



الجمعية السعودية للجراحة العامة
Saudi General Surgery Society



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MARCH

Saudi General Surgery Society (SGSS) Newsletter

Welcome to the SGSS Newsletter,

a quarterly window into the remarkable progress, achievements, and collaborative spirit within the Saudi General Surgery Society (SGSS). Each edition highlights key updates, scientific insights, and the voices of our members who continue to elevate surgical practice across the Kingdom. We hope this newsletter enriches your knowledge, strengthens our community, and inspires continued innovation.

**This is our second issue, and the best is yet to come.
Stay tuned!**

**SGSS Newsletter Editor: Dr. Suha K. Kaaki, MD FRCSC FACS
Secretary General of the SGSS**

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Consultant, Surgery & Critical Care King Abdulaziz University-Hospital, Jeddah

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Dr. Wesam Abuznadah

Consultant of General & Vascular Surgery, American College of Surgeons

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Dr. Alhassan Almaghrabi

Consultant of General Surgery, Bariatric and Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery, Alnoor Specialist Hospital, Makkah

Committees:



Governance and Internal Rules Committee



Budgeting and Finance Committee



Partnership and Resource Development Committee



Members Services Committee



Academic Affairs and Scientific Group Committees



Public Relations and Social Media Committee

Governance and Internal Rules Committee

Building the Foundation: Governance at the Saudi Society of General Surgery



Leader

Dr. Wesam Abuznadah

Consultant of General & Vascular Surgery, American College of Surgeons

Every professional society stands on two pillars: the expertise of its members, and the integrity of the structures that govern them. For the Saudi Society of General Surgery — a society that shapes the trajectory of surgical education and professional standards for thousands of surgeons across the Kingdom — strong governance is not a bureaucratic formality. It is a professional obligation.

- This year, the Society took a deliberate step forward by establishing a dedicated *Governance Committee*. Its mandate is to ensure that the Society operates with the transparency, accountability, and institutional discipline that befits an organization of its scale and influence.

What Does the Governance Committee Do?

The Governance Committee serves as the Society's internal custodian of good practice. Its work centers on reviewing and strengthening the foundational policies that guide how the Society operates, and advising the Board on matters of institutional integrity.

- In its first cycle of work, the Committee has focused on two critical policy areas — conflict of interest and data privacy — both essential guardrails for any organization whose decisions carry significant professional and financial consequences for its members.

Building What the Society Needs

A significant part of the Committee's mandate is building the policy infrastructure that a nonprofit of this stature deserves — much of which has never been formally established.

Consider the scope of what the Society does. It influences surgical training curricula, professional certification pathways, continuing medical education standards, and the professional standing of general surgeons from Riyadh to Tabuk.

An organization with that kind of reach needs clear, written, and adopted policies that protect members, guide leadership, and ensure continuity regardless of who holds office.

- This is the work ahead: developing the essential policy architecture that will allow the Society to grow, advocate, and serve its members with confidence and credibility for decades to come.

An Invitation

Good governance is not built by committees alone. It is built by members who care enough to hold their society to a high standard. We welcome your feedback and your engagement as this work unfolds.

For questions or input, please contact the Governance Committee through the Society Secretariat.

Budgeting and Finance Committee

The Finance Committee continues to fulfill its responsibilities in ensuring the financial sustainability highlighted in our first newsletter.



Leader

Dr. Mohammed Alharthi

Consultant of General Surgery, Colorectal Surgery and (HPB) Surgery, King Abdulaziz University-Hospital, Jeddah

Recent activities include:

The committee actively supported the society's strategic engagement by sponsoring key events.

- Most recently, the society served as a gold sponsor for the Jeddah Valley Innovation and Business Zone Launch Ceremony in January 2026, underscoring our commitment to scientific advancement and community partnership.
- Signed a cooperation agreement with the Saudi Society for Head, Neck, and Thyroid Tumors, which includes providing financial facilities to support their activities.
- Sponsored the Faculty of Medicine Student Conference.

Partnership and Resource Development Committee



Leader

Dr. Fadhel Alzahrani

Upper GI and Bariatric Surgery Consultants King Abdullah Medical City, Makkah

As Partnerships Committee Lead, I'm pleased to share our key achievements from the first quarter:

01.

Welcomed new recruits to the committee:

We successfully onboarded new members, expanded our working capacity, and aligned the team on our priorities and approach for the year.

02.

Advanced long-term sponsorship efforts:

We continued active collaboration with multiple companies to build sustainable, long-term sponsorship agreements that support the Society's strategic goals and activities.

03.

Conducted multiple partnership meetings:

The committee held several meetings this quarter to strengthen engagement with potential partners, refine sponsorship proposals, and ensure a coordinated follow-up plan.

04.

Maintained momentum and continuity:

We established a consistent outreach and tracking process to keep negotiations moving forward and to maximize opportunities for meaningful, long-term partnerships.

We look forward to sharing further updates as these discussions progress and new sponsorship commitments are finalized.

Members Services Committee

The Members Services Committee plays a pivotal role in SGSS by fostering engagement, inclusivity, and professional development among general surgeons across the Kingdom.

Strengthening Professional Identity



Leader

Dr. Maram Alkhatieb

General Surgery Consultant & Diabetic Foot King Abdulaziz University-Hospital, Jeddah

- Membership in a scientific society is more than a formal registration—it represents commitment to excellence, continuous education, and shared professional values. The Membership Committee works to ensure that surgeons at all stages of their careers—consultants, specialists, and residents, as well as all the health care workers—find meaningful value in their affiliation with the Society.

Enhancing Member Benefits

A core responsibility of the Members Services Committee is to continuously evaluate and improve member benefits. These include:

- Access to scientific conferences, workshops, and webinars with a special prices.
- Opportunities for research collaboration and academic networking.
- Participation in subspecialty interest groups.
- Leadership and volunteer opportunities within the Society's committees, with enthusiastic participation already received from medical university volunteers
- Eligibility for awards, recognition programs, and scholarships
- Through ongoing feedback and periodic assessment, the committee aligns member services with evolving professional needs.

Educational and Scientific Committee

We are pleased to announce that the educational and scientific committee members have been selected from the nominations



Dr. Ohoud M. Alamoudi

Consultant, General Surgery & Colorectal Surgeon Surgery Department, IMC, Jeddah

SSGS as well had launched chapters in each region of the country

Each chapter had a chapter head he/ she will facilitate communication with the society and organize scientific activities in their region.

Chapters' Heads are:



01.
Abdulaziz Shafer,
Southern Region



02.
Rami Alghamdi ,
Central Region



03.
Ahmed Fallatah,
Western Region



04.
Haytham Alarfaj,
Eastern Region



05.
Haddaj Alkuraya,
Northern Region

We are pleased to announce that southern region as well started their activity with first Jazan GS residency SGSS Journal Club

- Don't miss out our upcoming **Medicine and Judiciary Symposium** that will be held on 2nd May in Jeddah
- Please save the date [6-8 November 2026] ___ SSGS Congress.

Public Relations and Social Media Committee

The Public Relations Committee has been busier than a fully booked OR schedule — and we wouldn't have it any other way!



Leader

Dr. Alhassan Al maghrabi

Consultant of General Surgery, Bariatric and Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery, Alnoor Specialist Hospital, Makkah

- We are proud to share that the Committee has successfully attracted a growing number of enthusiastic professionals interested in joining our team — a clear reflection of the increasing engagement and passion for active participation in our initiatives.

In collaboration with the subcommittee,

we supported and promoted an exciting lineup of campaigns and events (listed below from most recent upward):

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| <p>01. Robotic Surgery Collaboration Summit 2025</p> | <p>02. The 4th Annual Surgical Scientific Day 2026</p> | <p>03. 3rd Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery Workshop</p> |
| <p>04. Gastrointestinal Anastomosis Workshop</p> | <p>05. Basic Surgical Skills Workshop</p> | <p>06. Updates in Trauma & Acute Care Surgery Webinar</p> |
| <p>07. Managing Colorectal Complications: From Anastomotic Leak to Perianal Sepsis – Webinar</p> | <p>08. 1st SGSS Journal Club – Jazan Cluster General Surgery</p> | <p>09. Second Medicine & Judiciary Symposium: Legal Liability in Surgical Professions</p> |

Additionally, several promotional announcements for upcoming surgical activities have been carefully prepared and published as part of our ongoing efforts to enhance communication, strengthen professional engagement, and expand our outreach.

Stay tuned — more initiatives and activities are on the horizon. Our ambition knows no limits, and we are always striving to deliver excellence.

Events Not to Miss!

Medicine & Judiciary Symposium

 Crown Plaza - Al Hamra - Crystal Hall

 2nd May 2026

 [Register Here](#)

Basic Surgical Skills Workshop

 VOCO Hotel, Jeddah

 4 April 2026

 [Register Here](#)

GI Anastomosis Workshop

 VOCO Hotel, Jeddah

 16 May 2026

 [Register Here](#)

New Issue Of SSJ (Saudi Surgical Issue)

[Visit Here](#)

You Ask – We Listen.

Please share feedback, suggestions, or highlights to

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