and the importance of mentorship at every career step. Beth-Ann Shanker, MD presented at the last APDCRS meeting, and an update will be presented at the 2024 meeting.

Diseases of the Colon and Rectum

JOURNAL CLUB

The monthly DCR Journal Club is a virtual educational opportunity and to receive meeting details, you can have the residents sign up [here](#).

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee:

ANNOUNCING

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee promotes the values of inclusion and equal opportunity. The committee believes that diversity with respect to race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identities and expressions, disabilities, and income is paramount to our success in minimizing healthcare disparity. An update will be provided at the next annual meeting and Angela Kuhnen, MD is the current chair.

Entrustable Professional Activities

EPA FACILITATORY RETREAT

Jitesh Patel, MD attended the American Board of Surgery EPA Facilitatory Retreat which was held in August in Philadelphia. He was supported by the APDCRS financially to attend the meeting after APDCRS officer approval. An update on the current state of EPAs will be presented at the next annual APDCRS meeting in May 2024.

Standard Letter of Recommendation Committee

APPLICATION PROCESS

This past virtual interview season, we omitted the third page of the candidate assessment form. Anjali Kumar, MD is hard at work behind the scenes with Alishia Nguyen (current WSU medical student) and her committee members to update and streamline the application process for the candidates and the program directors. The goal is improving the LOR process for both the candidates and the programs. Several proposals and options for an updated LOR have been viewed with voting underway. Once a template is agreed upon with the required tweaks, this will be sent to all PDs for open comment. More to come.

Resident Education Initiatives

TOOLS FOR LEARNING

We want to highlight several general educational tools for learning and developing your practice available for ASCRS members:

- ASCRS "Colon and Rectal Surgery" Private Facebook Group... a confidential ASCRS social community of over 800 surgeons who can help you find answers to virtually any question relating to colon and rectal surgery.
- Scholarships for international fellowships
- ASCRS U Education Portal ASCRS Textbook (4th Edition)
- Fundamentals of Rectal Cancer
 - Question Bank – CARSEP X (non-CME)
 - Webinar Recordings
 - Diseases of the Colon & Rectum (DC&R)
 - Video Mentorship Series
- Research Foundation of the American Society of Colon Rectal Surgeons Grants



Resident L-serv

SUBMIT RESIDENTS

A new resident L-serv was created for 2023-2024 CRS residents. Please submit the name and email address of your resident(s) to pdaadmin@abcrs.org if you haven't already done so. APDCRS will use the L-serv to communicate directly with residents about APDCRS offerings.

Optimal Pouch Training Project

DATA SUBMISSION

Emily F. Steinhagen, MD has compiled analytic data from the project with hopes of submission and acceptance for presentation at the upcoming ASCRS scientific meeting. Next steps would be to assemble a committee to bring the project forward. As things are finalized, collaboration with the EPA team and Jitesh Patel will be important to make sure that the curriculum supports the EPA goals. More to come, but please reach out to Emily at Emily.steinhagen@UHHospitals.org if any interest in being part of the committee.

Robotics Committee

13TH ANNUAL ROBOTICS COURSE

The Robotics Training Course is ongoing and a productive supplement to the trainees' fellowship exposure. Please encourage your current fellows to sign up.

Here is all the latest information regarding the 2024 program:

- [2024 Robotic Training Program Overview](#)
- Program Directors can click [here](#) to register and nominate their fellows.
- [Additional Virtual Learning Opportunities](#)

Website/Social Media Committee

NEW WEBSITE

We hope you've had an opportunity to visit the new [APDCRS website](#). The site features the new APDCRS logo and is very user-friendly. Josh Bleier, MD continues to chair the committee to keep us socially active. Suggestions can be submitted to Dr. Bleier.

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca E. Hoedema, MD, MS

President, Association of Program Directors for Colon and Rectal Surgery