



SLSNOW

*Edition 21
March 2025*

Where Disciplines Meet



***MISWeek 2025 Focus Issue
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.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of SLS. Our organization remains a vibrant and unique multispecialty and multidisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas, techniques and innovations with a global community of professionals interested in minimally invasive and robotic therapies.

MISWeek is 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, if you haven't already done so.

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. Registration is opening soon. Be sure to register and reserve your hotel accommodations now before the room block is full.

This issue of SLSNow has an overview 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 serving your educational needs in 2025 and beyond.

Good reading!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond J. Lanzafame". The signature is fluid and cursive.

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

Article *Spotlight*

JSLs

JSLs. 2024 AprJun;
28(2):e2024.00007

Current Status and Role of Artificial Intelligence in Anorectal Diseases and Pelvic Floor Disorders

Maryam Aleissa 1,2,6, Tijani Osumah 3,6, Ernesto Drelichman 4,6, Vijay Mittal 5,6, Jasneet Bhullar



Abstract

Background:

Anorectal diseases and pelvic floor disorders are prevalent among the general population. Patients may present with overlapping symptoms, delaying diagnosis, and lowering quality of life. Treating physicians encounter numerous challenges attributed to the complex nature of pelvic anatomy, limitations of diagnostic techniques, and lack of available resources. This article is an overview of the current state of artificial intelligence (AI) in tackling the difficulties of managing benign anorectal disorders and pelvic floor disorders.

Methods: A systematic literature review was performed according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses guidelines. We searched the PubMed database to identify all potentially relevant studies published from January 2000 to August 2023. Search queries were built using the following terms: AI, machine learning, deep learning, benign anorectal disease, pelvic floor disorder, fecal incontinence, obstructive defecation, anal fistula, rectal prolapse, and anorectal manometry. Malignant anorectal articles and abstracts were excluded. Data from selected articles were analyzed.

Results: 139 articles were found, 15 of which met our inclusion and exclusion criteria. The most common AI module was convolutional neural network. researchers were able to develop AI modules to optimize imaging studies for pelvis, fistula, and abscess anatomy, facilitated anorectal manometry interpretation, and improved high-definition anoscope use. None of the modules were validated in an external cohort.

Conclusion: There is potential for AI to enhance the management of pelvic floor and benign anorectal diseases. Ongoing research necessitates the use of multidisciplinary approaches and collaboration between physicians and AI programmers to tackle pressing challenges.

Anorectal conditions are a group of diseases that affect the distal part of the rectum and the anal canal; examples of these diseases are hemorrhoids, anal fistulas, and perianal abscesses. On the other hand, pelvic floor disorders are a group of symptoms related to dysfunction of the pelvic floor muscle, such as urinary incontinence, pelvic organ prolapses, and defecation dysfunction, including obstructive defecation disorder and fecal incontinence (FI).

The prevalence of pelvic floor diseases in the United States reached up to 43%.¹ Furthermore, it has been shown that the frequency of these diseases tends to rise as individuals aged.¹ The occurrence of this condition is heightened by factors such as prior

delivery, trauma, and pelvic radiation therapy.² Due to the sensitive nature of the symptoms, individuals commonly present in the later stages of the condition experience substantial deterioration in their quality of life.³ Both disease entities can present with overlapping symptoms such as difficulty in defecation and persistent pain.⁴ Establishing an accurate diagnosis is essential for appropriate treatment, and this requires a comprehensive medical history and physical examination, combined with complex static or dynamic imaging investigation, and/or anorectal manometry (ARM). Patients are typically referred to a gastroenterologist or colorectal surgeon following the failure of conservative treatment, at which point these complex investigations and advanced management plans are required.⁵





SLS OFFERS RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS A MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITY IN HIGH-QUALITY MEDICAL PEER-REVIEW

JSLS, Journal of the Society of Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeons (SLS), is a leading publication on minimally invasive therapies. It is open access on PubMed, with over 1.5 million downloads annually.

The Resident and Fellow Review Committee involves members of the JSLS Editorial Board who team up with surgical residents and fellows interested in scientific writing and peer-review, to evaluate actual manuscripts that are submitted to JSLS.

- ✓ Get acquainted with our peer-review mentors and benefit from their experience and skill.
- ✓ Receive high quality, detailed, personal instruction on how to review a scientific manuscript.
- ✓ All educational interaction is conducted remotely, via phone and/or computer

Program Requirements

- ✓ Must be a current Resident or Fellow in an accredited program.
- ✓ The program is free for SLS members.
- ✓ Take advantage of SLS's discounted membership rates for Residents (FREE) and Fellows (\$95).



There is NO manuscript submission fee

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+ CRSLS is a peer reviewed, multispecialty, open-access journal, focused on publishing high quality case reports in minimally invasive and robotic surgery.

+ Publishing your work can directly impact care by translating your discoveries into clinical practice.

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The Society of Laparoscopic & Robotic Surgeons

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Specialists

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NICHAT FAMILY FOUNDATION

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 Atlanta, Georgia

 March 28-30, 2025

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3 SLS CONNECTS RESIDENTS TO EXCLUSIVE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN ADVANCED MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY.



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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 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

SIMULATION

Carlos Pellegrini and Brant Oelschlager Surgical Simulation Fellowship
Director: Robert Sweet, MD, FACS, MAMSE
Seattle, WA

GENERAL SURGERY

SLS Fellowship in Advanced Minimally Invasive and Endoscopic Techniques in General and Colorectal Surgery
Director: Jiri (George) Melich, MD
Vancouver, BC, Canada

SLS Fellowship in Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) Surgical Oncology
Royal Columbian Hospital
New Westminster, BC, Canada
Director: Shawn MacKenzie MD FACS FRCSC

Florida Surgical Specialists Enhanced General Surgery Fellowship: Advanced Laparoscopic and Robotic Foregut, Hernia, and Colorectal Fellowship
Director: Paul Toomey, MD
Bradenton, FL

Click to apply to any of our
SLS Fellowships



FELLOWSHIP IN FOCUS

SLS FELLOWSHIP IN HEPATO-PANCREATO-BILIARY SURGICAL ONCOLOGY

Location: Royal Columbian Hospital, Westminster, British Columbia, Canada
Program Director: Shawn MacKenzie, MD, FACS, FRCS

The Division of General Surgery at the Royal Columbian Hospital (RCH) offers a 1 to 2-year SLS Fellowship in Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Surgical Oncology, under the leadership of Dr. Shawn MacKenzie. Depending on the trainee's needs, the 1-year fellowship training program is extendable to 2 years at the request of the trainee and approval from the program director.

The HPB fellowship training provides a structured education and experience in all aspects of HPB surgical care (non-transplant) to achieve an expertise in HPB Surgery. The program is set in the newly renovated Royal Columbian Hospital, a level 1 trauma centre with a busy emergency tertiary-care general surgery program. The fellowship consists of one-year postgraduate training in HPB Surgery with a focus on benign and malignant diseases of the liver, pancreas, and bile duct, including open and minimally invasive (laparoscopic & robotic) hepatectomy, pancreatectomy, and bile duct resection. In addition to complex elective HPB surgery practice, training will include exposure to trauma & emergency general surgery.


The application cycle for academic year 2025-2026 is currently accepting candidates on a rolling basis.

The application cycle for academic year 2026-2027 starts officially on July 1, 2025.

Shawn MacKenzie, MD, FACS FRCS(C)
+1 (604) 374 6051
shawn.mackenzie@ubc.ca



View this and other opportunities at
<https://sls.org/sls-fellowship-programs/>




FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

GENERAL SURGERY ▲


SLS Fellowship in Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary (HPB) Surgical Oncology

LOCATION:
Royal Columbian Hospital
New Westminster, British Columbia
Canada

PROGRAM DIRECTOR:
Shawn MacKenzie, MD, FACS, FRCSC



SLS
Fellowships



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WWW.SLS.ORG/SLS-FELLOWSHIP-PROGRAMS

THE SOCIETY OF LAPAROSCOPIC & ROBOTIC SURGEONS

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY WEEK

WHERE LAPAROSCOPY AND ROBOTICS MEET

SEPT 10

SEPT 13

2025



Don't Miss Your Chance to
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Presentation at

MISWeek 2025

Where Laparoscopy and Robotics Meet

www.SLS.org/MIS2025/Submit

CALL FOR *Abstracts*

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

Submit your Abstract Now

Awards	Prize
The Medical Educator Consortium Award for Best Scientific Paper	\$1200
Michael S. Kavic Award for Best Scientific Paper by a Resident	\$1000
Paul Alan Wetter Award for Best Multispecialty Scientific Paper	\$500
Carl J. Levinson Award for Best Video	\$500
Harrieth 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



5 Top Reasons to Exhibit

Act quickly before it's too late!

- **Showcase** your latest products, services, or innovations to a highly targeted audience.
- **Lead Generation:** Generate high-quality leads by connecting with event attendees interested in your products.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Engage with key opinion leaders, experts, and potential collaborators.
- **Media Coverage:** Benefit from media exposure and coverage of your participation.
- **Investor Interest:** Attract potential investors or collaborators.



**Registration Opens
March 2025**

**\$3500 early bird special
\$4,000 after 6-15-2025**



MISWeek 2025

Event Program*

DAY 1

WED
10
SEPT

- 7:00am – 8:00pm **Conference Registration**
7:00am – 8:00am **Complimentary Coffee & Bakery Items**
For Master Course Attendees only
8:00am – 12:00pm **Hands-on Master Course:**
Advanced Laparoscopic Suturing – for the Gynecologist, Urologist, and General and Robotic Surgeon
8:00am – 12:00pm **Hands-on Master Course:**
Hysteroscopy/Office-Based Hysteroscopy
12:00pm – 1:00pm Lunch on your own
1:00pm – 5:00pm **Hands-on Master Course:**
Mastering Pain Management Before and After Minimally Invasive Surgery Including Office Procedures for Pain
1:00pm – 5:00pm **Hands-on Master Course:**
Artificial Intelligence
5:15pm – 6:30pm Opening Ceremony - Keynote Speaker: Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS
6:30pm – 8:00pm e-Poster Viewing Open
6:30pm – 8:00pm Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall

DAY 2

THUR
11
SEPT

- 7:00am – 5:00pm **Conference Registration**
7:00am – 7:30am **Complimentary Coffee & Bakery Items/Product Presentations by Exhibitors**
7:00am – 5:00pm **Exhibit Open & e-Poster Viewing**
7:30am – 7:45am **Highlights**
7:45am – 8:45am **Multidisciplinary Plenary Session:**
A Robot in Every OR: Myth or Reality
• Form and Function – Which One(s) Do I Need
• Training and Credentialing on Multiple Platforms
• Consensus Standards for Robotic Training Programs
• An Economic Reality Check, Prices, Logistics, Interoperability
Director: Sharona Ross, MD
8:45am – 9:45am **Multidisciplinary Plenary Session**
What's New in Simulation and Using Simulation Without a SIM Center
Co-Directors: Ian Hodgdon, MD, Mirielle Truong, MD
Faculty: John E. Morrison, MD, Lauren Siff, MD
9:45am – 10:15am **Nezhat Family Lectureship:**
Co-Director: Camran Nezhat, MD
Co-Director: Ceana Nezhat, MD
Co-Director: Farr Nezhat, MD
Speaker: Raul J. Rosenthal, MD
10:15am – 10:45am **Refreshment Break /Visit Exhibits/Product Presentations by Exhibitors**
10:45am – 12:45pm **Multidisciplinary Plenary Session (Non-CME)**
The Present and Future of Robotic Surgery
Director: Sharona Ross, MD
12:45pm – 1:00pm **Moderator Briefing**
Raymond J. Lanzafame
12:45pm – 2:00pm **Refreshment Break /Visit Exhibits/Product Presentations by Exhibitors**
2:00pm – 5:45pm **Concurrent Presentation Sessions: Scientific Papers / Videos**
2:00pm – 5:00pm **Global Perspectives in MIS**
2:00pm – 5:00pm **Poster Town Hall (Non-CME)**
Time TBA Special Event: Resident, Fellow, New Member Meet & Greet

MISWeek 2025

*Event Program**

DAY 3

**FRI
12
SEPT**

7:00am – 5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:00am – 7:30am	Complimentary Coffee and Bakery Items / Visit Exhibits / Product Presentations by Exhibitors
7:00am – 2:00pm	Exhibit Open & e-Poster Viewing
7:30am – 7:45am	Highlights
7:45am – 9:00am	Multidisciplinary Plenary Session: <i>Artificial Intelligence in Surgery</i> Director: Paul G. Toomey, MD Faculty: Martin A. Martino, MD; Gustavo Carvalho, MD, PhD; Radha Syed, MD
9:00am – 10:00am	Multidisciplinary Plenary Session: <i>Wellbeing and the Surgeon</i> • <i>Achieving Work-life Balance</i> • <i>Psychologic Impact of Complications</i> • <i>Resilience in the OR: Navigating Stress in High Intensity Training</i> • <i>Imposter Syndrome</i> Director: Juan Salgado Morales, MD Co-Director: John Morrison, MD Faculty: Cara King, DO, Thiers Soares Raymundo, MD
10:00am – 10:15am	Gustavo Stringel Awards for: Best Poster, Best Poster by a Student, and Best Poster by a Resident
10:15am – 10:45am	Refreshment Break/Visit Exhibits/Product Presentations by Exhibitors
10:45am – 12:30pm	Surgical Surprises: Video Session – When the Unexpected Happens
12:30pm – 2:00pm	Refreshment Break /Visit Exhibits/Product Presentations by Exhibitors
2:00pm – 5:15pm	Concurrent Presentation Sessions: Scientific Papers/Videos
2:00pm – 5:15pm	Global Perspectives in MIS

DAY 4

**SAT
13
SEPT**

7:00am – 10:30am	Conference Registration
7:30am – 8:45am	Breakfast with 2025 Excel Award Recipient Director: Raymond J. Lanzafame, MD, MBA
7:30am – 8:00am	Breakfast Served
8:00am – 8:15am	Highlights
8:15am – 8:25am	Introduction of Excel Award Recipient: Thomas Lendvay, MD
8:25am – 8:40am	Presentation by Thomas Lendvay, MD
8:40am – 8:45am	Presentation of Excel Award
8:45am – 8:55am	Introduction of Janis Chinnock Wetter Award Recipient: Linda Steckley, MBA
8:55am – 9:10am	Presentation by Linda Steckley, MBA
9:10am – 9:15am	Presentation of Janis Chinnock Wetter Award
9:15am – 10:05am	Future Technology Session with Keynote Speaker:
10:05am – 10:10am	Closing Ceremony - Passing the Presidential Gavel



MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY WEEK

Wednesday September 10th

More on Hands-on
Master Courses

Hysteroscopy/Office-Based Hysteroscopy Skills Course: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Description: This course will introduce diagnostic and operative hysteroscopy and operative hysteroscopic techniques to the participants. This course is designed for clinicians seeking to enhance/update procedural skills as well as for those wishing to add hysteroscopy skills into their armamentarium. Participants will gain hands-on experience with hysteroscopy using virtual reality, wet and dry lab exercises. The expert faculty will instruct the participants on proper technique and tips with emphasis on indications and contraindications for operative and diagnostic hysteroscopy as well as the assembly and functions of the different hysteroscopy instruments.

Objectives:

The participants will understand the handling, manipulating and maneuvering of hysteroscopes, and the applications and limitations of these techniques in clinical practice.

Suturing Skills Course: Advanced Laparoscopic Suturing - for the Gynecologist, Urologist, and General and Robotic Surgeon: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Description: Participants will learn the uses and limitations of laparoscopic suturing. Suturing with two hands ipsilaterally allows the needle to operate in the sagittal plane, while permitting a restful and relaxed attitude of the elbows, forearms and hands. This course equips all attendees with improved suturing skills and insight into applications during surgery.

Objectives:

Course participants will be better able to understand ergonomics, theory and rationale for reproducible and efficient laparoscopic suturing; learn port positions, instruments and tips to minimize fulcrum and maximize efficiency, perform interrupted suturing, continuous suturing, cinch knotting; apply learned skills in relevant surgical situations across specialties; and the prevention and management of bowel, bladder and ureteral complications by appropriate suture repair. A pre-test and post-test will demonstrate improvement in skills.

Mastering Pain Management Before and After Minimally Invasive Surgery Including Office Procedures for Pain: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Description: Peri-operative pain management is essential to good surgical outcomes. Research has identified several risk factors that pre-dispose patients to poor surgical outcomes. This evidence-based course will discuss pre-operative evaluation, down regulation of risk factors, and peri-operative methods for minimizing the risk of persistent pain while maximizing enhanced recovery. Instructors will review abdominal wall and pelvic neuropathies that happen more frequently after surgery, pain anatomy, terminology and management of post operative neuralgias. Lastly, the course will cover office procedures for pain management that every surgeon should know; this review will include procedure protocols, coding, documentation, and billing. This learning activity will be a highly interactive lecture that will also review key factors that influence pain relief and patient satisfaction with care. The session will conclude with a sample case that will be used to: 1) review core principles discussed in the lectures and 2) practice (hands-on) trigger point injections, neural blocks (with and without ultrasound guidance), neuromodulation, and bladder instillations.

AI Masterclass: Transforming Surgical Practice with Artificial Intelligence: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Description: This highly interactive, hands-on AI Masterclass will immerse participants in real-world AI applications for surgeons and surgical practices. Through 20 rotating stations, attendees will explore AI-driven workflow automation, patient communication, decision support, and practice growth strategies. Surgeons will engage directly with AI tools like ChatGPT, DALL-E, Katie AI, and surgical automation platforms, learning how to optimize efficiency, enhance clinical decision-making, and scale their practice. This masterclass is designed for surgeons seeking a competitive edge in AI-driven healthcare. Join us to future-proof your surgical career!

Wednesday Septemebr 10, 2025

With Conference Registration: \$250
Course Only: \$300



MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY WEEK

Thursday September 11th
&
Friday September 12th

More on
Plenary Sessions

A Robot in Every OR: Myth or Reality?

Thursday September 11th - 7:45am - 8:45am

Description: The vision of a robot in every operating room is becoming more tangible as surgical robotics continue to evolve. This session will provide a comprehensive look at the factors shaping the future of robotic surgery and its widespread adoption. Experts will explore the practicalities of robotic integration and address the economic realities, logistics, system interoperability, and factors that influence the acquisition and use of these technologies, including: What capabilities are essential, and how do institutions determine which platforms to adopt? How will the challenges of training and credentialing across multiple robotic systems be addressed? What is the role of consensus standards in shaping robotic training programs? Is a robot in every OR our inevitable future—or an enduring myth?

Multidisciplinary Plenary Session: What's New in Simulation and Using Simulation Without a SIM Center

Thursday September 11th - 8:45am - 9:45am

Description: This session explores the evolving landscape of simulation in surgical training across surgical specialties.

Objectives: The objectives of the session will be to discuss current strategies for effective simulation and examine emerging trends such as virtual reality and how this is transforming surgical training. Attendees will gain valuable insights into adapting simulation to resource-limited environments, optimizing learner engagement, and integrating simulation into curriculum planning. By the end of the session, participants will have a comprehensive understanding of both foundational and cutting-edge approaches to simulation.

The Present and Future of Robotic Surgery (non-CME)

Thursday September 11th - 10:45am-12:45pm

Description: Interest in robotic surgery and applications of robotically assisted procedures continues to grow.

The robotic surgical marketplace has been dominated by a single company for many years. However, this is rapidly changing with the continued evolution of multiport systems and the development and release of innovative systems from a growing group of new entrants in the field that offer a variety of solutions to solve surgical problems. This non-CME session brings together the leadership of some of the companies that are driving this wave of innovation. They will provide vignettes of the present and the future of robotic surgery. Learn the current status of multiport, single site, TORS, NOTES, and NOSCAR approaches, and what's on the horizon in robotics.

Wellbeing and the Surgeon

Friday September 12th - 9:00am-10:00am

Description: The well-being of surgeons is critical, yet often overlooked, as they face immense psychological challenges, including the emotional impact of surgical complications and impostor syndrome. Complications, even when unavoidable, can lead to feelings of guilt, shame, and diminished confidence, affecting performance and mental health. This emotional toll is compounded by the persistent self-doubt many surgeons experience due to impostor syndrome, where despite their expertise, they fear being exposed as inadequate. Without proper support, these factors can contribute to burnout and decreased effectiveness. Prioritizing mental health resources and fostering a supportive surgical culture are essential for improving both surgeon well-being and patient outcomes. This session will explore key contributors to burnout, including workplace stress, workload management, and emotional fatigue. It will also provide evidence-based strategies and actionable techniques to help participants mitigate or reduce burnout, fostering improved well-being and productivity.

Thursday September 11, 2025 and Friday September 12, 2025

LEARN. NETWORK. DISCOVER.

REGISTER NOW

	SLS Members	Non-Members
Early Bird Registration (Deadline 7/13/25)	\$900.00	\$1295.00
Physician Member	\$ 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.

Fellow-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 in an ancillary position in the health care field.

REGISTER NOW FOR MISWEEK 2025



MISWeek 2025 - *Opening Session Keynote Speaker*



Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS
Executive Director & CEO at American College of Surgeons

Patricia L. Turner, is the first African American and first woman to serve as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Turner formally assumed the role of Executive Director and CEO on January 1, 2022.

MISWeek 2025 - *Nezhat Family Lecture*



Raul J. Rosenthal, MD, FACS, FASMBS
Regional Chair, Digestive Disease & Surgical Institute / Department Chair, Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery and General Surgery, Cleveland Clinic Florida

Dr. Rosenthal received his medical degree from Universidad Nacional de Rosario Faculty of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. Dr. Raul J. Rosenthal has expertise in treating bariatric surgery, upper GI endoscopy and colon removal, among other conditions.

MISWeek 2025 - *Excel Award*



Thomas Lendvay, MD
Dr. Thomas Lendvay is a Professor of Urology at the University of Washington and the Co-Director of the Seattle Children's Hospital Robotic Surgery Center

Dr. Lendvay's research thrusts center on advancing minimally invasive surgery in pediatric urology and accelerating learning curves for surgical skills among trainees and practicing clinicians across all surgical disciplines.

MISWeek 2025 - *Janis Chinnock Wetter Award*



Linda Steckley, MBA

Linda Steckley built a career in education, government, and philanthropy. Beginning in 1980, the next thirty-five years were spent as a fund-raising professional, retiring in 2015 after serving the Chautauqua Institution as Senior Major Gifts Officer. This followed seven years supporting public policy research as Vice President for Development and Executive Education at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC.

PLAN Ahead

**RESERVE YOUR
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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)



BOOK NOW



Lake Buena Vista

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 Area please call

Toll Free: 800-624-4109

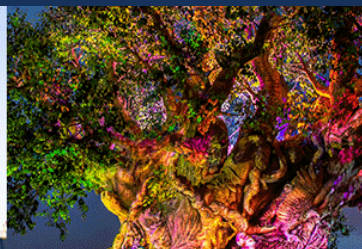
To make reservations by phone for the Wyndham Garden Lake

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.

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



Take advantage of special meetings and convention ticket offers!



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.golfdwdw.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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- Sharona Ross, MD

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