ANNUAL REPORT



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MISSION:

Supporting thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons in research and education

VISION:

A dynamic and innovative future of continued excellence in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery

VALUES:

- > Global Academic Exchange
- > Advancing Patient Care
- > Collaboration
- > Innovation
- > Fostering Leadership
- > Trusted Stewardship

A Message from AATS Foundation Leadership



David H. Adams, MD



Timothy J. Gardner, MD

2020 was an unprecedented year that impacted all of us, both personally and professionally. While the wide-reaching effects of the global pandemic had significant influence on AATS Foundation programs, we are very proud that the mission and vision continues to expand despite the challenges faced.

We had a goal this year to create more career development awards and research scholarships, and as a result of the generosity of so many individuals and new industry partnerships, we have been successful. Donor contributions demonstrate how committed you are to promoting excellence in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery for generations to come and is a true testament to our donors' belief in the scholarship commitment of our organization.

Thank you for your dedication to our Foundation. We are proud to share the following highlights from 2020:

- > The fundraising goal was surpassed, resulting in a total of more than \$2.1M to invest in the next generation of thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons
- > Six new programs were approved and funded to be launched in 2021
- > A record number of meritorious applications for our established research programs were submitted
- > A \$1M grant from AstraZeneca was received in collaboration with AATS
- > AATS member giving increased, demonstrating the value of funding individual surgical scholarship
- > AATS leadership continued to support the mission of the Foundation by providing an additional \$358K through the AATS matching grant

As you read this Annual Report, we hope you are proud of the critical role you played in the Foundation's many accomplishments, especially during these unparalleled times. Thank you for your generosity.

With gratitude,

David H. Adams, MDPresident, AATS Foundation

99th AATS President

Timothy J. Gardner, MD Secretary, AATS Foundation

82nd AATS President

Timethey J. Pardnes

2020 DONOR STATISTICS AND DONOR SPOTLIGHT

Even amidst a global pandemic, generous donors and partners ensured that the AATS Foundation continued to grow and thrive in 2020. These pages highlight notable accomplishments achieved last year, which we are honored to share.



GOAL: \$1.7 MILLION

ACTUAL: \$2.1 MILLION

2020 Donors per Lifetime Giving Circles

During the 2020 end of year campaign, contributors to the AATS Foundation were called upon to elevate their giving to the next Lifetime Giving Circle. The outpouring of support was incredible and resulted in a record amount of more than \$668K raised during the month of December. We are pleased to share the new giving levels and number of donors in each.

Foundation Circle \$250,000 -\$499,999 *2 Donors

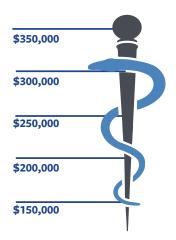
Benefactors Circle\$75,000 \$99,999
*0 Donors

Mentors' Circle \$50,000 -\$74,999 *2 Donors Scholars' Circle \$25,000 -\$49,999 Leadership Circle \$10,000 -\$24,999 *28 Donors Founders' Circle \$5,000 -\$9,999 *28 Donors Members' Circle Up to \$4,999 *421 Donors

2020 Matching Grants

The overwhelming support of many donors resulted in a record amount of AATS matching grant funds dispersed. Thanks to the generous participation of those who took part in the match, an additional \$358.714 was invested in the Foundation in 2020.

TOTAL MATCHED IN 2020: \$358,714



MEMBER DONORS:

543 Gifts made by **408** Total Members

28% of members donated to the AATS Foundation in 2020.

ALL DONORS:

645 Gifts made by **487** Total Donors



Strategic Collaboration Established with Grant from AstraZeneca

In 2020, the AATS and AATS Foundation established a strategic collaboration with AstraZeneca to create the AATS Leading the Way in Lung Cancer Care Initiative. AstraZeneca is a leader in the evolving landscape of early-stage lung cancer, and committed \$1M in funding for this important initiative, ultimately launching a novel collaboration in the thoracic surgery specialty. An impressive \$725K was allotted for Foundation activities. AstraZeneca's strategy in lung cancer is focused on early detection and treatment, enhancing innovation, and delivering life-changing medicines that help patients live better, longer lives.

Spearheaded by Dr. Yolonda L. Colson, AATS President-Elect and AATS Foundation Advisory Council Chair, and Dr. Brendon M. Stiles, AATS Foundation Advisory Council Member, this collaboration focuses on fostering new knowledge and innovative ideas to improve lung cancer treatment through research and the education of the next generation of thoracic surgeons. The strength of the AATS Foundation's commitment to the future of the specialty and patient care is embodied in more than 25 research and educational programs administered for thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons.

Central to this new collaboration is the support for Surgical Investigator Awards focused on lung cancer research, as well as support for emerging thoracic surgical oncologists, and women and faculty

"Given our similar goals and missions to innovate for lung cancer patients, this collaboration with AstraZeneca is a natural and mutually beneficial endeavor. Our initial efforts will focus on research, innovation, and collaborative leadership to

foster education and the sharing of ideas between AATS, AATS Foundation, and AstraZeneca; all for the benefit of our patients."

- DR. YOLONDA L. COLSON

underrepresented in medicine early in their thoracic surgical careers. These programs fund the research and development of young thoracic surgeons who will ultimately lead the future in thoracic surgery, improving outcomes and changing treatment paradigms for thoracic surgical patients throughout all communities. Improving the care of thoracic surgical patients, and being inclusive of different genders, ethnic and racial compositions, in both academic and community practices, are the pillars of this important collaboration.



"As cardiothoracic surgeons, our patients are some of the most complex patients in the world. We gladly take on the challenge of providing excellent multidisciplinary patient care for each one and we strive to innovate every day to find new cures and to continually improve care delivery to all our patients."

- DR. BRENDON M. STILES

AATS FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

The AATS Foundation provides educational and research opportunities for surgeons, fellows, residents, and medical students from around the world to enhance their surgical knowledge and technical skills and advance innovation in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery.

FELLOWSHIPS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The AATS Foundation continued to grow the robust portfolio of cardiac, thoracic, and congenital fellowships available to surgeons worldwide in 2020. These programs offer a variety of opportunities for those interested in all areas of thoracic and cardiovascular surgery such as robotic surgery, minimally invasive surgery, thoracic surgical oncology, valve disease, and atrial fibrillation. In addition, new programs focused on diversity and career development were established and will be launched in 2021.

MULTI-SPECIALTY

- > AATS Foundation Cohn Lectureship
- > AATS Foundation Gardner Lectureship
- > David J. Sugarbaker Memorial Lectureship
- > Evarts A. Graham Memorial Traveling Fellowship
- > Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery Fellowship Sponsored by Medtronic
- > Medical Student Diversity Scholarship NEW PROGRAM
- > Summer Intern Scholarship Supported by Scanlan
- > Valerie Rusch Mentored Career Development Award **NEW PROGRAM**

ADULT CARDIAC

- > Advanced Valve Disease Educational Fellowship Sponsored by Medtronic
- > Chinese Surgeons International Training Program Sponsored by Medtronic
- > Cardiac Surgical Robotics Program Sponsored by Intuitive Surgical
- > Denton A. Cooley Fellowship
- > Honoring Our Cleveland Clinic Mentors Program

- > James L. Cox Fellowship in Atrial Fibrillation Surgery Sponsored by AtriCure Inc.
- > Sir Magdi Yacoub International Mentored Career **Development Award NEW PROGRAM**

CONGENITAL

- > Aldo R. Castaneda Fellowship
- > Marc R. de Leval Fellowship

THORACIC

- > AATS Foundation Equity Award NEW PROGRAM Sponsored by AstraZeneca
- > Emerging Thoracic Surgical Oncologist Fellowship **NEW PROGRAM**

Sponsored by AstraZeneca

- > F. Griffith Pearson Fellowship
- > Jack A. Roth Fellowship in Thoracic Surgical Oncology
- > Thoracic Surgical Robotics Fellowship Sponsored by Intuitive Surgical
- > Thoracic Surgery Training Fellowship Sponsored by Ethicon China

NEW FELLOWSHIPS AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED IN 2020

> AATS Foundation Equity Award

Provides funding to early to mid-career women and faculty underrepresented in medicine to develop the foundations for successful careers in academic thoracic surgery. This award supports activities critical for academic success such as grant writing, pilot research studies, formal research or leadership training, the pursuit of advanced degrees, educational curriculum development, community outreach or other professional development opportunities.

> Emerging Thoracic Surgical Oncologist Fellowship

Fosters multidisciplinary knowledge and innovation to improve lung cancer treatment through the education of the next generation by supporting young thoracic surgeons to spend time at a premier AATS host institution, in addition to providing a travel grant to attend the AATS Annual Meeting and International Thoracic Surgical Oncology Summit.



> Sir Magdi Yacoub International Mentored Career Development Award

Provides grants to international cardiac surgeons to support clinical observational training, translational research, and the opportunity to have a visiting cardiac surgeon-mentor provide training, education, or research support at the recipient's home institution.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Funding the research initiatives of future leaders in the field remains a priority for the AATS Foundation. 2020 marked the addition of new programs and collaborations supporting cutting edge research.

- > Academic Excellence Award
- > C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum
- > Cardiac Surgical Resident Investigator Award NEW PROGRAM
- > David J. Sugarbaker Surgical Resident Investigator Award NEW PROGRAM

- > Research Scholarship
- > Surgical Investigator Program
- > WTS Mid-Career Investigator Award NEW PROGRAM Sponsored by Medtronic

NEW RESEARCH PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED IN 2020



> David J. Sugarbaker Surgical Resident Investigator

Supports general surgery residents with a focus on thoracic surgical oncology, specifically with an interest in conducting mesothelioma or lung cancer research, to work directly with an established thoracic surgical investigator.

> Surgical Investigator Award for Lung Cancer Initiatives

Funded by AstraZeneca, this grant will provide funding to support research proposals focused on the treatment of lung cancer, either in terms of basic science advances, surgical outcomes or the development of quality initiatives.

> WTS Mid-Career Investigator Award

Intended for mid-career women cardiothoracic surgeon-scientists to support clinical, translational, or basic science research initiatives.











"I am extremely grateful to AATS for providing this excellent opportunity. It made me a better clinician, teacher and a leader...Knowledge is dynamic and I shall continue to seek more experiential opportunities through the AATS Foundation. Learning never ends!"

- CHIZOBA EFOBI, EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS VALVE FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT

INVESTING IN THE AATS FOUNDATION

Your investment in the AATS Foundation, along with those of other generous donors, resulted in \$2.1M to invest in the individual scholarship and research initiatives of thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons around the world. Some notable accomplishments are highlighted below.



"I feel blessed to have successfully completed my most valuable fellowship at such a tough and testing time, against all odds. This fellowship greatly boosted my confidence and will go a long way in widening my practice...this experience has helped broaden my perspective, not just in the field of cardiothoracic surgery, but in healthcare as a whole."

- DR. GANESH AMMANNAYA, ADVANCED VALVE DISEASE EDUCATIONAL FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT, PICTURED WITH DR. AUBREY GALLOWAY



"My participation in the Every Heartbeat Matters Valve Fellowship was very inspiring and indeed an important step in my career. It

helped me to look at cardiothoracic surgery from a different angle. I now realize that the multidisciplinary team collaboration is a cornerstone of success in this critical type of surgery."

- DR. HOSAM FAROUK AHMED, EVERY HEARTBEAT MATTERS VALVE FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



The first virtual Thoracic Surgical Robotics program, supported by Intuitive Surgical, was hosted providing attendees the opportunity to enhance their robotics skills and interact with leading experts in the field.



"The number of programs available through the AATS Foundation is astounding and the generosity of each of the awards is also very amazing and allows us to be able to pursue advanced training or fellowship experiences...The AATS Foundation is so generous in giving us the security that we are being supported while we are learning those skills, techniques, and protocols which are then brought back to our own institutions to advance our own practices...It makes me feel really honored to be part of a specialty that values mentorship so much."

- DR. UMA SACHDEVA, F. GRIFFITH PEARSON FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT, PICTURED WITH DR. VALERIE RUSCH



"I was excited and honored to be in one room with such expert surgeons like Dr. Starnes, Dr. Baker, Dr. Kiankhooy, Dr. Fleischman and Dr. Cunningham. It was fascinating to watch

these leaders in their field working not only in the OR, but also doing rounds on the floors, discussing complex cases, consulting with patients in the clinic and much more. I was exposed to the invaluable experience of watching these master surgeons apply their clinical decision-making. Being able to be a part of those discussions enabled me to adopt some of that same wisdom in making future decisions for my own patients, saving them, and myself, from some of the pitfalls."

- DR. IHAR KIZIUKEVICH, JAMES. L COX FELLOWSHIP IN ATRIAL FIBRILLATION RECIPIENT, PICTURED WITH DR. VAUGHN STARNES "My visit to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital only further confirmed that the field of cardiothoracic surgery including



my subspecialty of congenital cardiothoracic surgery is vibrant, will continue to grow further, and reinforces the notion that it is a great time to be a cardiothoracic surgeon, especially a congenital cardiac surgeon! I am hoping such travelling fellowships will help establish and strengthen international cooperation, foster friendships, and help participants on both the sides to exchange ideas and techniques. Ultimately, it is our patients who are the beneficiaries from such endeavors."

- DR. SANDEEP SAINATHAN, MARC R. DE LEVAL FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENT



"My outlook on CT surgery has moved from a career I am potentially considering, to a field I want to pursue with full effort and passion. I believe there are many areas in the field that can benefit from aspiring surgeons, such as changes in medical education and legislative advocacy in the field, which I hope to contribute to moving forward."

- AHMAD HIDER, SUMMER INTERN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT, PICTURED WITH DR. JULES LIN



"Working everyday side by side with giants of aortic surgery and being part of their team was an invaluable experience that not only expanded my surgical skillset, but also opened the way to new, exciting possibilities for my professional development and career progression. Many thanks to the AATS Foundation for this fantastic opportunity!"

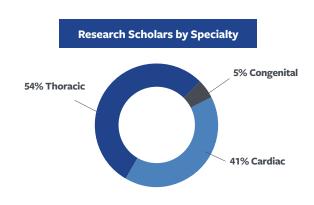
- DR. CRISTIANO SPADACCIO, AORTIC TRAINING FELLOWSHIP AND LEARN FROM THE MASTERS RECIPIENT

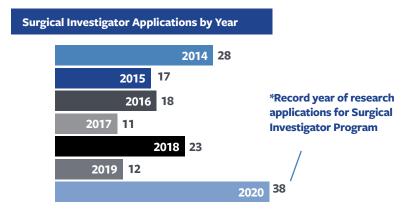
FOCUS ON RESEARCH

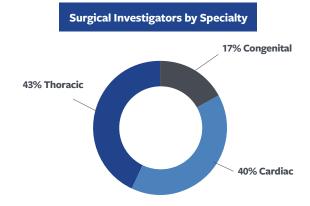
The AATS Foundation strongly believes in the importance of research opportunities available to young thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons and has funded 74 awardees in their initiatives.

Since 1985, the esteemed **Research Scholarship** has supported a two-year research award for young faculty pursuing an academic career. This program honors several of the pioneers in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery and some of the leaders of today were early recipients of the scholarship.

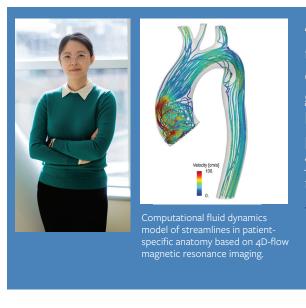
A second flagship program, the Surgical Investigator Program, was launched in 2014 to support the cutting-edge research of future leaders in the field. The two-year grant funds young thoracic and cardiovascular surgeons in clinical or translational research on topics related to quality and outcomes research, and studies of new and innovative therapies, procedures, and technologies in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery.







Past awardees expressed gratitude for the tremendous impact Foundation research programs have had on their careers.



"The AATS Foundation Surgical Investigator Award provided evaluate aortic dissection risk prediction. With this seed grant, we have been able to uncover novel correlations young surgeon-scientists like myself to carry their research to the next level."

- DR. JENNIFER CHUNG, AATS FOUNDATION SURGICAL INVESTIGATOR

"Getting an AATS Research
Scholarship has been a major
boost for my budding academic
career. It has allowed me to justify
my protected time, generate
valuable data, and establish a
track record for future grants. It
has been critical in helping me
get to the next level in my
research career."

- DR. SMITA SIHAG, DAVID J. SUGARBAKER RESEARCH SCHOLAR

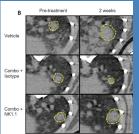


Research Scholars, Drs. Smita Sihag and Damien LaPar were recognized by Drs. David Adams and Timothy Gardner.

"As an early career investigator and academic surgeon-scientist, I am supremely grateful to the AATS Foundation for the support I have a received for my research in congenital heart disease. The AATS Norman Shumway Research Scholarship has been instrumental in helping to build the foundations of my congenital heart research lab and will serve as a critical factor in helping to secure future grant support."

- DR. DAMIEN J. LAPAR, NORMAN SHUMWAY RESEARCH SCHOLAR





"As science progresses, it is paramount for physician-scientists to be at the forefront of these developments, working toward novel therapies and approaches that will benefit our patients. In today's competitive research environment, grants such as those provided through the AATS Foundation are critical to the success of young investigators. I am personally very grateful for the support I have received through the AATS Foundation and I look forward to giving back to the organization as my career moves forward."

- DR. MATTHEW J. BOTT, ANDREW MORROW RESEARCH SCHOLAR

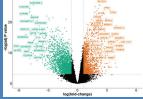
"I am extremely grateful for the AATS Foundation's support as it has enabled us to get our project started, enhanced its visibility, as well as enabl the establishment of important collaborations."

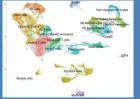
- DR. NATHALIE ROY, AATS FOUNDATION SURGICAL INVESTIGATOR

"The Michael DeBakey Research Scholarship from the AATS Foundation has been instrumental in helping me advance my research career. The scholarship helped strengthen a collaboration with the ImmunoX initiative at UCSF and led to two other private institution research grants over the past year. In addition, the preliminary data gathered as a direct result of AATS funding helped me apply for my first NIH/NCI Ko8 award last spring. Support from the AATS Foundation continues to serve as an important catalyst in my research aimed at improving outcomes for patients with surgically-resected early-stage lung cancer."

- DR. JOHANNES R. KRATZ, MICHAEL DEBAKEY RESEARCH SCHOLAR (PICTURED ON LEFT)







2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

The following summary of the AATS Foundation financial report is for the year ended December 31, 2020*. Assets total \$11.2 million, which represents a nearly \$1.8 million increase from 2019, and liabilities total \$1 million, which represents a \$127K decrease from 2019.

Total Operating Revenue of nearly \$2.4 million in 2020 (see Chart 1 – compared with \$2.6 million in 2019), which breaks down as follows:

Grants and Contributions, General Unrestricted Funds: \$285,858 (compared to \$262,224 in 2019).

Grants and Contributions, Restricted Funds: \$1,483,470 (compared to \$1,184,298 in 2019).

AATS Grant and In-kind Support: \$132,184 (compared to \$717,955 in 2019). In 2020, AATS Foundation took on direct costs, which reduced the grant and in-kind support previously provided by AATS.

AATS Matching Grant: \$358,714 (compared to \$266,752 in 2019).

Interest/Dividends: \$132,067 (compared to \$148,034 in 2019).

Total Operating Expenditures amounted to more than \$1.1 million (see Chart 2 – compared to \$2.1 million in 2019), which breaks down as follows: *Reduction of expenditures due in large part to travel restrictions and program delays as a result of global pandemic.

Grants and Awards: \$657,086 (compared to \$1,619,562 in 2019).

General and Administrative Expenses: \$461,235 (compared to \$401,743 in 2019).

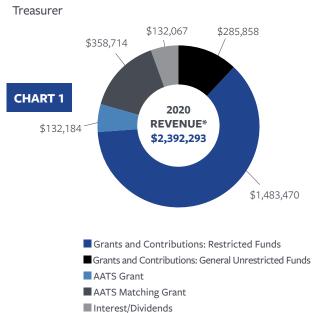
Development Costs: \$17,922 (compared to \$38,920 in 2019). **Committee Costs:** \$6,856 (compared to \$9,783 in 2019).

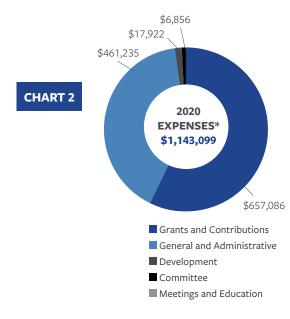
Meetings and Education Costs: \$0 (compared to \$4,465 in 2019).

We ended the fiscal year with unrestricted net assets of \$5,678,121 and \$4,557,220 in net assets restricted for programs in 2021 and beyond.

The financial position of the AATS Foundation remains strong thanks to the generous support of our donors.







*Please note, 2020 financial activities are unaudited at time of print.

AATS Foundation Partners

The AATS Foundation partners with corporations and organizations to fund select research and educational programs.

Help advance patient care and ensure excellence in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery by becoming a distinguished partner. The AATS Foundation Development Office will work closely with your staff to create a mutually beneficial relationship, aligning our goals and missions.

Current projects supported by partners include:

AtriCure

> James L. Cox Fellowship in Atrial Fibrillation Surgery



- > AATS Foundation Equity Award
- > Emerging Thoracic Surgical Oncologist Fellowship
- > Surgical Investigator Program



> International Cardiovascular Valve Symposia



> Thoracic Surgery Training Fellowship

INTUÎTIVE.

- > Advanced Lobectomy Course
- > Cardiac Surgical Robotics Program
- > Thoracic Surgical Robotics Fellowship

Medtronic

- > Advanced Valve Disease Educational Fellowship
- > AATS Foundation/WTS Mid-Career Investigator Award
- > Chinese Surgeons International Training Program
- > Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery Fellowship



> Summer Intern Scholarship

To learn more about becoming an AATS Foundation partner, contact Katie Federico at kfederico@aats.org or 978-252-2200 Ext. 544.

LIFETIME GIVING CIRCLE MEMBERS

The AATS Foundation is grateful for donors who have made significant contributions throughout the years. Thank you to the following Lifetime Giving Circle Members:

Graham Circle \$1,000,000+

American Association for Thoracic Surgery **Edwards Lifesciences Foundation** Intuitive Surgical, Inc.

Sugarbaker Circle \$500,000-\$999,999

Medtronic

Foundation Circle \$250,000-\$499,999

AstraZeneca AtriCure, Inc. **Fthicon** Ethicon China Oz Lemole Fund

Presidents' Circle \$100,000-\$249,999

David H. Adams, MD Anonymous Anonymous Facilitated by David J. Sugarbaker, MD Cleveland Clinic Facilitated by Lars G. Svensson, Joseph S. Coselli, MD Chris and Jane Petrin and Friends and Family of Ford-Petrin Texas Medical Center Y. Joseph Woo, MD

Benefactors' Circle \$75,000-\$99,999

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Facilitated b Thomas L. Spray, MD David R. Jones, MD James D. Luketich, MD Marc and Cindy Moon Hartzell V. Schaff, MD Seemine International Medical Company Vaughn A. Starnes, MD

Mentors' Circle \$50,000-\$74,999

Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD Timothy J. Gardner, MD Kristopher M. George, MD Robert M. Kroslowitz LivaNova Craig R. Smith, MD Thomas L. Spray, MD

Scholars' Circle \$25,000-\$49,999

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Leadership Circle \$10,000-\$24,999

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Graham Circle Sugarbaker Circle **Foundation Circle Presidents' Circle Benefactors' Circle** \$75,000 - \$99,999 Mentors' Circle Scholars' Circle Leadership Circle Founders' Circle

\$500,000 - \$999,999 \$250,000 - \$499,999 \$100,000 - \$249,999 \$50,000 - \$74,999 \$25,000 - \$49,999 \$10,000 - \$24,999 \$5,000 - \$9,999

\$1,000,000+

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Sai Yendamuri, MD

2020 DONORS AND SPONSORS

The AATS Foundation appreciates the generosity of the following supporters in 2020:

\$250,000+

American Association for Thoracic Surgery* AstraZeneca

\$100,000-\$249,999

Ethicon China Intuitive Surgical, Inc.* Medtronic*

\$50,000-\$99,999

Ismail El-Hamamsy, MD Robert M. Kroslowitz

\$25,000-\$49,999

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