Preview of PICS-AICS 08 (Pediatric and Adult Interventional Cardiac Symposium) With Live Demonstrations

By Ziyad M. Hijazi, MD

Dear Colleagues,

Hope you will receive this edition of Congenital Cardiology Today in good spirits. Preparations are well underway for a large successful Interventional Course for Congenital & Structural Heart Disease in Children and Adults. PICS-AICS is the largest meeting of its kind in this unique discipline. With 12 years of experience, we have committed ourselves and resources to make sure that you will enjoy the educational content and learn new concepts. Furthermore, the social program promises to be very entertaining.

PICS-AICS will start Sunday, July 20th, 2008 at 8:30 AM with a large workshop dedicated to “Embolization Therapy.” This workshop is designed to give the attendees the necessary knowledge needed to tackle any issue related to this topic. We have invited the world’s best experts in this field to share with us their massive experience and knowledge.

In the afternoon, following the Workshop sessions, the popular “Meet the Expert” session will take place. Here you can bring difficult cases and get the opinion of the experts in the field! We encourage you, if you have such a case to please contact me directly at the address below. Time is limited, so first come, first serve. The best case presented will have a chance to win free registration for PICS-AICS-2009 in Australia.

Following the Embolization Therapy workshop is another comprehensive workshop on “ASDs and Imaging the Atrial Septum.” This workshop is designed to give the attendees full knowledge of the anatomy of the septum, evaluation of specimens with ASD’s and the different imaging tools used to guide ASD device closure (TEE; ICE) and, finally, full details of the available devices to close the ASD. In this workshop, we have even invited our surgical colleagues to debate interventional cardiologists about whether surgical closure should be done for smaller children with ASD vs., of course, device closure. At the end of this workshop, the attendee will have full knowledge of what is available out there to close ASDs, and will understand the anatomy of the septum using different imaging tools.

In the afternoon, following the Workshop sessions, the popular “Meet the Expert” session will take place. Here you can bring difficult cases and get the opinion of the experts in the field! We encourage you, if you have such a case to please contact me directly at the address below. Time is limited, so first come, first serve. The best case presented will have a chance to win free registration for PICS-AICS-2009 in Australia.
Working Together to Develop a Better Tomorrow
Following “Meet The Expert,” there will be Oral Abstract Presentations. We have selected the best 30 abstracts for oral presentations. We need your help in selecting the best abstract and the winner will have free registration for PICS-AICS-2009 in Australia with the World Congress.

After a long day, the attendees are invited to a large reception in the Exhibit Area.

Monday, July 21st, will be as busy as the day before. To start the day, we will transmit live cases from four sites: from Brazil, Drs. Carlos Pedra and Cesar Esteves will perform 4 live cases; from Chicago, I will perform live cases, and for the first time, I will perform a percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation using the new Edwards Sapien THV. Then Dr. Evan Zahn will perform three cases, among them a case of percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation using the Melody Bonhoeffer valve, and finally, from Seattle, Dr. Tom Jones will perform three cases.

In addition to the live cases, there are didactic sessions including a talk on covered stents for coarctation and other vessels. This year, due to popular demand, each day at lunch, there will be a session “My Nightmare Case in The Cath Lab.”

After three days, we will announce the best case. You’ll have a chance to vote on the best nightmare case, and the winner will have free registration for PICS-AICS-2009 in Australia.

The afternoon sessions are packed and interesting. Among the topics that will be discussed in details, is the “Percutaneous Pulmonary Valve for RVOT Pathology.” This will be very interesting, since the live cases prior to this session will highlight the two available valves.

After this session, the first debate of the day will be about “Aortic Valve Stenosis in Infants <3 months.” A surgeon will discuss why surgery should be the first option and an interventional cardiologist will indicate that balloon is better.

This debate will be followed by an interesting session “Catheterizing The Critically Ill Baby.” Then three experts will give their perspectives about indications and outcome. An echocardiographer will present his case, and I’m very delighted and happy to let you know that our very dear friend Dr. Charles S. Kleinman is back from his illness, and will talk to us about his thoughts, Dr. Michel Ilbawi will give his surgical perspectives, and Dr. Nykanen will give his interventional perspectives.

Monday, also will feature our first breakout session on “Structural Heart Disease.” In this session, Dr. Marty Leon will give “State of The Art Lecture on Percutaneous Aortic valve Therapies.” This is followed by a session on “Mitral valve Disease.” I want to encourage my colleagues in Pediatric Cardiology to attend this breakout session; it is from here, we can learn what our colleagues in adult cardiology are doing, and perhaps get exposed to novel technologies that we may apply in the pediatric patients.

The day will end with the traditional annual “PICS Achievement Award.” Who will win this year? Join us and see this special event.

Tuesday, July 22nd, will be as busy as Monday. Live cases will be transmitted from four different sites, including Atlanta, where Dr. Bob Vincent will do 2 cases; Drs. John Cheatham and Mark Galantowicz will be doing couple of live cases from their new hybrid suite; Dr. Tom Forbes will be doing live cases from Detroit, and finally, Dr. John Moore will be doing live cases from San Diego. These cases promise to be educational and challenging.

Tuesday will also feature a debate about “Coarctation of The Aorta in Infants and Children <5 years.” What is best for them, surgery or interventional therapy?

The afternoon sessions include discussion on VSDs, and everything you need to know -- from anatomy to imaging, surgical techniques and results, and of course, interventional techniques.

This session is followed by a session on PDA from basic to complex. Indications for closure will be discussed as will; basic techniques; closure of tubular PDAs; closure of hypertensive PDAs; closure of short PDAs; the use of pfm Nit Occlud and the new device from AGA, the ADO-II.

The breakout session Tuesday will feature Structural Heart Disease: The PFO and LAA, and devices to monitor Heart Failure Patients. Again, this session is so important to all, that we encourage you to attend. We promise that you’ll learn new things from structural heart disease interventionalists!

At the end of the day, the attendees are invited to relax, and have fun at our traditional Gala Night.

The last day of the meeting, Wednesday, July 23rd, 2008 is as busy as the days before. Live cases will be transmitted from four different sites: Dr. Russell Hirsch from Cincinnati will be performing three cases; Dr. David Nykanen will perform three cases; Dr. David Balzer will be doing three cases, and finally Dr. John Webb from Vancouver will be performing percutaneous aortic valve implantation in one room, and from his hybrid suite will perform with his surgeon a transapical aortic valve implantation case, so, this will be a very interesting live cases day where you will have the opportunity to learn from these cases.

We have added a simple yet, un-talked about topic, pericardiocentesis. Dr. Ing will discuss this topic in detail. Other topics include, vascular thrombosis, vascular closure devices and hybrid interventions. In the hybrid intervention, the world’s experts in hybrid therapy for HLHS will share with us their experience. Dr. Mark Galantowicz and Dr. Dietmar Schranz, both performed more than anyone in the world in this disease. Learning from them will certainly enhance our knowledge.

Finally, a few experts in the field will each discuss briefly what they are working on, and what to expect in the coming years.

The last breakout session of the meeting is one specially designed for nurses and technologists. Ms. Sharon Hill and Ms. Kathleen Nolan have included a few topics that we believe will be of benefit, not only to nurses and techs, but also to all of us. Topics include: Inventory management in the cath lab! Sedation vs. anesthesia for interventional procedures, vessel closure techniques, and surgical procedures in the hybrid lab.

So, as you can see, the course is intense, packed and interesting. We invite you to join us in Las Vegas for what is promised to be the best course ever.

See you in Vegas!

CCT

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~on behalf of the course directors~
SUNDAY - JULY 20 - COMBINED PEDIATRIC AND ADULT SESSION

9:00 am - 7:00 pm - Registration

8:30 - 11:30 am - Comprehensive Workshop: Embolization Therapy - John P. Cheatham, Seong-Ho Kim, Shakeel Qureshi
Sponsored by Cook Medical
1. What do you Need in the Cath Lab for Embolization Therapy? - Robert White
2. Catheter management of Pulmonary AVMs - Robert White
3. Aorto-Pulmonary Collaterals: Anatomy & Indications for Closure - Lee Benson
4. Aorto-Pulmonary Collaterals: Closure Techniques, Results - Shakeel Qureshi
5. Veno-Venous Collaterals Pre & Post Fontan: When and How to Close Them - Jeffrey Feinstein
6. Coronary Arteriovenous Fistulas: Anatomy, Closure and Results - Jo De Giovanni
7. Retrieval Techniques in the Cath Lab - Omar Galal

1:00 - 3:30 pm - Comprehensive Workshop: The Atrial Septal Defect and Imaging of the Atrial Septum - Ziyad M. Hijazi, William E. Hellenbrand, Tom Jones
1. Basic Anatomy & Imaging of the Septum - Achi Ludomirsky
2. Evaluation of Specimens of Complex Defects - Zahid Amin
3. Which is Better? TEE vs ICE in Children to Monitor ASD Closure
   A. TEE is the Gold Standard - Craig Fleishman
   B. ICE is far Better - John Rhodes

3:30 - 3:30 pm - “Meet the Experts”
Room A: PS Rao, Carlos Ruiz, Carlos Zabal, John Bass
Room B: Mike Tynan, Chuck Mullins, Jou-Kou Wang, John Carroll

4:30 - 6:30 pm - Oral Abstract Presentations
Room A: Lee Benson, Teiji Akagi, Luigi Ballerini, Makram Ebeid
Room B: Mazeni Alwi, Alpay Celiker, Shakeel Qureshi, James Wilkinson
Room C: John Fahey, Russell Hirsch, Toshio Nakanishi, Mark Fogel

6:30 - 8:30 pm - Welcome Reception

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“Thank you for your excellent efforts”
“Great variety of live cases”
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MONDAY - JULY 21 - MORNING SESSION

7:00 – 8:00 am - Continental Breakfast and Visit Exhibits

Morning Session:
Moderators: William E. Hellenbrand, John P. Cheatham, Michel Ilbawi

8:00 – 8:10 am - Welcome and Course Overview:
John P. Cheatham

8:10 – 10:00 am - Live Cases #1: Brazil, Chicago, Miami, Seattle; Panelists: BG Alekyan, Elchanan Bruckheimer, Redmond Burke, Bharat Dalvi, Luigi Ballerini

10:00 - 10:30 am - Coffee Break & Visit Exhibits

10:30 - 11:00 am - The Use of Covered Stents
1. Use of Covered Stents for Coarctation of the Aorta - Elchanan Bruckheimer
2. Use of Covered stents Outside Coarctation - Christian Jux

11:00 am - 1:00 pm - Live Cases #2: Brazil, Chicago, Miami, Seattle; Panelists: Ivan Fu, Omar Galal Jo De Giovanni, Miguel Granja, David Balzer

1:00 - 2:00 pm - Lunch Session - My Nightmare Case in the Cath Lab! #1; Moderators: Neil Wilson, Felix Berger and Horacio Faella

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MONDAY - JULY 21 - AFTERNOON SESSION

Afternoon Session:
Moderators: William Hellenbrand, Bharat Dalvi, Mike Tynan

2:00 - 3:30 pm - Live Cases #3: Brazil, Miami, Seattle; Panelists: Makram Ebeid, John Fahey, Jeff Feinstein, Alpay Celiker, P.S. Rao

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Percutaneous Pulmonary Valve for RVOT Pathology
   3:30-3:45 pm - 1. Echocardiographic Assessment of Right Sided Obstructive Lesions & Indications for Intervention - Craig Fleishman
   3:45-4:00 pm - 2. MRI/CT Assessment of the Patient with RVOT Pathology and Indications for Intervention - Mark Fogel
   4:00-4:15 pm - 3. US Results of the Melody Valve Trial - William E. Hellenbrand
   4:15-4:30 pm - 4. The Edwards Sapien Transcatheter Heart Valve - John Webb
   4:30-4:45 pm - 5. Surgical Palliation/Correction - Redmond Burke
   4:45-5:00 pm - 6. Perspectives of a Pioneer - Philipp Bonhoeffer

3:30 - 5:00 pm - Debate #2 - Aortic Valve Stenosis in Infants <3 months of age: Balloon Therapy is Good Enough
   5:00-5:15 pm - 1. Pro - Dietmar Schranz
   5:15-5:30 pm - 2. Surgery is the Gold Standard - Emile Bacha
   5:30-5:45 pm - 3. Rebuttal

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   5:30-5:45 pm - 3. Rebuttal

5:45-6:30 pm - Catheterizing the Critically Ill Baby: Preparation, Risk, Data Gathering and Interventions
   1. The Echocardiographer Perspective - Charles Kleinman
   2. The Surgical Perspective - Michel Ilbawi
   3. The Interventionalist Perspective - David Nykanen

6:15 pm - PICS Achievement Award

Breakout Session #1

2:00 - 3:30 pm - Adult Structural Heart Disease; Moderators: Martin Leon, Ted Feldman, Cliff Kavinsky

Role of Medical Simulation in Structural Heart Disease - John Carroll

State of the Art Percutaneous Aortic Valve Therapies - Martin Leon

The Mitral Valve
   1. Echocardiographic Assessment of the Mitral Valve & Indications for Therapy - Roberto Lang
   2. Is The Surgical Repair For Mitral Regurgitation - The Gold Standard? Examining The Evidence - Ted Feldman
   3. Percutaneous Mitral Valve Repair Techniques: Devices & Results - David Reuter
TUESDAY - JULY 22 - MORNING SESSION

7:00 – 8:00 am - Continental Breakfast and Visit Exhibits

Morning Session - PICS
Moderators: Ziyad M. Hijazi, Larry Latson, Emile Bacha

8:00-10:00 am - Live Cases #1: Atlanta, Columbus, Detroit, San Diego; Panelists: Jose de Lezo, Eric Horlick, Geoff Lane, Wei Gao, Toshio Nakanishi

10:00-10:30 am - Coffee Break & Visit Exhibits

10:30-11:00 am - Debate #3: Balloon Angioplasty for Native Coarctation in Infants & Children <5 years of age
   1. Catheter Intervention is Appropriate and is Effective - Joaquim Miro
   2. Surgical Repair is Better - Redmond Burke

11:00 am -12:45 pm - Live Cases #2; Columbus, Detroit, San Diego; Panelists: Frank Ing, Seong-Ho Kim, Cristian Jux, Saibal Kar, Eustaquio Onorato

1:00-1:15 pm - NCDR Registry for Pediatric and Congenital Cardiac Interventions - Gerard Martin

1:15-1:45 pm - My Nightmare Case in The Cath Lab #2
Moderators: Neil Wilson, Charles Kleinman, Richard Ringel

“I have been attending the PICS symposium since its’ inception and will continue to do so. The PICS symposium has allowed me, as the only interventionalist in our practice, to feel comfortable performing complex interventions on sick patients. I always come back with at least one or two new tips and they may not always come from the didactic lectures or the live cases, but from the interventionalist sitting next to me. The ability to interact with and bounce ideas off the best practitioners around the world in our field is invaluable. I congratulate Z for consistently putting together the finest interventional conference around.”

~ Herbert J Stern, MD, FACC, FSCAI
Director, Pediatric Cardiology
Sanger Clinic and Levine Children’s Hospital
Charlotte, NC
TUESDAY - JULY 22 - AFTERNOON SESSION

Afternoon Session - PICS
Moderators: Carlos Pedra, Zahid Amin, Charles Mullins

2:00-3:30 pm - Live Cases #3; Detroit, San Diego, Atlanta; Panelists: Ralf Holzer, Trong-Phi Le, Jose de Lezo, Jozef Masura, Wei Gao

3:30-5:10 pm - Ventricular Septal Defect: Everything You Need to Know!
1. Echocardiographic Characterization and Indications for Closure - Simone Pedra
2. Percutaneous Closure: When and How - Zahid Amin
3. Percutaneous Closure: When and How - Mario Carminati
4. Post-Infarcts VSDs: Indications & How are we Doing with Current Technology? - Eric Horlick
5. Post-operative Residual VSDs - Kevin Walsh
6. PFM VSD Device Closure: Outcom - Trong-Phi Le
7. Surgical Perspectives - Emile Bacha

5:10-6:25 pm - The Patent Ductus Arteriosus: From Basic to Complex
1. When to Close PDAs in Children & Adults: Indications - James Wilkinson
2. Basic Techniques to Close Straightforward Simple PDAs - Julie Vincent
3. Closure of Tubular PDAs - Mazeni Alwi
4. Closure of Hypertensive PDAs - Carlos Zabal
5. Closure of Short (Window type) PDAs - Basil Thanopolous
6. Use of pfm Nit Occlude to Close PDAs - Tom Jones
7. The New ADO-II - John Bass

Breakout Session #2

3:45-5:20 pm - The Patent Foramen Ovale & The LA
Moderators: Martin Leon, Ted Feldman, Bagrat Alekyan, Cliff Kavinsky

Debate

3:45-5:00 pm - Rationale For PFO Closure for Stroke
3:45-4:00 pm - 1. We Have Enough Data to Close PFOs - Ted Feldman
4:00-4:15 pm - 2. We Need Results of Randomized Trials - Jon Tobis
4:15-5:00 pm - 3. Technical Considerations:
   A. Basic Technique of PFO Closure - John Carroll
   B. Closure of Complex PFOs - Eustaquito Onorato
   C. How to Retrieve Embolized PFO Devices - Larry Latson

5:00-5:15 pm - Future Directions in PFO Closure: New Devices & Techniques - Horst Sievert

5:15-5:30 pm - Percutaneous Monitoring of the LA Pressure - Saibal Kar

5:30-5:45 pm - LAA Closure: Where are We, and What is New on the Horizon? - Ted Feldman

7:30-11:30 pm - Gala Dinner; This year’s dinner will be a “resort casual” evening including a cocktail reception, dinner and entertainment.
WEDNESDAY - JULY 23

7:00 – 8:00 am - Continental Breakfast and Visit Exhibits

Morning Session
Moderators: Mario Carminati, Horacio Faella, Martin Leon

8:00-10:00 am - Live Cases #1 - Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver - Panelists: Joaquim Miro, John Moore, Mike Mullen, Jack Rome, Julie Vincent

10:00-10:30 am - Coffee Break & Visit Exhibits

10:30-10:45 am - Pericardiocentesis: Indications and Technical Tips! - Frank Ing

10:45 AM-12:45 pm - Live Cases #2 - Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver - Panelists: David Reuter, John Rhodes, Dietmar Schranz, Jou-Kou Wang, Cesar Esteves

1:00-2:00 pm - Lunch Session / My Nightmare Case in the Cath Lab #3 - Moderators: Neil Wilson, Horacio Faella, Cesar Esteves

Afternoon Session
Moderators: Ziyad M. Hijazi, Evan Zahn, Carlos Pedra

2:00-4:00 pm - Live Cases #3 - Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver - Panelists: John Tobis, Basil Thanopoulos, Robert Vincent, Makram Ebeid

4:00-4:15 pm - Vascular Thrombosis: Management Strategies - Teiji Akagi

4:15-4:30 pm - Vascular Closure Devices - Cliff Kavinsky

4:30-5:00 pm - Hybrid Intervention: The Hypoplastic Left Heart:
1. Surgical Aspects with Results - Mark Galantowicz
2. Catheter Aspects with Results - Dietmar Schranz

5:00-5:15 pm - When & How to Create ASDs in The Cath Lab - Jack Rome

5:15-6:00 pm - What is New on the Horizon? - John Rhodes, Tom Forbes, Philipp Bonhoeffer, Achi Ludomirsky, John Cheatham, Richard Ringel

6:00 pm - Closing Remarks - Carlos Pedra

Breakout Session #3

10:30-12:00 pm - Nursing/Technician Breakout Session
Moderators: Sharon Hill, MSN, ACNP-BC & Kathleen Nolan, RT (R) CV
1. Inventory Management in the Cardiac Catheterization Suite…A Multi-million Dollar Business! - Alexandra Martyniuk, R.T.
2. Sedation versus Anesthesia During Interventional Therapy for Congenital Heart Disease - Steven Barnes, MD
3. Venous & Arterial Vessel Closure Techniques - Paul Lawrence, RCIS
4. Surgical Procedures in the Cardiac Catheterization Suite…..What Everyone Needs to Know - Roberta Rodeman, BSN, RNFA, CNOR
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PAST PICS ACHIEVEMENT
AWARD WINNERS

1997 - Charles E. Mullins (USA), Cath Lab Director Emeritus Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s

1998 - Michael Tynan (UK), Cath Lab Director, Guys Hospital

1999 - Kurt Amplatz (USA), Professor of Radiology University of Minnesota

2000 - Lee Benson (Canada) Director, Cardiac Diagnostic and Interventional Unit Hospital for Sick Kids, Toronto

2001 - James E. Lock (USA), Chief of Cardiology, Boston Children’s Hospital

2002 - William E. Hellenbrand (USA) Cath Lab Director, Columbia University

2003 - Allen J. Tower (USA), President NuMED Inc.

2004 - Shakeel A. Qureshi (UK), Guys Hospital

2005 - Valmir Fontes (Brazil), Dante Pazzanese Instituto de Cardiologia

2006 - Philipp Bonhoeffer (UK), Chief of Cardiology, Great Ormond Street Hospital For Sick Kids

2007 - John P. Cheatham (USA), Director, Cardiac Catheterization and Interventional Therapy; Co-Director, The Heart Center at Nationwide Children’s Hospital

PIONEER AWARD

2007 - Terry D. King, (USA), St. Francis Medical Center

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LIVE CASE SUMMARY

Monday

Live Cases #1
Brazil, Chicago, Miami, Seattle
Panelists: BG Alekyan, Elchanan Bruckheimer, Redmond Burke, Bharat Dalvi, Luigi Ballerini

Live Cases #2
Brazil, Chicago, Miami, Seattle
Panelists: Ivan Fu, Omar Galal Jo De Giovanni, Miguel Granja, David Balzer

Live Cases #3
Brazil, Miami, Seattle
Panelists: Makram Ebeid, John Fahey, Jeff Feinstein, Alpay Celiker, P.S. Rao

Tuesday

Live Cases #1
Atlanta, Columbus, Detroit, San Diego
Panelists: Jose de Lezo, Eric Horlick, Geoff Lane, Wei Gao, Toshio Nakanishi

Live Cases #2
Columbus, Detroit, San Diego
Panelists: Frank Ing, Seong-Ho Kim, Cristian Jux, Saibal Kar, Eustaquio Onorato

Live Cases #3
Detroit, San Diego, Atlanta
Panelists: Ralf Holzer, Trong-Phi Le, Jose de Lezo, Jozef Masura, Wei Gao

Wednesday

Live Cases #1
Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver
Panelists: Joaquim Miro, John Moore, Mike Mullen, Jack Rome, Julie Vincent

Live Cases #2
Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver
Panelists: David Reuter, John Rhodes, Dietmar Schranz, Jou-Kou Wang, Cesar Esteves

Live Cases #3
Cincinnati, Orlando, St. Louis, Vancouver
Panelists: John Tobis, Basil Thanopoulos, Robert Vincent, Makram Ebeid, James Wilkinson

“PICS 2007 is considered as one of the major symposia when it comes to cardiovascular interventions. It consisted of a carefully thought-out scientific program presented in an enjoyable social environment. Lectures, workshops and panel discussions were used to keep us updated with the latest development in the rapidly expanding field of cardiac intervention. Furthermore, the live cases transmitted from multiple international venues, using the latest techniques, gave the attendees a chance to participate in interactive discussions.”

~ Tarek Momenah, MD
Department of Cardiology
Prince Sultan Cardiac Center
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
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Hours of Operation: Dinner Daily: 5:30 - 10:00 p.m.

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Hours of Operation: Dinner Daily: 5:30 - 10:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 5:30 - 10:30 p.m.

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Picasso
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Hours of Operation: Wednesday - Monday: 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays

Prime Steakhouse
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Hours of Operation: Dinner Daily 5:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Casual Dining

Cafe Bellagio
Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served in a setting offering views of the Conservatory and Botanical Garden.
Hours of Operation: Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

The Buffet
The Buffet has several live-action cooking stations. Guests may choose from Italian, Japanese, Chinese, seafood and American cuisines, offered daily, or enjoy an exquisite champagne brunch on the weekend.
Hours of Operation: Breakfast - Monday – Friday: 7:00 - 11:00 a.m; Lunch - Monday - Friday: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m; Dinner - Sunday - Thursday: 4:00 - 10:00 p.m; Gourmet Dinner - Friday & Saturday: 4:00 - 10:00 p.m; Champagne brunch - Saturday and Sunday: 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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PICS - AICS 08 FACULTY

Directors:
Ziyad M. Hijazi, MD, MPH, FSCAI, FACC
William E. Hellenbrand, MD
John Cheatham, MD
Carlos Pedra, MD

Co-Directors:
Martin B. Leon, MD
Zahid Amin, MD
Ted Feldman, MD

Guest Faculty:
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Dear Colleagues:

As the Executive Committee to the CLOSURE I clinical trial to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of percutaneous PFO closure compared to medical therapy in the young stroke/TIA patient, we would like to share some encouraging news.

Recently a protocol specified interim analysis was conducted by the study DSMB. While we remain blinded to that analysis, the DSMB confirmed the validity of a revised statistical plan to reduce the number of patients to 900. More importantly, they did not halt the trial on the basis of safety or futility analysis; the letter stressed the need to complete the study in the most expeditious manner.

With over 800 patients already enrolled and randomized in CLOSURE I, we believe we are now closer than ever to having data that will guide us all in treating the young stroke/TIA patient with the best therapy to reduce or prevent recurrent events. We cannot achieve that answer without your help in enrolling the balance of the patients needed.

We would like to clear up an area of possible confusion regarding the status of percutaneous PFO closure devices in the United States and recent actions taken by companies who voluntarily withdrew their HDE (humanitarian device exemption) approvals for the devices. The withdrawals were requested by the FDA because to maintain the HDE status the number of patients eligible to receive the implants had to be less than 4,000 per year. The FDA determined that the patient population was actually far greater than that original estimate. The devices were not withdrawn for safety issues. In fact, the recent interim analysis and letter from the DSMB did not indicate any concern over safety of the STARFlex® implant which has been used in half of the over 800 study patients randomized so far.

There are observational publications and opinions arguing that percutaneous PFO closure may be a good strategy for the stroke and TIA patient. There are also uncertainties and opinions about what is the best therapy for this patient subset. We don't have an answer. We appeal to each of you to help us enroll the remaining patients into the CLOSURE I study and be part of the answer. Participating sites near you can be found at: www.closurei.com.

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Over 30 years ago, Cook Medical invented coil embolization. Today, we are still the leader in peripheral vascular embolization with the broadest product line to choose from.

Cook Medical is proud to sponsor the Comprehensive Embolization Therapy Workshop at PICS-AICS 08 on Sunday, July 20 in Las Vegas at the Bellagio Hotel.
Save the Date
PICS 2009
June 21-23, 2009

PICS 2009 will be held in collaboration with the Fifth World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery in Cairns, Australia.

Accreditation
This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the essential areas and policies of the accreditation council for continuing medical education, through the joint sponsorship of the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI). The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. SCAI designates this educational activity for a maximum of 31.75 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

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• Children’s Hospital of Minneapolis
• Children’s Hospital of Pennsylvania
• Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
• Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
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• Columbus Children’s Hospital
• Cook Children’s Medical Center
• Duke University Medical Center
• Legacy Emmanuel
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• Medical University of South Carolina
• Michael Dell Children’s Hospital
• Montefiore Medical Center
• New York Presbyterian / Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York
• Norton Healthcare Kosair Children’s Hospital
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• Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
• Rush University Children’s Hospital
• St. Louis Children’s Hospital
• Southwest Texas (Methodist) Hospital
• Sunrise Hospital & Medical Center
• University of Alabama Hospital and Clinic
• University of California San Francisco
• University of Kentucky Gill Heart Center
• Vanderbilt University Hospital
• West Virginia University Children’s Hospital
• Yale New Haven Hospital

If you’d like to know more about how the Philips pediatric hybrid cath lab solution can grow with your patients, please contact your Philips representative.

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