



The Cutting Edge

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Surgical Instrument Size Studied

The concept of one size fits all works with many things—smocks, baseball caps and inner tubes. But not disposable laparoscopic surgical instruments. So say the results of a survey of general surgery residents conducted by a group that included two surgeons at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. After surveying the opinions of male and female residents at four academic general surgery training programs, the group concluded that common disposable laparoscopic surgical instruments don't fit the needs – or more specifically, the generally smaller glove size – of female surgeons. (University of Wisconsin – July 25, 2008)

More at <http://www.physorg.com/news136217136.html>

Older patients don't tell surgeons all their concerns

Older patients and their surgeons don't communicate properly when exploring surgical options, compounding their condition, according to a study. The researchers taped patient-surgeon consultations and later interviewed the patients to find out what, if anything, they had not discussed with their surgeons. They found that the older adults had raised only about half of the concerns mentioned in the subsequent interview. (Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery – August 1, 2008)

More at <http://www.newkerala.com/topstory-fullnews-4665.html>



Body Contouring Surgery Risk Rises With Increased Body Mass Index

A recent study investigating the relationship between complications of body contouring surgery and body mass index has confirmed an increase in the occurrence of such complications with worsening degree of obesity. Findings from the study are published in the July/August 2008 issue of the Aesthetic Surgery Journal, the peer-reviewed publication of the American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ASAPS). In order to determine the degree of risk associated with obesity when undergoing body contouring surgery, a retrospective review was conducted of 129 patients who underwent a single body contouring procedure from 1993 and 2002. (Aesthetic Surgery Journal – August 1, 2008)

More at <http://www.medilexicon.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=116864>

Report Explores What Surgeons Don't Like

Guess which MDs are least satisfied with the physician-administration relationship, according to a new report. You got it: surgeons. Independent anesthesiologists aren't far behind, the report finds. So says Press Ganey Associates' 2008 Hospital Check-Up Report: Physician Perspectives on American Hospitals, which examines the experiences of 27,671 physicians practicing at more than 300 hospitals and surgical facilities across the country. Surgeons are least satisfied with disorganized and inefficient operating rooms along with complications in scheduling patients' surgery (whether inpatient or outpatient) and their outpatient tests and therapies. The report finds this response "troubling because [surgeons] are the highest revenue producers." (Outpatient Surgery Magazine – July 29, 2008)

More at <http://www.outpatientsurgery.net/newsletter/eweekly/2008/07/29.php>

Rectal Cancer Patients Benefit From Minimally Invasive Surgery

A group of Houston colorectal surgeons have conducted one of the largest studies to date of the patient benefits of minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery for rectal cancer, leaving behind no markers for cancer. Some 100 consecutive surgical cases were analyzed and the results reported at the international meeting of the American College of Colon & Rectal Surgeons in June. In the study conducted by CSA, the average hospital stay was four days compared to nine days with traditional surgery. Patients were mobile, walking, eating and drinking within days of surgery. (Colorectal Surgical Associates – July 28, 2008)

More at <http://www.medilexicon.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=116318>

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