

**Appendix 1** to Joos É, Trottier V., Thauvette D. Interest and applicability of acute care surgery among surgeons in Quebec: a provincial survey. *Can J Surg* 2013;56:E63-7.

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### **LETTER OF INFORMATION AND CONSENT**

#### **Questionnaire: THE FOUNDATIONS OF AN ACUTE CARE SURGERY SERVICE IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**

To general surgeons of the province of Quebec,

Acute Care Surgery is a newly described entity, first by the American Association for Trauma in 2005 and then approved by the Canadian Association of General Surgeons in 2009. A fellowship has been specifically created including an exposure in trauma/critical care, neurosurgery, orthopedics, thoracic surgery, hepatobiliary surgery and vascular surgery. This service has the mission to manage all emergency surgery cases. These include pathologies such as appendicitis, cholecystitis, diverticulitis, perforated ulcer, incarcerated hernia and perianal abscess. Hepatobiliary, thoracic and soft tissue diseases can also be encountered. There are actually thirteen Acute Care Surgery services in Canada. Their functioning is based on the 'surgeon of the week': one surgeon on call seven consecutive days (during the daytime only), managing exclusively emergency general surgery consultations. Since its implementation, this service has had a positive impact on the treatment of both patients operated on emergently and electively. However, this system is not flawless, and more has to be learned on the feasibility of its application in any healthcare center.

The goal of this questionnaire is to build the foundations of a viable Acute Care Surgery service in the province of Quebec.

We thank you for taking the **5 to 7 minutes** necessary to complete this questionnaire, which, we hope, will allow us to improve the practice of General Surgeons in the province of Quebec.

This questionnaire was conceived with the american web-based tool Survey Monkey. This program uses your computer's IP adress to access the survey. No connection is made between Survey Monkey and you computer's data. Your answers will be stored in the database; they will remain confidential and strictly anonymous. The results will then be analysed and presented in scientific meetings. In participating to this survey, your consent is implied. We also join a separate consent form that you can fill up and email to us or keep for your records.

For any question or comment about this survey, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following email addresses.

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Best regards,

AUTORS :

**Emilie Joos, MDCM**  
PGY-4 General Surgery  
Laval University, QC, QC, CA  
Pager : 418-641-4759  
emilie.joos.1@ulaval.ca

**Vincent Trottier, MD FRCS FACS**  
General Surgeon, Traumatology and  
Intensive Care  
Associate Professor of Surgery  
Centre Hospitalier Affilié Universitaire de  
Québec, Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus  
vincent.trottier@fmed.ulaval.ca

Collaborators :

**Daniel Thauvette, MD FRCS FACS**, Chief of service of Surgery Centre Hospitalier  
Universitaire Affilié, Critical Care Unit, Hôpital de l'Enfant Jésus

**Jean Péloquin, MD FRCS FACS**, Associate Professor of Surgery Laval University,  
Department of General Surgery adult and pediatric CHUQ-CHUL

**Philippe Bouchard, MD FRCS FACS**, Colorectal Surgeon, Department of General Surgery,  
CHUQ-HDQ-HSFA

**Julie Hallet, MD, PGY-5 General Surgery**, Laval University

**Jean-François Ouellet, MD FRCS FACS**, Fellow Trauma Surgery, University of Calgary