



The Heart of Arizona

WINTER 2008

A Quality CREDO

The American College of Cardiology Foundation is helping form a coalition of national cardiovascular organizations with the goal of reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the management of cardiovascular disease. CREDO: The Coalition to Reduce Racial & Ethnic Disparities in (CV) Outcomes would target health care professionals responsible for CV care with education to close persisting performance gaps. CREDO's goal is to integrate quality improvement measures with education.

New Members: Practice Administrators!

The ACC has created a new membership category for Practice Administrators. The low annual cost of \$250 yields them:

- ❖ News directly affecting practice and the latest in cardiovascular medicine
- ❖ Key resources, guidelines, and standards in cardiology
- ❖ Leadership, networking and professional education opportunities
- ❖ Participation and information on leading care initiatives
- ❖ Advocacy on issues directly affecting cardiovascular practice and patient care

Spread the word and encourage your Practice Administrators to be even better informed to better serve your patients!

New Arizona ACC Staff

We are pleased to announce that Association Management, Inc. came on board as staff for Arizona ACC on October 27th. Executive Director Lianna Collinge, CAE has been integrally involved in the ACC for six years.

Contact us at: **Arizona Chapter of the ACC**

3849 Broadway Blvd PMB 308 Tucson, AZ 85716

Toll Free Phone: 1-877-460-5880

Fax: 253-265-3043

2009 Coming Events

Don't miss our First Annual Lobby Day! February 2-3. To provide education throughout the state, we will be changing our meeting format (See President's Message). We will be in four different areas this year, with Spring and Fall dates, TBA. We hope to host programs in Tucson, Prescott, Yuma, and Phoenix areas. **We hope you will plan to join us and get involved!**

Congratulations To New Leaders!

Kris Vijay, MD, FACC, was elected to serve as our Governor with a term beginning April 2010 until March 2013. In addition, Carrie B. Solodky, NP, was elected our first Cardiac Care Liaison!

We will be holding elections for Councilors soon. We are seeking candidates throughout the state, willing to offer their input and solicit needs from fellow members. Meetings are held once each year, supplemented by short quarterly conference calls.

If YOU would like to help AZ ACC provide increased membership value and get involved, please give Lianna a call toll free at 1-877-460-5880 or e-mail her at aminc1@comcast.net this month!

Our Hearts. Our Choice

Join healthcare professionals across America on **National Wear Red Day, Friday, Feb. 6, 2009**. **Wear Red Day** is your opportunity to encourage patients to live heart healthy. Research has proven that patients who choose to Go Red are more aware & make positive choices, and take action to reduce their risk and prevent heart disease. Visit www.goredforwomen.org/professionals for Wear Red Day information and for other tools to help you and your patients combat this important health risk.

Partner Courses??

Does your facility or other affiliated professional society hold courses? The Arizona Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (AZ ACC) is interested in partnering with **hospitals, societies, clinics and others** that provide quality professional education. AZ ACC can help market your event to our 630+ cardiovascular care team and help improve patient care throughout the state of Arizona!

Patient Information

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) has established the Childhood Influenza Immunization Coalition, of which ACC is a member. To increase awareness, the Coalition hopes that you will link to the Coalition website. You and your patients can easily find information about childhood influenza vaccination in one central place through the Coalition's website.

<http://www.preventchildhoodinfluenza.org/add>

Explore Compelling Options for Smarter Healthcare

Celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2009, TEPR+ is the premier health IT conference for clinicians, healthcare executives, and HIM and HIT professionals seeking the most innovative, cutting-edge and practical solutions for today's health IT issues. TEPR+ will be held three months earlier than its traditional May date:

**TEPR+ 2009 Palm Springs, CA Convention Center
Pre-Conference - Sunday February 1, 2009**

**Main Conference - Monday, February 2
to Thursday, February 5, 2009**

To register, visit:

<http://www.medrecinst.com/TEPR/TEPR.php>



Lions Gate Technology is a leading provider of IT consulting and support to the Arizona Healthcare community. Our team of highly skilled technicians specialize in implementing EHR solutions that increase productivity and provide a total solution to you.

With a combined experience of over 30 years, the professionals at Lions Gate Technology have been providing quality IT solutions to small and medium-sized businesses throughout Arizona and the Southwest.

Please contact Larry Klein, 602-368-1203,
www.LionsGateTech.com
info@LionsGateTech.com

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President's Message:

Happy New Year to all!

2009 is bound to be an exciting year. With a new administration poised to take the reigns of our country, change is bound to follow. What this means to healthcare remains to be seen, but rest assured, we are on the agenda. **The ACC continues to monitor the national healthcare policy**, our state leadership will keep you informed of developments. **It is our objective to make sure that your voice is heard by state and national policymakers.**

Thanks to all who participated in the advocacy crisis in early 2008. On the heels of the successful defeat of SB1224, we must maintain ongoing vigilance for threats to our ability to provide appropriate care for our patients. ACC national has been tireless in their efforts to provide us with timely information on state specific advocacy issues.

2009 will be the first year to try a new format for our chapter meetings. In response to membership feedback, we will schedule quarterly regional meetings, rather than one annual meeting. I hope that you will take advantage of the wonderful educational and social opportunities!

This year will also see a new roster of state chapter Councilors. I personally wish to thank each and every one of our current Councilors for their participation in the AZ-ACC. **For those of you who have never participated as an ACC Councilor**, I hope that you will consider serving in this vital role. The time commitment is limited, the challenges stimulating, and the rewards great. 2008 demonstrated the **power of our organized voice**, and it is imperative that we maintain our strength in the face of continued threats. Again, I wish you a prosperous and Happy New Year. The state Leadership and I look forward to supporting you by promoting the ACC's mission: ***"to advocate for quality cardiovascular care—through education, research promotion, development and application of standards and guidelines—and to influence health care policy"***.

Warmest regards,
Steven S. Mehta, MD, FACC
Governor, AZ ACC

