# Web Site To Educate, Empower Public About Anesthesiology

CHICAGO, June 22 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Every year, 46 million Americans face the stress and uncertainty of inpatient surgery. To help educate and inform prospective patients and the public at large, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) has launched LifelinetoModernMedicine.com, the most comprehensive online resource on anesthesia care.

"Health care advancements and treatment options continue to expand rapidly, made possible by the anesthesiologists who oversee an estimated 40 million anesthetics administered in the U.S. each year," said Roger A. Moore, M.D., president of the ASA. "Given the complexity of today's surgical procedures and the central role anesthesia plays in making those procedures possible, the ASA has launched this Web site with the aim that all patients become informed and educated about their care."

The general public and prospective patients will have access to various anesthesia related resources and tools on LifelinetoModernMedicine.com, including:

-- The Anesthesia & Me(C) checklist, a potentially life-saving form that the ASA recommends people print, fill out and keep in their wallets in case of surgery. The checklist details a person's medical history, current medications, allergies and additional items necessary for proper anesthesia care.

-- Information on the different types of anesthesia and the risks associated with each.

-- Details about what to expect before and after surgery.

-- Information on relevant medical specialties, including obstetrics, pediatrics, geriatric medicine and acute, chronic and cancer pain medicine.

-- Real-life patient stories.

"Although millions of operations are performed each year, surgery is a big decision for every patient," said Moore. "LifelinetoModernMedicine.com gives patients a wealth of information so they can be well-informed about their options."

The last decade has seen explosive growth in the number of health care consumers who are searching for medical information on the Internet. According to Google AdWords, every month, 90 million consumers search for health and medical related information online. Health Web sites drew about 72 million unique visitors in 2008, a 14 percent increase from 2007.

For more information, visit www.ASAHQ.org [1] and www.LifelinetoModernMedicine.com

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[1] http://www.asahq.org/