



## THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH IN MEDICINE

Dr. Max Thorek founded the International College of Surgeons (ICS) in 1935. Over the 83 years of the ICS's existence, the philosophy of Dr. Max Thorek has remained relevant. According to Dr. Thorek, "The ICS has a mission of bringing together the leaders of surgery of other nations of the world – a true College whose prime function would be to teach all who thirsted for knowledge and be a channel through which surgical knowledge could flow quickly and easily to all parts of the world." In the thinking of Dr. Thorek, research and education are intertwined.

Research is one of the four key missions of the International College of Surgeons, with education, communication, and leadership being the other three key missions. The importance of research in medicine is unquestioned. Research stimulates discussion of new ideas on a global basis. Physicians learn by studying the results of research, which

allows physicians to better aid their patients in the service of mankind. Research promotes growth and change in medicine.

Research is progress. There is no *status quo*, and research is the engine that brings progress. In a world where good health and well-being are applicable to and are a right of all persons, the importance of research is not limited to newer and better procedures in medicine. As Dr. Max Thorek strongly believed, medical research is bringing the world closer together.

I welcome any questions or comments that you may have.

Sincerely,

Christopher Chen  
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