

Clifford Y. Ko, M.D., MS, MSHS



RESEARCH

Dr. Ko created the Center for Surgical Outcomes and Quality (CSOQ) almost 10 years ago. This center performs amongst the highest level of policy relevant, health services, clinical outcomes research in the country. The group prioritizes meaningful work that will unequivocally contribute to measuring and improving the delivery of surgery throughout the continuum of care. Often, the work performed in the center aligns with national level work with the American College of Surgeons, with CMS, and other national entities.

CSOQ has focused on numerous aspects of surgical care including methodological issues, analytical measurement, cost effectiveness, measures development, quality improvement and implementation of quality interventions. An important focus is implementing quality initiatives across the different UCLA hospitals (Reagan, Santa Monica, VA, County, and others).

CSOQ has a team of mentors and collaborators from within the surgical specialties, but also the Center works with a number of experts from the school of medicine, the school of public health, and RAND. Some of the faculty involved in CSOQ include: Melinda Maggard Gibbons, MD, MSHS, David Zingmond, MD, PhD, and Marcia McGory Russell, MD.

Dr. Ko is also an Associate Director of the UCLA-RAND Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program. This program is another fellowship in which residents can learn and perform high level health services research. Collaboration between RWJ and CSOQ is routine.

Dr. Ko has mentored over 30 residents/fellows in research in his 10+ years on faculty at UCLA, with graduates going onto clinical careers in general surgery, colorectal, surgical oncology, pediatric surgery, vascular, plastic, trauma and critical care, urology, hepatobiliary, ENT, amongst other specialties. For those joining CSOQ and training in the Center, the vision is to train the next leaders in policy-relevant, health services research.

PRESENT POSITIONS / HONORS

- Professor of Surgery
- Professor of Health Services
- Robert Day Chair of Surgical Outcomes
- Vice Chair, Dept of Surgery
- Chief, Colorectal Surgery, West LA VA
- Associate Director, UCLA-RAND Robert Wood
- Johnson Clinical Scholars Program
- Director, Division of Research and Optimal Patient Care, American College of Surgeons
- Director, ACS NSQIP, American College of Surgeons
- Best Doctors in America
- Best Doctors in Los Angeles
- Golden Scalpel Award

FUNDING

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- National Institutes of Health
- American Cancer Society

PUBLICATIONS

Publications: 252

Chapters 22