CalValve™ Quality Initiative for Consumers Launches

We are pleased to report that Phase I of our CalValve™ Quality Initiative is off to a great start. This statewide, consumer initiative provides awareness and information on aortic stenosis and treatment options. As part of the program, a list of 141 participating FACC Valve Experts is provided when a consumer requested additional information. We truly appreciate those of you who have agreed to participate as a valued member of the CA ACC and become a resource for patients seeking out an FACC Valve Expert. If you are looking for additional educational materials for your office or to share with patients, please visit www.newheartvalve.com/hcp. Be on the lookout in Q1 2016 for Phase II Physician CME courses throughout the state!

For more information, contact the CA chapter office at administrator@acc.org or toll free at 1-877-460-5880.
President’s Corner
Norman Lepor, MD, FACC
President/ Governor

It has been a busy 2015 in California as we have engaged our membership in a more intense way with our goal to provide greater member value. Many of our newly initiated activities have been developed to have cross over benefits that not only increase member value and engagement but also impact population health, purposeful education, and transformation of care. We are particularly proud of our state wide valvular heart disease initiative, Cal-Valve™.

MEMBER VALUE AND ENGAGEMENT
We have revamped our committee structure to focus on key issues that are relevant to our membership. We have also reached out to CA ACC members from around the state who have reputations for being “doers” but not yet involved as committee members and engaged them into the various committees
• We have developed a Certification and Licensure Committee in response to the angst of Cardiologists in California to focus on state issues.
• We have developed a Quality of Care Committee focusing on gaps in care that negatively impact on patient outcomes.
• Technology Committee will look at how we can provide resources to our membership on a wide variety of technologies ranging from electronic medical records to biosensors and how to implement them into practice.

POPULATION HEALTH
CAL-VALVE™ is a state wide initiative that has two key missions:
• Educate patients at risk for valvular heart disease in California so they can make better decisions on their care, including symptom recognition and options for care.
• Peer to peer education for FACCs in California that have received an educational training update on valvular heart disease and present to other Cardiologists and primary care providers around the state.
• We have identified over 141 FACCs in California in California that have been engaged in this program as CAL-VALVE™ certified experts.
• We anticipate that this will enhance the quality of care by educating patients and health care providers.
President’s Message, continued . . .

PURPOSEFUL EDUCATION
The CAL-VALVE™ program will begin its first phase focusing on aortic stenosis. We anticipate future opportunities as we move into phase two that will also include the disease state of mitral insufficiency
• CA ACC develops on its own or partners in the development of many educational events.
• CA ACC has partnered with the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute to provide their Cardiology Grand Round Program via the CA ACC website to expand the reach of their excellent programs

TRANSFORMATION OF CARE
Utilizing the dozens of educational outlets we partner with, we hope to increase awareness of Appropriate Use Criteria and Guidelines to enhance the efficacy and efficiency of care we provide our patients. Through our advocacy efforts with our state legislators and with payers, we would like to improve the access patients have to proven therapies and diagnostics that improve outcomes and leave decisions on health care delivery between the patient and treating physicians.

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.
CA ACC Awards Travel Grants for ACC Legislative Conference

Here are some thoughts from one of our 2015 grant recipients.

Elizabeth Scruth PhD RN MPH CCNS CCRN

Advocacy- what does it really mean? I had the wonderful opportunity to see advocacy in action at the ACC Legislative Conference in Washington DC during the week of October 18-20th. Not only was I a winner of a gracious travel grant, I was also the recipient of a truly enlightening experience made possible through the interactions and networking with my fellow colleagues who attended. I attended a meeting with the California group that met with Senator Diane Feinstein's office. I observed advocacy in action when the group collectively discussed the four major talking points ACC wanted to convey to members of the senate.

The one issue that resonates with me being an advanced practice RN is the Cardiac Rehabilitation language that needs to change in order for APRNs to administer cardiac rehabilitation therapy to patients without a MD having to be physically in the room. At the end of the conference I came away with a new skill set and a renewed sense of worth as a APRN and a new appreciation for the collective influence of a large group such as ACC.

Can’t be There? Use CA ACC to Access the Cedars-Sinai Online Education Center

Take advantage of world class education ONLINE! Under the leadership of Eduardo Marbán, MD, PhD, Director of the Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute, a team of cardiac experts from various specialties collaborate to teach you about a variety of cutting edge issues.

Take advantage of this opportunity and view Cedars-Sinai Grand Rounds at http://caacc.org/csheart.html
NEWS YOU CAN USE

IHE Connectathon Registration is Open
The Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE) Connectathon is a cross-vendor, live, supervised and structured testing event attended by more than 100 participating vendors and more than 550 engineers and information technology (IT) architects. These experts will meet in Cleveland, OH, Jan. 25—29 for one full week of interoperability testing and problem resolution. IHE is a unique collaboration of health care professionals and industry focused on improving the way computer systems in health care share information. The ACC has partnered with IHE to develop cardiology profiles for cardiac catheterization, echocardiography and stress testing workflows, electrocardiogram retrieval, implantable device cardiac observations, and cardiovascular displayable reports. Registration is now open.

ACC Response to ABIM Report on Vision for Certification and MOC Programs in 2020
The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) in September released a report entitled “A Vision for Certification in Internal Medicine in 2020,” that was drafted to inform the reshaping of ABIM’s Certification and Maintenance of Certification (MOC) programs. It includes three key recommendations that are similar to those being proposed by the ACC on behalf of its members, as well as the rest of the internal medicine community. Specifically, the report proposes to: 1) replace the 10-year MOC exam with more frequent, less burdensome assessments; 2) focus assessments on cognitive and technical skills; and 3) recognize specialization. Read the full report here and read ACC’s statement in its entirety here.

Join the Senior Cardiology Workgroup
As the baby boomer generation approaches its eighth decade, ACC leadership is eager to focus attention on the special attributes and needs of this large cohort of maturing cardiologists, and the potentially unique contributions they might make to the College and our profession. As of March 2015, there are approximately 12,668 FACC members who are 60 years of age and older, of this group, 8,615 are not emeritus status and 4,053 are designated emeritus. Most of the emeritus members are age 75 and older. 60+ non-emeritus FACCs tend to mirror FACCs in general in terms of non-age demographics and needs.

The College invites you to join the Senior Cardiologist work group led by Samuel Wann, MD, MACC. Please contact Ashton Princell at Aprincell@acc.org if you are interested in learning more.
UPCOMING EVENTS
More details at www.caacc.org

November 17th: Stanford Frontiers in Cardiovascular Science Weekly Meeting, 11:30 am -12:30 pm

November 18th: John Muir Medical Center Cardiovascular Grand Rounds: Acute Coronary Syndromes (STEMI / NSTEMI / UA, 7:30 am-8:30 am

November 19th: UCI Cardiology Conference, Irvine Medical Center, Orange, 8:00 am - 9:00 am

November 19th-20th: Controversies and Advances in the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease, Beverly Hills, Agenda

December 3rd-5th: The 5th Annual International Hawaii Symposium on Diagnostic and Therapeutic Modalities in Heart Failure Conference, Mauna Lani Bay Hotel, Puako, HI

December 18th-20th: 32nd Annual Advancees in Heart Disease, Palace Hotel, San Francisco

December 19th: Board of Directors Meeting, 6:00 pm, Annual Awards Dinner Gala, One Market, San Francisco

2016:

January 22nd-24th: Advances in Nuclear Cardiology and Cardiac CT: 31st Annual Case Review with the Experts with 101 Evidence-based Cases, Cedars-Sinai, Los Angeles, 6:45 am

January 23rd: 16th Annual UCSD Heart Failure Symposium for Primary Care and Internal Medicine Physicians

January 28th-29th: CMR for Cardiovascular Disease in Women CME Conference, Hyatt Regency, Los Angeles

January 29th-30th: CMR for Cardiovascular Disease in Women CME Conference, Los Angeles

February 3rd-5th: Fifth Annual Structural Heart Intervention and Imaging

February 6th: Annual Women’s Heart Symposium, Santa Monica, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

February 18th-20th: 2016 Cardiovascular Summit: Solutions for Thriving in a Time of Change

February 20th: 2nd Annual CVTI Southern California Conference, Santa Monica, 8:30 am-2:00 pm

March 6th-11th: Interventional Cardiology 2016: 31st Annual International Symposium, Snowmass Village CO

April 2nd-4th: ACC.16 | 65th Annual Scientific Session & Expo, Chicago

April 29th: Cardiology Update 2016: Conventional Wisdom and Beyond, Torrance, 7:00 am - 5:00 pm