



**Adopted BOD April 2008
Updated BOD January 2013**

Position Statement on Harvesting the Saphenous Vein by the CSFA

The Association of Surgical Technologists recognizes that the surgical assistant performs, under direct supervision, intraoperative technical functions that assist the physician in performing a safe operation with optimal results for the patient. This includes performing the harvesting of the saphenous vein for grafting purposes, either as an open procedure or endoscopically, under the broad delegatory authority of the physician, as defined by the American College of Surgeons, the provisions for which vary from state to state and according to state law.

Therefore, it is the position of AST that the individual, who has attained the credential of CSFA, has the knowledge and experience to perform those tasks as related to the intraoperative harvesting of the saphenous vein to contribute to quality surgical patient outcomes.