



Editorial: Supplemental issue of *Surgery* on fluorescence imaging

To the editor:

Several major surgical advances during the last few decades have transcended specialties. Some of these paradigm shifts have included genetic profiling, neoadjuvant chemotherapy, radiotherapy or combined chemoradiotherapy, imaging modalities, minimally invasive surgery, and opioid-sparing postoperative analgesic techniques. From that list, the technology of minimally invasive surgery certainly stands out as one that has benefited countless patients throughout the world who have undergone myriad surgical interventions in virtually every discipline.

In our opinion, one of the newest major paradigm shifts that can benefit every surgical discipline is fluorescence imaging. The ability to “see more and better” enhances the safety and potentially the efficacy of surgical outcomes. Although fluorescence imaging has been available for >65 years, it is only within the recent few years that surgeons have begun to comprehend the possible magnitude of improvements in safety and potential efficacy that fluorescence imaging may afford. Furthermore, although fluorescence imaging techniques have become more routine for perfusion assessment for colorectal, foregut, bariatric, and other types of surgery, there is a gamut of other potential uses, such as lymph node assessment, nerve identification, and parathyroid evaluation. The International Society for Fluorescence Guided Surgery (ISFGS) is a multidisciplinary international group of thought leaders who work together to develop guidelines and explore the potential advantages of this technology. In 2022, the ISFGS published a general Delphi analysis about fluorescence imaging.¹ This issue of *Surgery* features an array of ISFGS Delphi analyses delving into these many facets of surgery, including endocrine, colorectal, plastic and reconstructive, lymph, and gastric cancer surgery. In addition, the potential advantages of enhanced anatomy during laparoscopic cholecystectomy are also a subject of 1 of these 8 publications. We are grateful to the reviewers of these manuscripts who have allowed us to publish them in *Surgery*. We are optimistic that every reader of *Surgery* will find at

least a few of these fluorescence imaging articles to be of immediate benefit in their individual practice.

Conflict of interest/Disclosure

Steven Wexner: consulting fees for consulting from Stryker, Medtronic, Intuitive, and Olympus and Royalties for intellectual property license from Intuitive and from Karl Storz. Raul Rosental: Consulting fees from Medtronic, Arthrex, Diagnostic Green and Ethicon. Advisory Board Member Axon Imaging Technologies. Stock Holder: Hechtech / Medica Simulation, Germany.

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Reference

1. Dip F, Boni L, Bouvet M, et al. Consensus conference statement on the general use of near-infrared fluorescence imaging and indocyanine green guided surgery: results of a modified Delphi study. *Ann Surg.* 2022;275:685–691.

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