



MINUTES

SAGES Pediatrics Committee

Date: **Tuesday, March 11, 2025** Time: **11:00 AM (PST)**

Location: **Regency Ballroom E Hyatt Regency Long Beach**

Chair: Alessandra Gasior, MD

Co-Chairs: Romeo Ignacio, MD

Committee Staff: Charlene Franco

In Attendance: Alessandra Gasior, Lori Gurien, Angela Hanna, Carroll Harmon, Thom Lobe, and Bethany Slater, Charlene Franco

I. Call to Order and Introductions

II. CME Disclosures and Committee Disclosures

III. Committee Goals:

- To create Pediatric surgical content for SAGES members for the advancement of safe application of minimally invasive surgery to the pediatric and adolescent population
- Improve PED surgeon recruitment and active participation into SAGES
- Promote PED surgeon SAGES member participation broadly in SAGES through committee service, program participation and leadership in the organization

IV. Approval of Fall 2024 minutes

- a. [Motion to approve minutes Fall 2024](#)

Pediatrics Committee Projects

V. Research Projects Updates

i. Laparoscopic Pyloromyotomy Best Practices and Evidence- Drs. Scholz/Collins

- Introduction of new fellow, Emilia Collins.
- Project timeline and next steps.

No updates provided as project leads were not present.

ii. Synoptic Operative notes for Inguinal Hernia- Dr. Walsh

- Review of research foundation and methodology
- Expected deliverables and next steps.

No updates provided as project leads were not present.

iii. Laparoscopy in Neonates- Romeo Ignacio and Ravi Radhakrishnan

iv. Transitional Care Guidelines- Collaborative:

- TEF/EA: Bethany Slater
- Bariatric: Janey Pratt, Mac Harmon
- ARM/HD: Rod Gerardo/Gasior
- IBD: Marion Henry/ Gasior
- Oncology-Sarcoma: Claire

Updates: Guidelines are in progress, with only the Bariatric section still pending. The initiative aims to address gaps in transitioning pediatric patients to adult care by raising awareness and establishing specific follow-up guidelines.



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Key considerations include pediatric and adolescent bariatric models, identifying stakeholders, understanding intervention timing, and developing a broad-based framework adaptable to institutional needs.

Action Item: Gasior will send Harmon's colorectal chapter as a reference. Board approval of the whitepaper is required before submission to *Surgical Endoscopy* for publication.

VI. Review Committee Liaisons Updates

- a. No updates reported.

VII. SAGES 2026 Pediatric Topics Suggestions

- a. Pediatric topics for SAGES 2026 Submitted:

i. Robotics in Pediatric Surgery

- a. Explore the role of robotic-assisted surgery in pediatric procedures.
- b. Assess current applications, benefits, and limitations in pediatric cases.

Deliverable/Action Item: Develop educational modules or case studies demonstrating robotic surgery in pediatric patients.

ii. AI in Pediatric Surgery

- a. Investigate AI-driven technologies to enhance operating room efficiency.
- b. Evaluate the use of AI-powered detection cameras and predictive analytics in pediatric procedures.

Deliverable/Action Item: Organize a dedicated talk or panel discussion on AI applications in pediatric surgery.

iii. Adult Malrotation Education

- a. Address the knowledge gap in diagnosing and managing adult malrotation cases.
- b. Establish clear comparisons between malrotated and normal anatomy for educational purposes.

Deliverable/Action Item: Develop training materials, including imaging references and case studies, to standardize education.

iv. Adult Surgeons Managing Pediatric Cases

- a. Provide guidance for on-call adult surgeons handling pediatric cases (ages 15+).
- b. Highlight common pediatric conditions seen in adult surgery settings.



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Deliverable/Action Item: Create a reference guide with key considerations for adult surgeons managing pediatric patients.

v. **Pediatric Emergencies for the Adult Surgeon**

- a. Educate adult surgeons on managing emergency pediatric cases, including:
 - i. Incarcerated inguinal hernia
 - ii. Unexpected Meckel's diverticulum
 - iii. Foreign body removal
 - iv. Appendectomy

Deliverable/Action Item: Develop an emergency reference guide or workshop to prepare adult surgeons for pediatric emergency scenarios.

vi. **Pediatric Surgery for Pregnant Patients**

- a. Address the complexities of performing pediatric procedures (e.g., appendectomy) on pregnant women.
- b. Ensure adult surgeons are equipped with knowledge to manage these cases safely.

Deliverable/Action Item: Create clinical guidelines and decision-making frameworks for pediatric surgical emergencies in pregnant patients.

VIII. New Business (*Potential Pediatric Initiatives*)

a. **Retrospective/ Prospective in collaborative center**

Elective appendectomy procedures and post-operative patient discharge timelines.

- Considerations for same-day versus overnight discharge.
- Analysis of procedural patterns and patient outcomes.

Deliverable/ Action Item: Conduct a review of relevant literature on the aforementioned subject matter.

Volunteer: Angela Hanna (Lead)

b. Post Covid- Gallbladder cases rise.

Acute Colisistities, ruptures, pre and post covid percentages. Apply to adult surgery also and compare cases.

Volunteer: *send email to members and inquire on lead (tentative Lori Gurien)*

IX. Attachments: N/A