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DON’T MISS THE SEPT 16TH ANNUAL MEETING
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Dear colleagues:

We held our best attended and most well received annual ACC AZ chapter meeting this May at JW Resort Golf Club with over 90 participants. Most AZ fellows in training attended and presented 26 posters.

In my state of the state address I provided a comprehensive overview of our chapter activities and project, including our international partnership with Mexico.

An array of superb nationally known speakers provided excellent updates on their specialties, including Dr Lee, Banner University Tuscon on the MI AZ app, Dr Pershad, Banner University Phoenix on TAVI, Dr. Chen, Chief of Cardiology Mayo Clinic on EP and Dr. Schлепian, UoA Tuscon on robotic hearts.

Our key note speaker Dr Peter Ganz, Chief of Cardiology SF General Hospital, UCSF provided exciting insights into the biology of aging and CAD.

The best abstracts were awarded and we adjourned with a new sense of engagement and enthusiasm about the ACC AZ Chapter.

I strongly encourage all of you to be actively involved and participate in our upcoming “Future of Cardiology” symposium at Biltmore AZ September, Friday 16th, 6-9 PM.

Hope to see you all: we will discuss hot button issues like MOC, MACRA and clinical practice tools.

Christian Breburda, MD, PhD, FACC, FASE, FESC
President AZ ACC, Clinical Professor of Medicine
University of Arizona College of Medicine Phoenix
Director of Noninvasive Cardiology & Imaging, Maricopa Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ
JACC Leadership Page: Where Will Cardiology Be in 2050?

In a recent Leadership Page published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC), ACC President Richard A. Chazal, MD, FACC, looks forward to the future of cardiology. By examining current trends, he predicts what the next 50 years might look like, covering topics such as telemedicine, wearable technology, robotics, genetic testing and more. “There is little doubt that the days of cardiovascular disease being the number one killer around the world are numbered,” he writes. “I also have no doubt that the College’s members will play a significant role in making this happen.” Read more.

Coronary Artery Disease Infographic Now Available

Coronary artery disease (CAD) affects more than 15 million American adults, making it the most common type of heart disease. It’s also the leading cause of death in men and women in the U.S. Since CAD usually progresses over many decades, patients have troubles understanding this disease. ACC’s CardioSmart CAD Infographic explains this condition in an easy-to-understand and interactive format. CardioSmart’s infographic posters are ideal point-of-care graphics for your waiting and exam rooms, and can be downloaded for free. To receive more tools and resources, sign up to become a CardioSmart Practice!
Performance, Quality Measures Updated For Treating AFib
Updated clinical performance and quality measures for treating adult patients with atrial fibrillation (AFib) or atrial flutter have been expanded to include the inpatient setting, and now address care domains that were not previously included, such as patient safety, effective clinical care, communication and care coordination. The updated measure set was released June 27 by the ACC and the American Heart Association, and published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. “The writing committee believes that implementation of this clinical performance and quality measure set by providers, physician practices, and hospital systems will help to enhance the quality of care provided to patients with AFib in both the inpatient and outpatient settings, and thereby improve their quality of life,” says Paul A. Heidenreich, MD, MS, FACC, chair of the writing committee. Read more on ACC.org.

ACC Submits Comments to CMS on Proposed MACRA Structure
The ACC has submitted extensive comments to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on the proposed regulations to implement the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) based on the feedback of key member groups. The MACRA legislation repealed the flawed Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula, which focused on fee-for-service payment, where higher-performing physicians had no ability to earn more for outcomes. Replacing SGR with MACRA will pave the way for a new payment system that places importance on quality care. MACRA also creates stability for Medicare payments by mapping out payment updates for ten years and beyond – stability that was severely lacking under the SGR formula. CMS will release the final regulations by Nov. 1, 2016, which will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2017 – the proposed start of the reporting period under the new payment program. The ACC will continue to work with CMS throughout the regulatory process to establish details of how the law will function. The ACC will also be developing education and resources to help members prepare for the changes ahead. Read the College’s comments on ACC.org.
ACC Archived Webinars
Did you know that you can find archived webinars from throughout the years from the ACC on ACC.org? As a member, you have access to this wealth of information here. To access them, you must have an ACC.org log-in and use the confirmation code and webinar access link emailed to you once you. Questions? Contact ACC’s Resource Center at Phone: 202-375-6000, ext. 5603 or 800-253-4636, ext. 5603 or resource@acc.org.

Is Your ACC Member Profile Up-To-Date?
The ACC wants to make sure it’s sending members only the most relevant information. To that end, the College is encouraging all members to update their ACC profile, including contact information, specialty areas, clinical interest areas and practice information. Don’t miss out on the latest cardiovascular research, new clinical guidelines, advocacy updates, ACC news and member benefits. Update your profile online at ACC.org/MyProfile.
ONE MORE TIME!

BY MARCI FARQUHAR-SNOW, CVT LIAISON

In a recent issue of JACC, Valentin Fuster MD PhD MACC emphasizes that provider’s focus on cardiovascular health promotion (1). Indeed there is a great need for all cardiovascular providers to discuss with their patients the importance of diet, smoking cessation, weight management and lifestyle modifications. Although it was suggested that partnering with unlikely allies such as the tobacco and food industry might improve outcomes, we have many opportunities in our daily patient interactions to stress the importance of healthy behaviors. And the cardiovascular team members play an important role in these patient interactions and ongoing education.

Since 1999 and most recently in 2015, the Gallup Honestly and Ethics Poll have ranked the nursing profession as number 1 (85%), followed by pharmacist (68%) and medical doctors (67%) (2). All have consistently ranked in the top 5 annually. I postulate this ranks well above the tobacco and food industry professions. And just handing out a copy of an educational brochure, might rank at the Advertising Practitioners level of 10%. We are all busy, but having a short, honest conversation with your patients and/or families about their lifestyle issues or potential barriers they face at every face-to-face encounter can help demystify those opportunities to either modify the treatment plan or to refer to a team member who can assist. These conversations foster shared decision-making, patient satisfaction and are appreciated by all generations. Various studies have shown that education leads towards health behaviors and medication adherence, but why doesn’t it persist? We just have to continually reinforce the conversations….one more time!

Updates from the ACC CV Team Work Group

The 2017 strategic goals will be reviewed late in August. The roles and responsibilities for CV Team State Liaisons and activities provided for our members will be discussed the plan will be shared following the meeting in a subsequent newsletter.

We are fortunate to have a list of excellent speakers at the upcoming September 16, 2016 at The Biltmore. Future legislative issues and how they will affect our business practices will be discussed which will be important to be aware of before the upcoming November elections. We encourage members to become active in our AZ ACC chapter for networking and professional growth opportunities.
It has been great to interact with many of the CVTeam members attending at these events and welcome any questions on how to become an Associate of the ACC (AACC).

References:


Gallup's 2015 Honesty and Ethics of Professions Ratings

Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields -- very high, high, average, low or very low?

Sorted by very high/high

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Very high/High</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Low/Very low</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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UPCOMING EVENTS

SEP 11-13

ACC Legislative Summit Heart House Washington, DC
Location: Fairmont Hotel Washington, DC
Stay tuned at: ACC.org/LegislativeConference for more information.

SEP 16

AZ ACC Annual Meeting: What the Future Holds: How We Advance Strategy & Political Advocacy in Cardiovascular Disease

Location: The Biltmore 2400 E Missouri Ave Phoenix, AZ 85016
Time: 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM | Agenda and Details | Register

FREE: FIT $25: ACC member nurses $40: ACC member physicians $75: Non ACC members

Learn from the best speakers:

Christian Breburda, MD, PhD, FACC, FASE, FESC Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Arizona College of Medicine Phoenix, Director of Noninvasive Cardiology & Imaging, Maricopa Medical Center, Phoenix, AZ

Victor A. Ferrari, MD, Professor of Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

Kim Allan Williams, Sr., MD, MACC James B. Herrick Professor; Chief, Division of Cardiology Rush University Medical Center, Immediate Past President of the ACC

**Room Reservations | More Information on the Website**
OCT 13-14  Cardiovasular Disease Management: A Case - Based Approach 4th Annual Symposium
More detail to follow on the website

OCT 14-16  Cardiometabolic Risk Summit Fall Conference
Endorsed by the Arizona and California Chapters of the American College

CRS Fall is designed by leaders in primary care and cardiometabolic risk. Come a day early on Oct. 13 for the Clinician Wellness Pre-Conference and an expanded program on Comorbidities in the Cardiometabolic Patient.

Location: CAESARS PALACE 3570 Las Vegas Boulevard South Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

Register Here | More Details on the Website

NOV 8-11  27th Annual Cardiovascular Interventions 2016
From ProMedica CME and endorsed by the Arizona and California Chapters of the American College

Location: Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines 10950 North Torrey Pines Rd La Jolla, California, 92037

This activity has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. Nursing CEUs and Perfusion CEs will also be available

Website | Register

DEC 1-3  The 6th Annual Internation Hawaii Symposium on Diagnostic and Therapeutic Modalities on Heart Failure.
A Comprehensive and Practical Review of Advances in Heart Failure and Biomarkers Endorsed by the California, WA, AZ, CO, Hawaii and NM Chapters of the American College

Location: The Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows
More Information Here
Tri-City Cardiology has been honored as the top referring medical practice to the Arizona Smoker’s Helpline (ASHLine) for the past few years by the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Since receiving training in 2014, the five East Valley Tri-City Cardiology locations have referred over 350 patients to ASHLine for help to quit tobacco usage.

Tri-City Cardiology utilized the data from the American College of Cardiology PINNACLE Data Registry on smoking cessation and intervention clinical quality measures to identify an opportunity for improvement in this quality metric. They reached out to ASHLine to assist them in setting up a referral process to help their patients with smoking cessation. This relationship has proved extremely beneficial and has helped numerous patients quit smoking and reduce their risk for heart disease. This referral process also improved their quality metric score with the ACC PINNACLE Registry to be above the national benchmark.

Tri-City Cardiology is committed to improving clinical outcomes through prevention, diagnosis, and treatment to help prevent cardiovascular diseases and ensure quality care to their patients. Tri-City is focused on quality and cost effective care and has been consistently active with the ACC on both the physician and administrative level.

Tri-City Cardiology, with a team of 22 board-certified cardiovascular specialists has become widely known for its progressive and innovative approach to heart and vascular services. Their expertise in cardiovascular medicine and subspecialties, such as, interventional cardiology, vascular medicine, and electrophysiology have enabled them to become leaders in the cardiovascular field throughout the East Valley and the greater Phoenix Metropolitan area.
Monthly Meeting Schedule for The Mended Hearts

**Tucson Chapter 116:** 2nd Saturday of most months at 10:00 A.M.

**Scottsdale Chapter 126:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 P.M.

**Flagstaff Chapter 126 Satellite:** 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 A.M.

**Las Vegas Chapter 277:** 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M.

**Tucson Old Pueblo Chapter 374:** 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 P.M.

[See Desert Hearts Newsletter for details]