

Santiago, November 7th, 2023

**Chilean Society of Abdominal Wall and Hernia Statement
SPA H Chile**

Regarding the article in the October 30 edition of The New York Times: “How a Lucrative Surgery Took Off Online and Disfigured Patients” and the reaction of the American Hernia Society, expressed in a letter dated November 3 ; As Chilean Society of Abdominal Wall and Hernia, we find it necessary to keep in mind that patients with abdominal wall pathology sometimes represent a superlative and multidisciplinary surgical challenge and to respond to them, we have advanced surgical techniques that, although we have allowed great achievements in the resolution of complex cases, their correct indication and execution require adequately supervised training.

As Chilean Society of Abdominal Wall and Hernia, we agree with the Americas Hernia Society that the cases described in the article do not represent most surgeons and that adequate surgical performance requires the highest ethical and technical standards. In accordance with the above, the contribution of social media to the dissemination of new surgical techniques has been invaluable, however, the correct indication and execution of these corresponds to and is the responsibility of each surgeon.

Finally, we emphasize that our mission is to promote the dissemination of knowledge, skills and technical competencies that, together with the ethical imperative that guides our profession, allow us to best resolve the pathologies of our patients.



Dr. Gabriel García

President

Sociedad de Pared Abdominal y Hernia de Chile

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