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New Online Tool Launched to Help Clinicians Calculate Patient Risk Associated with Mitral Valve Repair Surgery

Chicago, Illinois – The Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) has developed and launched a new risk calculator to estimate the risk of mitral valve repair for patients with mitral valve prolapse and degenerative primary mitral regurgitation, or primary MR.

STS's Risk Calculator for Surgical Repair of Primary Mitral Regurgitation enables providers to enter a patient's demographics, risk factors such as smoking and diabetes, lab results, and details about their heart disease and surgical history. The Calculator then produces a result that provides statistically robust objective estimates of the patient's individual risk for death or surgical complications.

"Risk estimation for surgical intervention is an essential component of a heart team's shared decision-making process," said STS President Thomas MacGillivray, MD. "This important new STS Risk Calculator will make a significant difference for patients with mitral valve prolapse and regurgitation as it will give their cardiologists and surgeons an objective method to help determine the optimal course of treatment tailored to the individual."

The STS National Database accounts for over 97% of all heart operations performed in the United States. The new calculator utilizes contemporary and procedure-specific data from the STS Adult Cardiac Surgery Database that are most representative of the surgeries being performed today.

"Recently published studies demonstrated that in the vast majority of patients with primary MR due to mitral valve prolapse, the risk of mortality associated with mitral valve repair surgery is less than 1%. These new data, specific for these patients, have informed the new STS risk calculator," Dr. MacGillivray said.

STS is a global leader in risk model development as a means to improve quality and patient care. Risk calculators, such as this new tool for primary MR, help inform multidisciplinary medical providers as they choose the optimal care for their patients.

The [STS National Database](#) is one of largest clinical registries in healthcare, including more than 8 million records and over 97% of cardiothoracic operations performed in the United States.

More detailed information about the Risk Calculator for Surgical Repair of Primary Mitral Regurgitation is available in [The Annals of Thoracic Surgery](#).

Click [here](#) to access the Calculator or visit <https://riskcalc.sts.org/stswebriskcalc/calculate>.

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For more information, contact Charlie Simpson, STS SVP of Marketing and Communications, at 312-202-5819 or csimpson@sts.org.

Founded in 1964, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons is a not-for-profit organization representing more than 7,700 cardiothoracic surgeons, researchers, and allied health care professionals worldwide who are dedicated to ensuring the best possible outcomes for surgeries of the heart, lung, and esophagus, as well as other surgical procedures within the chest. The Society's mission is to enhance the ability of cardiothoracic surgeons to provide the highest quality patient care through education, research, and advocacy.