March 2023

Bienvenu à Montréal!

We can’t wait to see SO many of you in person next week in Montreal—a week of innovative, all-new sessions and courses, exciting keynotes and FUN culminating with this year’s Main Event and Sing-Off!

If you haven’t already, download the SAGES 2023 Meeting App today from either the Apple or Google Play stores.

SAGES 2023: FLS, FES and FUSE Test Appointments Now Available

FLS, FES and FUSE Test Appointments are now available for SAGES 2023!

Testing will take place Wednesday, March 29 - Friday, March 31 during the 2023 SAGES Annual Meeting in Montreal, Canada.

For more information, to purchase test vouchers or schedule test appointments please click on the relevant link below:

* FLS [https://www.flsprogram.org/testing-events/](https://www.flsprogram.org/testing-events/)
* FES [https://www.fesprogram.org/testing-information/testing-events/](https://www.fesprogram.org/testing-information/testing-events/)
* FUSE [https://www.fuseprogram.org/testing-information/sages-annual-meeting-2023/](https://www.fuseprogram.org/testing-information/sages-annual-meeting-2023/)

SAGES Stories Features Dr. Mary Hawn

Dr. Mary Hawn, Stanford University Chair of Surgery and Director of the American Board of Surgery, is this month’s featured guest on SAGES Stories. The Michigan native and University of Michigan alumnus (Go Blue) covers her migration to the West Coast, passion for research and technology’s role in training surgeons, along with the importance of supporting fellow surgeons and colleagues. To listen to all SAGES Stories podcasts, please go [here](#).

SAGES Member Spotlight

Dr. Vahagn Nikolian
Dr. Vahagn Nikolian says “It was an early career goal to join and be involved with a society that represents such a diverse group of surgeons.” He adds that while, as a resident, he didn’t have much time to be involved with SAGES, he always enjoyed the quality of the conferences, didactics, operative technique videos, and other content that was available via open access.

Dr. Nikolian, who’ll be attending the Montreal meeting—like so many others—points to his fellow members as the key to SAGES. “I’ve enjoyed going to the meetings and learning from surgeons in all types of practices, being exposed to new techniques and concepts.”

To read more about Dr. Nikolian, please go here. To learn more about SAGES membership and access an online application form, please go here.

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**SAGES Guidelines Committee News - Seeking Patient Partners**

The SAGES Guidelines Committee is seeking to strengthen our guidelines by including the valuable insights and perspectives of patients. If you know of a patient who may be interested in our Patient Partner program, share this link which provides more information and a sign up form: https://www.sages.org/patient-engagement/. Thank you for assisting in this exciting endeavor.

A link to the Patient Partner form is also available on the Healthy Sooner page.

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**The FUSE Hospital Compliance Modules are Now Available for Purchase!**

Train your entire OR staff on OR Safety while minimizing risks to patients and staff. There are four modules that make up the 25 minute training which includes review questions after each module.

- Module 1: Safe Energy Use in the Operating Room
- Module 2: Fires in the Operating Room
- Module 3: Impacted Cardiac Devices
- Module 4: Surgical Smoke and Aerosolization Safety (COVID-19 Safety)

For more information, please contact fuse@sages.org.

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**Climate Survey Drawing Winners**

SAGES congratulates Drs. Mazen Al-Mansour, Erin Bake and Mark Dobbertien, our lucky Climate Survey Amazon gift card winners!

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**BE-SAFE Evaluation**

ASMBS and SAGES have worked together to develop a verification process, Bariatric Endoscopy Skill Acquisition Focused Evaluation (BE SAFE), for members to verify they have acquired the necessary skills to perform these procedures. Candidates are required to have performed at least 50
upper endoscopic procedures and then complete the (free) video curriculum before taking the qualifying written exam. For more information, please go here.