Attention EPIC Users…

Let’s help each other!

As I go around the state, I have found that many of us are experiencing a cultural shift in the way we deliver care. While many companies are based in Wisconsin, it seems like an awful lot of us have or are moving to EPIC. Given the customization that occurs, each system seems to have to reinvent the wheel each time EPIC is installed. Rather than trudging through the mud alone, let’s share knowledge and best practices. At the BOG level, we share information via the BOG Listserv. So let’s start one in WI for Optimizing EPIC. While many may consider EPIC a four letter word and even use many more to describe the experience customizing it, let’s channel that energy into something productive. If you are interested in participating, send your email to info@wcacc.org and we will add you to the list. If nothing else, we may find the listserv cathartic.

— Dr. Thomas Lewandowski

The quagmire still exists; but, we are working on it. In the coming years, the Maintenance of Licensure process will require even those grandfathered by the ABIM become associated with testing every two years. Luckily, those maintaining their ABIM board certification will have fulfilled that requirement.

Ten Fellows in Training, including our very own fellow, Tonga Nfor, MD, MSPH, from St. Luke’s, participated in a special poster contest. The winners were Drs. J. Emanuel Finet, Deep-tankar DeMazumder and Chris Adams. The three winners not only won free registration and a flight voucher to ACC.12, but more importantly a special 6 AM breakfast with ACC President, Dr. Holmes, past BOG Chair and BOT member, Dr. Kovacs, and current BOG Chair, Dr. Thad Waites. So, I encourage our Fellows in Training to keep working on their projects and be ready for next year!

Finally, incoming BOG Chair Dipti Itchhaporia, and current Chair Thad Waites recognized several ACC Chapters that excelled throughout 2011 in the areas of Education, Membership and Community, Advocacy and Quality. Overall winners in each area included Colorado (Education), California (Membership and Community), Maryland ( Advocacy) and Wisconsin (James T. Dove Quality Award). This is our first Chapter Award win for any category. (See page 3 for the award.) We have received honorable mention in the past, but this is a very big honor for our Chapter. We won for the work throughout the state on SMARTCare! I thank you all for your hard work. I applaud your amazing efforts. Let’s make this the first of many wins. On Wisconsin!

As a Chapter, we are charting a new future for cardiovascular care with SMARTCare. Many in the BOG, BOT and Presidential Leadership did not want to make us feel like there is pressure on SMARTCare Wisconsin to succeed, but, “They are all watching us.” Let’s show them all how it’s done!

As always, please feel free to contact me if you wish to be more involved in Chapter initiatives or just want to talk. My phone is always on, and my door is always open.

Keep up all of the hard work. Remember, the State, the Chapter, your communities, and your patients need, depend on, and thank you for that work.

Humbly yours,

Thomas J. Lewandowski, MD, FACC, FASE
Governor, Wisconsin Chapter ACC

(920) 419-2006
tlewcrew@me.com
January 2012 Cardiac Care Associate (CCA) Update

by Judy Nichols MSN, NP-C
CCA Liaison to the Board of Directors

As the days lengthen and we look towards spring, we also look with anticipation towards the National meeting of the American College of Cardiology being held in “The Windy City” this time. This year marks the 61st annual scientific session and expo that will kick off on Saturday March 24 and close on Tuesday March 27 in Chicago.

There are many opportunities for education, reflection and networking during this conference. Sessions that may be of particular interest to the CCA member include:

- **Saturday, March 24 @ 2:00 pm**
  Stable Ischemic Heart Disease in Women
- **Sunday, March 25 @ 12:30 pm**
  Cardiac Care Team – Keynote address
- **Sunday, March 25 @ 1:00 pm**
  Cardiac Care Team – Cath Lab of Tomorrow
- **Sunday, March 25 @ 3:30 pm**
  Cardiac Care Team – Same Day Discharge for PCI
- **Monday, March 26 @ 2:00 pm**
  Syncope in Special Populations

Registration is now open, and all registrations prior to February 15 are eligible for discounts in registration rates and hotel accommodations. For more information go to CardioSource.org and sign up today!

While at the National Conference please stop in the CCA dedicated lounge. This is a great place to relax, network, grab a snack and connect to the Wifi. It will be located in the Main McCormick Convention Center - North Room 138 and is open from 8-5 pm during the conference.

On a national level the CCA’s have been involved in the “H2H” initiative. The acronym stands for Hospital 2 Home and the idea was conceived in 2009. The goal of this program is to reduce patient readmissions and improve transitional care for HF and AMI patients. Participating chapters shared stories and webinars to develop a best practice model. As an outcome, many hospitals in the nation have embraced the H2H program and the ACC has developed an “H2H in a Box” toolkit to assist hospitals in becoming aware of the benefits of participating in the program. Ultimately those participating hospitals and ACC chapters will benefit from an online repository of strategies and tools that will assist their patients and their facilities.

**Judy Nichols MSN, NP-C**

[nichols.judy@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:nichols.judy@marshfieldclinic.org)
Office: (715) 387-4069
Cell: (715) 897-5277

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**ACC Cardiovascular Care Summit Recap – Las Vegas, Nevada**

by Tim Logemann, MD, FACC
Northeastern Councilor on the Board of Directors

More than 500 cardiovascular health care professionals from across the country, including over 250 cardiologists – several from Wisconsin – gathered in Las Vegas January 12-14. The Cardiovascular Care Summit: Solutions for Thriving in Time of Change, was a joint meeting hosted by the ACC Foundation, MedAxiom, and the American College of Physician Executives, to discuss the coming change in health care delivery. Many sessions discussed ways to respond to these impending changes in order to be successful in the coming environment. ACC leaders, MedAxiom (a cardiology management and consulting firm), leaders of the insurance industry, and patient groups all described the environment and causes for these needed changes.

Participants found the meeting very valuable. The overwhelming theme was the need for the growth in health care spending to flatten or even shrink. Both government and private payers have no room for increases in spending. Likewise, they all agree the consumers can no longer handle further shifting of cost to the patient. Leaders of both independent and integrated groups discussed ways to structure practice efficiencies, collect and use data in order to control costs and improve quality and patient satisfaction. These changes will allow cardiology groups to thrive in the new future. There was a strong belief that the change will be coming, independent of the upcoming elections. Physician leadership and physician engagement will be critical to assure our systems, economy and patients are able to survive the transition to this new system.

ACC, ACPE, and MedAxiom are all working on plans for next year! Get informed, get involved. Both you and your patients’ futures depend on it!
The Wisconsin chapter is very proud to announce a couple initiatives taking place right here in Wisconsin, led by our Pediatric members—most specifically, Dr. Michael Earing from the Medical College of Wisconsin. Just this month, The University of Wisconsin is applying for a grant to fund the creation of a pilot pulse oximetry screening implementation program funded by the Department of Human Services. The objective of the program is to provide education and support the expanded use of pulse ox screening in the state of Wisconsin that follows standardized protocols and support the extension of existing state data collection systems for newborns to include pulse ox results. The efforts in Wisconsin are coming from a steering group consisting of Dr. John Hokanson (AFCH), Dr. Stu Berger (CHW), Sharon Fleischfresser (DHS), Murray Kathcher (DHS), Ann Conway (WAPC), Gary Hoffman (SLH), and Amy Basken (Mended Little Hearts). As a Chapter, we were honored to be able to sign a letter of support for this important initiative.

At the BOG meeting, a new initiative was announced, focused on Adult Congenital Heart Disease (ACHD) patients. Our Chapter has asked to participate in a pilot project on improving the treatment of ACHD, called the Provider Action for Treating Congenital Hearts (PATCH). Through a collaboration between the ACC BOG and the Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA), the goals of the program include:

- Developing new in-person and remote CME activities as well as providing educational materials:
  - PATCH Educators Listing: Identify and list expert educators regarding ACHD care;
  - ACHD lectures at chapter meetings: Enlist local expert ACHD specialists to provide general ACHD lectures at Chapter meetings.
- Webinars: Provide ACHD webinar lectures on related ACHD topics. Both timed webinars and banked webinars will be produced and provided by the PATCH Educators.
- ACHD Toolkit: Information available to view, download and print from various web outlets (ACC ACPC, ACC Chapter, ACHA)
- Description of need for PATCH program to provide collaboration between providers and patients
- Key Points for ACHD care on cards to provide at Chapter meetings and website location for more information;
- ACC/AHA ACHD care guidelines;
- Lesion specific education;
- Webinar lecture announcements of upcoming and banked webinars;
- Link to ACHA materials, i.e. ACHD Program Directory and patient health passports;
- ACHD website links for more information (ACHA, ACPC, ISACHD).

Networking opportunities: Regional conferences, summits or other opportunities to bring together pediatric cardiologists with local cardiologists and ACHD specialists to provide life-long high quality CHD care.

Given the limited access to ACHD experts throughout our state, this is a desperately needed program for our state and patients living outside our major cities. For the first time in American History, there are now more adult patients with congenital heart disease than pediatric patients. Given the great work of our pediatric colleagues, and the fact that this problem will only become greater, I am hopeful that our pediatric community will help lead our chapter in this project as well.

2011 James T. Dove Chapter Recognition Award for Excellence

for
Quality
to
Wisconsin Chapter
for
SMARTCare Delivery

2012 Wisconsin ACC Pediatric Initiatives for 2012
by Thomas Lewandowski, MD, FACC, FASE
WC-ACC Governor
On December 10, 2011, the Wisconsin Chapter held its Annual Meeting at The Abbey Resort in Fontana. The theme of this year’s meeting was “Quality of Cardiac Care Continuum: From Bedside to Guidelines to Advocacy.” Over 60 Cardiologists, FITs and CCAs gathered to hear respected speakers talk on a range of topics including Atrial Fibrillation, valve problems, the use of guidelines and metrics. Keynote speaker Tim Bartholow, MD, CMO of the Wisconsin Medical Society, gave an overview of the current legislative landscape and how it affects cardiology.

The chapter would like to extend it’s thanks to Silja Majahalme, MD, FACC, for serving as Program Chair and making this quality program possible. The chapter would also like to recognize the 2011 exhibitor’s who supported this year’s program: AstraZeneca, Boehringer Ingelheim, Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies and Zoll LifeVest.
Aurora FIT Tonga Nfor recently took the first place award for his research presentation “Percutaneous Coronary Intervention of a Noninfarct Artery in Selected Patients With ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction Maintains Excellent Clinical Outcomes and Achieves Substantial Cost Savings Compared to Staged Second-Vessel PCI” at the Wisconsin Chapter ACC Meeting in December. Aurora FIT Lisa Schmitz, co-author on this study, is awaiting confirmation to present this data at the ACC meeting in Chicago this year. On award from WC-ACC, Dr. Nfor was able to attend the ACC Cardiovascular Care Summit held in Las Vegas this January. Other Aurora FITs presenting at the Annual Meeting were M. Fuad Jan, MD and Qasim Cheema.

The Aurora FITs have been very active in their research, submitting 11 abstracts to the 2012 ACC meeting and recently presenting data at the following 2011 national meetings: American Heart Association (Alex Mayer), Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics (Alix Tercius), Society of Cardiac Angiography and Interventions (M. Fuad Jan, Louie Kostopoulos), CHEST (M. Fuad Jan), Heart Rhythm (Chris Kolibash) and the 16th World Conference on Heart Disease (Mohamed S. Rahman). Manuscripts written by FITs M. Fuad Jan, Babak Haddadian and Vince Keating have recently been accepted for publication in JACC, Circulation, Catheter and Cardiovascular Intervention, The Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography and the European Journal of Echocardiography. Drs. Jan and Haddadian also have co-authored book chapters in Hurst’s The Heart - 13th Edition and Cardiology: An Illustrated Textbook.

Lisa Schmitz, D.O.
lisa.schmitz@aurora.org
(262) 215-5756
Central Michigan University - Request for Assistance
by Valerie Johnson, PhD
Central Michigan University

The Chapter office was contacted by Valerie Johnson, a Ph.D. student studying industrial/organizational psychology at Central Michigan University. She is conducting research that focuses on the general interests and preferences that physicians, nurses, and allied health professionals hold along with the perceptions they have regarding both their work and continuing education for their respective professions.

She needs your help. She’s asking that Wisconsin Chapter members take 15-20 minutes to take an anonymous online survey.

The results of this study examining the ability of an interest-based measurement to predict the extent to which healthcare professionals engage in different work-related behaviors (e.g., seeking out new and challenging tasks at work, attempting to develop professional skills and abilities) will be shared with the office once research is complete. They also plan to examine the extent to which interest-based measures predict healthcare professionals’ perceptions of and engagement in continuing education (e.g., applying what is learned in continuing education to work).

Thank you very much for your time, and if you have any further questions or concerns or would like more information about the study, please contact Valerie at johns4va@cmich.edu or 989-330-2994.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N9JXV8Y
Wisconsin Chapter
American College of Cardiology

WC-ACC
6737 W. Washington St.
Suite 1300
Milwaukee, WI 53214

www.wcacc.org

414-755-6295
414-276-7704 (fax)
info@wcacc.org

Chapter Executive
Jennifer Rzepka
jennifer@wcacc.org
414-755-6283 (direct)

Account Coordinator
Sandy Kaye
info@wcacc.org

SMARTCare Delivery
Smarter Management and Resource Use for Today’s Complex Cardiac Care Delivery

Learn more about SMARTCare Delivery at: www.wcacc.org/members/SMARTCare.htm

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