

EDITORIAL

New International Editorial Board Members— October 1, 2018

Melina R. Kibbe, MD

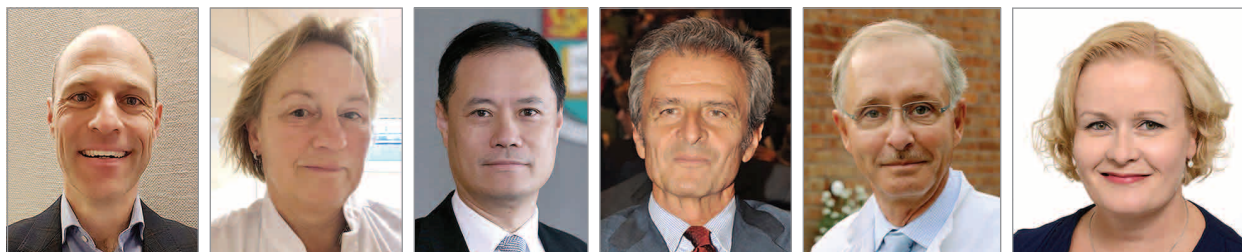
JAMA Surgery would like to thank Kevin C. P. Conlon, MA, MCh, MBA; Marco Del Chiaro, MD, PhD; Simon Y. K. Law, MBBChir, MS; Dimitrios A. Linos, MD, PhD; Chung-Mau Lo, MBBS, MS(HK); and Han-Kwang Yang, MD, PhD, for their extraordinary service and contributions to the journal as members of the International Editorial Board. Effective October 1, 2018, *JAMA Surgery* is pleased to announce the appointment of Martin Almquist, MD, PhD; Marja A. Boermeester, MD, PhD; Stephen W. K. Cheng, MBBS, MS; Mario Morino, MD; Pauli Puolakkainen, MD, PhD; and Paulina Salminen, MD, PhD, to the International Editorial Board.

Martin Almquist, MD, PhD, received his medical degree from Lund University in Lund, Sweden. After an internship at Hamar Hospital in Hamar, Norway, he completed his surgical residency at Malmö University Hospital in Malmö, Sweden, in 2005. During residency and until 2008, he led the surgical internship program at Skåne University Hospital in Lund. After obtaining a PhD in surgical epidemiology in 2009, Dr Almquist joined the endocrine surgical team at Lund University Hospital, where he completed his endocrine surgical training. In 2015, he passed the European Board of Surgery examination in endocrine surgery. He served as editorial assistant at *the British Journal of Surgery* from 2014 to 2015. In 2016, he received the Swedish Surgical Society Associations Prize for outstanding research. Dr Almquist is an associate professor of surgery and leads an interdisciplinary multicenter research group focusing on outcomes in primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism. In his research, he studies outcomes and effects of surgery using large national databases. Dr Almquist is a member of several national and international research collaborations, including the European Prospective Investigation Into Cancer, the Metabolic Syndrome and Cancer Project, and the Scandinavian and European quality registers for endocrine surgery. His clinical practice is devoted to complex endocrine disease, including advanced tumors of the thyroid, parathy-

roid, and adrenal glands, but also surgery of retroperitoneal sarcomas. Dr Almquist is the current scientific secretary of the Swedish Association of Endocrine Surgeons. He has a strong interest in and commitment to education.

Marja A. Boermeester, MD, PhD, received her medical degree at the University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where she also completed her surgical residency. She completed her fellowship in upper gastrointestinal tract surgery, colorectal surgery, and hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery at the Amsterdam University Medical Centers (located at AMC), where she is now a professor of surgery and clinical epidemiologist. Dr Boermeester is a principal investigator of many multicenter trials on diagnostics and treatment of abdominal infections (eg, RELAP, OPTIMA, ESCAPE, OPTIMAP, DIABOLO). She has received many grants (including more than 10 National Health Care and Efficacy research grants), with trials published in high-ranking journals (eg, *JAMA*, *New England Journal of Medicine*). Her core clinical interest is surgery of abdominal infections, including intestinal failure surgery and pancreas surgery. She runs a successful intestinal failure team in the AMC Amsterdam, which receives referrals from all over the country. The intestinal failure unit of the AMC Amsterdam has achieved recognition from the National Federation of University Hospitals and is a full European Reference Network member. Dr Boermeester is a member of the Academic Medical Center Research Council and principal investigator at the AMC, a member of the writing committee of the Dutch Pancreatitis Study Group, and principal investigator of the Dutch Pancreatitis Study Group section on chronic pancreatitis. She is president of the Surgical Infection Society Europe and a member of the World Health Organization Steering Committee on Global Guidelines for Surgical Site Infections. She founded the Surgical Patient Safety System (SURPASS) checklist, which is used by many hospitals in Europe.

Stephen W. K. Cheng, MBBS, MS, obtained his qualifications in medicine at the University of Hong Kong in 1984 and



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received his training at the Department of Surgery of Queen Mary Hospital in Hong Kong. In 1991, he was visiting assistant professor at the University of California, San Francisco, where he pursued his specialty interest in vascular surgery. He returned to the University of Hong Kong and became chief of the Division of Vascular Surgery and director of the Francis Y. H. Tien Vascular Disease Centre in 1992. He is currently the Serena H. C. Yang Professor of Vascular Surgery and head of the Department of Surgery at the University of Hong Kong. Dr Cheng is an honorary fellow of the American Surgical Association and a distinguished fellow of the Society for Vascular Surgery. Nationally, he is a member of the Chinese Medical and Health Vascular Surgery Experts Committee and is vice president of the National Committee of Cardiovascular Surgery. He is secretary general of the Asian Society for Vascular Society and immediate past president of the College of Surgeons of Hong Kong. Dr Cheng led the development of endovascular interventions in Hong Kong. His academic interest lies in aortic aneurysms and aortic dissection, including pathogenesis, hemodynamics, and endovascular treatment of complex aneurysms.

Mario Morino, MD, received his medical degree from Torino University in Torino, Italy, in 1982. After surgical training at the Hammersmith Hospital in London, England, and the Hospital Paul Brousse in Paris, France, under the mentorship of Henri Bismuth, Dr Morino was appointed to the faculty of the department of surgery of the University of Torino in Torino, Italy, in 1990. He is currently chair of the department of surgery at the Città della Salute e della Scienza Hospital in Torino and professor of surgery at the University of Torino, where he founded the Center for Minimal Invasive Surgery. Dr Morino is best known clinically for pioneering laparoscopic surgery in Italy and throughout Europe, from cholecystectomy to functional upper gastrointestinal surgery, colorectal oncology, and bariatric surgery. Dr Morino and his research team are also active in the field of technology applied to minimally invasive

surgery, including robotics and flexible endoscopy. He is a past president of the European Association for Endoscopic Surgery and immediate past president of the European Surgical Association.

Pauli Puolakkainen, MD, PhD, received his medical degrees from the University of Helsinki and Helsinki University Hospital in Helsinki, Finland, where he also completed his general and abdominal surgery residencies. During his career as an academic surgeon, he spent more than 5 years in Seattle, Washington, doing medical research. After serving as professor of surgery at the University of Turku in Turku, Finland, Dr Puolakkainen is currently professor of surgery and chairman at the department of surgery at Helsinki University and the program director of the abdominal surgery residency program. He is a member of the Academy of Finland, European Surgical Association, American Pancreatic Association; a council member in the International Gastric Cancer Association; and an associate editor for *Scandinavian Journal of Surgery*. His research interests include acute pancreatitis, gastric and pancreatic cancers, the role of inflammation and tumor environment in cancer growth, and pancreatic surgery.

Paulina Salminen, MD, PhD, received her medical degree from the University of Turku and Turku University Hospital in Turku, Finland, where she also completed her general surgery and digestive surgery training in 2005 and her PhD in 2007. Since then, she has been working as a digestive surgery specialist at Turku University Hospital. Her clinical interest is mainly focused on bariatric surgery and acute care surgery. She has been an adjunct professor of surgery since 2010 and is currently the chief of acute care surgery at Turku University Hospital. She is the current president of the Finnish Surgical Society and an associate editor for *Scandinavian Journal of Surgery*. Her current research interests are in the fields of acute appendicitis (with her Appendicitis Acuta study group), bariatric surgery (with the Sleeve vs Bypass [SLEEVEPASS] trial), acute care surgery, and minimally invasive surgery.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

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Three Common Methodological Issues in Studies of Surgical Readmission Rates The Trouble With Readmissions

Cheryl K. Zogg, MSPH, MHS; Timothy M. Pawlik, MD, PhD, MPH, MTS; Adil H. Haider, MD, MPH

Reducing the rate of unplanned readmissions within 30 days of an index hospitalization (a phenomenon referred to as *failed discharges*¹) has been proposed as an indicator of cost containment and value maximization in health care. The need to reduce unplanned readmissions is widely acknowledged; this rate is thought to be reflective of patient outcomes, health sys-

tem performance, and care coordination.² Readmission has been incorporated in multiple surgical quality improvement initiatives, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program and the American College of Surgeons' National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP).