

BIOSKETCH OF AJIT K. SACHDEVA, M.D., F.R.C.S.C., F.A.C.S.

Ajit K. Sachdeva, M.D., is the founding Director of the Division of Education at the American College of Surgeons. Dr. Sachdeva established this Division, which is responsible for the development and implementation of innovative education and training programs for surgeons, surgery residents, medical students, and members of surgical teams. Major initiatives launched under Dr. Sachdeva's leadership have established new national and international benchmarks. These include education and training programs to promote expertise and excellence in surgery; education and training programs aimed at the continuum of professional development, with specific focus on transitions; cutting-edge simulation-based education and training programs; transformational redesign of the Annual Clinical Congress; Program for Accreditation of Education Institutes (Simulation Centers); and Program for Validation and Verification of Surgical Knowledge and Skills. He has led several major national research and development projects in surgical education and training. Dr. Sachdeva also serves as Adjunct Professor of Surgery at The Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University.

Prior to joining the College, Dr. Sachdeva was the Leon C. Sunstein, Jr., Professor of Medical and Health Sciences Education and Professor and Vice Chairman for Educational Affairs, Department of Surgery, at the MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine. He had also held the positions of Associate Dean for Medical Education and Director of the University's Academic Center for Educational Excellence, and served as Chairman of three successive medical school Education/Curriculum Committees for 12 years. He established a Division of Surgical Education and a Fellowship Program in Surgical Education.

Dr. Sachdeva served as Chief of Surgical Services at the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center for over eight years, during which he planned and directed the expansion of tertiary care services staffed by two medical schools (University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine). He established a Regional Network Health Care Program for Women Veterans for which he received the Gold Medal in Excellence in Government Awards Program, National Performance Review Award of the Vice President of the United States, and Award of the Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Sachdeva was awarded the Distinguished Educator Award (a Lifetime Achievement Award) by the Association for Surgical Education, and the Margaret Hay Edwards, M.D. Achievement Medal for Outstanding Contributions to Cancer Education by the American Association for Cancer Education. Dr. Sachdeva has received the Award for Outstanding Contributions to Healthcare Simulation from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, the Frances M. Maitland Award from the Alliance for Continuing Medical Education, the Theodore A. McGraw, M.D., Medal from The Detroit Surgical Association, and a Recognition of Excellence Award from the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons. He has also received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, the Blockley-Osler Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching, the Board of Trustees' Award for Teaching Excellence, and several Golden Apple Awards for Teaching Excellence. He has delivered presentations and conducted courses on educational topics in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, and Japan. He has been the recipient of major educational grants and has published widely in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Sachdeva is a member of the American Surgical Association and serves as a representative of this association to the Council of Faculty and Academic Societies of the Association of American Medical Colleges. He has chaired the Committee on Surgical Education of The Society of University Surgeons, and served on the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons. He has also served as Chairman of the Scientific Review Group Education Subcommittee (Study Section) of the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health. Dr. Sachdeva has served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Dr. Sachdeva has served as President of the Association for Surgical Education; President of the American Association for Cancer Education; President of the Alliance for Clinical Education; and President of the Council of Medical Specialty Societies. Dr. Sachdeva currently serves as Vice President of the Society of Academic Continuing Medical Education.