

**Rekha Murthy, MD, FRCP(C), FIDSA, FSHEA**

Medical Director of the Hospital Epidemiology Department  
Professor of Clinical Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (CSMC)  
UCLA School of Medicine



Dr. Murthy's clinical and research interests include the prevention of healthcare acquired infections (HAI), epidemiology of multidrug resistant organisms (MDRO), antimicrobial management and device associated infections. She has co-authored four book chapters and numerous abstracts and articles on these and other subjects for peer reviewed journals. At CSMC, Dr. Murthy leads the hospital-wide efforts to prevent HAI, develop strategies to address new relevant public health regulations and to address the institutional response to emerging communicable disease threats such as novel H1N1, bioterrorism and MDRO. She is a fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and the American College of Physicians. She is a member of numerous local, state and national professional associations and scholarly societies. Dr. Murthy earned her medical degree at Queen's University School of Medicine in Kingston, Ontario, Canada. She completed internship and residency programs in internal medicine at Queen's University School of Medicine and at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. She then completed clinical and research fellowships in infectious diseases at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and the University of California, Los Angeles-San Fernando Valley Program. She is board certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases.

**Elizabeth C. Wick, MD**

Assistant Professor of Surgery and Oncology  
Johns Hopkins University



Dr. Elizabeth C. Wick is a board-certified colorectal surgeon and assistant professor of surgery at Johns Hopkins University. Her clinical practice is focused on the care of patients with benign and malignant colorectal conditions. Her research is focused on the colonic flora and the role of the bacteria in carcinogenesis. Additionally, she works with Dr. Peter Pronovost on the AHRQ contract to implement the comprehensive unit-based safety program (CUSP) in the operating room with the goal of reducing surgical site infections at 100 hospitals. The goal of CUSP is to educate frontline providers on the science of safety and then empower them to identify and correct lapses in care. She successfully used this approach to reduce SSIs at Johns Hopkins.

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# Reducing SSI: Take Action With Evidence

## Panel Discussion and Q&A Session

### MODERATOR:

**John C. Alverdy, MD, FACS**

### PANELISTS:

**E. Patchen Dellinger, MD, FACS**

**I. Emre Gorgun, MD, FACS**

**Deborah Hobson, BSN**

**Rekha Murthy, MD, FRCP(C), FIDSA, FSHEA**

**Elizabeth C. Wick, MD**

# Reducing SSI: Take Action With Evidence

## Panel Introduction

John C. Alverdy, MD, FACS

## Draft CDC/HICPAC Guideline for Prevention of Surgical Site Infection

E. Patchen Dellinger, MD, FACS

## SSI Bundles

- **The Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare: Colorectal Surgical Site Infections Project, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center**

*Review of the evidence: skin closure protocol*  
Rekha Murthy, MD, FRCP(C), FIDSA, FSHEA

- **SUSP: Improving Surgical Site Infections Through Operating Room Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP), Johns Hopkins Hospital**

*Review of the evidence: culture change*  
Elizabeth C. Wick, MD  
Deborah B. Hobson, BSN, RN

- **Colorectal SSI Bundle, Cleveland Clinic**

*Review of the evidence: wound protection, skin preparation, bowel preparation with oral antibiotics*  
I. Emre Gorgun, MD, FACS

## Conclusion

John C. Alverdy, MD, FACS

## Panel Question & Answer Session

### John C. Alverdy, MD, FACS

Sarah and Harold Lincoln Thompson Professor  
Executive Vice- Chair, Academic Affairs Department of Surgery  
University of Chicago



Dr. Alverdy is the Sarah and Harold Lincoln Thompson Professor of Surgery and Executive Vice Chair of Surgery at the University of Chicago. He received his surgical training at the Michael Reese Hospital/University of Chicago Program and completed a trauma/critical care research fellowship at the University of California San Francisco. He is the director of minimally invasive surgery and performs a wide variety of gastrointestinal surgery including those of the foregut, pancreaticobiliary tree, and colon. He has been continually funded by the NIH and runs a laboratory that studies the microbial pathogenesis of surgical complications including sepsis, wound infection, and anastomotic leak. He is the co-PI on a T32 training grant and has trained over 30 postdoctoral fellows in his laboratory over the last 25 years.

### E. Patchen Dellinger, MD, FACS

Professor of Surgery  
University of Washington



Dr. Dellinger graduated from Swarthmore College and from Harvard Medical School. During surgical training at the Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, MA, Dr. Dellinger completed an ID Fellowship at Tufts. He is past president of SIS, a fellow of the IDSA and of SHEA. He was first author of the IDSA "Quality standard for prophylactic antimicrobial use in surgical procedures" and an author of the IDSA "Practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of skin and soft-tissue infections," and currently represents IDSA to SCIP. He is a member of the American Surgical Association, the Society of University Surgeons, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery. He was on HICPAC from 2004-07. He represented SIS in the recent effort to produce a coordinated surgical antibiotic prophylaxis guideline jointly from ASHP, SIS, IDSA, and SHEA that was published in 2013. He was recently appointed to the Working Group on preventing surgical site infection as part of the second Global Patient Safety Challenge "Safe Surgery Saves Lives" of WHO. He was chair of the Inf Dis TAP for the NQF and a member of the NQF Patient Outcomes Steering Committee. He has been performing general and bariatric surgery at the Univ of Washington since 1977 where he is Professor in the Division of General Surgery. He is an Associate Medical Director of the University of Washington Medical Center and former Chief of Staff. He is on the management committee of the Surgical Care and Outcomes Assessment Program (SCOAP) and chaired the Surgical Checklist Initiative for Washington State sponsored by SCOAP. He is currently on the board of the International Surgical Infection Study Group (ISIS) which is currently working with WHO to develop an SSI Prevention Guideline for developing countries. He has authored and/or coauthored more than 190 papers and chapters and he serves on the editorial boards of *Surgical Infections* and *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*.

### I. Emre Gorgun, MD, FACS

Staff Surgeon, Cleveland Clinic  
Quality Improvement Officer  
Cleveland Clinic



Dr. Gorgun obtained his medical degree from Istanbul University, Istanbul School of Medicine, Turkey. After he completed five years of general surgery residency training at Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa School of Medicine in Turkey, he moved to the United States. He finished 2 years of research fellowship followed by a year of clinical fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic, Department of Colorectal Surgery. He moved to New York City for an advanced laparoscopic colorectal fellowship at the New York Presbyterian hospital, Weill-Cornell. In New York he decided to complete an ACGME approved residency at New York Presbyterian hospital, Weill-Cornell Medical College. Dr. Gorgun then also completed an ACGME approved specialty training in Colon and Rectal surgery/laparoscopic surgery at Weill-Cornell and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Gorgun joined Cleveland Clinic, Department of Colorectal Surgery as a full time faculty in 2011 and he is certified by the American Board of Colon and Rectal Surgery and American Board of Surgery.

### Deborah B. Hobson, BSN

Patient Safety Clinical Specialist  
Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality Surgical Intensive Care Nurse  
Johns Hopkins Hospital



Deborah Hobson is a Patient Safety Clinical Specialist for the Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality for Johns Hopkins Medicine. In addition, she is a staff nurse in the Johns Hopkins Hospital's Surgical Intensive Care Unit and Surgical Coordinator for the Department of Surgery. She is co-leader of several Johns Hopkins Medicine collaboratives including: Intensive Care Unit, deep-vein thrombosis prevention and anticoagulation, and surgical site infection prevention. She is also involved with the Johns Hopkins Quality and Patient Safety Research Group conducting research on quality and safety in the areas of safety and teamwork culture (CUSP- Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program), critical care, and eliminating Hospital Acquired Infections (SSI, CLABSI, VAP, CAUTI). Ms. Hobson has worked with several hospitals in the U.S. and overseas on patient safety and quality initiatives. Ms. Hobson has been with Johns Hopkins since 1980. Ms. Hobson earned her BSN (honors) in Nursing from the University of Maryland.