

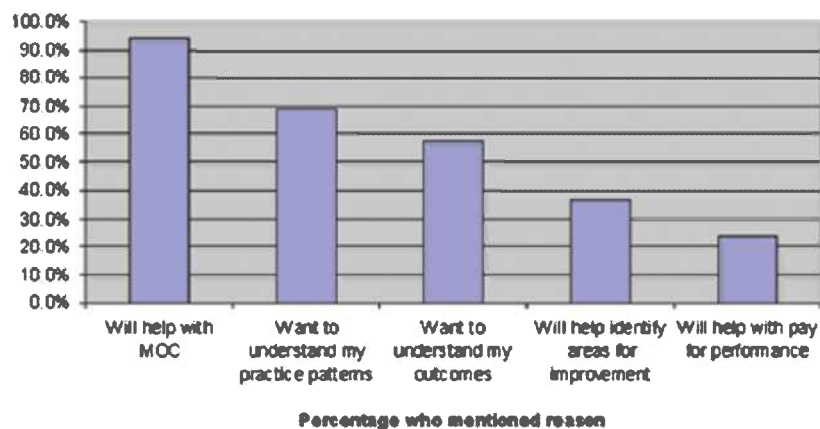
by Tyler Hughes, MD, FACS; Howard Tanzman, ACS Director of Information Technology; and M. Michael Shabot, MD, FACS

With nearly 1 million cases entered since October 2005, surgeons can now quickly and easily maintain their personal case log, and confidentially compare their results against the aggregated results of thousands of other surgeons. The Case Log System has continued to evolve over time.

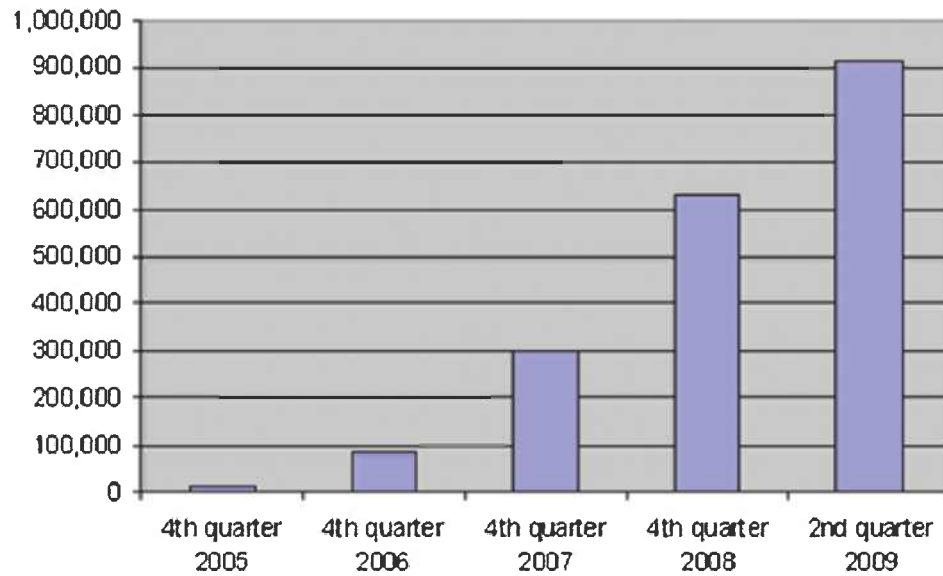
### Why use the Case Log System?

- **MOC:** The Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process is easier to manage with the Case Log System. Instead of spending time chasing paper, classifying cases, and filling in the ABS case experience form, a surgeon can electronically transfer all of his or her case data to the ABS with a few mouse clicks. And the study for ongoing education is streamlined with a surgeon's knowledge of his or her most common cases and their outcomes. This allows the surgeon to assess educational needs more precisely.
- **Using the system for credentialing, re-credentialing, and privileging purposes:** Medicare and The Joint Commission regulations governing hospitals require proof of current clinical experience and competence for credentialing, re-credentialing, and privileging. The Case Log System records the facility where each procedure was performed, and provides for aggregation of cases over surgeon-specified time periods for reporting purposes. Surgeons who practice at multiple hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers especially benefit from this, as the Case Log System provides combined reports of experience to satisfy all possible credentialing and privileging needs.

Responding to a survey of users of the Case Log System, surgeons gave several key reasons for why they participate in the program:



## ACS Case Log - Cumulative cases logged



**How do I get started?** In order to access the system, you must be a member of the ACS. First, you must register for the system by visiting <http://www.acscaselog.register.org>. A user ID and password are required to access the ACS members-only Web portal. There is information on this page to assist you, if you have questions regarding your user ID and password. Once you have registered for the system, you can directly access the Case Log System at <http://www.acscaselog.org>.