President's Corner

Shamsuddin Akhtar MD

The geriatric population continues to grow worldwide and is consuming vast amounts of healthcare resources. The numbers of older adults undergoing elective and emergency procedures continues to increase. There is significant room for improvement for the care that we provide to this population and enhance their post-surgical and critical care outcomes.

The Society for the Advancement of Geriatric Anesthesiology (SAGA) has been an advocate for education, research and advocacy, in geriatric perioperative care while serving as an organization where those interested in geriatric perioperative care converge. We now have social media presence, a newsletter is being published and the website will be undergoing revamping. Most importantly a stronger collaboration with other Societies, in particular, the International Anesthesia Research Society (IARS) and American Society of Anesthesiologist (ASA) is ongoing.

Members of SAGA continue to represent and advance the goals of the Society. One of biggest achievements has been the creation and of Brain Health Initiative by the American Society of Anesthesiologists. This was the result of initial deliberations by members of SAGA and the ASA leadership. We are pleased to see how it has flourished and gained the attention it deserves.

Furthermore, members of SAGA continue to participate and contribute to other organizations such as American Geriatric Society (AGS) Gerontological Society of America (GSA), and Society for Critical Care Medicine, just to name a few. The 2019 IARS Meeting in Montreal was a very successful meeting. Members of SAGA and SAGA-sponsored sessions were well represented. We continue to look forward to strong representation in the 2020 IARS meeting in San Francisco.

SAGA is looking into the opportunity to generate guidelines or practice parameters for the care of the older adult across the perioperative continuum. As we look to the future areas of advancement in perioperative care of the frail elderly patients as ‘frailty syndrome’ is increasingly being recognized to independently adversely impact perioperative outcomes. This is a special area of interest and focus of many SAGA members and area of active research. This will be major area of focus for SAGA in the next year.

During the 2019 ASA meeting, there will be multiple sessions on geriatric anesthesiology topics with many SAGA members participating as speakers and or moderators. Many members of our organization are also present at the ASA’s Geriatric Anesthesiology committee, Geriatric Abstract Committee and Geriatric Education Committee.

We remain a vibrant, active and involved organization, however, as any other professional society; SAGA depends on its members to continue with its mission. Take a moment to become a member or renew your membership. Our Annual meeting will be a good opportunity to do so.
Saturday, October 19, 2019
1:30 - 2:30PM
Point-Counterpoint 09, W304AB:
Are Elderly Surgical Patients Different? Should We Offer Separate Training Experiences for the Anesthesiology Resident?
Panelists: Michael Lewis*, Sheila Barnett*, Ruben Azocar*

Sunday, October 20, 2019
10:30 - 11:30AM
Refresher Course 214, W308ABCD.
I’m Worried I’ll Harm Him Before the Cancer Does: End of Life, Do Not Resuscitate, and Palliation in the Elderly.
Speakers: Rebecca Aslakson, Allen Gustin

1:30 - 2:30PM
Panel 221, W351AB.
Perioperative Brain Health Initiative: Update and Implementation Strategies Panel I.
Panelists: Daniel Cole, Lee Fleisher, Stacie Deiner*

Monday, October 21, 2019
9:30 - 10:30AM
Refresher Course 304, W311ABCD.
Updates for the Prevention and Management of Acute Postoperative Brain Dysfunction.
Speaker: Christopher Hughes*

9:30 - 10:30AM
Panel 305, W414CD. Snap Talk:
Panelists: Itay Bentov*, Michael Lewis*, Sheila Barnett*, Daniel McIsaac*

9:30AM - 12:30PM

2:30 - 3:30PM
Clinical Forum 14, W304AB.
My Patient is 92, has a DNR, and Wants to Have Elective Surgery!
Presenters: Sylvia Wilson, Julie McSwain*

3:00 - 5:00PM
Special Session 33, W414CD. FAER Panel-Perioperative Considerations in the Cognitively Impaired Patient.
Presenters: Catherine Price, Stacie Deiner*, Miles Berger*, Emily Largent

Become a member at: http://www.sagahq.org/joinsaga.html
ASA-2019 HIGHLIGHTS IN GERIATRIC ANESTHESIA

Abstracts, Panel discussions, Review Courses, in the upcoming ASA -2019

*designates SAGA member

Tuesday, October 22, 2019
7:45 – 8:45AM
Panel 406, W315AB.
Snap Talk: Geriatric Hip Fractures: An Update on Perioperative Regional Analgesia.
Presenters: Jillian Vitter, Inge Tamm-Daniels, Kim Bland, Elizabeth Wilson, Leslie Thomas

1:00 - 2:00PM
Refresher Course 420.
One-Stop Shop for Geriatric Anesthesia: Be an Expert in ONE Session.
Presenters: Ruben Azocar*, Maurice Joyce, Marek Brzezinski*

Scientific Abstracts on Geriatrics
Oct. 20, 2019
1:15 - 2:45PM: W312AB
OR18-1 - Geriatric Anesthesia Oral Presentations.
Moderators: Katie Schennning*, Miles Berger*

October 22, 7:45 - 9:45AM:
Electronic Abstracts 18-1.
Moderator: Sona Arora

Committee Meetings
Oct. 19, 8:30 - 9:30AM Committee 96, Hyatt Regency Orlando, Celebration 4.
Geriatric Anesthesia Educational Track Subcommittee
Chair: Zhongcong Xie*

Oct. 19, 11AM - Noon Committee 40, Hyatt Regency Orlando, Rainbow Spring I.
Geriatric Anesthesia Committee
Chair: Mark Neuman*

Oct. 19, noon - 1PM Committee 07, Hyatt Regency Orlando, Rainbow Spring I.
Geriatric Anesthesia Abstract Review Subcommittee
Chair: Stacie Deiner*
SAGA NEWSLETTER, Fall 2019

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SAGA SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF GERIATRIC ANESTHESIA

SAGA Mission: To optimize the safety and quality of care received by older adults along the perioperative continuum

SAGA Annual Meeting
HYATT REGENCY ORLANDO
9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL
Sunday October 20, 2019 at 6–8 PM EST

AGENDA
6:00 pm: Reception, Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar

6:15 -7:00 pm: Furthering Geriatric Research using Large databases
Robert Sohonberger MD, MS Associate Professor, Yale School of Medicine
Nirav Shah MD, Associate Chief Medical Information Officer – Perioperative Care, and Director of Informatics and Systems Improvement, University of Michigan

7:00-7:30 pm: Celebration of Research
Selected Abstracts on Geriatrics from ASA 2019

7:30 - 8:00 pm: Business meeting (Election of Officers, Focus on Future direction)

Become a member: http://www.sagahq.org/joinsaga.html
IARS / AUA 2019 HIGHLIGHTS
SAGA-sponsored sessions in IARS/AUA held in Montreal 2019

Daniel McIssac MD, MPH, FRCPC

Geriatric anesthesia and SAGA members were widely represented at IARS 2019 in Montreal. Maurice Joyce from Brown University addressed the emerging topic of trauma care in geriatric populations in a joint session supported by SAGA, the Trauma Anesthesiology Society, the Society for Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology. In a geriatric joint session supported by SAGA and the Society for Perioperative Assessment and Quality Improvement, Heather Nye from the University of California, San Francisco, Daniel McIsaac from the University of Ottawa, Catherine Price from the University of Florida, Zdravka Zafirova from the Ichan School of Medicine, and Michelle Humeidan from the Ohio State University joined forces to provide a multidisciplinary overview of geriatric perioperative care that featured talks on assessment, frailty, cognition, prehabilitation and intraoperative management. Finally, SAGA’s geriatric panel featured a focus on delirium and EEG monitoring and included talks from Miles Berger from Duke University, Paul Garcia from Columbia and Bradley Fritz from University of Washington. This panel covered topics which linked anesthetic dosing, cognition and monitoring, early delirium and the role of EEG monitoring in volatile anesthesia. Overall, the breadth of topics and representation demonstrate the increasing focus on older people as a unique population in the perioperative setting.