The *Annals of Surgical Oncology*: An Oncology Journal for Surgeons

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In response to its membership, the Society of Surgical Oncology (SSO), with Raven Press, is launching the *Annals of Surgical Oncology*, a peer-reviewed journal, to meet the needs of all practicing surgeons treating cancer patients. The *Annals* will blend up-to-date oncology and surgery information that is clinically relevant to the screening, diagnosis, and treatment of the cancer patient. Advances in oncology research are rapidly being incorporated into standard clinical practice, and the surgeon must be prepared to coordinate multidisciplinary cancer care and become a partner with other oncology specialists in comprehensive cancer care. For this reason, a major focus of this journal is to publish information about new applications involving combination chemotherapy, biologic therapy, hormonal therapy, and radiotherapy as they may benefit the surgical patient with cancer. Another primary focus involves basic science information that provides the biologic basis for clinical management decisions and the foundation for future cancer therapies. Many of these surgical and oncology advances have been presented at the SSO annual meeting. The *Annals* will be unique because it will provide oncology-related information relevant to all surgical specialties. It is intended to meet the educational needs of all surgeons who treat cancer patients and to

educate surgical residents and fellows whose careers will involve cancer care.

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The *Annals of Surgical Oncology* will be a scientific and an educational journal. A high priority is to publish the best scientific articles of a clinical and laboratory nature that would be of interest to surgeons treating cancer patients. Special emphasis will be given to those articles describing novel surgical treatments for cancer and basic science advances with potential for translation to the clinical management of cancer patients. Articles will be peer reviewed by at least two expert, impartial referees.

We will also address the educational needs of surgeons with regard to multidisciplinary cancer care, including such special features as symposia about site-specific care; review articles about adjuvant therapy, such as chemotherapy, biologic therapy, and radiotherapy; and educational articles that incorporate basic science principles, concepts, and terminology, which help the practicing surgeon better understand today's rapidly advancing technology and treatment methods described in original scientific articles.

The *Annals* will include "SSO News," authored by the Secretary of the SSO, which will inform members and other interested surgeons about activities in the organization. We plan to include classified advertising of job opportunities for surgeons in academic and community practice. "Letters to the Editor" are always welcome.

Although the *Annals* will be published bimonthly at first, it is our intent to increase frequency of publication as the number of quality submissions warrants.

OWNERSHIP

The SSO owns the copyright to the *Annals*, and all profits to the SSO are reinvested into its programs and

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missions. However, the journal's success depends upon support from the body of surgeons in academic and community settings who care for patients with cancer.

Reader response is encouraged, both in original contributions and educational features, and in confidential or publishable correspondence to the editors. It is with your feedback that we can strengthen and improve the Annals as a resource to surgeons and surgical trainees.

The individuals listed on the masthead reflect only a small number of those involved with the Annals. Special thanks is extended to the Associate Editors, Section Editors, Editorial Board, Business Manager, and Raven Press staff, who have given generously of their time and effort in making this inaugural issue possible.