



**Kentucky
Chapter
American
College of
Cardiology**

KY-ACC

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800-253-4636, x5603
(9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Eastern time), or email
resource@acc.org



Statement from Your Governor

Jesse Adams III, MD, FACC
KY-ACC Governor



Dear Colleagues,

I just returned from the ACC scientific sessions there were held in San Diego. It was simply a fantastic time. For those that attended, we all can attest that the weather was absolutely wonderful. The sessions held during the meeting were a powerful testament to the value of attending. The research and poster sessions were outstanding, the review and didactic sessions were extremely helpful, the MOC sessions were well attended, and there were a number of Business of Cardiology sessions there were extremely practical.

Regarding a key issue of concern, I wanted to update you on some of the issues regarding the ABIM and MOC. This continues to be a key focus of the senior leadership of the ACC. It is clear from membership surveys, discussions among colleagues, discussions among the Board of Governors, and national media that this issue is not going away and indeed is increasing. There continues to be a very energetic evaluation of how the ACC can best provide leadership and help to resolve this problematic issue. Again, it must be stressed that this was a problem created by the ABIM with little consideration of member societies. Over the last year and a half, there been a number of meetings and communications between the ACC and the ABIM. We all received the “we made a mistake” email communication from the ABIM which was perceived by many to be a halfhearted attempt to squash the controversy.

The ACC has been very aggressive in trying to help provide leadership in assistance. Some things are easy – the website was updated to provide detailed, practical educational tools is related to MOC. Numerous opportunities for MOC points are now available through the website acc.org, either on the MOC page itself, included in many of the credit and online educational activities, and as mentioned above at national meetings. Obviously, we do support the concept of appropriate lifelong learning for all cardiologists, and providing additional opportunities to achieve that while also meeting the ABIM’s MOC requirements is consistent with the ACC responsibilities.

However, at this point essentially nothing has changed regarding the requirements for MOC as dictated by the ABIM, and it appears clear that we must do more. Accordingly, two Task Forces at the Board of Trustees level have been created to try to solve this issue. The first, led by immediate past president Dr. Pat O’Gara, is charged to liaise with the ABIM and the ABIM Cardiovascular Board for the purposes of providing advice and direction for modification of the MOC process and providing input for topics to be included in certification and recertification procedures. In other words, this Task Force is directed to try to work with the ABIM to reach a solution where certification still is provided by the ABIM consistent with the requests from the ACC. Concurrently, a separate Task Force has been set up, chaired by Dr. Rick Chazal, that is charged to advise the ACC Board of Trustees on options and recommendations regarding to developing or participating in a cardiovascular board outside of the ABIM. It is recognized that creation of a certification process by the ACC is one of the options that we must consider. These deliberations by both Task Forces will proceed in a thoughtful but expedient manner.

Finally, I want to share some information that came my way from Pat Miyamoto, Division Vice President, ACC Membership Strategy and Services, that could be of assistance for Fellows in Training and others pursuing research endeavors:

- a. A limited number of research and career development awards are available and can be investigated at <http://www.acc.org/membership/member-benefits-and-resources/award-programs/research-and-career-development-awards>
 - b. A worldwide funding source search engine is also maintained by the ACC that can be searched by key words as well as sources; and users can create ‘saved searches’ to deliver opportunities as they arise
- Go to ACC.org, click on “Membership” in the top bar
 - Click on “Member Benefits & Resources”
 - Click on “Career Resources”



Your New Online Professional Home is Here!

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The ACC's new website, *ACC.org*, is now live, offering enhanced features and design requested by ACC members. Optimized to work on mobile devices, the new *ACC.org* provides faster, more complete access to the College's scientific and educational content and practice management tools in the office or on the go. The new site also offers members multiple ways to personalize their online experience, with customized content recommendations, topic-specific email news digests, an education tracker and a personal online library. In addition, *ACC.org*

features more than 20 in-depth clinical topic collections ranging from arrhythmias to valvular heart disease, that showcase relevant guidelines and clinical documents, educational products, patient cases and more. JACC and clinical guidelines are also easier than ever to find. To experience the new website and take the online tour, visit *ACC.org*. Check out the *ACC.org* Quick Start Guide for help getting started. Your former *CardioSource* credentials are your keys to logging in.



Governor's Message *continued from cover*

- Click on "Research Funding Resources"
- Click on "Search for Funding" to gain access to the InfoEd SPIN research funding database.

The funding resources page has been an initiative of the Early Career Professionals Section Leadership Council. The InfoEd SPIN database is provided free to ACC members through an ACC-paid subscription to the service. See also on that research funding page the Research Collaboration Network, grant writing resources, and also an opportunity for institutional discounts on research administration software from InfoEd that can save institutions thousands of dollars in administration costs and development.

Sincerely,

Jesse Adams III, MD, FACC
Governor
Kentucky Chapter - American College of Cardiology

Kentucky ACC Chapter Member Profile

Executive Summary

There are 449 active ACC members in Kentucky. They are broken down and compared to national as follows:

Membership Profiles

| Member Type | ACC National | Kentucky Chapter |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| AA | 11.0% | 10.7% |
| AACC | 0.1% | 0.2% |
| AF | 1.7% | 0.7% |
| CCA | 10.7% | 16.7% |
| CCMA | 1.2% | 0.9% |
| FF | 65.5% | 62.4% |
| FIT | 8.6% | 8.5% |
| IA | 1.0% | 0.0% |
| MA | 0.2% | 0.0% |



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Kentucky Chapter Wins Recognition Award

By Jesse Adams, III, MD, FACC, Governor, KY-ACC

The Kentucky chapter was honored at the recent meeting of the Board of Governors, held concurrently with the 2015 Scientific Sessions in San Diego. The Kentucky chapter received the 2014 Chapter Recognition Award for Excellence in Purposeful Education, Advocacy, Membership Value and Engagement. The award was presented to the Kentucky chapter by Dr. Michael Mansour, FACC, Chair, Board of Governors. We were congratulated on a particular excellence in education, manifest in part by our wonderful annual meeting. Additionally our strong advocacy on the state level was commended, as was the strong support that our chapter is provided to Fellows

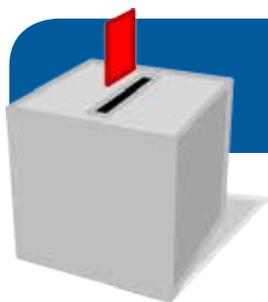
in Training through providing scholarships to the ACC Leadership Forum, the ACC Legislative Conference, free attendance to the annual meeting, the Poster session at the annual meeting, among others. Additionally our recent addition of the Early Careers Physician Committee was noted favorably. This honor reflects the combined efforts of many individuals who have contributed time and effort to try to improve the KY chapter and in doing so to positively impact the practice of cardiology in the Commonwealth and our patient's lives. Congratulations to all who have worked tirelessly; this recognition is well deserved.



The Kentucky Chapter was recognized at the 2015 ACC Leadership Dinner.



Dr. Jesse Adams, KY-ACC Governor, accepts the Chapter Award from then-Chair of the ACC Board of Governors Dr. Michael Mansour.



Election Results Announced

Dr. Alison Bailey and Rosa Griffing began their terms at ACC.15 in March of this year. They will each serve a one year term, followed by a three year term as KY-ACC Governor and CV Team Member Liaison, respectively. Please join us in congratulating them both!



Governor-Elect
Alison L. Bailey, MD,
FACC
Gil Heart Institute,
University of Kentucky



CV Team Member
Liaison-Elect
Rosa L. Langley, RN,
BSN, MSN
Medtronic Inc &
Lexington Clinic
Cardiology



Kentucky ACC now has an Early Career Cardiology Professional Committee

By Rakesh Gopinathannair, MD, MA, FACC, Early Career Professional Committee Chair

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It gives me great pleasure to announce the formation of an Early Career Professional (ECP) Committee within the Kentucky ACC. There is a huge focus at the national and chapter levels of the ACC to engage and better support those in the first seven years of their career following their fellowship. The Kentucky ACC has taken a leadership role in this regard. As you may be aware, the national ECP section of ACC has had tremendous success in addressing the challenges faced by early career cardiologists and advocating for their needs. Several ECP initiatives such as the ACC Mentoring Program, International Exchange Database, Research Funding Database, and the Research Collaboration Network were spearheaded by the national ECP section and have been extremely popular. I have had the privilege of being a member of the national ECP academic workgroup and the idea to develop an ECP committee at the chapter level was borne out of a discussion with our Governor Jesse Adams, MD, FACC, who was passionate and tremendously supportive towards this endeavor. The committee became a reality earlier this year following approval by the Kentucky ACC Board.

The primary goal of the committee is to better engage and serve the needs of early career cardiologists in Kentucky. Any cardiologist who is within seven years of their career following fellowship is eligible to be part of this committee. As a first step, a core ECP work group has been formed

which includes myself as the Chair, Jacqueline Dawson, MD with Western Kentucky Heart and Lung Associates, and Carrie Lenneman, MD with University of Louisville. Dr. Patrick Withrow, MD, FACC was gracious to serve as an advisor to the work group.

The first meeting of the core ECP work group was held on March 3rd, 2015. The primary focus of discussion was how to implement a successful program geared towards ECPs as well as specific initiatives to engage and support the early career cardiologists in Kentucky. Several goals and action items were set which will be put into action in the coming weeks and months.

Carrie, Jacqueline, and I are thrilled to have the opportunity to implement a successful ECP program within the Kentucky ACC chapter. I encourage each and every one of you to be a part of the ACC and utilize the excellent resources available through ACC as well as through the ECP committee. Our contact information is listed below. We would love to hear from you and would be happy to answer any questions.

- Rakesh Gopinathannair: drrakeshg@yahoo.com
- Carrie Geisberg-Lenneman: cageis01@louisville.edu
- Jacqueline V. Dawson: jdawson@wkheartandlung.com

Please stay tuned for more to come in the coming weeks from Kentucky ACC ECP Committee.

2015 Standard Mileage Rates

The Internal Revenue Service issued the 2015 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2015, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck will be:

- 57.5 cents per mile for business miles driven, up from 56 cents in 2014
- 23 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, down half a cent from 2014
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile, including depreciation, insurance, repairs, tires, maintenance, gas and oil. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs, such as gas and oil. The charitable rate is set by law.

Taxpayers always have the option of claiming deductions based on the actual costs of using a vehicle rather than the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after claiming accelerated depreciation, including the Section 179 expense deduction, on that vehicle. Likewise, the standard rate is not available to fleet owners (more than four vehicles used simultaneously). Details on these and other special rules are in Revenue Procedure 2010-51, the instructions to Form 1040 and various online IRS publications including Publication 17, Your Federal Income Tax.

Besides the standard mileage rates, Notice 2014-79, posted today on IRS.gov, also includes the basis reduction amounts for those choosing the business standard mileage rate, as well as the maximum standard automobile cost that may be used in computing an allowance under a fixed and variable rate plan.



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ACC PAC

The American College of Cardiology's Political Action Committee (ACC PAC) was established in 2002 to increase the political power and reach of the College. The mission of ACC PAC is to support federal candidates who back legislation and policies that:

- Improve health care for patients with cardiovascular disease;
- Facilitate the delivery of high quality, cost-effective cardiovascular services; and
- Fund cardiovascular research and prevention

ACC PAC is a voluntary, non-profit, unincorporated association independent of and not affiliated with any political party or candidate. One-hundred percent of the personal contributions to PAC are used to support the campaigns of congressional members who are supportive of the College's mission.

Now in its 12th year, ACC PAC is ranked among the top 10 medical specialty PACs in the United States, surpassing \$1 million in voluntary contributions from individual members around the country in the 2011-2012 election cycle.

It's Easy to Contribute



1. Visit www.accpacweb.org
2. Click on "Join the PAC"
3. Follow the three simple steps on the screen:
 - a. Verify your contact information
 - b. Make your contribution
 - c. Finalize with electronic signature
4. Then...you're done!

Please join us in making Kentucky a more powerful presence in the federal legislature through the ACCPAC!

Save the Date
ACC Legislative Conference 2015
 October 18-20
 Washington, DC

Villafane wins American Heart Association Award

Dr. Juan Villafane is the 2014 recipient of the American Heart Association Great Rivers Affiliate's Distinguished Achievement Award. This award is given to recognize Dr. Villafane for his significant contributions to the AHA's advocacy efforts. Tonya Chang, Senior Director of Government Relations for Kentucky and West Virginia AHA said "Dr. Villafane is a passionate advocate and a good friend. He has done an outstanding job coordinating policy efforts between the AHA and ACC."



11TH ANNUAL MEETING & SCIENTIFIC SESSION GREAT TOPICS IN CARDIOLOGY 2015

- 7:30 am **Registration**
7:30 am **Scientific Posters**
Chairs: Susan Smyth, MD, PhD, FACC & Rita Coram, MD, FACC
7:30 am **Exhibit Viewing**

SESSION 1A: KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Chairs: Susan Smyth, MD, PhD, FACC & Bradley B. Keller, MD

- 8:20 am **Welcome**
Jesse E. Adams III, MD, FACC
8:40 am **PRESIDENTIAL LECTURER: Diet and CV Disease: What is the Evidence?**
Kim Allan Williams, MD, Sr., FACC, FAHA, FASNC
9:15 am **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Hot Topics by JACC Editor**
Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD, MACC
9:50 am **Break & Exhibit Viewing**
10:15 am **DISTINGUISHED LECTURER: Cardiac Channelopathies and Associated Arrhythmias**
Michael J. Ackerman, MD, PhD, FACC
10:50 am **High Sensitivity Troponins: Preparing for the Future**
Allan S. Jaffe, MD, FACC
11:20 am **Break & Exhibit and Poster Viewing**

SESSION 1B: PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

Chairs: Patricia L. Horvat, RN & Rosa L. Langley, RN, BSN, MSN

- 9:20 am **Everything you Needed to Know About ICD-10 but were Afraid to Ask**
Maxine Lewis, CMM, CPC, CCP-I, CPMA, CCS-P
10:10 am **Recovery Audit Contract Program**
Lindy Lady, CPC, CPCO
11:00 am **Audits Audits Everywhere... Practical Advice for Practices, Dealing with Government Enforcement, Actions and Other Program Integrity Initiatives**
Jennifer L. Wintergerst

LUNCH & PRESENTATIONS

Moderator: Juan Villafane, MD, FACC
Chairs: Jesse E. Adams III, MD, FACC, Rita Coram, MD, FACC & Susan Smyth, MD, PhD, FACC

- 11:50 am **ACC in 2015**
Jesse E. Adams III, MD, FACC
12:20 pm **Announcements**
12:25 pm *Sessions 2B, 2C & 2D begin*
12:30 pm **FIT Abstract Presentation #1**
12:40 pm **FIT Abstract Presentation #2**

- 12:50 pm **Young Investigator Awards**
1:00 pm **Honorable Maestro Award: Patrick J. Withrow, MD, FACC, FSCAI**
1:20 pm *Session 2E begins*
1:20 pm **Break & Exhibit and Poster Viewing**

SESSION 2A: KENTUCKY SPEAKERS

Chairs: Patrick J. Withrow, MD, FACC, FSCAI & Krishnan K. Challappa, MD, FACC

- 1:45 pm **Hot Topics in Tetralogy of Fallot**
Juan Villafane, MD, FACC
2:15 pm **ACC.16 & Travel Award Announcements**
2:20 pm **Improving STEMI Care in Kentucky and Elsewhere**
William C. Dillon, MD, FACC & Khaled Ziada, MD, FACC

SESSION 2B: ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

Chairs: Mikel D. Smith, MD, FACC & Brian J. Holland, MD, FACC, FAAP

- 12:25 pm **3D Echo**
Sunil V. Mankad, MD, FACC
1:00 pm **Hands On 3D Echo**
Walter L. Sobczyk, MD, FACC & Brian J. Holland, MD, FACC, FAAP
1:50 pm **Assessing Diastolic Function: Didactic and Hands-on Demonstration**
Mini Das, MD & Robert Evers, RDCCS
2:35 pm **Adult Congenital Echocardiography; Live Scanning and Discussion**
Louis I. Bezold, MD, FACC & Majd Makhoul, MD
3:20 pm **Strain Imaging**
Marcus F. Stoddard, MD, FACC
4:05 pm **Mitral Valve Prolapse**
Vincent L. Sorrell, MD, FACP, FACC, FASE

SESSION 2C: CV PHARMACISTS

Chairs: Christopher Betz, PharmD, BCPS, FASHP & Sara D. Brouse, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS (AQ-Cardology)

- 12:25 pm **Hot Topics in Hyperlipidemia**
Mary Covell, PharmD, MPH, BCPS
1:10 pm **Hot Topics in Heart Failure**
Marintha Short, PharmD, BCPS
1:55 pm **Break**
2:10 pm **Hot Topics in Antiplatelets**
Jessie Dunne, PharmD, BCPS
2:55 pm **Challenging Cases in Anticoagulation**
George A. Davis, PharmD, BCPS

SESSION 2D: CV TEAM MEMBERS

Chairs: Leesa Schwarz, APRN, NP-C, ACNS-BC & Lindsay M. Lewis, BSN, RN, CCCC

- 12:25 pm **Medical Management of Heart Failure**
Peggy J. Hardesty, ARNP
1:05 pm **Women and Heart Disease**
Rita Coram, MD, FACC
1:45 pm **Break**
2:00 pm **5 Classes of Chest Pain**
Vincent L. Sorrell, MD, FACP, FACC, FASE
2:40 pm **Up and Coming Research in Heart Disease**
Andrew P. DeFilippis, MD

SESSION 2E: BUSINESS OF CARDIOLOGY

Chair: Atul R. Chugh, MD & Thomas Tu, MD, FACC

- 1:20 pm **Introductions**
Jeff Ozmon & C. Michael Valentine, MD, FACC
1:25 pm **NP/PA Financial Realities: Designing a Successful Practice Model**
Jeff Ozmon
1:45 pm **Rounding Teams--Transform Your Physician Efficiency**
C. Michael Valentine, MD, FACC
2:05 pm **Constructing Dashboards for Your Practice: How to Start and What to Include**
Jeff Ozmon
2:25 pm **Volume To Value?...How To Build it in Your Compensation Plan Now**
C. Michael Valentine, MD, FACC
2:45 pm **MedXcellence: Developing a Roadmap for Transformational CV programs**
Jeff Ozmon
3:10 pm **The Top 10 Lessons From the CV Summit of 2015**
C. Michael Valentine, MD, FACC
3:25 pm **Question & Answer**
Jeff Ozmon & C. Michael Valentine, MD, FACC

SESSION 3A: JEOPARDY CHALLENGE AND DEBATE ON CPR & HYPOTHERMIA

Chairs: Melissa K. Walton-Shirley, MD, FACC & Naresh Kumar Solankhi, MBBS, MD, FACC

- 3:20 pm **Jeopardy for Young and Old**
Sunil V. Mankad, MD, FACC
4:00 pm **Debate on the Use of Therapeutic Hypothermia in Cardiac Arrest - For Real?**
Protagonist: Charles L. Campbell, MD, FACC
Antagonist: Andrew P. DeFilippis, MD
4:40 pm **Drawing: iPad Mini 3**
Must be present to win

REGISTRATION FORM SEPTEMBER 26, 2015 - 7:30 AM – 5:00PM

ONLINE REGISTRATION: WWW.KENTUCKYACC.ORG/ANNUALMEETING

MAIL OR FAX REGISTRATION FORM

Email (info@kentuckyacc.org) **Fax** (414-276-7704) **or Mail** (KY-ACC – 6737 W. Washington St., Suite 1300 Milwaukee, WI 53214)

FIRST NAME: _____ LAST NAME: _____

SUFFIX (JR., SR., ETC.): _____ CREDENTIALS: _____ LICENSE NUMBER (Required for CME/CE): _____

COMPANY/INSTITUTION: _____

SPECIALTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADA Statement: *If you require special physical arrangements to attend this activity, please contact Sandy Kaye at 414-755-6297 or info@kentuckyacc.org*

Special Needs: _____

REGISTRATION FEES *Includes continuing education credits, course materials, continental breakfast and lunch.*

| | <i>Before 7/24/15</i> | <i>After 7/24/15</i> | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACC Physician Member..... | \$90.00..... | \$115.00 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physician Non-Member | \$140.00..... | \$165.00 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All other Attendees | \$40.00..... | \$65.00 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fellows-In-Training and Students..... | FREE..... | FREE | \$ \emptyset _____ |

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

***NO REFUNDS FOR CANCELLATIONS. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION.**

*Register by July 24th
for a chance to win
an iPad Mini 3! Must
be present to win. See
details on page 2*



METHOD OF PAYMENT

The following methods of payment are acceptable for the registration fee:

1. **Check:** Made payable to Kentucky Chapter-ACC. *There is a \$25.00 returned check fee.*

2. **Credit Card Payments:**

NAME ON CARD: _____

BILLING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CREDIT CARD NO. _____ SEC. CODE: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____



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Local Efforts for Local Results

By Patrick J. Withrow, MD, FACC



Volunteers from Baptist Health Paducah have partnered with Kohl's Department Store (Kohl's Educational Grant) producing a health awareness program, "Carnival of Health," for Paducah City and McCracken County sixth graders.

We all feel influencing children with the goal of disease prevention in mind can be accomplished very effectively with local efforts.

Our mission is to capture the attention of these impressionable kids with a fun and festive carnival atmosphere. It gives us the ability to better communicate health facts, messages and good habits with the games and activities that captivate the children. We attempt to utilize positive aspects of peer pressure and group dynamics to reinforce our message of disease prevention. The children are encouraged to carry these healthy lifestyle messages home to their parents and siblings.



The carnival is made up of nine tent-covered stations, each with a different theme. There is a ring master who controls the flow of the nine student groups rotating through the carnival area. The health topics vary from the importance of exercise and good nutrition to sun and skin safety. We've also included information regarding school and cyber bullying among other related topics.

The students have an opportunity to examine the organs of "Dead Fred." Fred had some really bad habits. He used drugs, tobacco and abused alcohol – that's why he's dead. The children get to see how these bad habits can affect the organs and the end result.

This yearly program is a commitment and requires six half day sessions. The students leave with pedometers, back-



packs, give-away gifts, fond memories and positive messages from the event. The Carnival of Health has been held for the last three years and has had approximately 2400 sixth graders participate. The efficacy of the program is assessed with a written test administered at the end of the carnival. The test results show that the program is very successful and that these students "get it." We have received significant positive feedback from the kids, school teachers and the parents. We have also been approached by students who attended previous carnivals who remember what they learned and explain the positive impacts the events had on their lives. It is very gratifying knowing that we are making a difference.

We feel that we are not only providing health information but planting seeds of interest in these students for a future career in healthcare. In my mind, this extra effort serves multiple purposes. The Carnival of Health not only provides health education in a fun event, it allows us to be viewed as role-models for these impressionable youths on a local level.

We believe that good and worthwhile local efforts produce good and worthwhile local results.

A 2 minute video regarding the Carnival of Health can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GW0IYLLoIGs>



President Signs SGR Repeal Legislation Into Law

from ACC.org



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On April 16, President Barack Obama signed into law the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), legislation which permanently repeals the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR), establishes a framework for rewarding clinicians for value over volume, streamlines quality reporting programs into one system, offers new opportunities for nurse practitioners, and reauthorizes two years of funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program. The bill (H.R. 2) does not require participation in maintenance of certification (MOC), nor does it establish the American Board of Medical Specialties, the American Board of Internal Medicine or any specific entity to administer MOC. No one will be forced to participate in MOC.

The Senate passed H.R. 2 in a 92-8 vote earlier in the week. Both Democrat and Republican senators offered amendments airing concerns with the legislation, but all failed and the bill remained intact. This allowed for MACRA's clean passage through the chamber.

"Today is an exceptional day for Medicare patients and for the medical professionals who care for them, thanks to the long-awaited permanent repeal of the flawed Sustainable Growth Rate formula, said ACC President Kim Allan Williams, Sr., MD, FACC, following the Senate vote. "The Senate has accomplished a major feat by passing legislation that ends a cycle of delays and patches in the law, which has created uncertainty

for Medicare patients and clinicians for more than a decade. Through the crafting and passage of MACRA, Congress has proven it can take bipartisan, bicameral action to solve seemingly insurmountable problems. We applaud the members in the House and Senate for coming together to implement true Medicare reform while extending funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program, which offers access to health care for many children, including those with complex cardiovascular conditions."

The SGR and the perpetual instability it created is officially a concern of the past, meaning clinicians can now focus on providing high quality, patient-centered care unburdened by the looming threat of payment cuts. ACC's member leaders have played an enormous role in this achievement, participating in years' worth of meetings with lawmakers and responding to countless alerts to educate Congress on the topic. In this final push alone, ACC members sent over 7,500 messages to Congress urging them to pass this bill. With this threat off the table, we can now turn our attention to the important work of bringing our health care delivery system into a new era.

More information about the law will be provided in the coming days.

See more at: http://www.acc.org/latest-in-cardiology/articles/2015/04/15/07/14/in-historic-vote-senate-approves-sgr-repeal-legislation?w_nav=LC#sthash.cKU5BH8R.dpuf

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MOC Update: Greater Flexibility Available for Part II; New ACC Task Forces Formed

*By Patrick T. O'Gara, MD, MACC, ACC Immediate Past President and
Richard Chazal, MD, FACC, ACC President-Elect*

2015
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KY-ACC

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Following on the heels of its Internal Medicine Summit in Philadelphia, PA, last week, the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) has released an updated “Application for ABIM MOC Recognition” that provides more opportunities for physicians to earn Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Part II points for activities with a self-assessment component that have traditionally been designated as CME credits only.

In its February 2015 announcement regarding changes to the MOC process, which resulted from sustained, constructive input from organizations like the ACC, ABIM indicated it would develop ways to recognize most forms of ACCME-approved Continuing Medical Education, thus “allowing new and more flexible ways” for physicians to demonstrate self-assessment of medical knowledge. The updated ABIM MOC application, if managed correctly, provides an opportunity for physicians to apply earned CME credits towards meeting their five-year MOC requirements.

As the newly appointed Chair and Vice-Chair of the ACC’s Board of Trustees Task Force for ABIM Liaison, we feel this flexible use of CME credits is a big step forward in our ongoing efforts to represent the needs of our members and hold ABIM accountable for their promise to “ensure that ABIM and MOC evolve to better reflect the changing nature of medical practice.” In the coming months ACC’s Education Team will be working with ABIM to clarify the changes. The College will also work with ABIM to develop criteria for identifying existing educational activities that are well-positioned for dual CME/MOC credit, to create a system for submitting new dual-credit activity requests and to determine how internal tracking of dual-credit activities will occur. This new process will not only leverage the increased flexibility as part of the College’s existing CME activities, but also provide ways to efficiently report MOC Part II credit on behalf of our MOC-participating members.

Obviously there is still a lot more work to be done in the MOC space. Rest assured this is one of the ACC’s highest priorities of the College. We will continue to espouse the highest standards of professionalism and competence in ways that are most meaningful and relevant to our patients, the public and our members.

The ACC’s Board of Governors is currently conducting a survey of members across the U.S., the results of which will be shared with ABIM and factored into the College’s decision-making. Presently, the ACC BOT Task Force for Liaison With ABIM is charged with working with the ABIM and its newly formed Cardiovascular Board for the purposes of: (1) providing advice and direction for the timely modification of Maintenance of Certification (MOC) processes; and (2) providing input for the topics to be included in certification and recertification processes. A huge thanks to Drs. Minnow Walsh, Bob Shor, Carole Warnes, Robert Hendel, Paul Casale, Richard Kovacs, Deepak Bhatt, Eric Williams, Jeff Kuvin, Roxana Mehran, Eric Bates and Jodie Hurwitz for their participation.

While the College is committed to giving input to ABIM to improve their processes, we are sensitive to the needs of membership and recognize that alternative routes for certification should be considered. We are convening a second Task Force on Cardiovascular Board Alternatives, composed of Drs. Robert Shor, Carole Warnes, Robert Hendel, Paul Casale, Richard Kovacs, Deepak Bhatt, Minnow Walsh and ourselves, to provide options and recommendations with regard to developing or participating in a cardiovascular board(s) independent of ABIM.

The College is diligently looking at ways to support its members, while recognizing our commitment to patients. Working together we will find the best way forward.

ACC Upcoming Events

For more details on these events visit: www.cardiosource.org/Certified-Education/Courses-and-Conferences/All-Courses-and-Conferences.aspx

MAY

May 29 - May 30, 2015
Bringing Science to Clinical Practice: Best of ACC 2015 (Miami)
Eden Roc Miami Beach, Miami

JUNE

June 12 - June 13, 2015
Bringing Science to Clinical Practice: Best of ACC 2015 (Chicago)
Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, Chicago

AUGUST

August 20, 2015
ACC Study Session for Maintenance of Certification for Interventional Cardiology
The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, FL

August 21 - August 23, 2015
ACC/SCAI Premier Interventional Cardiology Overview and Board Preparatory Course
The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, FL

SEPTEMBER

09/26/2015
11th Kentucky Chapter Annual Meeting
Lexington Convention Center, Lexington, KY
Kim Williams, MD, FACC; Valentin Fuster, MD, PhD, MACC

OCTOBER

October 18 – October 20, 2015
ACC Legislative Conference
Fairmont, Washington, DC

Kentucky CME/CE Alerts!

If you know if any CME/CE opportunities in Kentucky, please send them to info@kentuckyacc.org They will be posted in future issues of our newsletter and on www.kentuckyacc.org



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Smoke-Free Kentucky Day Recap

By Rita Coram, MD, FACC, KY-ACC Legislative Chair

Over 100 people gathered in Frankfort on February 11th for Smoke-Free Kentucky Day at the Capitol. The event was in partnership with the American Heart Association and Coalition for a Smoke Free Kentucky. I had the opportunity to meet with Senator Paul Hornback (R). Senator Hornback is a staunch opponent of House Bill-145, which would prohibit smoking in public places and places of employment. He was kind enough to give us 45 minutes of his time to engage in a dialogue about the issues.

Though we did not come to a consensus, it was enlightening to hear the opposition argument. Senator Hornback and his colleagues understand the inherent risks of first and second-hand smoke, but feel it is a matter of personal choice and will not infringe on the rights of business owners to decide whether to allow smoking on their property. He would, however support a resolution encouraging local businesses to go smoke-free. There was an opportunity for education on the matter of smokeless tobacco (so called “e-cigarettes”) and we shared facts about the dangers of such products.

It is the Kentucky Chapter’s position that a smoking ban is essential to the health of the people of Kentucky. Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the United States, with cigarette smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke causing 443,000—or 1 in 5 deaths; these

include 46,000 heart attack and 3,400 lung cancer deaths among non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke. Unfortunately, Kentucky leads our nation in smoking prevalence at 28.3% and ranks 48th at workplace exposure of 10.7%. Kentuckians also contract and die from lung cancer at the nation’s highest rates, and from cardiovascular disease at similar gravity.



Economic losses are also staggering; smoking-caused diseases result in \$96 billion in our nation’s health care costs annually. All Americans, smokers and nonsmokers, pay the price for smoking. Cigarette smoking particularly costs Kentucky approximately \$1.5 billion a year in taxpayer dollars.

A Smoke-Free Kentucky will continue to be a priority of the Kentucky Chapter’s Legislative Committee.



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11th Annual MEETING & SCIENTIFIC SESSION



Kentucky
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Great Topics in Cardiology 2015

SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

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Michael Ackerman, MD, FACC

Allan Jaffe, MD, FACC

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SIMULTANEOUS SESSIONS:

- **CARDIOVASCULAR PHARMACISTS**
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