August 29, 2016

Dear Governors and Chapter Leaders,

The Patient Education Committee in collaboration with the Board of Governors Patient Education Workgroup is aware of the new requirements of the Affordable Care Act and the Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs, to provide consumer and patient education. While there has been an unprecedented number of new apps, platforms and portals that have been introduced in the market, offering a full range of health and wellness consumer applications, the education content and solutions vary significantly in quality, depth, efficacy and usability.

The American College of Surgeons offers a solution to support surgeons with proper documentation of the meaningful use criteria and support compliance with federal, state and accreditation requirements.

The Surgical Patient Education Program provides quality, evidence-based strategies to educate the surgical patient and family to:

- Reduce complications
- Improve participation and outcomes
- Support transition to home
- Increase patient satisfaction
- Reduce Costs

How Chapters Can Get Involved

The collective committees have developed a PowerPoint presentation and packaged resources that you can utilize at your local meetings available from the [Chapter Leaders page](https://www.facs.org/member-services/chapters/resources). We would request that you secure time on the program/agenda of your chapter meeting to deliver this presentation and inform chapter members about these valuable patient resources. The Surgical Patient Education Program PowerPoint Presentation reviews the current patient education requirements and also identifies resources available through ACS. A sample pack of materials is also available at [https://web4.facs.org/eBusiness/ProductCatalog/ProductCategory.aspx?id=9](https://web4.facs.org/eBusiness/ProductCatalog/ProductCategory.aspx?id=9).
The pack is free of charge (only $12.50 shipping costs apply). All programs can be viewed at www.surgicalpatienteducation.org.

On behalf of the Division of Education, Patient Education Committee and the Board of Governor’s Patient Education Workgroup, we welcome your feedback on these new chapter resources. For more information on these resources and the Surgical Patient Education Program, please contact Amanda Bruggeman at 312-202-5263 or abruggeman@facs.org.

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