

Governors' Committee on Surgical Infections and Environmental Risk:

An update

by Vijay K. Maker, MD, FACS

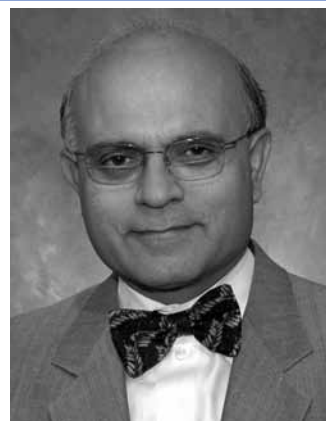
The Safer Surgery 2008: Current Evidence and Continuing Challenges session—presented at the 2008 Clinical Congress in San Francisco, CA, by the Surgical Infections and Environmental Risks Committee, along with two other College committees—was well attended, and received excellent feedback and reviews by the Fellows. The committee has had a busy and productive year, greatly benefiting from increased communication through multiple webcasts and teleconferences from the leadership as well as through the Fellowship. With greatly increased national recognition of the importance of the role of surgical infections and environmental risks, our committee will be presenting the following three panel sessions at the Clinical Congress in October 2009 in Chicago, IL.

- Blood Transfusions in Surgery: 2009
- Bedside Surgical Procedures: The “Invisible” Risk to Patient Safety
- Bugs Are Winning the Resistance Battle—The Surgeon’s Responsibility

These sessions represent current surgical challenges and will address the solutions to improve patient care. In line with the same theme and mission of our committee, the following seven new topics are being researched *continued on page 43*

Dr. Maker is program director in surgery, University of Illinois, Metropolitan Group Hospitals Residency in General Surgery, and chairman, department of surgery at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, Chicago.

He is Chair of the Governors’ Committee on Surgical Infections and Environmental Risk.



Members of the Governors' Committee on Surgical Infections and Environmental Risk

Vijay K. Maker, MD, FACS, Chair
Michael A. West, MD, FACS, Vice-Chair
Marianne E. Cinat, MD, FACS
John Fildes, MD, FACS
Henri R. Ford, MD, FACS
Donald E. Fry, MD, FACS
Linwood R. Haith, Jr., MD, FACS
John C. Hendricks, MD, FACS
Jan K. Horn, MD, FACS
Rao R. Ivatury, MD, FACS
M. Margaret Knudson, MD, FACS
Edward J. Quebbeman, MD, FACS
Leonard M. Randolph, Jr., MD, FACS
Andrew W. Saxe, MD, FACS
Francis J. Scarpa, MD, FACS
Donald J. Scholten, MD, FACS
Joseph J. Sferra, MD, FACS
Michael J. Sutherland, MD, FACS
Beth H. Sutton, MD, FACS
Stephen Michael Warren, MD

for the Clinical Congress in Washington, DC, in 2010:

- Prevention of Infection 2010 and Beyond: Let Us Not Forget the Patient
- Myths and Facts in Surgical Environment
- Infected Implants: How Do I Handle 'Em?
- Vacuum-Assisted Wound Care: To Suck or Not to Suck
- Hospital-Acquired Infections: Can We Win the Battle?
- What Leads to Never Events: Perfect Storms or Black Swans
- Surviving Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome—2010 and Beyond

The program chair continues to represent the ACS at the National Advisory Council of the Joint Commission on Blood Transfusion and Utilization. Our committee has accepted the charge of producing a white paper summarizing the College's stance on this important issue.

Thank you for all the input from Fellows, and we welcome your suggestions through 2010 and beyond. 