



ACE Advisor

Issue: #3

Fall 2014

Quick Links

[Apply for Accreditation](#)
[Apply for External Quality Review](#)
[ACE Press Releases](#)
[Breaking News](#)
[Visit our Website](#)

Featured Testimonial

"Every one of our hospitals that has participated in external review has found the process to be incredibly valuable and helpful in ensuring quality and appropriate use at their facility."

Ralph Brindis, MD,
MPH, MACC, FSCAI,
Clinical Professor of
Medicine at the
University of California
in San Francisco

Upcoming Events



A Message from Our CMO

By Bonnie Weiner, MD

ACE continues to grow at a rapid rate and we have many new clients in the pipeline, including two large hospital systems. We will exceed our goal of doubling the number of ACE Accreditation and External Quality Review clients in 2014, and expect this trend to continue into 2015 and beyond. In addition, three new firsts for ACE include:

- The announcement by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania exceptions committee of the application approval of UPMC East, Monroeville, PA, to perform elective PCI without onsite open heart surgery for their cardiac catheterization lab.
- The pending launch of four new Accreditation and External Review Services for catheter based cardiovascular procedures: Congenital Heart Disease, Electrophysiology including Ablation & Devices, Transcatheter Valve Therapies and Peripheral Vascular Disease.
- Referenced as a pioneer of accreditation standards in the new health policy statement from the ACC, AHA, and SCAI.

2013 and 2014: Tipping Point Years for ACE

In late 2013, we launched the inaugural edition of our newsletter and accredited our first international facility: King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In 2014, we:

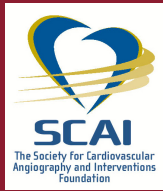
- Signed agreements with two new large hospital systems
- Created the 2014 ACE Accreditation Video Series
- Have been featured in several articles, namely, *Cath Lab Digest*, *Cardiovascular Business* and *Cardiac Cath Lab Director*
- Awarded multiple reaccreditations with clients that recognize the value of ACE care for their patients. The articles and video series include first-hand accounts from physicians whose programs have benefitted from ACE Accreditation and External Quality Review services

The articles and video series include first-hand accounts from physicians whose programs have benefitted from ACE Accreditation and External Quality Review services.

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approval of the Application of UPMC East

We are extremely proud to announce that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania exceptions committee approved the application of UPMC East, Monroeville, PA, to perform elective PCI without onsite open heart surgery for their cardiac catheterization lab. This approval was based, in part, on UPMC East's successful application for accreditation by ACE. UPMC East was the first to go through a special application process for

Our Sponsors



**Call us today to
learn how you can
improve your QCI!**

(202) 657-6859



ACE accreditation and applied almost immediately after the early 2014 decision by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This decision declared that Pennsylvania cardiac catheterization laboratories that wish to provide elective PCI services, without onsite open heart surgery at their facilities, must be accredited. The Commonwealth states that the accrediting organization must be state department-approved with standards at least equal to those of the Accreditation for Cardiovascular Excellence (ACE).

ACE was the first organization to be recognized by the Commonwealth and has been providing expert guidance to state regulatory departments on national standard criteria for the cardiac catheterization lab. To date, 50% of the cardiac catheterization lab facilities performing elective PCI procedures without onsite surgery in Pennsylvania have applied for ACE accreditation to seek a waiver from state requirements. State certification may be a new trend, as two other states have inquired about adopting the same type of program for their cardiac catheterization laboratories that wish to provide elective PCI services without onsite open heart surgery.

Four new Accreditation and External Quality Review Services for Catheter-based Cardiovascular Programs

Due to rapidly increasing demand for our cardiac cath lab PCI, Diagnostic and Carotid Stenting accreditation and quality review services, we are offering four new accreditation and external review services for catheter based cardiovascular programs in order to provide a single point of contact for quality reviews in invasive cardiovascular procedures. They are:

- Congenital Heart Disease
- Electrophysiology including Ablations & Devices
- Transcatheter Valve Therapies
- Peripheral Vascular

ACE's goal is to combine its high level of rigor and proven capabilities to assist clients in achieving standardization and easy implementation of comprehensive quality programs. ACE is a leader in the invasive cardiovascular community, most recently referenced as a pioneer of accreditation standards in the [new health policy statement](#) from the American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, and Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (ACC/AHA/SCAI).

ACE understands how to implement a thorough and meaningful accreditation process, to bring maximum value to our clients and quality to the invasive cardiology community and its patients. Call us, or [learn more](#) about what our clients have to say.

New ACE Video Series: Expert Commentary on ACE Accreditation **By Sheree Schroeder, MSN, RN, RDCS, FASE,** **ACE Director, Peer Review Programs**

Now playing! This summer, ACE launched a new video series featuring expert insights on the benefits, process, and value of ACE accreditation. Watch as interventional cardiologists, catheterization laboratory directors, and other leaders in cardiovascular care share their unique perspectives and experiences with ACE accreditation.

Two introductory videos were released in mid-June, followed by 3 additional 3-part video series on ACE accreditation and external review.

ACE filmed the videos during the 2014 Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) Scientific Sessions in Las Vegas, NV.

All of the videos are available on the [ACE.TV YouTube channel](#).

Highlights include:

3-Part Video Series: The Cost/Benefit of ACE Accreditation

- **How ACE Accreditation Helped St. Joseph's Keep a Competitive Edge** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Alan J. Simons, MD, FACC, FSCAI, St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center, Syracuse, New York

- **How Miami Baptist Hospital Justified the Cost of ACE Accreditation** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Jane Kiah, MS, RN, Director, Invasive Services, Miami Cardiac & Vascular Institute, Miami Baptist, Miami, Florida

- **Why Hospitals Accredited with ACE** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Ralph Brindis, MD, MPH, MACC, FSCAI, Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, California

3-Part Video Series: The What, Why, and How of ACE Accreditation

- **The Power of ACE Accreditation** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Charles Chambers, MD, FSCAI, Professor of Medicine and Radiology, Director, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania

- **Why I am a Strong Advocate of ACE Accreditation** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: J. Jeff Marshall, MD, FACC, FSCAI, Medical Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Lab, Northeast Georgia Medical Center, Atlanta, Georgia

- **The ACE Process of Accreditation** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Jane Kiah, MS, RN, Director, Invasive Services, Miami Cardiac & Vascular Institute, Miami Baptist, Miami, Florida

3-Part Video Series: The Benefits of ACE External Quality Review

- **The Advantages of External Quality Review** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Peter Block, MD, MSCAI, Professor of Medicine, Cardiology, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia

- **The Importance of External Review** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Joseph Babb, MD, FACC, FAHA, FSCAI, Professor of Medicine, East Carolina Heart Institute, Greenville, North Carolina

- **Why Should We Have External Reviews?** [\(Click Here\)](#)

Expert Speaker: Ralph Brindis, MD, MPH, MACC, FSCAI, Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, California

Introductory Videos: Introduction to ACE Accreditation

- **Importance of ACE Accreditation** ([Click Here](#))

Expert Speaker: Peter Block, MD, MSCAI, Professor of Medicine, Cardiology, Emory University Hospital, Atlanta, Georgia

- **The Value of ACE Accreditation and the SCAI Quality Improvement Toolkit** ([Click Here](#))

Expert Speaker: Marcus St. John, MD, Baptist Health South Florida, Miami, Florida

Upcoming Quality Events in Cardiovascular Medicine

By Marcia Schallehn
ACE Director, Strategic Marketing

Scripps, VIVA and ISET

Over the next few months, ACE will participate in educational events and sessions at major cardiovascular meetings focused on achieving optimal patient outcomes in a healthcare environment increasingly driven by cost as well as quality. Be sure to follow our meeting coverage on Twitter ([@ACE_CVEXCEL](#)) and stop by the ACE booth at each meeting for the most current information on quality sessions. ACE looks forward to seeing you there!

Scripps Cardiovascular Interventions 2014

Sponsored by the Scripps Clinic, the [25th Annual Cardiovascular Interventions meeting](#) (October 21-24, 2014, Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines in La Jolla, California) will provide practicing clinicians with an overview of the latest advances in interventional cardiology. Session highlights include:

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

- 2:30-3:00 pm: Health Economics and Current Trends in Cardiology

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

- 11:00-11:30 am: Economics of Radial Angiography and Intervention
- 12:00-12:30 pm: Developing a Transradial Primary PCI Program

Friday, October 24, 2014

- 4:00-6:00 pm: Creating a Cost Containment Program for Interventional Cardiologists

The [Scripps CME App](#) allows meeting participants to browse the conference agenda, build a personal schedule, and access course materials.

Vascular Interventional Advances (VIVA)

The [Vascular Interventional Advances \(VIVA\)](#) meeting (November 4-7, 2014, at the Wynn Las Vegas in Las Vegas, Nevada) will present timely updates on the care of patients with vascular disease for a multidisciplinary audience of interventional cardiologists, vascular surgeons, and vascular medicine specialists.

Earlier this year, ACE announced new accreditation and external-review services for four catheter-based cardiovascular procedures starting with Peripheral Vascular Procedures. ACE is proud to celebrate its entry into the peripheral vascular disease arena by participating in its first VIVA meeting. Session highlights include:

Monday, November 3, 2014

- 10:59-11:07 am: What Are the Most Important Measurable Outcomes for Critical Limb Ischemia (CLI) Treatment? How Should Devices and Therapies Be Best Evaluated?
- 11:15-11:23 am: Knowing the Language: Creating a Common Lexicon for CLI - The First Step Towards Data Harmonization
- 4:55-5:01 pm: Aggressive CLI Practice Building

International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy (ISET)

The 27th Annual Meeting of the [International Symposium on Endovascular Therapy \(ISET\)](#) will be held January 31 to February 4, 2015, at the Westin Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, Florida. The meeting will provide updates on the latest evidence-based strategies for improving outcomes of endovascular therapy. The program includes a full-day Nurses and Technologists Symposium on Saturday, January 31, 2015, focused on innovations in cardiac and vascular care.

Keep an eye on the [ISET website](#) for updates on sessions focused on quality and patient outcomes during the next annual conference.



AMERICAN
COLLEGE *of*
CARDIOLOGY

NCDR Launches PVI Registry and Announces Diabetes Collaborative Registry

In response to the need for more information about the use and outcomes of interventional procedures for the treatment of endovascular therapy patients, the NCDR launched the **Peripheral Vascular Intervention (PVI) Registry** earlier this year. This much anticipated registry drives quality improvement at the institutional level, allows for broader dissemination of best practices and serves as a basis for valuable comparative effectiveness research.

The PVI Registry, which replaces and expands upon the CARE Registry, addresses the transition in cardiovascular care from an open surgical model to a percutaneous model for treatment of peripheral vascular disease (PVD). Recognizing that little is known about the use and outcomes of angiography and interventional procedures, the NCDR designed the PVI Registry to assess the prevalence, demographics, management and outcomes of patients undergoing percutaneous treatment for PVD. The registry continues to offer data collection for carotid artery stenting (CAS) and carotid endarterectomy procedures (CEA), but now incorporates lower extremity peripheral arterial catheter-

based procedures for more complete reporting on PVD treatments.

Like other NCDR registries, the PVI Registry provides physicians and hospitals with quarterly risk-adjusted benchmark reports and executive summary dashboards that allow for detailed comparisons-offering important data on endovascular technologies and treatments, benchmarked against national standards. The registry captures patient demographics, provider and facility characteristics, comparisons for high-risk surgical patients treated with CAS versus CEA, the use of balloons, stents and embolic protection devices, adverse event rates and 30-day follow-up data. In addition to the hospital cardiac cath lab, the registry can be used in interventional radiology suites, hybrid operating rooms or outpatient vascular centers capturing data on a larger number of PVI procedures across disciplines and offering quality improvement in those settings.

In addition to adding peripheral intervention modules, another goal of the registry is to assist with the monitoring of different treatments across specialties in order to understand how different training and techniques affect patient outcomes. This is also a major driving factor in the creation of the new **Diabetes Collaborative Registry**. A partnership between the American College of Cardiology, the American Diabetes Association, the American College of Physicians and the Joslin Diabetes Center, the Diabetes Collaborative Registry, is the first clinical registry aimed at tracking and improving the quality of diabetes and cardiometabolic care across the primary and specialty care continuum. Made possible through support from founding sponsor AstraZeneca, the registry will leverage the **PINNACLE Registry's** already well-established technology platform to retrieve data from electronic medical records collected by participating primary care physicians, endocrinologists, cardiologists and other diabetes care providers.

More information about the Diabetes Collaborative Registry will follow in the coming months. To learn more about the NCDR, visit NCDR.com.

New Mandates For AUC, Clinical Decision Support Tools, Innovation In Pediatric/Congenital Heart Disease

Why *wouldn't* you use it? SCAI's easy-to-use coronary revascularization AUC app simplifies the 25-page AUC document into simple drop-down menus. With a few mouse clicks, real-time information helps interventional cardiologists determine whether a PCI is appropriate.



This app is part of SCAI's Quality Improvement Toolkit (SCAI-QIT). SCAI's goal is to allow clinicians to assess the appropriateness and risks associated with a procedure accurately and consistently to improve the quality of care delivered.

In 2011, Baptist Health looked at initial AUC scores and realized that it had big quality improvement opportunities, and that the tools they needed were right at their fingertips, via SCAI-QIT. Approximately one in four of the hospital's PCI procedures was deemed appropriate. Over the next two years, Baptist Health doubled that number. The key to success was developing new cath-lab processes that seamlessly incorporate the

revascularization AUC app. Today, physician assistants in patient prep complete a form with the clinical information needed for the online AUC calculator. In the cath lab, staff input the information into the AUC calculator using a hyperlink Baptist Health incorporated into the cath lab's structured reporting system. A chart-ready Revascularization AUC Data Reporting Sheet lists AUC rankings individualized for each patient. Importantly, the reporting sheet allows the team to document their rationale if they decide to perform an "inappropriate" PCI. At Baptist Health, AUC results are monitored weekly, and immediate feedback is sent to interventional cardiologists by email. Physicians also receive scorecards on their performance and for the department.

By early 2014, the Baptist program resulted in 62.1% of PCI cases rated as appropriate, as compared to the 2011 rate of 27.7%. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston instituted a similar procedure with cardiology fellows entering the patient's clinical information. After PCI, the angiographic findings were entered to calculate a final AUC rating. The result: 63.6% of cases were rated appropriate; 25.6%, uncertain; and 0.6%, inappropriate. Another 10.1% of cases were not rated, because the AUC did not include a suitable clinical scenario. SCAI PCI risk assessment apps can be accessed at www.SCAI.org/QIT and are available in formats compatible with smartphones, tablets, laptops and PCs. Click on "PCI Risk Assessment Tool" for the app that predicts the risk of in-hospital mortality, significant bleeding, vascular injury, kidney injury, need for dialysis, repeat revascularization, and 30-day hospital readmission.

Pediatric/Congenital Heart Disease

Great minds think alike. During SCAI 2014, the Society's Congenital Heart Disease Committee launched Pediatric SCAI-QIT, a new quality improvement toolkit designed to meet the needs of structural/congenital interventional cardiology teams and their patients. ACE followed this launch with an announcement of its own; due to rapidly increasing demand for its cardiac cath lab Accreditation and External Quality Review services, ACE is leading the way with a new accreditation service for Pediatric Congenital Heart Disease.

"Our goal is to combine the high level of rigor and ACE's proven capabilities to assist clients in reducing complexity and achieving an easy implementation of comprehensive quality programs," said Bonnie H. Weiner, MD, MSEC, MBA, FSCAI, FACC, Chief Medical Officer, ACE. "We strive to engage all caregivers, including physicians, the lab team, and facility leadership."

Pediatric SCAI-QIT modules provide a detailed bibliography of resources on pediatric care, numerous web links for easy access to online resources, information on and access to registries and benchmarking information. Pediatric SCAI-QIT can be accessed at www.SCAI.org/PEDQIT.

[Forward this email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe™**

This email was sent to mheisler@cvexcel.org by mheisler@cvexcel.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



