
Clinical trials methods course scheduled for November

The American College of Surgeons' Surgical Research Committee is sponsoring the ninth Clinical Trials Methods Course November 13–17 at ACS headquarters in Chicago, IL. A new component this year—course didactics, including two added basic statistics lectures—will be based on four successfully conducted clinical trials published in the literature. The four clinical trials will be distributed ahead of time to all participants.

This course is recommended for surgeons who plan to engage

in clinical research at a leadership level. It includes concepts and development of skills in the design, implementation, and analysis of randomized clinical trials; observational studies; the use of large administrative databases; meta-analysis; funding mechanisms and budget development; outcomes (medical, patient-centered, cost); and dissemination of results. Participants work in small groups mentored by a surgeon and a biostatistician to develop a protocol.

It is suggested that interested

surgeons reserve a spot early, because the course is limited to 50 participants and is only offered every other year. It is important to note that preference is given to members of the American College of Surgeons.

Visit <http://www.facs.org/cqi/src/clintrial.html> for online registration, additional information about the course, a preliminary course schedule, and a list of faculty members. For more information, contact Mary Fitzgerald at 312-202-5319, or mfitzgerald@facs.org.