

QC VISION

The Official Quarterly Newsletter of Abdominal Core Health Quality Collaborative

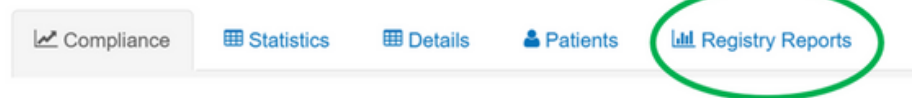


WHAT'S IN OUR LATEST ISSUE:

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NOW AVAILABLE! SURGEON DASHBOARDS

We are excited to announce the availability of surgeon dashboards! This offers real-time reporting for volume and outcomes. You can easily access the dashboards by selecting 'Registry Reports' after logging into the system.



With the dashboards, you can view:

- Volume
- Demographics
- Comorbidities
- Operative Information
- 30-Day Outcomes
- Long Term Outcomes

Please keep in mind this is the first version of the dashboards. Over time, we will incorporate feedback from you, our users, to improve the accuracy and relevancy of the reports. Please feel free to contact aileen@achqc.org to send us feedback regarding the dashboards. We are confident you will find the interface and information for your practice and quality improvement efforts.

HISTORICAL DATA INTEGRATION WITH OBERD

After several months of preparation and testing, we are happy to announce that historical data entered into the legacy ArborMetrix system is nearly integrated into the OBERD system. Demographic information has been integrated and clinical information is reflected in the surgeon dashboards. The legacy information will be populating in the OBERD data entry system over the next couple of months.

OBERD TRAINING WEBINAR

ACHQC and OBERD will be hosting a LIVE training webinar in July that will review the most frequently asked questions about the registry platform. The training webinar is open to ACHQC surgeons, data abstractors and other care team members.



OBERD Training Webinar
Thursday, July 31st | 6:00 PM ET

REGISTER TO ATTEND >>

Webinar topics include:

- Patient entry workflow
- Why DOS and CPT codes matter
- How to input patient long-term follow up
- How to enter a reoperation
- Withdrawing a patient

In addition to the topics above, there will also be an opportunity at the end to ask OBERD questions. The webinar will be recorded and available for on-demand viewing for those unable to attend. Additional training documents and videos will also be provided.

FOLLOW ACHQC ON SOCIAL MEDIA



ACHQC AT AHS

Join ACHQC on Thursday, September 4th at the American Hernia Society's 2025 Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN! The ACHQC session is free and open for all to attend.

ACHQC Session

Thursday, September 4th | 5:15 PM CT

Grand Ballroom 1 - Lobby Level
Renaissance Nashville Hotel
611 Commerce Street, Nashville, TN 37203

Session Moderators:

Courtney Collins, MD & Kaela Blake, MD

Patient Optimization and Equitable Care - Finding Common Ground

Megan Melland-Smith, MD

What Does Quality of Life Data Tell Us Regarding Management of Occult Contralateral Hernias During MIS Inguinal Hernia Repair?

Mazen Al-Mansour, MBBS

The ACHQC from AWR Fellowship to Practice

Aldo Fafaj, MD

Take Your Practice to the Next Level - What the ACHQC Can Do for You

Todd Harris, MD

Beyond Hernias: Leveraging the ACHQC for Sustainability and Environmental Exposure Research

Benjamin Miller, MD

Updates on Ongoing Registry-Embedded Clinical Trials

Clayton Petro, MD

Don't forget to stop by ACHQC's booth in the exhibit hall. Representatives from OBERD will be in attendance to answer any questions.

SAVE THE DATE! 2026 ACHQC QI SUMMIT



We invite you to join us for the 8th Annual ACHQC Quality Improvement Summit! The meeting is a true collaborative learning experience where we analyze data, identify high performers and share critical quality improvement in patient data to maximize your outcomes. It will be highly interactive and critical to our quality improvement mission.

MEET THE ANALYSTS



Li-Ching Huang, PhD

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Dr. Li-Ching Huang is a Research Assistant Professor at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and serves as Lead Analyst at the Abdominal Core Health Quality Collaborative (ACHQC). Her work centers on hernia repair and cancer research, with expertise in advanced statistical methods including propensity score matching, regression modeling, and longitudinal data analysis. Originally from Taiwan, she has lived in Nashville for over ten years. In her spare time, she enjoys indoor gardening, reading, traveling, and contributing as a volunteer biostatistical reviewer for medical journals.



Marisa Blackman, BA

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Marisa Blackman is a PhD Candidate in Biostatistics at Vanderbilt University. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from The College of New Jersey as well as a Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Mathematics from Smith College. Her dissertation research focuses on pharmacokinetic modeling of methotrexate, a commonly used cancer drug that can be difficult to model due to high variability. She is evaluating several potential models to be used by Vanderbilt University Medical Center pharmacists while also considering new methods to compare models and determine the best fit. In her free time, Marisa likes to stay active, watch women's sports, and hang out with her cat.

Kun Bai, MS

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Kun Bai is a first-year Ph.D. student in Biostatistics at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where he focuses on predictive modeling and multiomics data analysis. With a strong interest in leveraging statistical and computational methods to advance biomedical research, Kun aims to develop robust analytical frameworks for integrating high-dimensional omics data (genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, etc.) to improve disease prediction and precision medicine. Before joining Vanderbilt, Kun earned his Master's in Biostatistics from the University of Michigan, where he gained experience in machine learning, statistical inference, and big data analysis. His current research explores innovative approaches to model complex biological systems, with applications in cancer, chronic diseases, or other relevant areas.



Cassie Hennessy, MS

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Cassie Hennessy is a Senior Biostatistician at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where she has been since she earned her master's degree in Biostatistics from Vanderbilt University in 2020. She joined the ACHQC in November 2024. Other collaborations she works with include the Tennessee Surgical Quality Collaborative, the Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, and the Department of Anesthesiology. Her research interests include clinical trials and observational studies, specifically pragmatic trials, ordinal regression, and longitudinal data modeling.

Xinyan Zheng, MS
Weill Cornell Medicine

Xinyan Zheng is a Senior Research Data Analyst at Weill Cornell Medicine. She works on surgical and device outcomes research, with a primary focus on population-level studies. Ever since joining ACHQC in November 2022, Xinyan has participated in numerous investigator-initiated projects and is responsible for the linkage between the ACHQC with Medicare claims. Xinyan holds a master's degree in Biostatistics from the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University and a bachelor's degree in biotechnology from Jinan University in China.



VERIFIED SURGEON OF QUALITY PROGRAM

The ACHQC Verified Surgeon of Quality program was established to recognize and distinguish participating surgeons for their dedication to improving the quality and value of health care for patients who suffer from hernia disease and diseases of the abdominal wall or abdominal core. Improved quality and value are realized through consistent data entry in the ACHQC Registry and participation in ACHQC's continuous quality improvement programs.

ACHQC leadership believes surgeons focusing on quality improvement will perform at their highest level. We hope that through this verification program, you will be recognized by your peers and broader network for your dedication to improving the quality and value of patient care in your community.

As an ACHQC Verified Surgeon of Quality, you will be:

- Showcasing your commitment to providing quality health care and delivering value to patients through your participation in the ACHQC Registry and its continuous quality improvement programs
- Distinguishing yourself from other surgeons for being dedicated to providing quality care
- Enhancing your credibility among peers and your broader network
- Signaling your readiness and dedication to improving outcomes for patients

You will receive:

- Recognition on ACHQC's [Verified Surgeon of Quality web page](#)
- Media kit -- PDF certificate and digital badge

ACHQC Verified Surgeon of Quality program is open to all ACHQC surgeon members entering data in 2025.



DATA ENTRY FAQS

Q: Since I do similar operations for a lot of these hernias, is there are way to automatically enter this?

A: Yes! With the new OBERD system, we have the ability to 'pre-fill' forms. This greatly reduces the time it takes to enter information and can be used for any form. Please see [this video](#) to learn how to do this.



Q: How do I lookup long-term follow up information about my patients?

A: The easiest way to do this is lookup the patient in your electronic health record (EHR) and see if the patient had any recurrence/reoperation/wound problems from the most recent physical exam (any provider) or CT scan.



Q: How can I enter the long-term information from the EHR into OBERD?

A: You should find the time point window closest to the date of the physical exam or CT scan information you are trying to enter. If the dates of the physical exam or CT scan fall within the window-can of course enter the information into that window. If the dates of the physical exam or CT scan don't fall within a time window in OBERD, just enter it into the closest time window available.



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