Host: Welcome to the SEE podcast, presented by the American Society of Anesthesiologists. SEE: translating emerging anesthesia knowledge for your daily practice.

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Dr. Regina Fragneto: Hello. My name is Regina Fragneto, and I’m the Editor-in-Chief of ASA’s SEE program. I’m an anesthesiologist at the University of Kentucky Medical Center, where I serve as Chief of Obstetric Anesthesia. While OB’s my major clinical focus, I also work in the general operating rooms and spend quite a bit of time working in our out-of-the-OR locations like interventional radiology and endoscopy.

My role as Editor-in-Chief of SEE involves guiding the Editorial Board’s quarterly meetings, where we produce the product; assisting ASA staff in finding ways to optimize our subscribers’ experience, especially with improving our electronic version over the past couple of years; and recruiting ASA members to serve as the question writers and editors who produce the SEE content.

I’d also like to introduce to you Dr. Laurence Torsher. He’s the Medical Editor of the SEE product.

Dr. Laurence Torsher: Thank you, Dr. Fragneto. As she said, I’m Laurence Torsher, and I’m an anesthesiologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. My
clinical interests include: solid organ transplant; regional anesthesia; colorectal and hepatobiliary surgery. I’m also involved with simulation training for residents, as well as simulation for ABA MOCA Part 4.

In my role as Medical Editor, I am involved with the final review of articles that are selected for write-up, assignments of articles to our various question writers, and working with the entire Editorial Board in editing items and in reviewing the final product just before it goes out to our users.

Dr. Regina Fragneto: The SEE program is developed and written, as Laurence said, by our 11-member Editorial Board and a cadre of question writers, all who are volunteers and all who are practicing anesthesiologists, both in private practice and academic practice. Our Editorial Board of 11 represents most of the anesthesia subspecialties as well as generalists and intensivists.

Dr. Laurence Torsher: The SEE product strives to provide items based on new and emerging knowledge. We try to make it clinically relevant, but we also attempt to see trends for new drugs, new roles for anesthesiologists, new uses for anesthesia drugs and techniques outside of the operating room, and simply be aware of trends occurring in the medical community in general. In addition, we will from time to time have items that may not be directly applicable to anesthesiology, but are probably things that as a physician we should be aware of—for example, information on the Zika virus, or information on current thoughts with respect to disaster planning.

Dr. Regina Fragneto: Because we base our material on the current literature, the distribution of items isn’t systematic in each issue with regard to the topics or the categories that we cover. Some editions might be top-heavy in one area or another—perhaps cardiac or intensive care—reflecting what’s hot in the current literature at that time.
Dr. Laurence Torsher: We choose articles that result in SEE items by reviewing quarterly at least 35 journals. The members of the Editorial Board choose articles that seem timely, well-done, and of interest. From time to time we will choose an item that, even if it is not a well-done study, is generating a lot of interest both within the anesthesia community or the lay community as well. In that case, we see our role as one of making our readership aware of the article and laying out both its strengths and its weaknesses.

Dr. Regina Fragneto: The SEE items are solely for educational purposes, so we actually emphasize the written discussions more than the structure of the questions with which you’re presented. The questions aren’t designed to test your knowledge, or to even be well-balanced in terms of the psychometric sense, like those questions you might find on a certification exam. Instead, the questions are intended as a hook to present the key learning points from the publication and the discussion that follows from the question.

Dr. Laurence Torsher: Discussions are often influenced by the personal experience of the question writer or the editor, and you should feel free to disagree with them if they don’t match your own experience. We want you to think of the SEE program as you would a discussion with your colleagues in the operating room lounge; or alternatively, almost like a 4,000-member journal club.

Dr. Regina Fragneto: During our most recent meetings to produce the current SEE issue that was recently released, I asked our clinician editors to identify what topics they thought were most interesting and clinically relevant, that were being covered in the issue. Some of the topics that they mentioned included items related to the newly-approved as well as investigational drugs, such as idarucizumab, also known as Praxbind, for the reversal of those newer anticoagulant medications such as dabigatran; the use of 4-factor prothrombin
(sounds like: combi) concentrate, also known as Kcentra, for the reversal of warfarin-induced bleeding; some novel postoperative analgesic techniques, including sublingual sufentanil; and a new pill-dispensing device that perhaps in the future could be used to replace IV patient-controlled analgesia; ideas about the use of clear liquid fasting intervals less than two hours for our pediatric surgical patients; and the first published difficult airway guidelines specific to the obstetric population, which were produced recently by anesthesia societies from the United Kingdom.

Dr. Laurence Torsher: In our next podcast, we will introduce some of the other members of the Editorial Board, as well as give you a preview of some of the interesting items that will be coming out in forthcoming issues.

Dr. Regina Fragneto: If you’ve subscribed to SEE in the past, we hope you’ve found it worthwhile and want to continue using it as a key source of CME. If you’re just learning about SEE, we hope you will consider becoming a subscriber. It’s one of the best values in CME you will find. As an ASA member, you receive two issues per year for a total of 60 CME hours for just $360.

To purchase SEE, just go to the ASA website, asahq.org, and log in. At the top of the page, click on Shop ASA. That will take you to a list of ASA products, including SEE. Just click on SEE and you’ll be guided through the purchase process. You can choose either an electronic or booklet format; whatever works best for you. Thanks for listening, and we hope you’ll look further at SEE.

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Host: Thank you for listening to the SEE podcast, presented by the American Society of Anesthesiologists. For more information on SEE and other educational products, please visit Shop ASA.

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