

NEWS FROM THE GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF GROUP PROJECT OR ACTIVITIES – JUNE 2025

Name of Project or Activity	Description	Project Status
Peer Review	ACC/AHA/ASE/ASNC/ SCCT/SCMR Advanced training statement on Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging; Assigned a member to review and comment	Completed
Spearheading Funding allocation for guideline development	Evaluated applications and allocated funding to 2 applicants for guideline writing. These were the first applicants to ever receive SCA funding for this purpose. A. Orthotopic Heart Transplantation B. Neuroprotection	Funding allocation competed. Will follow up progress as per protocol
CPI project on DOACS	Management of DOACs in patients undergoing cardiac surgery: a joint consensus by the SCA and Society of Thoracic Surgeons	In progress
CPI project on Afib in thoracic	Advisory on Afib in thoracic surgery	In progress

SUMMARY OF GROUP MEETINGS

Date	Action Items from Meeting
Multiple group emails	Constant email communication on reviewing applications and allocating funding.
Dec 2024	Zoom meetings with the Afib in thoracic group to educate and guide group on methodology, ASA vs AHA. I suggested AHA as per white paper. Also, forwarded educational information on tools to be used to evaluate the evidence quality. The group will use the AHA methodology.
Feb 2025	Group emails -following up on the DOACs project- guidance on project

COMMITTEE BENCHMARKS

2024 Committee Benchmarks Status Report
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Review of joint ASRA/SCA/STS guideline on pain management -- Completed 2. Complete call for submissions, application review process, and award funding for 2-4 papers on guidelines and associated items --Completed 3. Establishing a conflict of interest form for the committee ---Completed 4. Educate members of the committee on guideline development methodology/introduce the SCA white paper to all members- Ongoing

SUMMARY OF GROUP PROJECT OR ACTIVITIES – POSTED DECEMBER 2024

Name of Project or Activity	Description	Project Status
AHA/AHA preoperative recommendation for non-cardiac surgery	The committee reviewed and commented on the paper	Completed
ACC/AHA paper on appropriate use criteria for multimodality imaging in AV evaluation of patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery	The committee reviewed and commented on the paper	Completed
POCUS nomenclature paper	The committee reviewed and commented on the paper	Completed
Developed and spearheaded the program for funding in development of guidelines	The program was initiated. We had 3 submissions, and the committee is in the progress of reviewing them and deciding the winners	In progress

SUMMARY OF GROUP MEETINGS

Date	Action Items from Meeting
April 2024	Introduction of all new members, informed members on how to evaluate key elements of a guideline paper; disseminated SCA white paper on guideline development, discussed spearheading funding program
Multiple group emails and consensus voting	Comments on above projects Feedback and consensus voting on guideline development funding submission system/COI for reviewers

BOARD ACTION REQUESTS (IF ANY)

Action / Request for BOD Consideration #1:
As the funding program for guideline development has been launched, it is important that the funds are ready to be allocated to the winners. The SCA has determined that \$60,000 will be available for this purpose, to be divided among four winners.

Summary of Group Project or Activities – Posted June 2024

Name of Project or Activity	Description	Project Status (New, Ongoing, Complete, Near Completion, Long Term, Abandoned)
Presidential task force on Guidelines methodology	Published as: Kertai MD, Makkad B, Bollen BA, Grocott HP, Kachulis B, Boisen ML, Raphael J, Perry TE, Liu H, Grant MC, Gutsche J, Popescu WM, Hensley NB, Mazzeffi MA, Sniecinski RM, Teeter E, Pal N, Ngai JY, Mitnacht A, Augoustides YGT, Ibekwe SO, Martin AK, Rhee AJ, Walden RL, Glas K, Shaw AD, Shore-Lesserson L. Development and Publication of Clinical Practice Parameters, Reviews, and Meta-analyses: A Report From the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists Presidential Task Force. <i>Anesth Analg.</i> 2024 Apr 1;138(4):878-892. doi: 10.1213/ANE.0000000000006619. Epub 2024 Oct 3. PMID: 37788388.	Implementation phase (Planstone build in process)
Lumbar Drain Practice Advisory		Group lost traction with practice advisory; suggested pivot to scoping review
External collaborations	AHA 2024 Perioperative Guideline AMSECT Standards and Guidelines on Perfusion Practice	Awaiting draft for review & endorsement Published

POSTED NOVEMBER 2023

Accreditation Committee-Perfusion Education (AC-PE)

AC-PE requests SCA comment on their proposal to require a master's degree as the minimum academic award for graduation from CAAHEP accredited perfusion education programs. CAAHEP accreditation is needed for perfusionists to sit for the ABCP board certification examination. Guidelines committee reviewers fully support the move. We requested information from AC-PE concerning whether the change would have unintended consequences on clinical perfusionist staffing in the context of a current shortage, and what the timeframe would be for BS trained perfusionists to remain eligible. Perfusion programs are dependent upon academic affiliations to confer degrees and therefore are in jeopardy should University administrations decide to terminate their affiliations; our research on the issue indicates that Duquesne and Ohio State Universities both dropped their perfusion program affiliations recently, and asked whether AC-PE has polled their member programs to assess feasibility. However, we recommend they move forward with their plan to update the accreditation standards by 2026. SCA members Dr Hessel and Eaton serve on the writing group.

COLLABORATION

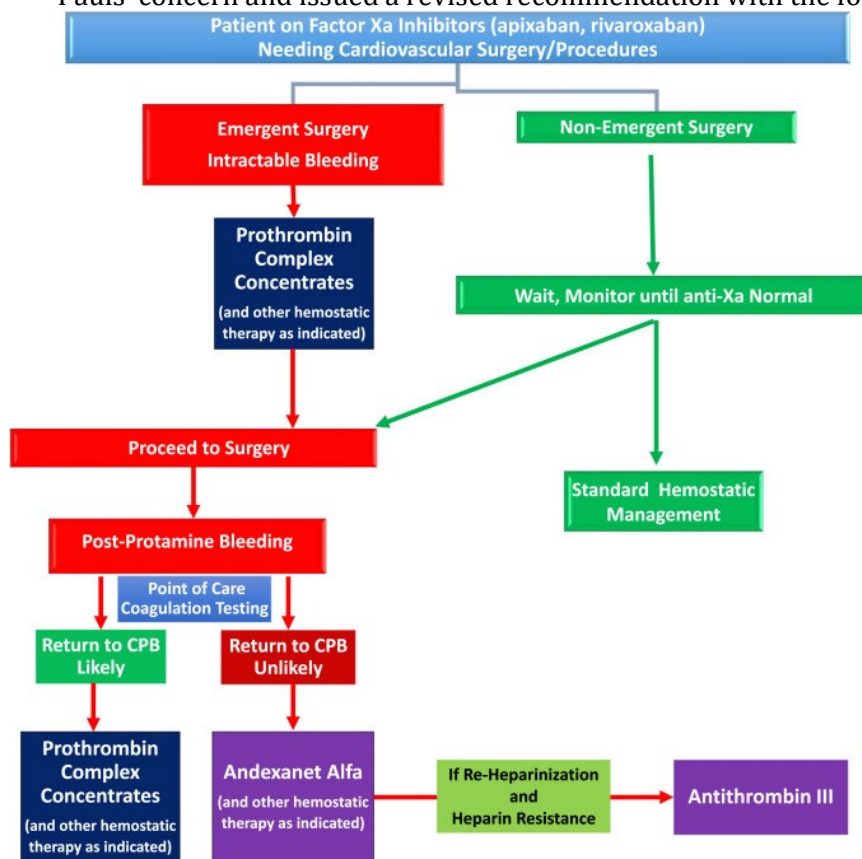
- American Society of ExtraCorporeal Technology "Standards and Guidelines for Perfusion Practice" Completed SCA review. AMSECT in final stages of their process.
- AHA Perioperative Guideline request for SCA peer review committee member
We put forward Guidelines member Dr. Annie Samoon who has relevant expertise and meets the AHA/ACC diversity goals as an underrepresented/female/early career member.
- SCA Lumbar Drain scoping review and practice advisory
 - Co chairs: Albert Cheung and Bessie Kachulis
 - Literature search and full text screening completed; Evidence appraisal and consensus recommendations are in progress.

POSTED JUNE 2023

Guidelines members participated in several meetings of the presidential task force on development and publication of practice guidelines, and in writing group meetings for the lumbar drain practice advisory.

COLLABORATION

- ***STS/SCA/AmSECT/SABM Update to the Clinical Practice Guidelines on Patient Blood Management***
 - Letter to the Editor by Pauls et al published in *JCVA* questioned pre-CPB reversal of factor Xa inhibitors with andexanet alfa secondary to concerns re: andexanet-induced heparin resistance (<https://doi.org/10.1053/j.jvca.2022.07.018>)
 - Guidelines committee contacted the writing group to review the emerging literature and coordinate a response.
 - Since the case reports of heparin resistance were published after the writing group's literature search period, the consensus was that a letter to the editor was most appropriate rather than a focused update to the guideline.
 - The writing group's response (<https://doi.org/10.1053/j.jvca.2023.02.039>) acknowledged Pauls' concern and issued a revised recommendation with the following algorithm:



- **2023 ACC/AHA/SCAI Advanced Training Statement on Interventional Cardiology (Coronary, Peripheral Vascular, and Structural Heart Interventions): A Report of the ACC Competency Management Committee**
 - Writing group chair: Theodore Bass
 - SCA author: Stanton Shernan
 - SCA Reviewers: Charles Nyman, Ruma Bose
 - Guidelines committee endorsed Jan, 2023
 - Publication status: Published in *JACC* [doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2022.11.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2022.11.002)

- **ASE Recommendations for Special Competency in Echocardiographic Guidance of Interventions/Structural Heart Disease**
 - Writing group chairs: Stephen Little and Vera Rigolin
 - SCA Author: G. Burkhard Mackensen
 - Guidelines committee endorsed Jan, 2023
 - Publication status: Published in JASE <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.echo.2023.01.014>
- **SCA Presidential Task Force on Guidelines**
 - Co-chairs: Miklos Kertai and Linda Shore Lesserson
 - Guidelines members: Michael Boisen and Bessie Kachulis
 - Publication status: Manuscript Submitted – *Anesthesia & Analgesia*
Kertai MD, Bollen BA, Makkad B, Kachulis B, Raphael J, Perry TE, Liu H, Grant MC, Gutsche J, Popescu W, Hensley NB, Mazzeffi MA, Grocott HP, Sniecinski RM, Teeter E, Pal N, Ngai JY, Mitnacht A, Augoustides YG, Ibekwe S, Martin AK, Boisen ML, Rhee A, Walden RL, Glas K, Shaw AD, Shore-Lesserson L. **“Development and Publication of Clinical Practice Parameters, Reviews, and Meta-analyses: A report from the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists Presidential Task Force**

UPDATES FROM RECENT WORK PRODUCTS

- **2022 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Aortic Disease**
Publication status: Published in *Circulation* <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000001106>
- **AHA scientific statement on anesthetic care of the pregnant patient with cardiovascular disease**
 - Publication status: published in *Circulation* <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIR.0000000000001121>

ONGOING PROJECTS

- **SCA Lumbar Drain scoping review and practice advisory**
 - Co chairs: Albert Cheung and Bessie Kachulis
 - Literature search and full text screening completed; Evidence appraisal in progress.
- **American Society of ExtraCorporeal Technology (AmSECT) Standards and Guidelines for Perfusion Practice**
 - SCA endorsement requested March, 2023; committee review in progress.

FUTURE PROJECTS

At the annual meeting, Guidelines Committee will focus on 1) updating our Committee description and mission statement to reflect our newly defined role in approving proposals for SCA-supported standards and guidelines projects, and 2) developing an application process for proposals.

POSTED NOVEMBER 2022

- June 15, 2022 Meeting
 - Welcome new members
 - Review of mission and member responsibilities
 - New business: Review of peer society best practices concerning conflict of interest disclosure and management for guidelines writing group chair/co-chairs, members, and peer reviewers.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- **STS/SCA/AmSECT/SABM Update to the Clinical Practice Guidelines on Patient Blood Management**
Jointly published in *Ann Thorac Surg* and *J Extra Corpor Technol*.
- **SCA Clinical Practice Update for Management of Acute Kidney Associated with Cardiac Surgery**
Published in *Anesth Analg*.

- **2022 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Aortic Disease**
Writing group included Yianni Augoustides; SCA peer reviewers were Michael Boisen and Wanda Popescu.
In review: Circulation and JACC.
- **AHA scientific statement on anesthetic care of the pregnant patient with cardiovascular disease**
Writing group chair Mary-Louise Meng; endorsed by SCA, ACOG, SOAP. Pre-submission status.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Collaboration with Presidential Task Force on Guidelines (Co-chairs Miklos Kertai and Linda Shore Lesserson).
- Lumbar Drain scoping review and practice advisory (Co chairs Al Cheung and Robina Maytal)

POSTED JUNE 2022

No full committee meetings since last report – we have used Teams for collaborating and reviewing documents

COMPLETED PROJECTS

- The AKI working group led by Hong Liu “*SCA Clinical Practice Update for Management of Acute Kidney Injury Associated with Cardiac Surgery*.” This manuscript was approved by Guidelines in Dec, 2021 and submitted for publication to A&A. There has been some difficulty getting the article published, highlighting the need for a more structured pathway to publication with A&A for Society-endorsed work products. Our guidance to the AKI group was to brand it as a ‘Practice Update’ which may have looser methodology requirements compared to practice guidelines.
- The “*STS/SCA/AmSECT Clinical Practice Guideline for Prevention of Adult Cardiac Surgery Associated Acute Kidney Injury*” on which SCA was represented by Amanda Fox and Linda Shore-Lesserson was completed and approved by Guidelines in Feb, 2022 and submitted for publication.

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Collaboration with the SCA internal task force on guidelines & practice advisories.
- Collaboration with the quality & safety leadership development working group led by Tjorvi Perry and Bruce Bollen.
- Collaboration with Lumbar CSF Drain writing group led by Al Cheung, including Guidelines members Michael Boisen and Bessie Kachulis.
- The ACC/AHA Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines (Chair Joshua Beckman) completed a draft of the *2022 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Diagnosis and Management of Aortic Disease*; Michael Boisen is representing the SCA on the peer review committee.

POSTED OCTOBER 2021

COLLABORATION

“Practice Advisory for Perioperative Pain Management of Cardiothoracic Surgical Patients:

Part 1: Preoperative and Intraoperative Care”

Internal SCA collaboration w/ QSL (Benu Mankad and Bruce Bollen), RACER (Jess Brodt), ERACS (Michael Grant) and Guidelines (Bessie Kachulis). Submitted to A&A.

“Intraoperative Management of Adult Patients on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation

(ECMO): An Expert Consensus Statement from the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists:

Part I Technical Aspects of ECMO, and Part II: Intraoperative Management and Troubleshooting”

Michael Mazeffi, ECMO working group. Submitted to A&A and JCVA.

FUTURE PROJECTS

Guidelines Process & Methods project – Michael Boisen and Bessie Kachulis working on defining Practice Advisories, Consensus statements, and Guidelines.

Management of Lumbar CSF Drains in Thoracic Aorta Procedures -

Al Cheung, Roman Sniecinski, Wanda Popescu, Michael Boisen working on an outline for this project; targeted for publication in A&A.

POSTED JUNE 2021

The following are completed projects:

EACTA/SCA COVID-19 Project: This writing group was co-chaired by Fabio Guaracino and Stan Shernan. Guidelines members Bessie Kachulis and Marc Stone were included as co-authors. The Chinese Society collaboration was initiated through former Guidelines member Jiapeng Huang.

Published as: Guaracino F, Shernan SK, Tahan ME, Bertini P, Stone ME, Kachulis B, Paternoster G, Mukherjee C, Wouters P, Rex S. "EACTA/SCA Recommendations for the Cardiac Anesthesia Management of Patients With Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Infection: An Expert Consensus From the European Association of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiology and Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists With Endorsement From the Chinese Society of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesiology." *J Cardiothorac Vasc Anesth*. 2021 Feb 17:S1053-0770(21)00173-7. doi: 10.1053/j.jvca.2021.02.039. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33766471.

ASE COPE COVID-19 Project: SCA was well represented on this ASE-led effort by Alina Nicoara, Madhav Swaminathan and Burkhard Mackensen. Guidelines review recommended no substantive changes.

Published as: Nicoara A, Maldonado Y, Kort S, Swaminathan M, Mackensen GB. Specific Considerations for the Protection of Patients and Echocardiography Service Providers When Performing Perioperative or Periprocedural Transesophageal Echocardiography during the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak: Council on Perioperative Echocardiography Supplement to the Statement of the American Society of Echocardiography Endorsed by the Society of Cardiovascular Anesthesiologists." *J Am Soc Echocardiogr*. 2020 Jun;33(6):666-669. doi: 10.1016/j.echo.2020.04.008. Epub 2020 Apr 11. PMID: 32503703.

2020 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Management of Patients with Valvular Heart Disease: Writing committee included SCA member Annemarie Thompson. Endorsement was recommended, with no opportunity for revisions.

Published as: Otto CM, Nishimura RA, Bonow RO, Carabello BA, Erwin JP 3rd, Gentile F, Jneid H, Krieger EV, Mack M, McLeod C, O'Gara PT, Rigolin VH, Sundt TM 3rd, Thompson A, Toly C. 2020 ACC/AHA Guideline for the Management of Patients With Valvular Heart Disease: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. *J Am Coll Cardiol*. 2021 Feb 2;77(4):e25-e197. doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2020.11.018. Epub 2020 Dec 17. PMID: 33342586.

STS/SCA/AmSECT/SABM Update to the Clinical Practice Guidelines on Patient Blood Management

This group was led by Linda Shore-Lesserson and included SCA Guidelines members Marc Stone and Jiapeng Huang as Co-authors. Committee review recommended endorsement with minor revisions. Joint publication is pending in *Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, *Journal of Extracorporeal Technology*, *JCVA* and *A&A*.

SCA ECMO Advisory

This working group chaired by Mike Mazzeffi created a practice advisory on intraoperative management of adult patients on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation. Guidelines reviewers recommended minor revisions. Publication pending in *JCVA*.

International Consensus Recommendations for Anesthetic and Intensive Care Management of Lung Transplantation

This was a multi-year effort led by Nandor Marczin involving EACTA, SCA, ESTS and ISHLT that spans all aspects of perioperative management. SCA was represented by Andrew Shaw and Guidelines members Bessie Kachulis and Shiva Sale as co-authors. After major revisions over multiple rounds, the work products (an executive summary with 10 specific task force statements) were recently finalized. Publication is pending in JHLT.

The following projects are pending:

Perioperative Pain Management of the Cardiothoracic Patient

This project is led by QSL member Benu Makkad with key collaborators including Mike Grant (ERACS) and Jess Brodt (RACER). Originally framed as a practice advisory spanning both cardiac and thoracic procedures, this is being repackaged as a guideline and separated into 2 documents, cardiac and thoracic, to manage the overall length.

The following are potential future projects:

Cardiothoracic Transplant Working Group

Approached by Nandor Marczin about collaborating with EACTA on a consensus publication outlining the research priorities in lung and heart transplant. Concomitantly, SATA has created a multicenter registry for cardiothoracic transplant perioperative outcomes research. These initiatives align well with SCA's mission and would add significant value to collaborating SCA members.

Guidelines Processes and Methods

We plan to develop a resource kit for internal and external writing groups seeking SCA endorsement for various work products such as Guidelines, Consensus Statements, Practice Advisories, etc. with the following goals:

- a. Streamline the procedural aspects of SCA approval/endorsement;
- b. Define the above document types and outline methodology for each;
- c. Provide specific guidance to facilitate journal publication.