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Local surgeon Dr. Kent C. Sasse honored by the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

Dr. Sasse chosen as a Fellow of the ASCRS for his leadership and commitment to excellence in the field of colon and rectal surgery.

RENO, NEV. (July 22, 2010): Every year, the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons bestows upon a select group of surgeons the title of Fellow of the ASCRS, for their advancement of the field of colon and rectal surgery. This year, at their annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., Reno surgeon Kent C. Sasse, M.D. was chosen for this distinction in recognition of his ongoing efforts to make colon and rectal surgery more effective and less invasive.

Dr. Sasse joins an elite group of highly trained surgeons nationwide who hold the distinction of being Fellows of the ASCRS, and he is only the second surgeon from Northern Nevada to achieve this status.

“I very much enjoy this area of medicine and working with people who have suffered from some of these colorectal conditions,” Dr. Sasse said. “It’s a field where a skilled surgeon can make a real difference in the lives of people with these problems, and help them live a much longer, fuller life.”

In order to be elected as a Fellow in the ASCRS, a physician must complete his general surgery residency and then must complete an additional residency or fellowship in colon and rectal surgery, pass additional board exams, practice in the field and submit case logs from that practice, and finally, receive letters of support from other Fellows of the ASCRS. The ASCRS Fellowship Society Committee then votes on a surgeon’s application at the ASCRS annual meeting.

As a member of the ASCRS for over nine years now, Dr. Sasse has seen significant changes in the way surgeons approach colorectal surgery.

“There has been a tremendous advancement in moving toward less invasive surgical techniques – techniques that involve making much smaller incisions and using new technology that really allow increasingly complex operations to be performed while allowing patients to recover more quickly and experience less pain and less complications,” Dr. Sasse said. “And that’s an area where my training was focused, and where I have been able to provide some leadership and some specialized expertise.”

Looking forward, Dr. Sasse hopes to continue to bring forward the minimally invasive techniques for colon and rectal surgery to patients in the local community, while at the same time studying the long-term outcome of such techniques through his ongoing clinical research. He is also excited about his teaching at the University of Nevada School of Medicine in Reno and the chance to pass along some of his specialized knowledge to future physicians coming out of Northern Nevada.

About Kent C. Sasse, M.D.

Dr. Kent C. Sasse, M.D., MPH, FACS, FASCRS, completed his bachelor's degree in Biochemistry at the University of California San Diego where he graduated cum laude. He completed his medical education at the University of California San Francisco, where he was honored with several awards, including membership in the prestigious Alpha Omega Alpha Society for top medical graduates in the country. He earned two Master's degrees from the University of California Berkeley, including a Master's in Public Health stemming from research related to biostatistics and bioethics. He went on to complete Residency training in Surgery at the University of California San Francisco, where he focused on gastrointestinal surgery and physiology. He later completed Fellowship training at the Lahey Clinic in Boston, Massachusetts, before relocating to beautiful northern Nevada to develop his practice.

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