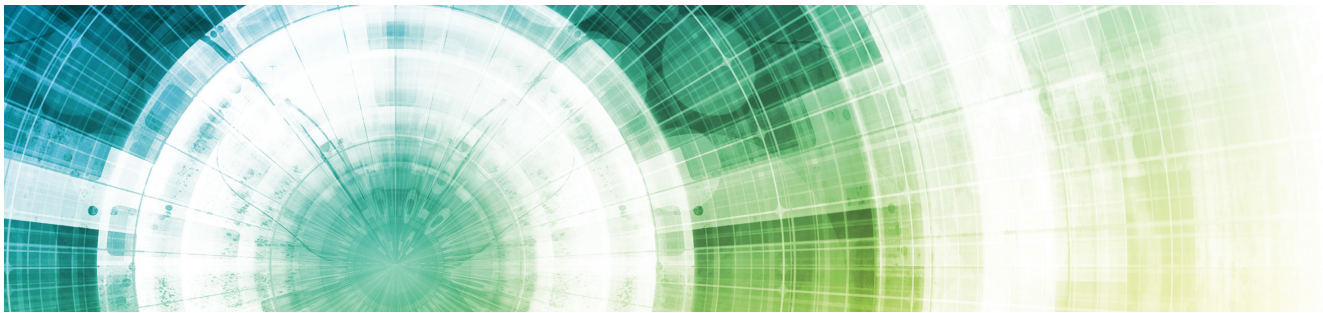


# QC VISION

The Official Quarterly Newsletter of Abdominal Core Health Quality Collaborative



## WHAT'S IN OUR LATEST ISSUE:

- **ACHQC Incorporates the Distressed Communities Index**
- **Registry Updates**
- **2022 ACHQC Resident & Fellow Research Grant**
- **QC Core Insights**
- **ACHQC Patient Engagement & Advocacy Committee In Action**
- **Save the Date: 2022 QI Summit**
- **Membership Drive**

## ACHQC INCORPORATES THE DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES INDEX

Through a license with the bipartisan public policy organization Economic Innovation Group (EIG), the Abdominal Core Quality Collaborative recently integrated the Distressed Communities Index (DCI) with its robust real world ACHQC Registry. The DCI provides a detailed view of prosperity across the USA at the zip code level. The Index is utilized by leading publications, state and local governments, healthcare, and non-profits organizations. Through its implementation in the registry, the ACHQC seeks to better understand potential outcomes disparities related to treatment of underserved patients with hernia and abdominal wall disease.

Merging our rich ACHQC clinical data set with the Distressed Communities Index will allow us to perform in-depth outcomes analyses based on many metrics sensitive to socioeconomic status and health care availability. We can now identify gaps and understand where there may be opportunities for improvement in how we provide care at the community level. This enhanced analytic granularity will deliver further value to all our stakeholders – patients, surgeons, hospitals, and industry partners.

To access the merged QC and DCI data for your own analyses, submit a request at <https://www.achqc.org/data> and be sure to mention you wish to use the DCI data.

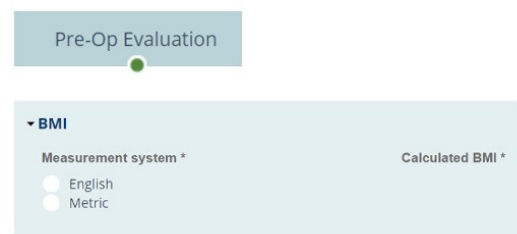
About DCI: The Distressed Communities Index (DCI) sorts U.S. zip codes based on seven complementary economic indicators into five even quintiles of well-being: prosperous, comfortable, mid-tier, at risk, and distressed. For more information visit <https://eig.org/dci/report>.

EIG: Economic Innovation Group (<https://eig.org>) is a bipartisan public policy organization that combines innovative research and data-driven advocacy to address America's most pressing economic challenges.

## REGISTRY UPDATES

We had some useful changes go into effect on **September 1st** that will enhance your ability to input data. After extensive feedback from you, our surgical teams, the following changes have been made to the user interface:

- The entry for **Body Mass Index (BMI)** has been moved from the Operative Detail section to the Pre-Operative Evaluation section



Pre-Op Evaluation

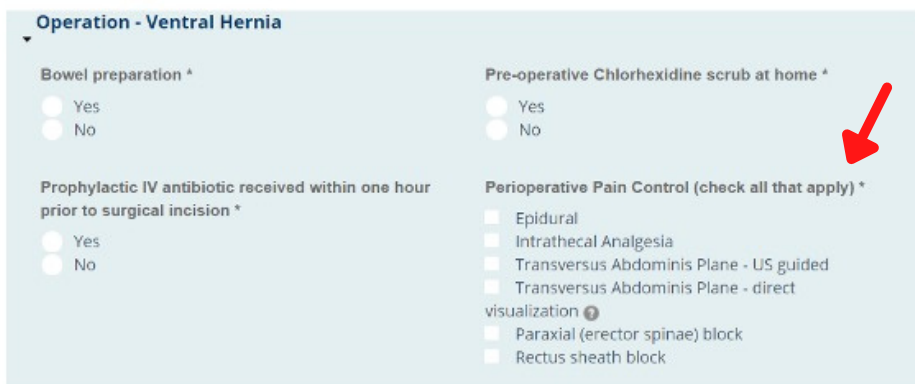
▼ BMI

Measurement system \* Calculated BMI \*

English

Metric

### Operative Details - Ventral



Operation - Ventral Hernia

Bowel preparation \*

Yes

No

Pre-operative Chlorhexidine scrub at home \*

Yes

No

Prophylactic IV antibiotic received within one hour prior to surgical incision \*

Yes

No

Perioperative Pain Control (check all that apply) \*

Epidural

Intrathecal Analgesia

Transversus Abdominis Plane - US guided

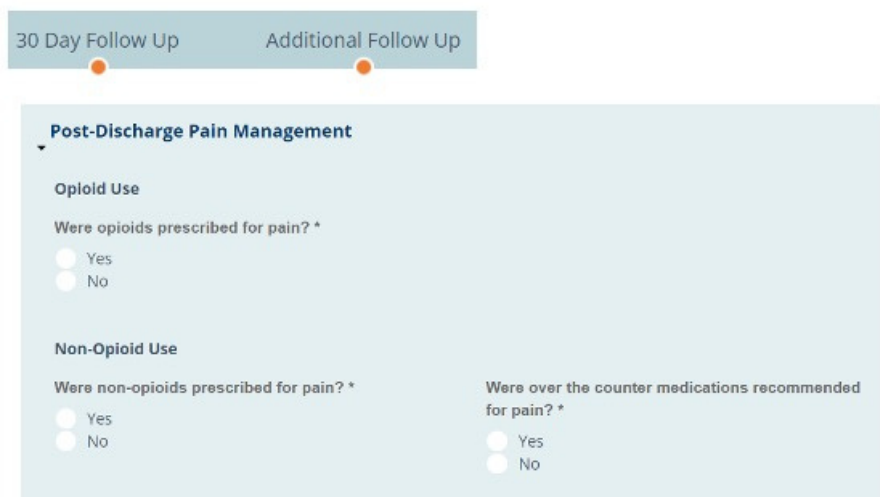
Transversus Abdominis Plane - direct visualization

Paraxial (erector spinae) block

Rectus sheath block

- **Perioperative Pain Control capture has been simplified** to checkboxes in the Operative Details - Ventral section

- **The collection of post-operative pain management is now required** for 30 Day Follow Up and Additional Follow up, but easier to enter. If you select 'Yes' for any of the options below, entry of details is highly suggested, but not mandatory if details are unknown



30 Day Follow Up Additional Follow Up

Post-Discharge Pain Management

Opioid Use

Were opioids prescribed for pain? \*

Yes

No

Non-Opioid Use

Were non-opioids prescribed for pain? \*

Yes

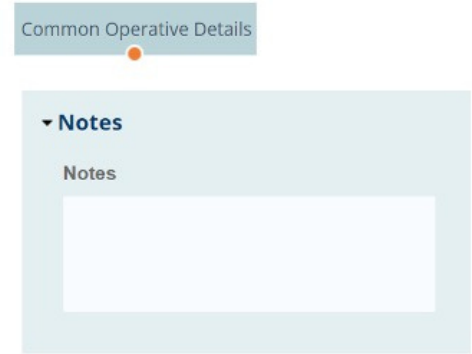
No

Were over the counter medications recommended for pain? \*

Yes

No

- A 'Notes' function has been added to the **Common Operative Details section** so you can write down specific information about the patient or procedure



- The **mesh list has been updated**; products that are no longer on the market or have new names will be moved to the bottom of the list and shown in brackets []

We are hopeful that you find these user interface enhancements beneficial to your practice and for data entry. Thank you again for all the hard work that you do to make the QC a success!



**DID YOU KNOW?** You can easily enter data directly from your phone into the QC. On your phone, just go to [achqc.org](http://achqc.org) and click 'login.' The website automatically adapts to your phone screen for easy entry of data.

## 2022 ACHQC RESIDENT & FELLOW RESEARCH GRANT

ACHQC Leadership is excited to announce that we are once again offering our ACHQC Resident & Fellow Research Grant for 2022!

**The application deadline is February 1, 2022.**

Please click below for more information about the grant guidelines and how to submit your application.

 [VIEW GUIDELINES](#)

 [SUBMIT APPLICATION](#)

# QC CORE INSIGHTS

QC Core Insights features talks on Hot Topics in Abdominal Core Surgery and review of recent publications, ACHQC quality initiatives and data analyses. Each QC Core Insights session will incorporate a 10-15 minute presentation by the author of the work followed by 2 invited discussants offering critical point/counter-point review and open membership discussion.

We encourage you to share this information and Zoom links with your residents, fellows, partners and other patient care team members as QC Core Insights is not limited to just ACHQC participants.

## Upcoming Schedule:

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 11TH, 2021 - 8:00PM ET**

Core Rehabilitation & ACHQC Rehab Protocol

 [RSVP HERE](#)

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2021 - 8:00PM ET**

How I Do It: Robotic Technique Talk

 [RSVP HERE](#)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2021 - 8:00PM ET**

Update on Embedded Registry Studies

 [RSVP HERE](#)

Visit the QC Core Insights homepage [HERE](#) for more information on each session.

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# ACHQC PATIENT ENGAGEMENT & ADVOCACY COMMITTEE IN ACTION

With patients at the core of the ACHQC's mission, we continually strive to understand and improve their experiences - before, during, and after surgery. Critically important to this endeavor is our Patient Engagement and Advocacy Committee.

Recently, this Committee put on a featured QC Core Insights program, "Enhancing Outcomes: The Patient Perspective" that included highly engaging and lively discussions on "Expectations vs Reality" and "What Patients Need and Want to Know Before their Procedure." If you missed the session, a recording is accessible from our website for on-demand viewing <https://www.achqc.org/meetings/qc-core-insights>.

Continuing our outreach efforts, two of our Committee members shared their stories in "[Talking with Your Patients About Hernia Mesh](#)," a featured article the recent General Surgery News Hernia Focus edition. Additionally, ACHQC leadership submitted a [blog](#) related to our Committee's efforts to the National Health Council which is published it on the NHC website and is being promoted by the NHC throughout their network.

As surgeons, we know that patients who are engaged and educated ultimately become more informed decision makers. We hope the continuing efforts of this Committee will encourage patients to feel more empowered to dialog with their care providers and take a more active role in the management of their individual care plan.

# SAVE THE DATE: 2022 QI SUMMIT

The 2022 ACHQC Quality Improvement Summit will be held **March 18th - 20th, 2022** in Denver, Colorado. We are excited to announce that the QI Summit will once again be in-person! More details will be announced as they become available. We hope to see you there!

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## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We need your HELP! The QC grows through the increased engagement of current members, but also importantly through the inclusion of new surgeons.

The QC's greatest champions are our surgeons like you! Word of mouth and referrals are the best and most powerful tool to recruit new like-minded surgeons to our mission. In your community there are probably several other surgeons such as yourself who would like to support our mission. Please share the ACHQC membership flyer with those surgeons who you think may be interested in the QC and help us as a local advocate to bring them onboard.

 [DOWNLOAD MEMBERSHIP FLYER](#)

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## THANK YOU TO OUR FOUNDATION PARTNERS

**Medtronic**  
Further, Together

 **Allergan**

 **BD**   
has joined BD

**ETHICON**  
PART OF THE *Johnson & Johnson* FAMILY OF COMPANIES



  
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