



Wisconsin
Chapter
American
College of
Cardiology

WC-ACC

6737 W. Washington St.
Suite 1420
Milwaukee, WI 53214

www.wcacc.org

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

Chapter Executive
Jennifer Rzepka
jennifer@svinicki
414-755-6283 (direct)



*Dr. Steven Smart,
M.D., F.A.C.C.*

We are extremely excited about our upcoming Chapter meeting in Delafield on November 17 regarding the D2B initiative. The D2B initiative is the model initiative for quality improvement in patient care and cardiovascular disease. The initiative has resulted in dramatic changes in the care of patient with acute ST segment elevation myocardial infarction. More than 1000 hospital are now participating in the initiative. The adaptation of the hospitals and the goal of reducing door to balloon times have resulted in very creative ways to speed the care of patients from tertiary care hospital emergency departments and from referring hospitals. Wisconsin has been a leader in this quality initiative with the Wisconsin Collaborative for Health Care Quality. Patient care has been clearly improved by the streamlining of protocols resulting from the initiative. The results lead to shortened hospital stay and reduced morbidity and mortality. We hope that all of our members can attend to meeting to show off their data and celebrate the success of this initiative. We will have excellent speakers from academic and nonacademic centers from our state. We have a representative from the Wisconsin Collaborative. We have great speakers from the national D2B initiative. Dr. Stuart Winston is the model ACC Governor from Michigan. He is the role model for all Governors of the ACC. Michigan has been a leader in quality initiatives. It will be great to hear his perspective on D2B an our state. Dr. Nallamothu has been a cutting edge leader in Primary PCI and D2B.

Please be careful regarding the renewal of your ACC membership regarding the BCBS settlement. Check with your group administrators and hospitals to determine if you are eligible.

Our recent Legislative Conference in Washington DC was outstanding. We learned a tremendous amount of information regarding the Medicare cuts and the cuts relating to cardiac imaging. Quality of care, documentation of quality of care, transparency, and cost containment are clearly the goals of CMS and our budget process. It is a critical time in health care. We can no longer be innocent bystanders in the process. We are the most knowledgeable people with issues relating to cardiac care, quality initiatives, and determining cost effectiveness of treatment. It is time for us to become active in the process. Dr. Dove has lead a call to action for our members to actively design quality initiative and determine the quality criteria. We have to work with our senators and representatives to ensure that our issues are resolved properly. We know what is best for our patients. We now need to design the process of pay for performance, maintain continued support for research and new developments, refine quality initiatives to continue improvement in care and outcomes, and especially ensure that transparency reports correct data. We need the ideas and energy of our members to get the job done correctly. We can no longer operate on the paradigm of crisis management. We get involved now and be proactive.

I hope our Fall meeting can energize this call to action. I am proud to have served as Governor for the Wisconsin Chapter for the last 3 years. I have learned that we can no longer be bystanders. I am confident the Dr. Matthew Wolff, MD, FACC with do an outstanding job in this role for the next three years. He is focused and has tremendous experience for this leadership role. He has been a tremendous asset in organizing and designing the D2B Fall meeting. We want the input of our members, group administrators, and CCA members to further improve our Chapter. Please get more involved so our Chapter can assume its rightful role as a model and leader regionally and nationally. We want our Chapter to be the model of service to our members. We want our Chapter to be your mechanism for communication with ACC national. We also want to represent your needs to ACC national to serve you better and further improve our outstanding national ACC organization.

Thank you!

Steven C. Smart, MD, FACC

Governor, Wisconsin Chapter, American College of Cardiology

**Tell Congress to
STOP
Medicare Cuts &
PROTECT
Medical Imaging**



Unless Congress acts this year, you face a 10 percent cut in Medicare physician payments on Jan. 1, 2008.

**Call Your Members of Congress on the ACC's
Toll-Free Grassroots Hotline: 800-210-7193**

Key Talking Points:

- Ask your members of Congress to stop the 10 percent Medicare physician payment cut from taking effect on 1/1/08.
- Urge them to oppose further cuts to payments for medical imaging services.
- Tell your member of Congress how cuts to Medicare payments will impact you and your practice.

It's critical that lawmakers hear from their physician constituents to ensure action is taken to stop the cuts.

Call your lawmakers today and urge your colleagues to do the same!

D2B: An Alliance for Quality

In line with Wisconsin's ongoing commitment to D2B: An Alliance for Quality, we encourage you to participate in the upcoming Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 17th as we further explore the quality measures set in place by ACC in the D2B program.

Visit the web site or contact the office to register or for more information.

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We hope that you attend, and encourage others in your practice or hospital to come along as well. These quality initiatives affect everyone involved in cardiology, and the meeting has been structured to apply to a broad audience.

Four oral abstracts will be presented by peers in the industry who wish to share their experience with implementation of D2B. Poster abstracts are also welcome.

The D2B Alliance has announced the launch of "90 Days to 90 Minutes," a sprint to goal intended to reenergize and refocus D2B participating hospitals to implement all of the D2B recommended strategies and maximize improvement in their D2B times. Based on the enrollment survey responses, this table delineates how the institutions in Wisconsin compared to the rest of the nation in meeting the D2B Alliance recommended strategies at the beginning of the D2B campaign. You can see that Wisconsin clearly is ahead of the curve in every area, and our goal is to increase these numbers even more before the end of 2007.

Furthermore, ACC is seeking to identify and respond to the needs and wants of D2B hospitals. If there is any way the D2B Alliance can assist your hospital, please contact them directly: d2bstaff@acc.org

Recommended Strategy	% of D2B Hospitals Meeting Recommended Strategy in WI	% of D2B Hospitals Meeting Recommended Strategy Nationally
ED physician activates the cath lab	70%	51%
Single-call activation system activates the cath lab	50%	30%
Cath lab team available within 20 – 30 minutes	100%	81%
Prompt data feedback (within 1 week)	70%	57%
(Optional) Pre-hospital ECG activates the cath lab	72%	49%



Lobbying on Capitol Hill

Pictured from left to right: Steven Smart, M.D., F.A.C.C., Michael Cinquegrani, M.D., F.A.C.C., Matthew Wolff, M.D., F.A.C.C.



Wisconsin attendees at the September ACC Legislative Conference

Pictured from left to right: Steven Nissen, M.D., M.A.C.C., Samuel Wann, M.D., F.A.C.C., Matthew Wolff, M.D., F.A.C.C., Michael Cinquegrani, M.D., F.A.C.C., Steven Smart, M.D., F.A.C.C., Jack Lewin, M.D., F.A.C.C.



Wisconsin
CHAPTER

2007 Wisconsin Chapter Annual Conference

D2B Initiatives: Revolutionary Care for AMI

Saturday, November 17, 2007

The Delafield Hotel
415 Genesee Street
Delafield, WI 53018

Mark Your Calendars:

Abstract Submissions due: Oct. 19th
Registration deadline: Nov. 2nd
Annual Conference: Nov. 17th



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Register
Today!

Only two
weeks left
before the
Annual
Conference!