

AUGUST 2021

NEWSLETTER

APSAlutely What You Need to Know



APSA
American Pediatric
Surgical Association
Saving Lifetimes™

President's Message

APSA Colleagues,

My warmest greetings to you, your families and loved ones as we approach the end of Summer and return to our normal personal and professional routines. As your new president I wish to reiterate my gratitude for the opportunity to serve in this esteemed role. As I accept the baton of leadership, I would like to commend our past-president Dr. John Waldhausen, Executive Committee, Board of Governors, Strategic Project Manager Dr. David Powell, Executive Director Dr. Thomas Tracy, and Veritas, our new management company, for their organizational stewardship during the challenges of the last 16 months. We have emerged both structurally and financially sound due to their dedicated work on behalf of APSA. Furthermore, we owe you, the membership, an even greater debt of gratitude for your steadfast loyalty and support. I am pleased to report that 99% of you elected to renew your membership. Many also voluntarily contributed to the surcharge fund for which we are grateful. This is outstanding! I am deeply humbled by your commitment.

These are eventful times with record breaking heatwaves in the Pacific Northwest, rampant wildfires in the West, unbridled violence in many of our urban areas and the reemergence of a COVID-19 variant that threatens the return to normalcy that we all crave. Elements of silent despair born out of uncertainty are beginning to erode the strong spirit of grit that characterizes our country. Although it might be easy for us to avert our gaze from these solemn issues, I feel that the antidote for us is to creatively "lean in" to our communities to have positive impact. We must resist the temptation to remain cloistered in the safety of the operating room, clinic and lab. I want to challenge us all to be "advocates, activists and/or leaders" on issues that matter. As pediatric surgeons, we are well positioned to be the "purveyors of hope" in our hospitals as well as our communities. Whether it is the environment, climate, public safety, poverty, education, COVID-19 or many other important issues. Many of us are already contributing remarkably in this realm and others are planning efforts. Plan how you might contribute. Please share with us what you are doing that we might consider posting on the website. We will all grow by reading and viewing the innovative contributions that you are making.

In closing, as COVID-19 remains a pandemic, let us endeavor to do our part to avoid it becoming endemic in the U.S. I strongly encourage all to become fully vaccinated not for just for our own health, but as our responsibility to our families, colleagues, close contacts and patients. Sincere gratitude for your commitment to our mission, organization, children and their families.

Warmly,

Ed Barksdale



Ed Barksdale

“As pediatric surgeons, we are well positioned to be the ‘purveyors of hope’ in our hospitals as well as our communities.”



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear APSA Members,

So many accomplishments since the last newsletter and the transition of our Presidents from John Waldhausen to Ed Barksdale! Under president Waldhausen, the Board achieved budget neutrality, which was a major concern as we headed into the new year. We will remain ever grateful for the members who supported the sustainability fee. We now need to replenish the balances of the reserves that were required investments during the prior years and for the successful management transition. We need to be able to assure our stability and growth into the future.

The virtual annual meeting was very well attended and provided two and a half days of outstanding content selected by the program committee and developed by the committees. The extension of even more content is rolling out through the summer and into the remainder of the year thanks to the hard work of our members and their committees. All the sessions to date remain available through the meeting platform after airing, available at your convenience.

The advocacy and activism that has developed on social media has really advanced in content and volume thanks to the interest and engagement of our members and their groups or committees and the capabilities of the Marketing and Communications team at Veritas. Please reach out to us with any of your ideas about issues of concern for APSA to address or promote. Also, we want APSA to be a recognized social media force for positive healthcare policy and surgical care. Let us know how we can continue to expand that image.

Finally, I have the privilege of attending the committee meetings and hear of all your hard work amid your extremely busy practice, professional and personal lives. The stress or challenges that presents is very real and, within the mission of APSA, is our desire to find support for you at every stage and facet of your career. Our advocacy should be for you just as for any policy initiative. We will continue to search any avenue of assistance and hope that you will continue to direct us to resources we need or challenges we have yet to address.

All our best for the remainder of the summer,

Tom Tracy



Tom Tracy

“We want APSA to be a recognized social media force for positive healthcare policy and surgical care.”



ADVOCACY

APSA Member on Popular Podcast

Catch Dr. Chethan Sathya's discussion on the *In Fact with Chelsea Clinton* podcast. Dr. Sathya is an NIH-funded pediatric surgeon at Cohen Children's Medical Center in New Hyde Park, NY. Hear him discuss what we can do to tackle gun violence, promote firearm injury prevention and save lives.



[LISTEN NOW](#)

Advocacy Committee Produces Gun Violence Prevention Video

With recognition, acknowledgement and respect for the diverse views on the second amendment that exist within in our membership and country, we encourage all of you to watch this provocative video in the hope that it will enlighten and inspire creative solutions to mitigate this burgeoning public safety and health challenge for our profession and nation. [#lesspoliticsmoreprevention](#)

[WATCH NOW](#)



[FOLLOW APSA'S ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ON TWITTER @ADVOCACYAPSA](#)

Summary of Firearm Violence Prevention Research in Houston

Bindi Naik-Mathuria MD, MPH
Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital

Firearm violence is a significant problem in Houston. The Harris County Medical Examiner's office reported approximately 500 deaths (adult and pediatric) by firearm per year until 2020, when the incidence rose even higher. Additionally, approximately 1,000 patients per year are treated for non-fatal firearm injuries at the level I trauma centers in the city. It is estimated that almost half of the homes in Texas have household firearms, and Texas is an open carry state. As a result, unintentional shootings to children (either due to negligent discharge or stray bullets) are also a significant problem and continuing to rise.

Our work has had two areas of focus: 1. Facilitating safe gun storage counseling by community

pediatricians and 2. Gaining detailed knowledge on the epidemiology of all firearm injuries in the city to identify individual, neighborhood-level ("hot spots") and community-level risk factors and social determinants. This work is fully funded by the CDC. Local and national data focus mostly on deaths by firearm and the burden of non-fatal injuries has not been well-characterized. Therefore, we aim to gain a comprehensive understanding of all firearm injuries based on shooting cause (homicide, suicide and unintentional) by combining injury data from the trauma centers, death records from the medical examiner's office, and crime data from police records. This data will then be useful to guide targeted city-wide injury prevention efforts in collaboration with city leadership.



PedSurgTV / APSAsodes

Catching up on your summer reading? Throw in a little learning.

Your 2021 Annual Meeting registration includes **24 APSAsodes** broadcast between May 2021 and April 2022. Can't watch in real time? Add PedSurgTV to your summer binge watching list and watch at your convenience. All APSAsodes are available for on-demand viewing via the APSAsode tab in the meeting platform. [Click Here to Watch](#)

PedSurgTV Fall Line-Up **sneak peek**



Education Committee

September 1

- Education: Addressing Today's Educational Challenges Using Technology

Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment Committee

September 15

- FETO in the Management of CDH: Is it the Future?

Practice Committee

September 29

- Strategies to Optimize the Successful Submission and Reimbursement of Unlisted CPT Codes

New Technology Committee

October 13

- Magnets for Esophageal Atresia; Fluorescence Image-Guided Surgery

Jay Grosfeld MD Scholar Presentations; Scientific Award Announcements

October 27

Ethics Committee

November 3

- Ethical Issues in Challenging ECMO Cases

Benjy Brooks Committee

December 1

- Improving Gender Equity in Pediatric Surgery

[VIEW NOW](#)

The complete PedSurgTV
2021-2022 agenda

[CLAIM NOW](#)

CME for the main meeting
and APSAsodes

PedSurgTV



Check Out
the Newest
Releases!

FREE ACCESS CHANNEL

Summer 2021

Moral Distress

A collaboration between the Ethics and Wellness Committees, take a few minutes to watch the [new 3-part series](#) on moral distress. Short on time? Get a sneak peek and [watch a short trailer](#).

Gun Violence Education and Prevention

Produced by the Health Policy and Advocacy Committee, this powerful episode is an unbiased discussion focused on practical and sensible measures pediatric surgeons and others can take to educate patients and prevent gun violence. Watch the [full episode](#) here. Watch the [trailer](#) here.

Benjy Brooks Social

Did you miss this virtual gathering in May? [Catch it here](#) to hear the personal stories and frank discussion of the challenges, triumphs and bumps on the ladder to success. Led by Drs. Erika Newman, Gail Besner and Marion Henry.



And the Award Goes to...

APSA is proud to recognize the following members' accomplishments with individual awards



DR. JAMES A. O'NEILL, JR.
Vanderbilt Medical Center,
Nashville, TN



2021 Humanitarian Awards

The APSA Surgical Humanitarian Award recognizes an APSA member whose career has been dedicated to ensuring the provision of surgical care to underserved children without expectation of commensurate reimbursement.



DR. MICHAEL R. CURCI
Maine Medical Partners,
Cumberland Center, ME

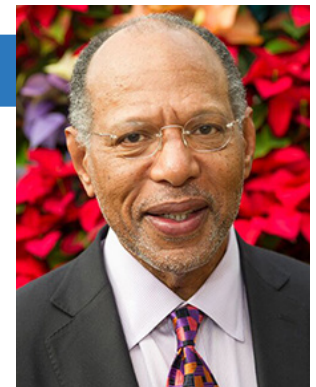
This year the award was given to two deserving individuals: Dr. James A. O'Neill, Jr. and Dr. Michael R. Curci. [Watch the award presentation](#) in the Global APSAsode, original air date June 16.



NEW – 2021 James F. Densler Award

The APSA James F. Densler Award recognizes an individual who has a consistent track record of promoting diversity, equity and inclusivity in pediatric surgery. This includes delivery of care to diverse populations, working in diverse teams and promoting diversity and inclusivity in the pediatric surgery professional community. Dedication to diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace and/or in programs dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged populations, and addressing topics including:

- Implicit bias, creating diverse management teams, and changing workforce culture
- Establishing diverse and inclusive mentorship teams
- Thoughtfully promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace or community
- Addressing the needs of underserved populations



DR. VICTOR F. GARCIA
Cincinnati Children's Hospital,
Cincinnati, OH

The first ever Densler Award was given to Dr. Victor F. Garcia. [Watch the award presentation](#) and an interview with Dr. James Densler in the DEI APSAsode, original air date July 14.



2021 Brandeis Scholar

This scholarship supports attendance and participation in the “Executive Leadership Program in Health Policy and Management,” at Brandeis University, in Waltham, Massachusetts. The award is to be used toward the cost of tuition, travel, housing, and subsistence during the period of the course.

The American College of Surgeons and the American Pediatric Surgical Association are pleased to announce this year’s Brandeis Scholar Dr. Robert T. Russell.



DR. ROBERT T. RUSSELL

Children’s Hospital of Alabama,
Birmingham, AL



ACS Jacobson Innovation Award

The Jacobson Award is the most prestigious research award given by the American College of Surgeons. We congratulate and celebrate Dr. Patricia Kilroy Donahoe as this year’s honored recipient!

Known as the leading expert in reproductive development biology and oncology, Dr. Donahoe’s career encompasses both pediatric surgery and innovation research. Begun in her surgical residency, her ongoing research on Mullerian Inhibiting Substance (MIS), changed the way we think of reproduction. MIS has clinical applications in the regulation of normal reproduction and a potential role in the control of ovarian and other reproductive tumors. Her research also contributed to the understanding of the molecular and genetic causes of birth defects, particularly congenital diaphragmatic hernia. One of the world’s most influential reproductive scientists, she is unsurpassed in her contributions as a surgeon-scientist, mentor, and academic leader. For her lifelong and continued pioneering work, Dr. Donahoe is the honored recipient of the ACS 2021 Jacobson Innovation Award.



PATRICIA KILROY DONAHOE, MD

Director, Pediatric Surgical Research Laboratories,
Massachusetts General Hospital

Marshall K. Bartlett Professor of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA



Please join us in congratulating all of the deserving recipients who go above and beyond in their mission to improve children’s surgical care everywhere.



#savinglifetimes

APSA FOUNDATION

Congratulations to the three 2021 Jay Grosfeld, MD, Scholars! Each scholar received a \$25,000 grant to continue their research.



AUGUSTO ZANI, MD PhD
The Hospital for Sick Children,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

*Amniotic Fluid Stem Cell
Extracellular Vesicles
as a Novel Therapy for
Pulmonary Hypertension
Secondary to Congenital
Diaphragmatic Hernia*



HAU D. LE, MD
University of Wisconsin-
Madison, Madison, Wisconsin

*The Effects of Cold
Atmospheric Plasma on
Neuroblastoma Tumor
Microenvironment*



JEONG S. HYUN, MD
Stanford University,
Stanford, California

*Role of Progenitor Cells
in the Pathogenesis of
Intestinal Strictures in
Crohn's Disease*



We give a heart-felt thanks to the very hard working APSA Research Committee who spent countless hours reviewing and evaluating the grant applications.

We also thank all of the applicants who invested the time to submit an application and we encourage them to continue in their scholarly pursuits.

Visit the [Grant Scholar page](#) to learn more about the application process, deadlines for the 2022 award and read past winners' testimonials.

Support Future Scholars

The Grosfeld Research Grants are supported entirely by member donations. We are grateful to all of our donors, past, present and future.

No donation is too small. [Learn more](#) about donating, including a NEW and easy option for setting up a recurring donation. One and Done!

Follow us on Twitter @APSAFoundation

Tag us when you make a donation and use the hashtag #inspiredgiving.

Don't miss the Grosfeld Scholar APSAsode on October 27. Tune in at 7:00 pm to watch a research update from the 2020 scholars.

IN MEMORIAM

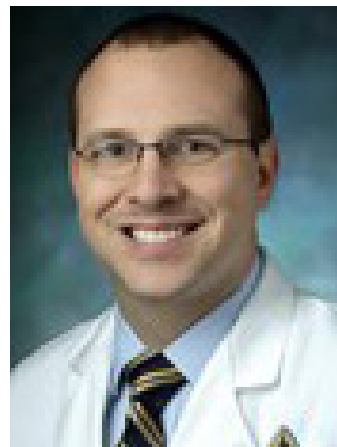
APSA Celebrates and Honors the Life of Dr. Eric B. Jelin (1978 - 2021)

Eric Jelin, adored father, son, brother and husband, and renowned surgeon, sadly passed away on May 13. A celebration of life and memorial service was held June 14 at Johns Hopkins.

[View Service](#)
[View Obituary](#)

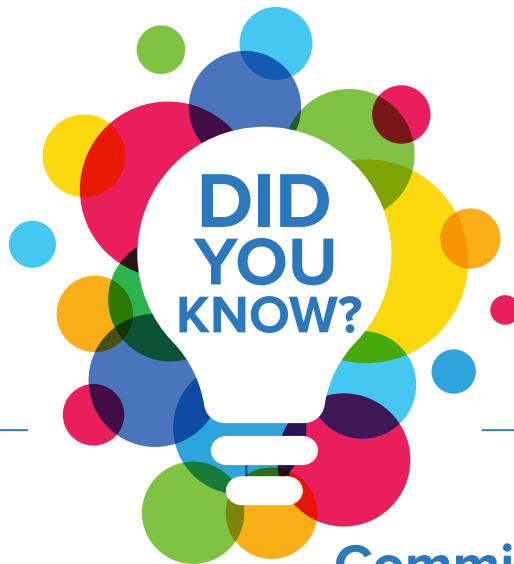
Gifts and Contributions

[College Fund for Eric and Angie's Kids](#)
[Eric Jelin Memorial Fund at Johns Hopkins Children's Center](#)



APSA's Wellness Committee hosted a community break-out immediately after the service to allow our colleagues to talk to one another during a difficult time and create a space to do some healing with time to talk about the sadness we feel when we lose a trusted colleague. Please visit APSA's [Wellness Resources](#) for additional information or reach out any of the committee's leaders for a private discussion.





Career Center

**Have a job to post? Looking for a job?
Interested in Locum tenens work?**

Check out APSA's career center and browse

- [Position openings](#)
- [Locum tenens opportunities](#)
- [Fill an opening](#) at your institution

Committees

If you applied for a spot on an APSA Committee, you will receive notification regarding your status by September 15. Returning members will receive a message confirming their ongoing appointment, members who are rotating off will receive a message acknowledging their service.

- [View all committees](#)

Pediatric Surgery Training Programs

**Program Directors, have you updated your
program listing?**

It's not too late. [Review your program information](#) and forward your updates to us before the end of the month. APSA's template must be used to report any changes, contact staff to receive a copy at kim@apsaped surg.org.

Fellowships and Training Positions

Want to find a fellowship or training position?

Check out APSA's Continuing Education page:

- [Surgical research positions](#)
- [Specialty training programs](#)
- [Pediatric Surgery Critical Care Fellowships](#)



Outcomes and Evidence-based Practice Committee

Shawn St. Peter, *Outgoing Chair*
Robert Baird, *Incoming Chair*

The APSA Outcomes and Evidence-based Practice Committee (OEBPC) utilizes the systematic review methodology to examine the current state of the literature and develop recommendations for pertinent, but unanswered, questions in the field of pediatric surgery.

Publications

[Management and Outcomes for Long-segment Hirschsprung Disease: A Systematic Review from the APSA Outcomes and Evidence Based Practice Committee.](#)

Kawaguchi AL, Guner YS, Sømme S, Quesenberry AC, Arthur LG, Sola JE, Downard CD, Rentea RM, Valusek PA, Smith CA, Slidell MB, Ricca RL, Dasgupta R, Renaud E, Miniati D, McAteer J, Beres AL, Grabowski J, Peter SDS, Gosain A; American Pediatric Surgical Association Outcomes and Evidence-Based Practice (OEBP) Committee. *J Pediatr Surg.* 2021 Sep;56(9):1513-1523. doi: 10.1016/j.jpedsurg.2021.03.046. Epub 2021 Mar 28. PMID: 33993978 Review.

A Systematic Review of the Management and Outcomes of the Undescended Testicle has been submitted to the *Journal of Pediatric Surgery* (JPS) for publication consideration.

A Review of Pediatric Enteral Feeding Access has been submitted to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA).

2021 Annual Meeting Presentations

In conjunction with the Surgical Quality and Safety Committee, the OEBPC produced two systematic reviews for the 2021 APSA Annual Meeting.

- Review of inflammatory bowel disease where discussion focused around recommendations for optimal reconstructive procedures, diversion indications, timing of operation, use of biologics, and the pearls and pitfalls of the minimally invasive approach. The impact on fertility rates was also covered.
- Gastroschisis and the recommended timing of delivery, the choice and use of antibiotics, closure strategies, the role of monitoring to impact outcomes, a review of available feeding protocols, and strategies to improve outcomes for complicated gastroschisis.

Meeting registrants can watch both sessions [via the meeting platform](#) until mid-November, at which point all meeting material will be available on [APSA's YouTube channel](#).

2022 Annual Meeting Presentations

Several topics are in the works, including a review of the state of the literature for spontaneous pneumothorax, management of venous thromboembolism, and biliary dyskinesia. Similar to 2021, this will be a collaboration with the Surgical Quality and Safety Committee and provide links to the toolkit so the recommendations can be easily implemented by members.

[View Quality Toolkits Here](#)

[View the Outcomes Page and Resources Here](#)



FAQ's

Got PedSurgLibrary FOMO?

Your most commonly asked questions about PedSurgResource, NaT, ExPERT and many others are answered below.

The NaT is a bit overwhelming, is there a quick reference guide to common conditions that I may encounter during my medical student rotations?

- From the PedSurgLibrary home screen, click Residents and Students and refer to the Handbook and STEPS Presentations.
- scroll down to view diagram on the next page

What tools are available to help me prepare for my Board Exams?

- After reading up on disorders in the NaT, take tests and earn MOC CME credits via ExPERT

Can Residents and Students gain access to the PedSurgLibrary?

- You can find many free resources for residents and students
- Membership in APSA is FREE for surgical residents and medical students
- Subscriptions to ExPERT and NaT are discounted for fellows, residents and students

What is a Quality Improvement Toolkit?

- Resource tools created by the APSA Quality and Safety Committee offering QI guidelines on the management of conditions that involve multi-step treatments

When will the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting videos be available to the public?

- November 2021

I missed an APSAsode, how can I watch it?

- All APSAsodes are available for on-demand viewing post-broadcast in the Annual Meeting platform for registrants
- Starting in November, videos will be available in PedSurgLibrary

I attended the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting, how can I earn CME credits?

- From the PedSurgLibrary home screen, access 30+ tests via the Annual Meeting CME link
- Don't forget to claim additional credits for APSAsodes, available via the same link

How can I join the APSAmazing Community of Contributors for the PedSurgLibrary?

- Contact Michelle O'Connor, PSL Managing Editor at moconnor@veritasamc.com

And finally, the easiest way to avoid #FOMO, subscribe to APSA's YouTube channel and turn on your alerts!

the answer
no matter what your question...



Download the  app today

Newly Updated in the NaT:

Acute Pancreatitis
Cryptorchidism
Esophageal Atresia and Tracheoesophageal Fistula

Earn CME's at your convenience!

This Issue's "President's Pick"

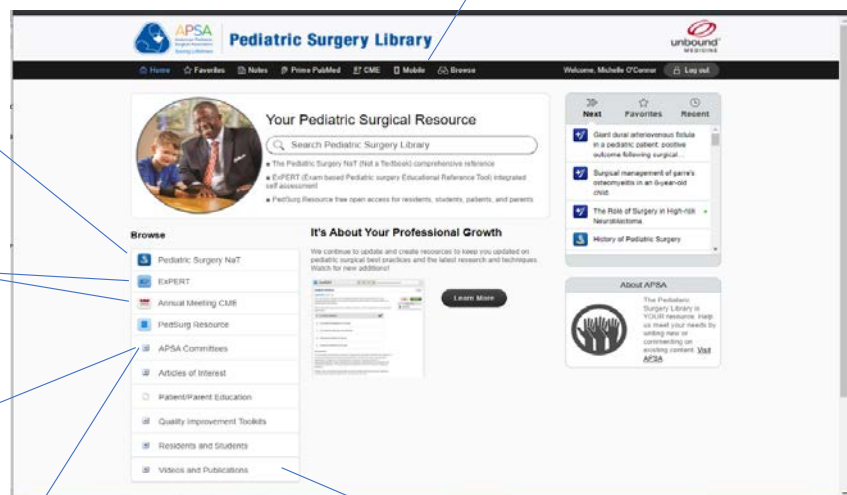
"We must all take care of our physical, mental and spiritual health to effectively do the work we do for others." – Edward "Ed" M. Barksdale, Jr., MD

Read and share the very valuable resources provided by the APSA Wellness Committee

Education Committee:

STEPS Presentations – Standardized Toolbox of Education for Pediatric Surgery

Choledochal Cyst
Congenital Pulmonary Airway Malformations
Extracorporeal Life Support
Ovarian Torsion and Tumors
Physical Child Abuse



Featured on PedSurgTV:

APSA 2020 TEC Talks
Gun Violence Prevention

Coming Soon.....APSA 2021 Virtual Meeting videos.

Is your Committee page updated?

Do you have a treatment that you would like to share? Thanks to our APSA Community of contributors, our PedSurgLibrary is constantly evolving.

You are sure to discover something new every time you visit! Contact Michelle moconnor@veritasamc.com to learn how you can contribute.



By the numbers



1,416,000

Half are via
mobile devices

95,248

Continuing
medical
education tests
completed

64,129

Credit hours
awarded

PEDSURG.TV YOUTUBE CHANNEL

- **Over 200 hours of content**
- **17,532 views** (over half outside of the United States)

[VIEW NOW](#)

MOST POPULAR VIEWS:

- Resident and Student Handbook
- STEPS Presentations
- Quality Improvement Toolkits
- Practicing Surgeons Curriculum
- Anorectal Malformations
- Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia
- Hirschsprung Disease



Announcing Our New PedSurgLibrary Executive Board

Charles Snyder, MD Not a Textbook Editor

Dr. Snyder has been a long-standing APSA member and has served on multiple committees (PSSAP, Education, Workforce, Publications, Informatics). He is currently co-chair of the Professional Development Committee (PDC) with Dr. Craig Lillehei.



He is assuming the role of Editor in Chief of APSAs Not a Textbook (NaT), created by Drs. Powell, Waldhausen and Hirschl. This is the textbook portion of the pediatric surgery library, a unique and valuable resource for members of APSA and pediatric surgeons all over the world. He is excited to continue this excellent work, and hopefully strengthen and broaden the reach of both the NAT and the pediatric surgery library.

Marjorie Arca, MD ExPERT Editor

Dr. Arca has been a member of APSA since 2001. Her service to APSA includes being the Chair of Outcomes and Evidence-based Practice Committee (2009-2011), Vice Chair of Surgical Critical Care Committee (2013-2014), Chair of Education Committee (2015-2018), and Chair of the Nominating Committee (2018-2019). She is the Editor of the Pediatric Surgical Critical Care Handbook. She is a current member of the Professional Development Committee. She is currently on the Pediatric Surgery Advisory Council of the American College of Surgeons. She is assuming the role of ExPERT Editor, one of the most popular educational programs of APSA. She is hoping to leverage her experience as the outgoing Chair of the Pediatric Surgery Board to



enhance ExPERT and Top Education Content of the annual meeting to disseminate the most impactful information to APSA members

Steven Lee, MD PedSurgResource Editor

Dr. Lee has been actively involved with APSA since 2007. He served on the Outcomes and Clinical Trials Committee and helped develop the Annual Evidence-Based Reviews. Dr. Lee also served on the Program and Nomination Committees. His main contribution has been with the Education and Professional Development Committees. He has served as a member, vice chair, and chair of the Education Committee since 2013. He also has been an active member in the Professional Development Committee since its inception in 2016. Dr. Lee will now be assuming the role of Editor-in-Chief of PedSurgLibrary.com Free Resource Page. Dr. Lee has relied on PedSurgLibrary.com for all of its educational content and values all of the work done by all APSA Committees. His goal is to collaborate with all committees to continue providing the most reliable and accessible Pediatric Surgery Education content for practicing surgeons, trainees, students, and patients/families.



WELLNESS

President's Summer Wellness Message

Colleagues,

We trust that the summer weather and the emergence from the pandemic that vaccination has afforded in our families, workplaces and communities is allowing you to return to a greater sense of normalcy and wholeness. However, for some the last 14-16 months may have taken a lingering toll on our identities, purpose and resilience. From a loss of energy and enthusiasm to moral injury to clinical depression, some of us may be suffering in perceived isolation.



We recognize that these are often very private issues. We would first encourage all to consider boldly reaching out to your friends, families and professionals for needed personal support and/or medical care. There are also valuable resources available that may allow us, with other strategies, to grow through these difficulties. We must all take care of our physical, mental and spiritual health to effectively do the work we do for others.

Thank you.

Edward "Ed" M. Barksdale, Jr., MD
APISA President and Board of Governors

NEW

Wellness Page in PedSurgResource

The Wellness Committee has compiled a list of resources surrounding grief and loss. Additional resources around moral distress, recovery from injury and self-care are coming soon.

[Visit APISA's Wellness page](#) to access valuable resources designed specifically for medical professionals.

[Watch Dr. Mary Brandt's presentation](#) on moral injury given at the ACS Leadership Summit.

