



SLSNOW

Where Disciplines Meet

EDITION 20
December 2024

MISWeek 2025
September 10-13, 2025



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This Newsletter is Interactive. Look for the



A MESSAGE FROM THE *Executive Director*

Raymond Lanzafame, MD, MBA, FACS



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of *SLSNow*. Thank you for your support of SLS and for being a part of the SLS community.

We are in the midst of the holiday season and the end of the year is fast approaching. The hours of available daylight are short, and surely even the most ardent winter enthusiast is beginning to yearn for the beauty of Spring and the relaxation that a summer vacation can bring. It is also a time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, too set new goals and to anticipate the coming year.

MISWeek 2024 was a resounding success, having dodged a major hurricane notwithstanding. Over 98% of meeting attendees stated that their professional development objectives were met and 97.5% felt that the content of the meeting was relevant to their practice.

MISWeek will be returning to the Wyndham® Lake Buena Vista Resort at Disney Springs® Resort Area. MISWeek 2025 will be held on September 10-13, 2025. An exciting program is being planned. Now is the time to submit your abstract for scientific paper, video or poster presentations. Whether you're inclined to present your work, or to enjoy the meeting and the opportunity to network and dialogue with colleagues from multiple specialties and from diverse backgrounds, you won't want to miss this must attend conference.

This issue of *SLSNow* has an overview of MISWeek 2025 and some useful information about special pricing for Disney attractions and other activities in the area. There's also information about our publications, fellowship opportunities and more.

Please share *SLSNow* with your colleagues and encourage them to join SLS. We welcome your active participation and are always willing to hear your comments and suggestions. Thank you for being a part of the SLS Community. We look forward to continuing to serve you in 2025 as we celebrate our 35th anniversary.

Good reading!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond J. Lanzafame, MD, MBA, FACS". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Raymond J. Lanzafame, MD, MBA, FACS
Executive Director & Chairman

Article *Spotlight*

JLSLS

JLSLS. 2024 Jan-
Mar;28(1):e2023.00049.

Limitations in Medical Research: Recognition, Influence, and Warning

Douglas E Ott, MD, MBA



Abstract

Background:

As the number of limitations increases in a medical research article, their consequences multiply and the validity of findings decreases. How often do limitations occur in a medical article? What are the implications of limitation interaction? How often are the conclusions hedged in their explanation?

Objective:

To identify the number, type, and frequency of limitations and words used to describe conclusion(s) in medical research articles.

Methods: Search, analysis, and evaluation of open access research articles from 2021 and 2022 from the Journal of the Society of Laparoscopic and Robotic Surgery and 2022 Surgical Endoscopy for type(s) of limitation(s) admitted to by author(s) and the number of times they occurred. Limitations not admitted to were found, obvious, and not claimed. An automated text analysis was performed for hedging words in conclusion statements. A limitation index score is proposed to gauge the validity of statements and conclusions as the number of limitations increases.

Results: A total of 298 articles were reviewed and analyzed, finding 1,764 limitations. Four articles had no limitations. The average was between 3.7% and 6.9% per article. Hedging, weasel words and words of estimative probability description was found in 95.6% of the conclusions.

Conclusion: Limitations and their number matter. The greater the number of limitations and ramifications of their effects, the more outcomes and conclusions are affected. Wording ambiguity using hedging or weasel words shows that limitations affect the uncertainty of claims. The limitation index scoring method shows the diminished validity of finding(s) and conclusion(s).

As the number of limitations in a medical research article increases, does their influence have a more significant effect than each one considered separately, making the findings and conclusions less reliable and valid? Limitations are known variables that influence data collection and findings and compromise outcomes, conclusions, and inferences. A large body of work recognizes the effect(s) and consequence(s) of limitations.¹⁻⁷⁷ Other than the ones known to the author(s), unknown and unrecognized limitations influence research credibility. This study and analysis aim to determine how frequently and what limitations are found in peer-reviewed open-access medical articles for laparoscopic/endoscopic surgeons.

This research is about limitations, how often they occur and explained and/or justified. Failure to disclose limitations in medical writing limits proper decision-making and understanding of the material presented. All articles have limitations and constraints. Not acknowledging limitations is a lack of candor, ignorance, or a deliberate omission. To reduce the suspicion of invalid conclusions limitations and their effects must be acknowledged and explained. This allows for a clearer more focused assessment of the article's subject matter without explaining its findings and conclusions using hedging and words of estimative probability.^{78,79}



There is NO manuscript submission fee

SHARE YOUR
WORK
GLOBALLY



- + Open doors to career advancement opportunities. Reach a global audience.
- + CRSLS is a peer reviewed, multispecialty, open-access journal with a global reach, focused on publishing high quality case reports in minimally invasive and robotic surgery.
- + Publishing your clinical experience or research can directly impact care by translating your discoveries into clinical practice.
- + Both JSLs and CRSLS are 100% Open access, fully citable, and indexed by NLM and on PubMed Central



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<http://crsls.sls.org>

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Journal of
The Society of Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeons
<http://jsls.sls.org>

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American &
Global College of
Endometriosis
Specialists

 **ENDO**METRIOSIS
WORLDWIDE **MARCH**
NIH/AT FAMILY FOUNDATION

EndoMarch & AGCES 2025

 Atlanta, Georgia

 March 28-30, 2025

Whether you're a specialist, allied health provider, or an Endo Warrior, you can be a part of this global movement to help transform care standards by joining us in Atlanta for EndoMarch & AGCES 2025, from March 28-30, 2025.

Learn more about EndoMarch 2025





Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

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Available For
You**



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OPPORTUNITIES IN ADVANCED MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY**



General Surgery

Gynecology

Simulation

LEARN MORE AND APPLY TO [SLS.ORG/SLS-FELLOWSHIP-PROGRAMS/](https://sls.org/sls-fellowship-programs/)

FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE

GYNECOLOGY

Fellowship in Minimally Invasive & Robotic Surgery in Gynecology & Reproductive Surgery

*Director: Camran Nezhat, MD
Palo Alto, CA*

Fellowship in Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery in Gynecology and Reproductive Surgery

*Director: Ceana Nezhat, MD
Atlanta, GA*

Fellowship in Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery in Gynecologic Benign and Malignant Pathologies

*Director: Farr Nezhat, MD
Long Island, NY*

SLS Fellowship in Advanced Endometriosis

*Director: Tamer Seckin MD
New York, NY*

Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Fellowship (FMIGS) of South Florida

*Director: Emery Salom, MD
Miramar, FL*

GENERAL SURGERY

SLS Fellowship in Advanced Minimally Invasive and Endoscopic Techniques in General and Colorectal Surgery

*Director: Jiri (George) Melich, MD
Vancouver, BC, Canada*

Florida Surgical Specialists Enhanced General Surgery Fellowship: Advanced Laparoscopic and Robotic Foregut, Hernia, and Colorectal Fellowship

*Director: Paul Toomey, MD
Bradenton, FL*

SIMULATION

Carlos Pellegrini and Brant Oelschlager Surgical Simulation Fellowship

*Director: Robert Sweet,
MD, FACS, MAMSE
Seattle, WA*



[Click to apply to this or any of our SLS Fellowships](#)

FELLOWSHIP IN FOCUS

SLS FELLOWSHIP IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE AND ROBOTIC SURGERY IN GYNECOLOGY AND REPRODUCTIVE SURGERY.

Location: Center for Special Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery

Program Director: Camran Nezhat, MD, FACOG, FACS

Program Co-Director: Azadeh Nezhat, MD, FACOG

Faculty: Jacob Tangir, MD; Jonathan Black, MD, MPH; John Siemon, MD

December is deadline for the following academic year, but some exceptions may apply.

SLS presents an EXCLUSIVE two year Post Graduate Fellowship. This fellowship will consist of a two year post Graduate training in benign gynecological disorders such as endometriosis and myomas of the uterus and congenital abnormalities of the reproductive system under the direction of Dr. Camran Nezhat and Dr. Azadeh Nezhat.

The primary training goal of this Post-Graduate Fellowship is to improve patient care and teach advanced endoscopic operative skills to individuals who are interested in propagating the field of endoscopic pelvic and abdominal surgery. A secondary goal is to contribute new knowledge about learning and teaching with advanced surgical trainers.

The Fellow will have ample opportunity to truly work in a multispecialty environment during the course of this Fellowship. The program is highly devoted to treating women with endometriosis and myomas of the uterus. Hysteroscopy, cystoscopy, proctoscopy, and simulation laboratories are also part of the fellowship curriculum.

Please note, this fellowship does not provide J-1 visa support.

Contact Information for questions:

Camran Nezhat

Email: office@camrannezhatinstitute.com

To apply, please visit:

<https://sls.org/sls-fellowship-programs/>



FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

**Forge Your Future in Medicine:
Join Our Fellowship Community**

Leadership, Learning and Impact

**Fellowship in Minimally Invasive and Robotic
Surgery in Gynecology and Reproductive Surgery**

 **GYNECOLOGY**

**Center for Special Minimally Invasive and Robotic Surgery
Woodside, CA**

**Program Director:
Camran Nezhat, MD, FACOG, FACS**

**TO VIEW/APPLY TO SLS FELLOWSHIPS VISIT
WWW.SLS.ORG/SLS-FELLOWSHIP-PROGRAMS**



MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY WEEK

WHERE LAPAROSCOPY AND ROBOTICS MEET

SEPT 10
SEPT 13

2025

As part of our educational mission, SLS is providing **FREE 2025 membership** to

- Medical Students and Residents

Discounted membership to

- Fellows and Affiliated Medical Personnel

NO CHANGES, JUST SAVINGS

DUES AND FEES HAVEN'T INCREASED!

JOIN US IN
LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL
FOR MISWEEK 2025
SEPTEMBER 10-13, 2025



RECEIVE ALL THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- World-Class Conferences and Resources
- Tools and Opportunities to Advance Your Career
- Publications to Keep You at the Forefront of MIS
- Exclusive Member Interactions



JOIN/RENEW ONLINE AT
SLS.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

CALL FOR *Abstracts*

You are invited to submit scientific paper, video and poster abstracts for presentation at MISWeek 2025

Submissions open December 1st, 2024

Awards	Prize
The Medical Educator Consortium Award for Best Scientific Paper	\$1200
Paul Alan Wetter Award for Best Multispecialty Scientific Paper	\$500
Michael S. Kavic Award for Best Scientific Paper by a Resident	\$1000
Carl J. Levinson Award for Best Video	\$500
Harrith M. Hasson Award for Best Presentation Promoting Education and Training	\$500
Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Pediatric Surgery Presentation	\$500
Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster	\$500
Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster by a Resident	\$250
Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster by a Student	\$250

Certificates will be issued for the following:

- Best General Surgery Scientific Paper
- Best General Surgery Video
- Best Gynecology Scientific Paper
- Best Gynecology Video
- Best Urology Scientific Paper
- Best Urology Video
- Best Multispecialty Video

Don't Miss Your Chance to Submit your Abstract for Presentation at

MISWeek 2025

Where Laparoscopy and Robotics Meet

www.SLS.org/MIS2025/Submit

MISWeek 2025

*Preliminary Agenda**

WED
10
SEPT

7:00am - 8:00pm **Conference Registration**

Hands-On Courses

Didactic Master Courses

Opening Ceremony
Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall

THUR
11
SEPT

6:30am - 5:00pm **Conference Registration**

Highlights

Multidisciplinary Plenary Session I

Multidisciplinary Plenary Session II

Didactic Lectures

Concurrent Presentation Sessions

Special Event: Fellows, Residents & New Members Meet & Greet

FRI
12
SEPT

7:00am - 5:00pm **Conference Registration**

Highlights

Multidisciplinary Plenary Session III:

Multidisciplinary Plenary Session IV

Surgical Surprises

Global Perspectives in MIS after Surgical

Concurrent Presentation Sessions

SAT
13
SEPT

7:00am - 10:30am **Conference Registration**

Highlights

Breakfast with 2025 Excel Award Recipient

Janis Chinnock Wetter Award

Future Technology Session with Keynote Speaker

LEARN. NETWORK. DISCOVER.

REGISTER NOW

	SLS Members	Non-Members
Early Bird Registration (Deadline 7/13/25)	\$900.00	\$1295.00
Physician Members	\$ 1050.00	\$ 1450.00
Active Duty Military	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
Medical Student	\$ 150.00	Available to Members Only
Resident *	\$ 200.00	Available to Members Only
Fellow **	\$ 300.00	Available to Members Only
Affiliated Medical Personnel	\$ 300.00	Available to Members Only

Special registration rates are available for SLS MEMBER Medical Students, Residents-in-Training, Fellows-in-Training, and Affiliated Medical Personnel. To qualify for these rates to the annual meeting you must currently be a Resident, Fellow-in-Training, or Affiliated Medical Personnel MEMBER of SLS.

SLS is currently offering FREE membership to Medical Students and Residents.

Fellows-in-Training, and Affiliated Medical Personnel memberships are \$95 per calendar year.

To qualify as a Resident* or Fellow-in-Training**, you must be in training in a U.S. accredited training program or, if outside the U.S., you must be a Resident or Fellow-in-Training within the first five years after medical school degree.

To qualify as Affiliated Medical Personnel, you must be employed full-time in an ancillary position in the health care field.

REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 2025



MEET THE 2024-2025 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Raymond J. Lanzafame, MD, MBA
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*Ex-Officio Trustee
JSLs Editor-in-Chief*



Ronald Fieldstone, Esq.
Ex-Officio Trustee

Meet the MISWeek 2024

Best of Award Winners

The Medical Educator Consortium

Award for Best Scientific Paper

Hasan Al Harakeh, MD

Robotic Versus Open Repair of Iatrogenic Bile Duct Injury During Cholecystectomy - A Prospective Follow-up Study Beyond Short-Term Outcomes

Michael S. Kavic Award for Best Scientific Paper by a Resident

Zamaan Hooda, MD

Comparing The Outcomes Between Robotic And Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy For Acute Cholecystitis

Paul Alan Wetter Award for Best Multispecialty Scientific Paper

Jesse Popover, MD

Artificial Intelligence in Medicine: A Comprehensive Review of Emerging AI Trends

Harrith M. Hasson Award for Best Presentation Promoting Education or Training

Nutan Jain, MD

Role of Indocyanine Green (ICG) in Delineating Ureter in Difficult Pelvic Procedures

Carl J. Levinson Award for Best Video Emily King, MD

Minimally Invasive Hemihysterectomy with Hemivaginectomy for the Treatment of Recurrent Vaginal Septum in OHVIRA Syndrome

Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Pediatric Surgery Presentation

Naghm Toba, MD

Quality of Life of Bariatric Surgery in Adolescent Patients: A Cross-Sectional Study

Best General Surgery Video

Leo Amodu, MD

Robotic Surgery in Trauma and Acute Care Surgery: Case in Point - The Ruptured Diaphragm

Best Urology Video

Ravi Munver, MD

Advances in Technology Facilitate Robotic Reconstructive Surgery: Robotic-Assisted Bladder Neck Reconstruction for Recurrent Bladder Neck Contracture Following Multiple Failed Endoscopic Procedures

Best Gynecology Video

Anne Stoklosa, MD

Placental Site Nodule in Cesarean Scar Isthmocele: A Robot-Assisted Laparoscopic Repair

Best General Surgery Scientific Paper

Hugo Bonatti, MD

Individualized Technical Approach to Laparoscopic Appendectomy: A Strategy Towards Micro-Invasive Surgery

Best Gynecology Scientific Paper

Nuha Khalfay, MD

Successful Implementation of Same Day Discharge after Minimally Invasive Hysterectomy and Myomectomy in a Low Resource Safety Net Hospital

Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster

Bruce Lee, MD

Ovarian Preservation after Robotic Hysterectomy and Radical Resection for Advanced Stage Endometriosis - A Retrospective Clinical Series on Pain Improvement

Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster by a Resident

Linda Martinez Berrios, MD

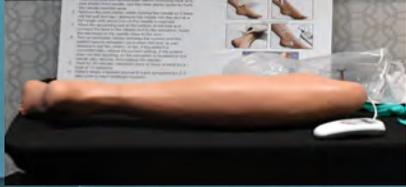
The Prevalence of Endometriosis of the Appendix

Gustavo Stringel Award for Best Poster by a Student

Denise Nemeth, DO, PA-C

Innovating Care: Laparoscopic Bilateral Prophylactic Mastectomy With Simultaneous Breast Reconstruction in BRCA2 Mutations

SNAPSHOTS OF MISWEEK 2024



MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY WEEK

2
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2
4

SLS gratefully acknowledges our MISWeek 2024 Exhibitors



SLS gratefully acknowledges our MISWeek 2024 Sponsors

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GENERAL SURGERY NEWS



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ROBOTIC SURGEONS**

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 Wyndham® Lake Buena Vista Resort
Disney Springs® Resort Area

 Wyndham® Garden Lake Buena Vista
Disney Springs® Resort Area



An official Walt Disney World® Hotel, the Wyndham® Lake Buena Vista Resort Area is located across the street from Disney Springs®, a world-class shopping, entertainment, and dining district with over 150 venues. This lakeside resort features two pools, an aquatic playground for kids, on-site basketball and volleyball courts, plus multiple on-site dining options. Guest room amenities include free WiFi, 55-inch HDTVs, mini-refrigerator, and plush bedding. Resort guests enjoy exclusive Disney benefits including scheduled shuttle transportation to Disney parks, early theme park entry to every Disney park (park reservation and valid ticket or pass required)

LEARN & RELAX AT THE RESORT

Magic abounds at the Wyndham® Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs® Resort Area, an official Walt Disney World® Hotel. The hotel is located directly across the street from Disney Springs®, a world-class shopping, dining and entertainment district featuring more than 150 venues.

Each of the resort's 394 newly renovated, modern guest rooms are located in one of the hotel's two 5-story buildings. All guest rooms feature exterior entrances, pillow top mattresses with luxurious linens, premium Wi-Fi, a 55-inch flat-screen HDTV, mini-refrigerator, and an in-room safe large enough to accommodate a laptop.

Guests of the resort can take advantage of the daily scheduled shuttle transportation provided to the four main Walt Disney World® Theme Parks. Reservations are required. Shuttle schedules and information are provided at check-in.

The hotel offers a variety of food and beverage options for your enjoyment. Start your day off right and fuel up at our daily breakfast buffet in the LakeView Restaurant. Joffrey's Coffee shop located in the lobby is also open for breakfast daily and serves coffee, tea, an assortment of pastries and hot breakfast sandwiches. The Oasis Restaurant, located poolside is open daily for lunch, dinner and refreshing beverages. The Sundial Café, also located in the lobby offers an assortment of grab n go snacks and beverages.

Kids of all ages love the newly re-imagined Oasis Aquatic Pool Playground, an exciting focal point of this family-friendly resort featuring two pools, interactive water features, and a large hot tub. Adults can relax on the beautiful pool deck and soak up some of the Florida sunshine or relax with some great food and refreshing beverages from our poolside restaurant and bar. Additional amenities include a business center, state of the art fitness center, sand volleyball court, basketball court and a game room.

Conference Website

Our discounted room rates are:
 Wyndham Tower: \$139/night
 Wyndham Disney View: \$139/night
 Wyndham Garden: \$109/night

Our reduced resort fee: \$28.00

Special Parking Rates:
 Gated Self-Parking: \$15.00 plus tax per night per vehicle
 Valet Parking: \$28.00 plus tax per night per vehicle
 Event Parking: \$15.00 plus tax per day per vehicle
 Fees subject to change.

Don't Delay! Register today

To make reservations by phone for the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs® Resort please call
 Toll Free: 800-624-4109

To make reservations by phone for the Wyndham Garden Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs Resort please call
 Toll Free: 844-482-8444

Be sure to mention that you are attending SLS's Minimally Invasive Surgery Week 2025 to receive our discounted room rates.

Requests must be made by 5pm Eastern time on Friday, August 8, 2025



MISWEEK Attendees

Take advantage of special meetings and convention ticket offers!



Rates will be honored September 7-14, 2025, subject to availability. Does not include applicable state and local taxes.



Wyndham® Lake Buena Vista Disney Springs® Resort Area guests can book golf tee times up to 90 days in advance and receive 50% off rental equipment when they play on any of the 3 Walt Disney World® Golf championship courses. Make your hotel reservations today and then reserve your tee time by calling (407) WDW-GOLF or by visiting www.golfdwd.com.

Whether you've had a long hard day in meetings or spent hours at the theme parks, cap off another Magical day by participating in the Sunset 9 program.

Play during the Sunset 9 promotional hours for a quick nine holes before dusk, and enjoy a couple of drinks to unwind on us! Tee off after the access times as listed at Disney's Lake Buena Vista, Disney's Magnolia, Disney's Palm, or Disney's Oak Trail Golf Course, and pay as low as only \$39.00 plus tax.

With pricing starting as low as ONLY \$39 plus tax, you can enjoy 9 holes of golf, use of a golf cart (pull cart on Disney's Oak Trail Golf Course), and two pre-round beverages (domestic beer or soft drink).

*Offer is valid 7 days a week, subject to availability. Call course for details. Restrictions may apply.

Wyndham® Lake Buena Vista Resort
Disney Springs® Resort Area
Lake Buena Vista, Florida, USA





Vintage Amphicar Tours

Make a splash on a captain-guided tour of Lake Buena Vista aboard a fully restored retro dream boat.



AdventHealth® Waterside Stage

Enjoy special events and live performances at this open-air venue along Lake Buena Vista each day and night.



The Edison

Travel back in time to the age of invention and revel in live, Gatsby-inspired performances every single night.



Aerophile

Soar sky-high during an 8-minute tethered adventure in the world's largest hand-painted helium balloon.

Never miss a beat with Disney Springs® up-to-date schedule of special events, ongoing activities and live entertainment.

From early in the morning to late in the evening, almost anytime is a great time to explore Disney Springs®, located immediately across the street from both Wyndham® hotels in the Lake Buena Vista complex. Within walking distance – across the pedestrian bridge, you simply cannot get any more ‘near’ to this entertainment destination! Discover more than 150 shops, restaurants and entertainment venues.



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"SLS offers a multi-specialty platform for surgeons and healthcare professionals to engage in discussions on innovative technology and surgical techniques, enhancing patient outcomes. It provides a valuable opportunity to network with industry experts and surgeons globally."

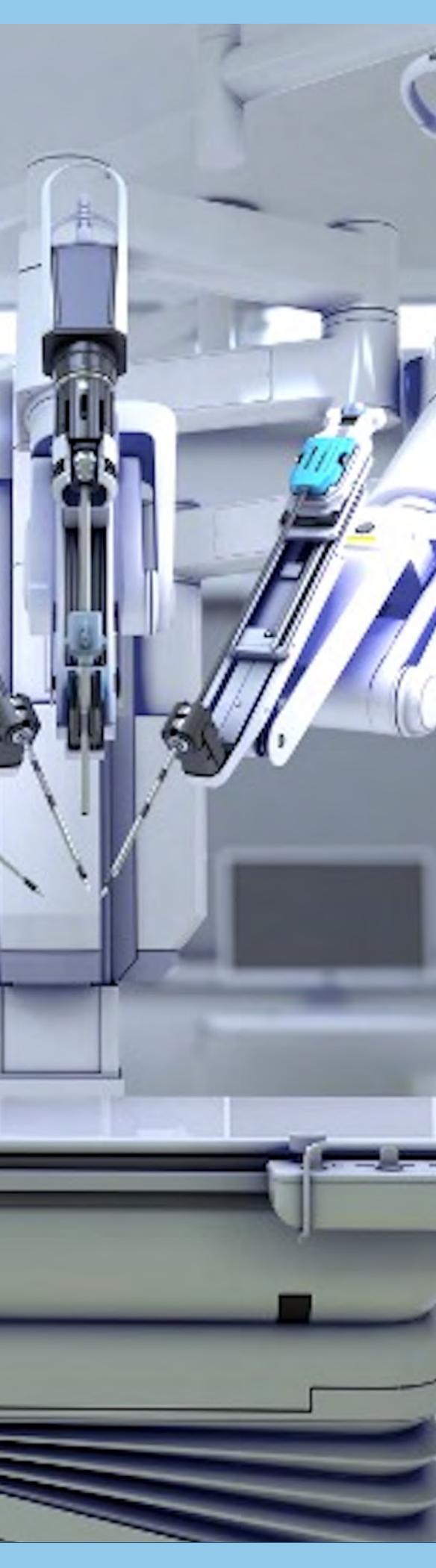
- Sharona Ross, MD

- Support the mission of SLS to improve patient care and promote the highest standards of practice through education, training, and information
- All SLS dues and donations are tax deductible for US Taxpayers
- Receive registration discounts to attend MISWeek
- And much more!



Join or Renew Today:
SLS.org/membership





Unlock the World of MIS

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- Network with a range of international affiliates & opportunities to exchange ideas, techniques & technologies
- Join the conversation on our blog & social media outlets
- Network with professionals from around the world
- Engage a multidisciplinary body of knowledge and professional development resources
- A wide range of programming to receive CE Credits

Increase the Reach of Your Practice

- Exclusive enrollment in SLS' "Find a Specialist" Patient Referral Map and Online Database
- Exclusive access to online member portal where you can connect with members worldwide

Dialogue With a Global Community

- Participate and engage in Special Interest Group (SIG's)
- Participate in our online DocMatter community
- Have your successes featured in "Members in the News"

Publications to keep you at the Forefront of MIS

- Subscription to *JSLs, Journal of the Society of Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeons*
- Subscription to *CRSLS, Case Reports Journal of the Society of Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeons*
- Receive *JSLs Anywhere*, a quarterly update on *JSLs* articles
- Open access Proceedings, Textbooks, and Websites

Member Deals and Discounts

- Access to huge savings and exclusive discounts
- Special membership rates for Students, Residents, Fellows, Nurses, Technicians, & Affiliated Medical Personnel
- Special offers, preferred seating, tickets to top attractions, theme parks, sporting events, hotels and much more!

