



QUALITY IS OUR IMAGE

2019 Annual Reports

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Commission on Economics

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Evaluation and Management (E/M) Policy

- For CY 2021, CMS finalized the proposal to adopt the new coding structure for the office/outpatient evaluation and management (E/M) codes as recommended by the Joint AMA CPT-RUC Workgroup, as well as the Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC)-recommended times and values. There will be separate payments for each of the five levels of office/outpatient E/M (instead of the blended payments for levels 2-4), along with a new add-on code for prolonged visits. In addition, a new complexity code, GP1CX was created by CMS. With payment changes to the E/M services, many specialties, including radiology, are impacted. CMS included estimated specialty-specific impacts in the rule, for which radiology is 8 percent reduction. CMS plans to implement changes from the E/M services starting January 1, 2021. The ACR is tracking this issue and its impacts on radiology very closely and looking into options to best mitigate these reductions. The ACR continues to explore all avenues to educate and keep our members informed.
- The E/M workgroup continues to look into the feasibility of radiologists billing E/M codes.

Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) Mandate Implementation

The 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule final rule confirmed that the AUC mandate for advanced diagnostic imaging services will begin on January 1, 2020 with an “operations and testing period” where penalties will not apply for failure to correctly report AUC consultation information. CMS published a comprehensive AUC [Fact Sheet](#) outlining the current status of the program and what is expected in 2020. CMS also published detailed claims processing [instructions](#) in June (updated in December). Leaders of the Commission on Economics continue to work with Public Relations and Quality and Safety Staff as well as the RBMA on member education efforts, including joint webinars with the RBMA. As of now, starting January 1, 2021, in order for the furnishing providers to be paid they must include the ordering professional’s AUC consult or exception to the consult information on the claims.

Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS)

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2020 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) final rule on November 1st. CMS estimates an overall impact of the final MPFS changes to radiology, radiation oncology and radiation therapy centers a neutral 0 percent, an overall 1 percent decrease for interventional radiology and a 1 percent increase for nuclear medicine. Following are some highlights from the rule.
- The ACR as part of an Ultrasound Coalition was successful preventing CMS’ effort to move forward with cuts to ultrasound services in 2020. For CY 2019, CMS contracted with StrategyGen to review the pricing of CMS medical equipment and supplies, as they had not been reviewed in over a decade. CMS proposed a four-year phase in for the updated pricing. In the past year, due to continued feedback, StrategyGen conducted an extensive examination of the pricing for any equipment or supply item that was identified as requiring additional review, and

considered any invoices that were submitted. Following this review, the pricing for 70 equipment or supply items were updated, including increases to the prices for the ultrasound room and vascular ultrasound room.

- The rule includes CMS final values for over 100 new/revised codes impacting Radiology. Following extensive comment from Radiology, CMS did update their proposed values to accept the RUC-recommended values for intravascular ultrasound, computed tomography of the orbit, sella, or fossa, and myocardial imaging with PET. CMS also increased their proposed value for one of the codes related to pericardial drainage procedures.
- The ACR staff from Economics, Quality and Safety and Government Relations developed a detailed summary of the final rule for ACR members.

Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System (HOPPS)

- In 2019, the ACR continued its work during both the proposed and final rulemaking cycles to ensure the accurate and clinically coherent APC placement of radiology codes under the HOPPS. In March of 2019, ACR met with CMS staff presenting recommendations for new bundled radiology CPT codes APC placement for 2020.
- In February 2020, the ACR HOPPS Committee submitted a comment letter [https://www.acr.org/-/media/ACR/Files/Advocacy/AIA/ACR-New-and-Bundled-CPT-Code-Recommendations---FINAL-\(1\).pdf](https://www.acr.org/-/media/ACR/Files/Advocacy/AIA/ACR-New-and-Bundled-CPT-Code-Recommendations---FINAL-(1).pdf) to CMS asking for the appropriate APC placement of the new low-dose lung cancer screening code (712X0). The committee asked for 712X0 be placed in APC 5523 (level 3 imaging without contrast contrast) for 2021.
- The Economics staff prepared a detailed summary of the proposed rule as well as for the final rule.
- The ACR's HOPPS Committee and staff analyzed both the proposed and final rules under the HOPPS and developed and submitted comments on the proposed rule. A detailed comment letter for the proposed rule was submitted to CMS.

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA)

- In 2019, the ACR worked to ensure that our members were well represented during Wave 3 of the MACRA Episode-Based Cost Measure Clinical Subcommittee meetings coordinated by Acumen, LLC on behalf of CMS. These subcommittees work to develop care episode and patient condition groups for use in cost measures to meet the requirements for MACRA. Members from the MACRA Committee serve on three Clinical Subcommittees: Colon Resection, Asthma/COPD, and Hospital Medicine, as well as on a Technical Expert Panel for Cost Measures and Patient Relationship Categories. Ten Episode-Based Cost Measures developed in Wave 2 were finalized in the CY 2020 MPFS final rule.
- The ACR's MACRA Committee and staff analyzed both the proposed and final rules under the Quality Payment Program (QPP) and commented on the proposed rule.
- The ACR's MACRA Committee subsequently offered a webinar to members on Year 4 of the QPP with updates for 2020.
- Members of the MACRA Committee contributed to the ACR Comment Letter on the Radiation Oncology Model (RO Model) proposed by CMS in July. Members and ACR staff continue to monitor the status of this ruling.

- Staff and volunteer members from the ACR’s MACRA Committee continued to attend and follow meetings of the Physician Focused Payment Model Technical Advisory Committee (PTAC) in order to monitor the development, evaluation and deployment of APMs.

Private Payer Imaging Policies

- The committee held an in person meeting the ACR 2019 meeting and held several conference calls during the year. Topics of discussion included site of service preauthorization policies (Anthem and United), out of network/balance billing, digital breast tomosynthesis reimbursement, and clinical decision support as an alternative to prior authorization.
- The ACR staff met with United Healthcare representatives in May to discuss their MR/CT site-neutral policy. Staff followed up with United to add lung cancer screening and necessary follow-up studies to the list of exceptions to the imaging site of service preauthorization policy similar to Anthem’s policy. United’s policy became effective [April 1, 2019](#) and states “*An advanced radiologic imaging procedure in the hospital outpatient department is considered medically necessary for individuals who meet ANY of the following criteria....Have a known chronic disease with prior radiology imaging procedures for the diagnosis, management or surveillance of the disease at the hospital outpatient department.*” The policy does not explicitly mention lung nodule management like the Anthem policy, but it is implied. Facilities should use this exception when the insurance company denies lung cancer screening coverage in a hospital outpatient department setting. In addition, through advocacy efforts with the American Academy of Pediatrics, UHC altered their guideline for pediatric patients, raising the age where imaging may be reimbursed in the hospital outpatient setting from 10 to over 18 years of age.

Date of Service (DOS):

- On February 1, 2019, CMS released guidance ([SE17023](#)) on the coding and billing of date of service (DOS) on professional claims. This guidance stated that when billing for a global service, providers can submit the professional component (PC) with a date of service reflecting when the review and interpretation is completed or can submit the date of service as the date the technical component (TC) was performed.
- The guidance continues by noting that if the provider did not perform a global service and instead performed only one component, the DOS for the TC would be the date the patient received the service and the date of service for the PC would be the date the review and interpretation is completed. SE17023 represents a departure from previous transmittals in that it allows the option, in global billing situations, to bill the PC with a DOS reflecting the date the service was performed rather than the date of interpretation. Prior to the 2019 transmittal of SE17023 each instance of rescinded guidance defined the DOS of the TC as the date the test was performed and the date of the PC as the date of interpretation.

Relative Value Scale Update Committee (RUC)

In 2019, the ACR presented time and value recommendations for over 70 CPT codes to the American Medical Association (AMA) RUC Panel. Codes valued by the RUC are then submitted to CMS for consideration and implementation in the MPFS. The ACR also continues to closely follow updates on the E/M office visit codes at the RUC meetings.

Coding

Among the three CPT Editorial Panel meetings in 2019, the ACR Economics Committee on Coding & Nomenclature either individually or in conjunction with other specialty societies worked on a number of coding proposals that will be implemented for the 2021 CPT Code cycle, including those proposals brought forth as a result of the Relativity Assessment Workgroup recommendations to revalue services perceived as being potentially “misvalued.” The ACR sponsored or co-sponsored five CPT code proposals (Image-guided lung biopsy, computed tomography for lung cancer screening, medical physics dose evaluation, editorial revision to the x-ray of the acute abdomen series code, and a revision of the code descriptor for 74425, *Urography, antegrade (pyelostogram, nephrostogram, loopogram)*).

Lung Cancer Screening

- Staff assisted the LCS 2.0 committee led by Dr. Debra Dyer in the development of an economic and billing quick reference guide. This guide is intended to answer commonly asked questions about lung cancer screening logistics, program requirements, economics, and billing issues. The document is available [online](#) and has been disseminated at two national lung cancer screening conferences in November and December of 2019.
- The National Lung Cancer Roundtable held its 3rd annual meeting in December 2019. Dr. Ella Kazerooni is the Chair of the American Cancer Society’s National Lung Cancer Roundtable (NLCRT) Steering Committee. The group is a coalition of organizations committed to addressing the challenges of moving lung cancer screening into the mainstream. Meeting highlights were shared via the advocacy and action eNews available [here](#). Staff also participates in the NLCRT Policy Action Task Group which meets via conference calls quarterly and in person at the annual meeting.
- Staff worked with ACR leadership to send a letter to Secretary Azar to increase the visibility of LDCT in HHS’s Anti-smoking public health campaigns. We believe a public health awareness campaign targeted to patients and health care providers would lead to a profound improvement in the targeted public’s knowledge of and participation in LDCT lung cancer screening programs. The letter is available [here](#).
- The [frequently asked questions](#) document on the ACR website is updated as needed.

National Coverage Determination (NCD)

- The ACR submitted a nomination letter in support of Dr. Sammy Chu to be a member of the Medicare Evidence Development & Coverage Advisory Committee. CMS will make its final selection in March or April of 2020.
- Staff continues to monitor and report on ICD10 changes to NCDs. There were few changes of interest for radiologists in 2019.

Local Coverage Determination (LCD)

- There were 12 radiology specific LCD policies finalized in 2019 and this list will continue to grow in 2020. The finalized policies require additional input from CAC representatives and subject matter experts. The ACR convened CAC representatives to participate in two multi-jurisdictional meetings focused on topic areas Percutaneous Vertebral Augmentation and Fractional Flow Reserve CT.
- As of November, MACs are beginning to finalize their PVA policies and we are soliciting help from CAC reps and subject matter experts to submit an LCD reconsideration request to fix the

inclusion criteria to expand coverage to patients with sub-acute fractures. Currently, Novitas, First Coast Solutions, WPS, NGS and CGS will not expand coverage beyond acute patients. We have submitted a reconsideration request to each MAC with finalized LCDs for PVA. ACR is working with a number of specialty societies (SIR, ASNR, ASSR, and NASS) to present at open public meetings, submit written comments and reconsiderations requests to the medical director and policy teams.

- The ACR has been asked to submit reconsideration requests to update non-covered services LCDs to remove codes pertaining to Elastography and CT Perfusion as there is sufficient evidence to prove medical necessity for coverage.
- Draft LCD policies open for public comment continue to be posted to the CAC Network on Engage. The ACR continues to coordinate and prioritize comment letters and reconsideration requests.

Respectfully submitted,

Ezequiel Silva III, MD, FACR
Chair, Commission on Economics

Commission on Government Relations

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Congressional Relations

- Surprise Billing – The ACR, along with a number of other medical specialties, worked with Congress to try and enact surprise billing legislation that would keep the patient out of the middle of billing disputes, avoid setting a government benchmarked reimbursement rate and establish a fair independent dispute resolution process (IDR) for both physicians and insurers. Although several bills passed their committees of jurisdiction, none of the bills were enacted by year’s end.
- PAMA/AUC – The College continued to work with Congress to keep it apprised of CMS’ progress towards the full implementation of the PAMA/AUC program, currently scheduled to begin on January 1, 2021. Should there be further delays, the ACR is prepared to offer legislative language amending PAMA to avoid any further implementation delays.
- E/M – The ACR Government Relations staff worked to identify a legislative solution to delay or diminish the impact of the CMS E/M adjustments scheduled to begin in January 2021. The GR staff contacted, met and educated congressional staff as to the severity of the E/M policy and the need for Congress to fully analyze the E/M policy before its implementation.
- Mammography Protections Included in Minibus Spending Bill - An extension of current protections included in the Minibus Appropriations Act (HR 1865) ensures that women who want to get regular screening mammograms retain insurance coverage with no copay until January 1, 2022. The protections established in the 2002 USPSTF guidelines, call for screening every one to two years starting at age 40 — rather than biennial screening for those ages 50-74 recommended by 2009/2016 USPSTF recommendations.
- Department of Veterans Affairs Therapeutic Medical Physicist Pay Cap Relief Act - Supported legislation to eliminate the pay cap for therapeutic medical physicists in the VA.
- Cures 2.0 – Responded to the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s “Call to Action” with request for comments regarding a possible future Cures 2.0 legislative initiative. Engaged in follow-up meetings on the Hill to support ACR’s input on Cures 2.0.
- Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee – Met with House and Senate appropriators to discuss industry’s efforts to use appropriations report language to influence NRC regulatory policies on medical use issues.

Regulatory Affairs

- Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA) NPRM – Submitted comments in response to a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to update MQSA regulations.
- CMS RFI on Conflict of Interest – Submitted written comments in response to a CMS RFI related to conflict of interest in accreditation.
- Artificial Intelligence/Software as a Medical Device – Continued engagement with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and others regarding digital health initiatives, including the Software

Pre-Certification Pilot Program and possible opportunities for the ACR Data Science Institute (DSI) related to AI. Worked with DSI/MIS to comment on agencies' requests for information.

- Nuclear Regulatory Commission – Developed analyses, comments/letters, and testimony on various NRC activities, including training and experience for AUs of radiopharmaceutical therapy, guidance on patient release following administration of radiopharmaceuticals, and more.
- Medical Isotope Availability – Continued ACR's participation in the Interagency Mo-99 Stakeholders Group as well as support for ongoing implementation of the ACR-endorsed American Medical Isotopes Production Act (AMIPA).
- Medicare Quality Incentive Programs - Collaborated with Economics and Quality & Safety Departments on analyses and formal responses to Quality Payment Program-related regulations and policies pertaining to Promoting Interoperability performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS).
- Other/Agency Monitoring - Monitored, connected, and/or communicated with all radiology-relevant federal agencies' initiatives, policies, rulemakings, and more, including, but not limited to:
 - Regulatory agencies: FDA, ONC, CMS, NRC, and more.
 - Research agencies/orgs: NIH, AHRQ, CDC, PCORI, and more.
 - Miscellaneous: White House OSTP, DOE, GAO, DOD, VA, OMB, and NAS/IOM.
 - Identified/analyzed over 400 relevant federal issues, rulemakings, meetings, public notices.
 - Attended/monitored over 150 federal agency and federal advisory committee meetings/events
 - Nominated ACR members to serve on various federal advisory committees.

State Legislatures and Agencies

All 50 state legislatures met in 2019. The ACR staff tracked over 500 radiology-relevant bills including bills on Certificate of Need reform, self-referral, the corporate practice of medicine, scope expansion for non-physician personnel, telemedicine, and provider taxes. Private payer reimbursement policy initiatives and out of network billing legislation continued to be prominently featured in many state capitals.

Out- Of-Network

Dominating the healthcare agenda in many states were surprise billing/out of network, price transparency, and network adequacy proposals. The GR staff worked with ACR chapters, state medical societies and national medical specialty societies to identify a common set of policies to guide a cohesive advocacy effort to the extent possible. The staff also worked closely with federal counterparts to monitor and identify objectionable provisions within the various perspective drafts from Federal lawmakers.

Many of the proposals filed in 2019 included outright bans on balance billing, transparency provisions, price comparison incentives for patients seeking medical services, extending existing surprise billing provisions to both emergency department and in-network hospital settings, calls to adopt specific payment standard/benchmarking, and a process for dispute resolution between providers and insurers. Colorado, Nevada, and Washington enacted surprise billing proposals which include dispute resolution elements. The Nevada law addresses only emergency care settings. Texas modified its existing statute building on the law already in place and also includes a dispute resolution provision.

Scope of Practice

Scope of practice of non-physician providers (i.e. advanced practice nurses (APRNs), a designation that includes certified nurse anesthetists, physician assistants, and physical therapists) has also been a major topic across state legislatures. Staff has been helping state chapters to engage with state medical societies, state legislators and regulators to preserve physician supervision and prevent expanding scope of practice proposals that would infringe on ordering and interpreting diagnostic procedures. Maintaining physician supervision of non-physician professionals using fluoroscopy and ensuring the scope of practice of health care professionals is commensurate with their level of education and training remains a high priority into 2020.

Breast Cancer Screening

During the 2019 legislative session, Colorado and Minnesota were successful in securing health insurance coverage mandates for digital breast tomosynthesis bringing the total number of states to 18. Bills died in Hawaii and Iowa while a bill was left pending in Massachusetts.

Additionally, Texas was successful in modifying its existing mammography coverage statute to mandate that “a health benefit plan that provides coverage for a screening mammogram must provide coverage for a diagnostic mammogram that is no less favorable than the coverage for a screening mammogram.” (TX HB 170) Likewise, Louisiana was successful in modifying its statute as well and as a result, effective January 1 2021, private insurer plans “shall include coverage for diagnostic imaging at the same level of coverage provided for the minimum mammography examination.” (LA HB 347)

Breast Density

There are currently 39 states including the District of Columbia with some type of disclosure or reporting requirement for breast density. In 2019, Georgia, Illinois, New Mexico, Oklahoma and South Dakota successfully passed legislation on reporting or disclosure of breast density information to patients. Bills on breast density reporting died upon adjournment in Arkansas, Rhode Island, and West Virginia.

RADPAC

- RADPAC raised \$1,099,009 in hard money contributions.
- RADPAC had 2,791 hard money contributors.
- RADPAC’s hard money raised in 2019 ranked *fourth* among the 30 physician PACs.
- RADPAC had 68 group practices with outstanding group participation.
- RADPAC had 12 states that reached 20% contribution participation.
- RADPAC’s contribution percentage among the membership finished at 14%.
- RADPAC attended over 500 fundraising events on Capitol Hill and hosted another 25 events in DC and throughout the country.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine McGinty, MD, MBA, FACR
Chair, Commission on Government Relations

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Human Resources

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Item 1 accomplishment-The continued challenges of the annual workforce survey were discussed by Commission in November 2019. There was unanimous Commission support to redo the entire survey with leadership support from Mary Jo Tarrant and her staff. Issues to be addressed were the survey tool, incorporation of better data for statistical use/validation, and improved audience to be surveyed. At the end of the year the process for development was underway.

Item 2 accomplishment-The HR Commission co-leads the continued development of the ACR Well-Being Program with the CoPLL Commission. In 2019, there has been improvement of the website, refinement of educational tools, and the further roll-out of the Well-Being Index.

Item 3 accomplishment-The HR Commission continued to provide information and support for our radiology allied health professionals on an as needed basis. We meet individually with leaders of each group once a year.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire E. Bender, MD, MPH, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on Human Resources

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Informatics

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- In May the ACR DSI launched the initial version of AI-LAB. This freely available, open, vendor-neutral platform supports the DSI's moonshot goal of "democratizing AI" by allowing radiologists to learn about AI, contribute AI datasets, share AI algorithms, evaluate AI models, and develop AI models. As part of the kick-off, there was an AI-LAB kiosk at the ACR Annual Meeting to provide in-person demos on how radiologists can apply their clinical knowledge to generate and improve AI. The DSI has also been working with 7 pilot sites to install an on premise version of AI-LAB.
- The DSI held a Data Science Summit in conjunction with the SIIM Annual Meeting in June. The one day Summit covered topics including the current state of data access and liquidity in the US and abroad, as well as ethical issues regarding data ownership, privacy, sharing, bias and stewardship. The Summit was well attended with 105 participants.
- In October we held the 2019 Imaging Informatics Summit in Washington DC, exploring new and innovative strategies for implementing AI in radiology practices. The summit was well attended with 140 attendees and speakers.
- The DSI and SIIM partnered with the Society of Thoracic Radiology (STR) and MD.ai to host a Machine Learning Challenge on Pneumothorax Detection and Localization on Kaggle. Challenge participants were tasked with developing high quality pneumothorax detection algorithms to prioritize patients for expedited review and treatment. The challenge began at the 2019 SIIM Annual Meeting and the winning teams were recognized at 2019 SIIM Conference on Machine Intelligence in Medical Imaging (C-MIMI).
- We held a "Resident Mammography Challenge" in September designed to educate residents about the essential skills involved in AI and draw in competitors with no previous AI experience. First year resident David Qian, MD, PhD, of Emory University won top honors for achieving the highest Kappa score and received funds covering the cost of attendance at RSNA 2019.
- A paper titled "A Roadmap for Translational Research on Artificial Intelligence in Medical Imaging: From the 2018 NIH/RSNA/ACR/The Academy Workshop" was published in JACR in May. The DSI CMO was the lead author and the DSI CSO and several Informatics Commission members were co-authors.
- The paper titled "Ethics of AI in Radiology: European and North American Multisociety Statement" was submitted to JACR in July and is planned to be published jointly in JACR, Radiology, Insights into Imaging and CAR Journal.
- Members of the Informatics Commission attended and presented at a number of industry meetings: NVIDIA's GTC, European Congress of Radiology, MD Anderson, and AMA.
- The Ditch the Disk Task Force held several meetings, including one with industry partners Ambra and Life Image. To engage a larger audience, they published several posts on the Voice of Radiology Blog.
- Other groups, including the Informatics Advisory Council and the Data Sharing Group were active and met several times throughout the year.
- In addition to the AI-LAB booth available in the Expo Hall, a variety of meetings were held at RSNA's Annual Meeting December 1-4 allowing members of different committees and projects to meet in person. The following groups met: DSI Senior Scientists, AI Advisory Group, AI-LAB

Pilot Sites, API, AI Outreach, Ditch the Disk, Informatics Leadership, and Informatics Advisory Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith J Dreyer, DO, PhD, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on Informatics

Commission on International Relations

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- The ACR leadership continues to meet on an ongoing basis with radiological organizations throughout the world to find ways to collaborate on mutually beneficial programs. These programs have included collaborations in areas such as artificial intelligence, economics, clinical decision support, the ACR Education Center and the American Institute for Radiologic Pathology.
- The 2019 ACRF Global Humanitarian Awards were received by Richard N. Hirsh, MD, FACR in the Individual Category and Mamotest in the Organizational Category. Both recipients were acknowledge for bringing mammographic care to rural and underserved populations in the low to middle income countries.
- The 2019 ACRF Goldberg-Reeder Travel Grant recipients included residents traveling to Botswana, India, Kenya and Tanzania. Since its inception in 2008, the grant program has awarded forty-five grants to residents and fellows assisting 26 low-to-middle income countries.
- The ACRF continues to work with Imaging the World (ITW) and Rotary Club International on expanding on a successful maternal ultrasound model program established by ITW. The ITW model has been effectively shown to reduce both maternal and fetal death rates in rural facilities in Uganda. Two additional rural health clinics will be receiving equipment and training to institute ultrasound programs. This will increase the number of facilities implementing the ITW model.
- ACR Executive Committee agreed to endorse a jointly developed European and North American Multi-society Statement on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence. Raymond Geis, MD, Senior Scientist for the ACR Data Science Institute, Judy Wawira Gichoya MBChB, MS, Tessa S. Cook, MD PhD, and Bill Shields, JD, ACR General Counsel represented the ACR in the document's development. Other organizations represented included the European Society of Radiology (ESR), the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), the Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM), the European Society of Medical Imaging Informatics (ESMII), the Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR) and the American Association of Physics in Medicine (AAPM). All seven organizations endorsed the document.
- The Lancet Oncology Commission on the Value of Diagnostic Imaging and Nuclear Medicine continues to meet. Dr. McGinty is serving on the Steering Committee and co-leading a writing group regarding imaging capabilities (equipment/staff/training) for the Ministers of Health in low-to-middle income countries. The plan is to have a final product in time for the WHO international oncology meeting in Oman in October 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine B. McGinty, MD, MBA, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on International Relations

Commission on Leadership and Practice Development

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- **2019 ACR-RBMA Practice Leaders Forum.** This was the 5th year of ACR and RBMA's successful collaboration to design a program to address practice challenges and provide practical solutions for both a radiologist and practice manager audience. Faculty for the meeting, which was held January 11-13, 2019 in Houston, and attended by 184 radiologists and practice managers, was sourced through a call for proposals designed by program co-chairs Jonathan Berlin, MD, MBA, FACR and Keith Chew, MHA, CMPE, FRBMA.
- **Kickstart Your Career Workshop.** Two Kickstart Your Career workshops were held in Silver Spring, MD in conjunction with a 4-week AIRP course. Chaired by Frank Lexa, MD, FACR, MBA, the goal of this program is to provide participants with the information they need to find their first job and be successful in their first year. In addition to the core topics covered at each Kickstart, local faculty provide their knowledge and experience as part of multiple panels during the day all designed to provide attendees with a variety of perspectives. Participant feedback continues to boast about improved confidence and preparedness as a result of attending this one-day workshop. RLI is looking into opportunities to take this workshop on the road by incorporating it into chapter meetings. The Florida FRS planning committee has agreed to incorporate it into their July 2021 program. The Michigan and California chapters are also considering the Kickstart Your Career workshop for part of their meetings.
- **2019-2020 RLI Leadership Essentials Program.** Chaired by Rich Duszak and Matt Hawkins, and with the original ten faculty, the program began in August 2019 and continues until May 2020. The goal of the program is to provide residents with a foundation of key non-interpretive and leadership skills, such as negotiation, personal branding, and rookie leadership. New this cycle was the addition of four resident moderators who rotate to lead the monthly Q&A sessions and provide support for the chairs and faculty.
- **2019-2020 RLI Power Hour Webinar Series.** This new series features six webinars held between August 2019 and June 2020 covering topics including challenging physicians issues, basics in corporatization, preserving independent practices in the age of corporatization, diversity in negotiations, developing younger radiology leaders: succession planning, and understanding bundles of care payment models from multiple perspectives. Chairs, Drs. Jennifer Nathan and Matt Hawkins, launched this year's webinars at no cost to participants in an effort to boost registration and participation rates. Registrations have quadrupled, from 50 to nearly 200 for each webinar. Live participation rates have increased as well with about 25-30% of registrants logging in for the live webinars. The RLI plans to continue the same format for the 2020-2021 series and is considering additional collaborations as well.
- **2019-2020 RLI Health Care Economics (HCEM) Program.** 194 residents from 22 programs are participating in this 4th year of the program. Three new faculty members - Kurt Schoppe, MD; Melissa Chen, MD, and Colin Segovis, MD – along with returning faculty Zeke Silva, MD, FACR and Will Mehan, MD, worked to expand the content to include relevant economics related topics in addition to providing content around the five milestones. Planning for the 2020-2021 HCEM program which will address the rebranded milestones began in 2019 and will continue into 2020.

- **2019-2020 Maximize Your Influence and Impact.** Designed for people in their first leadership role or who aspire to a position of leadership, this program has been designed to help participants leverage the role for maximum impact. The faculty, including program chair Geoffrey D. Rubin, MD, MBA, FACR, Giles Boland, MD, FACR, Geraldine McGinty, MD, MBA, FACR and Carolyn Meltzer, MD, FACR, returned to address *The Hospital Board Room, Stewarding the Department and Influencing Change at the Hospital Level*. Feedback has been very positive and plans are underway for the 2020-2021 program cycle.
- **8th Annual RLI Summit.** The 2019 RLI summit, held September 6-9, 2019 at Babson College, enjoyed record attendance including 20 participants from the GE/SCARD LEAD program, 18 individuals selected by their respective chapters to receive scholarships, and 10 residents who were awarded an RLI scholarship to attend. A dedicated Resident program was launched in 2019 and will continue at the 2020 Summit being held September 11-13, 2020.
- **RLI and ACR State Chapters.** RLI continues to collaborate with ACR state chapters to provide RLI speakers for chapter meetings. During 2019, RLI speakers presented at 14 state chapter meetings and have visited 30* state chapters in total since the program began. * *unique chapters*
- **RLI Lectures @ AIRP in 2019**
For the past five years, the RLI has been delivering free lunchtime leadership lectures to resident attendees of the AIRP 4-week courses in Silver Spring in an effort to increase RLI awareness among this important audience. In late 2019, the decision was made to incorporate a 30-minute RLI slot within the AIRP program beginning in February 2020.
- **RLI Taking the Lead Podcast.** Hosted by Geoff Rubin, MD, MBA, FACR, the podcast series explores the unique career journeys of radiology's most influential leaders to provide practical insight into how to structure a career in leadership and find success across a spectrum of clinical environments and organizations. The *Taking the Lead* podcast celebrated its one-year anniversary in August 2019 and together with the RLI's original podcast, the *Leadership Insider*, have more than 40,000 downloads.
- **AMA Ed Hub Collaboration.** The RLI worked in collaboration with ACR Press and the AMA to launch a pilot ACR microsite on the AMA Ed Hub in May 2019. The AMA Ed Hub features ACR-branded educational content, including several *RLI Taking the Lead* podcast episodes. The goal of the ACR microsite is to amplify ACR's educational content with the potential to reach new audiences, beyond the core radiologist community.
- **ACR to provide continued financial support of the RLI for five years.** Based on the RLI strategic plan outlined by Dr. Lexa at the January 2019 BOC meeting and data showing that RLI participation increased ACR member continuity by 18.7% and helped support a better trained volunteer pipeline, the BOC voted to provide continued financial support for the RLI program for five years beginning FY21. Regular RLI Program updates will be provided to BOC during this period.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank J. Lexa, MD, FACR, MBA
Chair, Commission on Leadership & Practice Development

Commission on Membership and Communications

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Communications

Member Communications Committee, chaired by Katie Lozano, MD, FACR, was started to examine the best ways to communicate with members, and to provide input on important communication changes under consideration.

Social Media—

- Launched and sustained the ACR Social Media Super Users and Voice of Radiology Bloggers micro-engagements
- Doubled engagements on Instagram and LinkedIn; grew all platforms
- Paid digital and social media secured more online membership renewals, course enrollments at the ACR Education Center, informed referring providers on the benefits of lung cancer screening,
- Digital/broadcast media effort led 20,000 referring doctors and 5 million readers to 90 ACR-added lung cancer screening resources on National Lung Cancer Roundtable site (NLCRT.org).
- Social media led 200 referring providers to complete new “Talking to Your Patients about Mammography” CME module – second-most on the AMA EdHub™ radiology section.

Public Affairs--

- PAMA/AUC had 82% increase in page visits (26,022 total), gained 3,200 webinar attendees, and 3,100 social media engagements.
- ACR cited in 7,000 news reports – 91% of all imaging and RO news items – reaching 4 Billion readers.
- Communications campaign quadrupled Tomosynthesis Mammographic Imaging Screening Trial (TMIST) patient enrollment and doubled TMIST sites vs 2017-2018.

Websites—

- *Radiologyinfo.org*, our patient information website, served more than 29 million visitors during 2019.
- *Acr.org* page views increased 72% to 2.6M with total visits of 582,111
- RADPAC redesigned and mobile website launched to better highlight and support fundraising campaigns and donor recognition.
- *ACR Bulletin* migrated with a new design to *acr.org*, giving members easier and more streamlined access to content, which is now fully integrated and searchable on *acr.org*.
- R-SCAN website also was integrated into *acr.org* under Practice Management.

Respectfully submitted,

William Herrington, MD, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on Membership and Communication

Commission on Patient and Family Centered Care

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Commission-level organization: Dr. Jim Rawson, Dr. Tessa Cook

- The current roster includes 127 radiologists, 8 non-radiologist clinicians and healthcare professionals, 7 radiology technologists, 3 researchers, 25 patients and patient advocates, and 11 staff members for a total of 181 members.
- Held regular quarterly calls for all committees and the commission.
- Held weekly status updates with PFCC staff from across ACR.

Economics Committee: Dr. Melissa Chen, Dr. Amy Patel

- Published 5 patient-centered [Imaging 3.0 Case Studies](#).
- Developed 2 focus groups to refine topics for a patient survey administered in the practice setting.
- Published 7 entries in the [price-transparency blog series](#).
- Collaborated with Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning (CoPLL) to develop a QPP education module program.
- Analyzed results from a patient survey that gauged the level of importance that recently imaged patients put on certain aspects of their experience. This is a follow up to the 2018 survey.
- Contributed to the ACR comments on the CY 2020 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule in response to a request for information on tools and approaches to the collection of patient experience data.

Education Committee: Dr. Cheri Canon, Dr. Matt Cham

- [PFCC Toolkit](#) continues to add new tools and marketing for awareness.
- Supported medical student outreach and CDS education activities through Radiology-TEACHES.
- Created PFCC Communications Curriculum for Residents and posted on acr.org. See [Blog for more information and website address](#).
- Sub-committee co-chaired by two patient advocates, is collecting patient and caregiver stories to share on ACR's Engage platform.
- Collaborated with the CoPLL to build a Well-being Curriculum for Radiologists. This is part of the new ACR Radiologist Well-being Program which includes access to the Mayo Well-being Index self-assessment survey, and a custom built Toolkit of Resources for Radiologists, Residents and medical students affiliated with the ACR.

Quality Experience Committee: Dr. Ashima Lall, Dr. Sabiha Raouf

- Continued support for JACR Associate Editor, Andrea Borondy Kitts, and the ACR Appropriateness Criteria (AC) Subcommittee with the [AC Patient-Friendly Summaries](#). 5,283 page views Jan 1 – Dec 30.
- R-SCAN toolkit completed and [available online](#).
- A case study is in progress on the integration of patient and family experience-based ideas into radiology unit operations to improve quality and experience.
- A PFCC Pledge project is in planning and development stages.

Informatics Committee: Dr. Tessa Cook, Dr. Arun Krishnaraj

- Facilitated patient additions to the [ACR Data Science Institute](#) (ACR DSI).
- Rebranding to a consulting committee for all college-wide projects that need informatics insight.

Outreach Committee: Dr. Ian Weismann, Dr. Nina Vincoff

- Engaged with external stakeholders such as the American Hospital Association to deliver 2 webinars based on Imaging 3.0 Case Studies on AI and CDS to a total audience of 500+ largely AHA members of the Physician Alliance. Corporate members of Beryl Institute, IPFCC, and SPM delivering imaging-based PFCC information.
- PFCC Staff presented at the Q&S Monthly Continuing Education Series.
- The AMA Ed Hub pilot is continuing after launch at ACR 2019. Request for more LCS and CDS content from AMA.
- Engaged patient advocate consultant for strategy planning for Patient Experience Week, LCS Symposium, and other projects as identified.

Population Health Management (PHM) Committee: Dr. Syed Zaidi, Dr. McKinley Glover

- Developing a 6-part webinar series about the various roles radiology can play within population health management.
- Building a survey to gauge the number of radiologists participating in population health management initiatives and accountable care organizations, and the nature of that participation.
- Assembling an educational toolkit based on educational gaps uncovered by the PHM survey.
- Embarking on an outreach effort to reconnect with former Radiology Integrated Care Network members to capture ACO success stories.
- **LCS Subcommittee: Dr. Debra Dyer**
 - Committee work groups chosen by topic: Outreach, Economic/Population Health, Community Based Programs, Clinical Resources and Incidental Findings.
 - LCS Boot Camp conducted at ACR 2019, Saturday morning 8-10 am.
 - Resources created for doctors, patients, and nurse navigators to reach out directly to the committee via “[ask the experts.](#)”
 - [LCS Webinar Boot Camp series available on demand.](#) Over 1,600 views in 2019. Next series in planning stages based on attendee feedback for early 2020.
 - One-page resources on economics and incidental findings are currently in development and are slated to be available for Lung Cancer Awareness Month in November 2019.
 - LCS in women-focused brochure for ACR-accredited mammography suites being developed and distributed to women’s imaging centers via ACR staff and lists. In addition, an Innovation Fund grant from Vanderbilt (Dr. Sandler) to help women’s imaging centers use AI to ID LCS candidates in their populations.
 - National Lung Cancer Roundtable participation to include data sharing and presentations at December meeting

RSNA-ACR Joint Public Information Website (Radiologyinfo.org): Dr. Arun Krishnaraj

- Another strong year for the Radiologyinfo.org with over 2M visits every month in 2019.
- Marketing and PR ongoing for [Rad Info 4 Kids](#).
- The Patient Advocate Advisory Network’s six patient advocates participated in teleconference discussions on best-user experience and patient-friendly content.

PUBLIC RELATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019, we shared 191 posts regarding PFCC on social media, resulting in 1,676 total engagements (likes, retweets, comments and shares) and over 400,000 total impressions. PFCC spokespersons or messaging appeared in 164 print and online articles. R-SCAN/PFCC Toolkit and LCS Webinar Boot Camp Series featured frequently in [Advocacy in Action](#) e-news.

Respectfully submitted,

James V. Rawson, MD, FACR
Chair, Commission on Patient- and Family-Centered Care

Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- CoPLL and HR Commission member volunteers developed the **ACR Radiology Well-Being Program**, which launched at the ACR Annual Meeting in May. ACR secured the Champion Well-Being Index (WBI) survey tool for self-assessment on wellness/burnout and now provides free access to it for all members, including residents and ACR-affiliated medical students.
 - Resources/tools specific to radiologists and provided by the member teams are housed in the Mayo-created tool with the ACR designated as the resource provider.
 - Two **acr.org well-being curricula** were created:
 - 1.) In May to address individuals' wellness needs, and
 - 2.) In July based on ACGME well-being requirements in collaboration with APDR to meet residents' needs.
- The **ACR Radiology Well-Being Program** launched the **second phase** of development at RSNA 2019. This work entails creating a **Culture of Well-Being** in the workplace: health systems, practice environments, and institutional frameworks/systems. Volunteers accepted responsibility to build and lead teams in the areas of professionalism, work-life balance, leadership development, empowerment, restoring personalization in work, and more. This is a joint commission work with Human Resources and CoPLL.
- At ACR 2019, CoPLL coordinated **The Future Practice Management CME Session** featuring popular Ted-talk styled presentations on AI, finance, corporatization, value, and wellness. This was a highly successful collaborative effort among CoPLL, RFS, YPS, and the Council Steering Committee.
- Planning has commenced for the **ACR 2020 meeting** as RLI, YPS, Chapter Leaders and CoPLL plan a collaborative CME session. CoPLL is also overseeing all CME for GSER and other commissions' sessions.
- **AMA EdHub pilot** launched with ACR as a first collaborator in providing improved access to educational programs.
- **CoPLL Connections newsletters** launched; three were published this [year](#).
- The **first ACR CoPLL Global Assessment** of education-related programs/projects across all commissions was completed. An operations-based executive summary was created to guide analysis and decision-making for CoPLL volunteers. The goal is to optimize the investment of time and resources in meaningful educational programming. Three key performance indicators were chosen as primary for assessing ACR programs/projects:
 - Member benefit
 - Alignment with the strategic plan
 - Revenue-generation
- The second **CoPLL Global Assessment** for all ACR Commissions began in November with January 2020 as a submission deadline. CoPLL released a new [educational proposal form](#) and content development guide as next steps in the Global Assessment to ensure CoPLL is aware and able to support or guide the best practices in education offerings of other Commissions.
- The new **CoPLL Roadmap** aligning all CoPLL activities with the ACR Strategic Plan was finalized in August.

- In September, a **CoPLL Strategic Retreat** in Nashville was convened for CoPLL leaders/members to determine priorities and new deliverables for the commission.
- A new **Learning Design Committee**, made up of experienced volunteers to help guide educational activity development was established. Dr. Harprit Bedi is the chair.
- The APDR and ACR finalized an MOU for the RadExam program for resident training. A [Resident Hub](#) was created for ACR's offerings for all residents.
 - The *ACR Bulletin* covers topics relevant to the practice of radiology by connecting the College with members, the wider specialty, and others. Recent *Bulletin* coverage of topics such as diversity and inclusion, patient- and family-centered care, and well-being aims to empower members to advance the practice, science, and professions of radiological care.
 - The *ACR Bulletin* moved its online presence to acr.org with new features, including web-exclusive articles and trending stories in the field of radiology. The new acr.org layout will continue to provide access to print edition content while offering easy-to-scan navigation.
 - The May 2019 well-being special issue of the *Bulletin* contained personal stories of resilience, as well as strategies for addressing burnout at the individual, institutional, and national levels. The content aims to support members in creating a culture of wellness in the workplace. The issue also promoted the ACR Radiology Well-Being Program that launched in May.
 - The *Bulletin* won awards in three APEX (Awards for Publication Excellence) categories in 2019. APEX Awards are based on excellence in graphic design, editorial content, and the ability to achieve overall communications excellence. The May 2018 *Population Health Management Special Issue* won a Grand Award in the magazine/journal/tabloid category. The July 2018 "Crossing the Line" article won an award of excellence in the feature writing category. The September 2018 Back to School issue won an award of excellence in the cover design and illustration category.
- Liaisons from several ACR Commissions have joined the CoPLL, including YPS, Medical Physics, RO, GSER, AI/DSI, RO and Pediatric Radiology.
- The Continuous Professional Development (CPI) program successfully released seven new modules in 2019, including modules in Chest Radiology, Nuclear Radiology, Ultrasonography, Pediatric Radiology, Musculoskeletal Radiology, Breast Imaging, and a Special Edition module in Adult Cancer Imaging.
- The ACR Education Center offered 52 sessions with 1700 attendees from its selection of 19 courses including Neuroradiology, Cardiac MR, Breast Imaging with Tomosynthesis, Abdominal Imaging, Emergency Radiology, and Nuclear Medicine. Four new courses were launched: Nuclear Medicine, Pediatric Radiology in conjunction with SPR, NIOSH B Reader, and a collaboration with SIR on stroke imaging.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Deitte, M.D. FACR
 Chair, Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Quality and Safety

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- Accreditation:
 - ACR Accreditation undertook a process review using Baldrige criteria as a foundation, working with an independent external consultant. Multiple staff teams are working on implementing the recommendations from the review.
 - MR Physics subcommittee developing 7T phantom criteria for accreditation testing. MR medium phantom developed and tested; criteria being finalized.
 - CT Physics subcommittee is developing guidance for Dual Energy units to incorporate into the online testing package.
 - New reviewers trained for Nuclear Medicine, MR and CT Accreditation, and reviewer refresher training webinars were conducted for MR and CT reviewers.
 - Validation Site Surveys team completed surveys.. The process was streamlined and reviewed to ensure compliance with current accreditation requirements.
 - Accreditation website was implemented; all requirements and instructions moved into Freshdesk articles, giving facilities a more interactive experience, and allow them to quickly find specific instructions needed for accreditation. Facilities can easily submit work tickets for any questions, allowing us to readily analyze questions and enable improvements in process/documentation.
 - Mammography accreditation has renewed the application as an approved Accrediting Body with the FDA, and is awaiting FDA's response.
 - Partnership w/ Veterans Health Administration (VHA) for RO Accreditation Program renewed for another year in July. 730 ACR-accredited RO sites in US.
- Appropriateness Criteria (AC): 190 AC topics; 938 clinical variants; > 1680 clinical scenarios; working with 41 specialty societies. 44 patient-friendly summaries of AC topics published in JACR, available on RadiologyInfo.org. AC staff working with Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning on training materials and participation in AC program eligible for CME credit.
- RADS had 3 publications: O-RADS Ultrasound Risk Stratification paper, PI-RADS v2.1, Lung-RADS v1.1. There were two Incidental Findings publications - Adnexal Incidental Findings and Chest Nodule Incidental Findings (final review to be published in 2020).
- PP/TS: There were 39 documents approved (via council and non-council processes).
- Contrast Committee: ACR and NKF published a paper on iodinated contrast in Radiology (January 2020). Mobile apps for IOS, Android on managing contrast reactions released.
- ACR received a Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation Diagnostic Excellence Initiative grant to develop quality measure, "Closing the Follow-up Recommendation Loop".
- ACR NRDR gained CMS approval as a QCDR in 2020 (7th yr); 7 new radiology quality measures included in QCDR 2020 expanding measures available to radiology groups. Clinical Decision Support Registry (CDSR) launched in Q4 w/ 17 facilities by year end.
- R-SCAN grant concluded on October 31; results across the 93 completed projects demonstrate a 25% percent reduction, on average, in low-value imaging.
- Imaging 3.0 Case Study "Championing CDS" published in Dec. demonstrates using CDS Registry data to complete R-SCAN projects/improve evidence-based imaging ordering.
 - Launched popular Facebook live monthly feature

- Amis Fellowship: 2X number of candidate applications in 2019 vs. 2018. Drs. Kevin Wang (Baylor), and Alexei Kudla (BI Deaconess) completed ACR visits in Fall 2019.
- DICOE fee structure updated early 2019; online application process implemented. DICOE task group completed assessment w/ program update recommendations. The revised DICOE requirement document to be presented for review by Accreditation Chairs and NRDR Steering Committee Chair before rollout within next two months.

Q&S by the Numbers, December 2019

ACR Accredited Facilities

Accreditation Program	Currently Active	
	Facilities	Units
Breast MRI	1949	2184
Breast Ultrasound	2434	--
CT	7383	10380
MRI	7355	9528
Mammography	8497	18737
Nuclear Medicine	3475	5661
PET	1634	1764
Stereotactic Breast Biopsy	1606	1833
Stereotactic Breast Biopsy - ACS	3	3
Ultrasound	5495	--
Radiation Oncology	760	

- **RADPEER Participants:** 1,001 groups with 17,940 physicians
- **Breast Imaging Center of Excellence Designees: 1,151**
- **Diagnostic Imaging Center of Excellence Designees:** 104 entities across 512 facilities

NRDR Exam Volume

National Radiology Data Registry Participating Facilities

	Active	Total
CDS-Rscan	0	82
CTC	35	160
DIR	2,278	3,046
GRID*	676	2,033
IR	23	136
LCSR	3,190	4,448
NMD*	439	860
Total Unique	4,664	6,662

	2018	2019 YTD
CTC Exams	15,532	17,438
DIR Exams	70,851,562	95,070,428
GRID Exams*	55,655,765	53,420,724
IR Exams	14,189	63,904
LCSR Exams	921,276	1,579,951
NMD Exams	24,221,473	28,784,432

Respectfully submitted,



Jacqueline A. Bello, MD, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on Quality and Safety

Commission on Research

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- The American College of Radiology (ACR) Center for Research and Innovation (**CRI**) **recently relocated to a new, state of the art office space** at 50 South 16th Street in Center City Philadelphia. The imaginative approach to the new space allows staff to entertain, engage, inspire and innovate! Bill Thorwarth, MD and Geraldine McGinty, MD were honored guests at a ribbon cutting ceremony on February 3, 2020. A Grand Opening for employees and research community planned for March 26, 2020.
- Under the leadership of Pamela K. Woodard, MD, FACR, Chair of Commission on Research, the former **ACRIN Fund was rebranded and purposed as the ACR Fund for Collaborative Research in Imaging (CFI)**. A primary objective of the Fund is to provide seed money to support both imaging and radiation oncology projects to further the specialty and provide data that enable investigators to qualify for future corporate, foundation and/or Federal funding. Initial submissions are in review and a Request for Applications will be issued Spring 2020 for FY21 applications.
- **William Small, Jr., MD, FACR**, chair of the Radiation Oncology Commission is working with CRI staff and Commission members to highlight the College's advocacy and support of the specialty to improve access and patient care. Radiation Oncology research focus on evaluating opportunities to become a "center of excellence" around **immunotherapy and use of viral agents for cancer treatment** clinical trials that leverage CRI's unique skillsets in RT and informatics.
- CRI and DSI leadership held regular strategy meetings designing and executing collaborative work to advance **ACR's strategic aims around artificial intelligence** in radiology. Foci include the Validation Center (*FDA application for MDDT certification, AI Algorithm validation, AI-CERTIFY program*), Site Network for AI Case Collection, and Research Core under DSI (*AI-LAB, Jayashree Kalpathy-Cramer, PhD*).
- **Restructured Advisory Board of Neiman Health Policy Institute** and renewed their purpose towards strategic guidance to the Institute, articulating value to membership, serving as subject matter experts and facilitate connections as necessary, and identify and support funding opportunities.
- Conducting and accruing to the **Tomographic Mammography Imaging Screening Trial (TMIST)** at over 90 sites in the US, Canada and Argentina, with plans to open approximately 150 sites around the world. Accrual has tripled since January 2019, and now is over 23,000 women.
- **Imaging and Non-Imaging Biomarker development** continues through our DECAMP and IDEAS consortia. Continuing the rich biomarker development activities initiated by DECAMP, the research team is now launching DECAMP 1 PLUS with funding from Janssen Pharmaceuticals to **explore additional biomarkers in lung disease**. The IDEAS study is negotiating with CMS for a new study targeting engagement of underserved populations and the development of blood-based biomarkers.

- **CRI Chief Research Officer, Dr. Etta Pisano, continued to conduct grand rounds** at numerous ACR member institutions increasing member understanding of the impact of ACR Research in expanding the purview of medical imaging, interventional radiology, and radiation oncology practice for the benefit of patients.
- **Published over 15 diagnostic imaging, 52 radiation oncology and 38 health policy manuscripts** published online or in print peer-reviewed journals.
- CRI staff conducted work on eight, pivotal clinical research projects that culminated in two **Food and Drug Administration** submissions – (1) **New Drug Application** for imaging biomarker in Dementia/Alzheimer’s Disease and (2) **Premarket Approval Device Application** in breast cancer screening/diagnoses.
- **Awarded seven renewal grant applications** for six years of funding, through 2025, for NRG Oncology operations, the NRG Statistics and Data Management Center (SDMC), ECOG-ACRIN (EA) operations, EA SDMC, the EA and NRG NCI Community Oncology Research Oncology Programs (NCORPs), and the Imaging and Radiation Oncology Core (IROC). In addition, IROC was awarded two funding supplements by the NCI on targeted radiopharmaceutical therapy dosimetry to improve infrastructure and support for NCI Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trials Network (ETCTN) trials

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela K. Woodard, MD, FACR
Chair, Commission on Research

Commission on Women and Diversity

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Commission leadership

- The Commission completed its sixth full year in 2019, and saluted the “end of watch” of our inaugural Chair Katarzyna Macura, M.D., FACR.
- Chair of the Committee for Women Susan Ackerman, M.D., will continue
- Chair of the Committee for Diversity and Inclusion Gail Morgan, M.D., was appointed
- Chair of the Commission for Women and Diversity Johnson Lightfoote, M.D., was elected by the ACR Council in 2019

Publications and research

- Pari Pandharipande, M.D., published an ACR funded major research paper in *JACR*, Barriers to a Diverse Population in the Radiological Professions, June 2019, [available here](#). With ten coauthors, this defining work identifies barriers to be surmounted in to improve diversity and inclusion, and offers recommendations for future work.
- Dr. Macura’s [ACR Diversity Report](#) is a capstone to her work launching the Commission, and catalogues six years of major contributions of the College to the success of women and URM in the radiological professions.
- Additional publications and research by Commission members appears in the [bibliography below](#).

ACR Pipeline Initiative for the Enrichment of Radiology Program

- The ACR Nth Dimensions PIER Scholars presented their work at the National Medical Association 117th Convention to the Section on Radiology and Radiation Oncology.
- The PIER Steering Committee composed of Commission leadership and previous preceptors and ACR staff Jan Cox and Angelica Vergel de Dios began to internally manage our Program. The Steering Committee has formulated the program plan, curriculum, operations and calendar. Bringing “in house” the PIER summer internship, mentorship and workshop programs for URM and women rising second year students will enable the College to support as many as ten (previously five) summer interns; to design a curriculum and schedule more specific to radiology; to collaborate with sister radiology societies and academic programs; to pursue other sources for economic support and program presentation.
- Twenty one volunteer preceptors and 31 candidate scholars applied to participate in PIER 2020. Applicant selection and preceptor matching is planned for February 2020
- The preceptorships (including three new university sites) will be eight weeks; scholars’ presentations are planned for NMA in Atlanta on 8/1/2020.

Workgroup on Gender Diversity

- A Workgroup on Gender Inclusiveness was formed under the leadership of Justin Stowell, M.D., at the University of Kansas. The Workgroup will help improve the gender inclusiveness of the language and communications of the College.
- The workgroup met in person at RSNA 2019.
- By end of 2019, the workgroup had completed a glossary of communications standards around gender diversity.
- The workgroup undertook detailed analysis of the ACR Practice Parameters and Technical Standards by distributing to each member about two dozen documents. By the end of 2019, most of the document reviews and revision recommendations had been completed. Work for 2020 will include separating, with the assistance of ACR General Counsel, those recommended revisions into trivial editorial changes, as opposed to changes requiring Council approval.

Workgroup on Radiologists with Disabilities

- A workgroup focusing on the needs and contributions of radiologists with diverse capabilities and disabilities was established, to begin its work, publication and online forums in 2020, under the initiative of Chitra Viswanathan, M.D.

Meetings, presentations and forums

- The Diversity Forum at ACR 2019 featured [Reshma Jagsi, M.D., D.Phil.](#) a dynamic speaker about the #MeToo movement, inspiring an overflow luncheon audience.
- The Commission held our regular biannual business and planning meetings at ACR 2019 in Washington, and at RSNA 2019 in Chicago.
- The ISMRM Symposium: Diversity and Inclusion in Advanced MR Research included Dr. Lightfoote as lecturer and panelist in Montreal on 5/15/2019.
- As part of PIER, Jan Cox continues to lead and organize ACR's "Totally Rad" bioskills and information workshops arranged at a half dozen medical schools with large URM enrollments.
- Vanderbilt University Diversity Grand Rounds was delivered by Dr. Lightfoote on 10/25/2019.
- Our ACR delegation attended both the SNMA Region 2 meeting in Chicago on 11/9/2019, and the ChicagoLand Radiology Expo on 11/10/2019.
- Represented ACR at the Celebration of Fifty Years of Diversity at Harvard Medical School on 10/27-28/2019

Advocacy and collaboration

- In collaboration with the American Association of Women Radiologists, and its Chair Elizabeth Arleo, M.D., the Commission helped to prepare and supported a resolution encouraging radiology and radiation oncology practices to provide twelve weeks paid family and medical leave, to be considered by the Board of Chancellors, state chapters and ACR Council 2020
- In collaboration with the NMA Section on Radiology and Radiation Oncology, Dr. Lightfoote represented senior College leadership by presenting the annual ACR Greetings and Update for July 2020, a tradition since 1949.

- New collaborations were established with Jenny Bencardino, M.D., and colleagues at NYU and University of Pennsylvania; Kirti Kulkarni, M.D., and Carina Yang, M.D., at University of Chicago; and the Kathleen Brown, M.D., Theodore Hall, M.D., and Ashley Prosper, M.D., at UCLA.

Selected publications in the *Journal of the American College of Radiology* by Commission members and collaborators during 2019

1. Kallianos KG, Webb EM, Hess CP, Talbott J, Bucknor MD. Use of the Implicit Association Test to Improve Diversity in Radiology. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(7):976-979.
2. Pevsner NH. Re: "Serving the Needs of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Persons in Radiology". *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(9 Pt A):1131.
3. Spottswood SE, Spalluto LB, Washington ER, Donnelly EF, Birch AA, Bradshaw ML, et al. Design, Implementation, and Evaluation of a Diversity Program for Radiology. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(7):983-991.
4. Stowell JT, Grimstad FW, Kirkpatrick DL, Brown LR, Flores EJ. Serving the Needs of Transgender and Gender-Diverse Persons in Radiology. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt A):533-535.
5. Betancourt JR, Tan-McGrory A, Flores E, Lopez D. Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Radiology: A Call to Action. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt B):547-553.
6. Berland LL, Monticciolo DL, Flores EJ, Malak SF, Yee J, Dyer DS. Relationships Between Health Care Disparities and Coverage Policies for Breast, Colon, and Lung Cancer Screening. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt B):580-585.
7. McGinty GB. The ACR's New Power. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(7):899-900.
8. Pandharipande PV, Mercaldo ND, Lietz AP, Seguin CL, Neal CD, Deville C, et al. Identifying Barriers to Building a Diverse Physician Workforce: A National Survey of the ACR Membership. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(8):1091-1101.
9. McIntosh-Clarke DR, Zeman MN, Valand HA, Tu RK. Incentivizing Physician Diversity in Radiology. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt B):624-630.
10. Perry RE, Parikh JR. Sponsorship: A Proven Strategy for Promoting Career Advancement and Diversity in Radiology. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(8):1102-1107.
11. Strax R. Diversity Committee: A Means to Local Gender Equity. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt A):407.
12. Wallner PE, Frey GD, Roberts AC, Canon CL, Jackson VP, Wagner BJ. Gender Diversity Within the American Board of Radiology: History, Current Status, and Future Implications. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(12):1713-1715.
13. Zavaletta V, Robbins JB. Gender Diversity in Radiology: It Is Not Just Black and White; It Is Multiple Shades of Gray. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(4 Pt B):621-623.
14. Bucknor MD, Villanueva-Meyer JE, Kumar V, Talbott JF, Wall SD, Glastonbury CM, et al. Diversity and Inclusion Efforts in University of California, San Francisco Radiology: Reflections on 3 Years of Pipeline, Selection, and Education Initiatives. *J Am Coll Radiol.* 2019;16(12):1716-1719.
15. Macura KJ. ACR Diversity Report 2019. American College of Radiology, 2019. <https://www.acr.org/-/media/ACR/Files/Commissions-and-Committees/Diversity-Report-WEB.pdf?la=en>

Respectfully submitted,

Johnson B. Lightfoote, MD, FACR
Chair, Commission for Women and Diversity

Commission on Body Imaging

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Incidental Findings Committee

- Incidental Findings Committee, Chaired by Dr. Pari Pandharipande, is currently reviewing the methodology/development process through an innovation grant and is considering testing the new process with an aneurysm topic.
- A new sub-committee, Chaired by Dr. Gul Moonis was formed for pineal incidental findings. Dr. Maitray Patel Chaired a group to update the [adnexal incidental findings](#), published in November.

Colon Cancer Committee

- ACR acquired the Bracco Diagnostic Inc., Computed Tomography Colonography (CTC) screening locations [tool](#) and developed, expanded and re-branded it for the ACR website. It was launched and [communicated](#) to membership in September. The tool allows patients to find facilities that offer CTC and allows practices offering CTC to register their facilities/practice information with ACR. The tool was shared at the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable (NCCRT) Meeting in November and cards with information about the tool were available at the ACR booth at the RSNA meeting. Since the September launch, over 100 sites have been added to the map.
- Staff and two members of the Colon Cancer Committee attended the 2019 National Colorectal Cancer Round Table (NCCRT) meeting in November. Dr. Cecelia Brewington presented on the merits of CTC as a colorectal cancer screening option and encouraged NCCRT members to support its use.
- The Committee continues to await the release of the final [USPSTF recommendation](#) and are reassessing timing for re-approaching CMS to request Medicare coverage of screening CTC.
- The National Accreditation Program for Rectal Cancer (NAPRC) has included representatives from the ACR Colon Cancer Committee on their Oversight Committee and three other committees (Accreditation, Education, Quality) and invited our members to their July 2019 national meeting.

Lung Cancer Screening

- A workgroup of the Lung Cancer Screening (LCS) 2.0 steering committee developed a ACR/NLCRT LCS Economics-Billing [Quick Reference Guide](#) for nurse navigators and staff leading lung cancer screening programs. The resource was distributed at the Go2Foundation Conference (previously Lung Cancer Alliance) in November 2019. The workgroup was led by Drs. Debra Dyer and Charlie White.
- LCS 2.0 committee launched a [6-week LCS boot camp webinar series](#). The series has been promoted to ACR and RBMA members. The series follows topics outlined at the ACR 2019 LCS Bootcamp.
- ACR staff and physician volunteers continue to work collaboratively with key stakeholders, including the Go2Foundation (previously Lung Cancer Alliance), the Radiology Business Management Association, and congressional leads to address lack of coverage of lung cancer screening in the independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF) setting. Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) are denying coverage due to the requirement in the National Coverage Determination (NCD) that imaging facilities performing lung cancer screening “make available smoking cessation interventions.”

Reporting and Data Systems (RADS)

- A new webinar series was set up for LI-RADS, NI-RADS, and O-RADS.

Respectfully submitted,

Lincoln Berland, MD, FACR
Commission on Body Imaging

Commission on Breast Imaging

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

I. Screening and Tech Assessment

- The Screening and Emerging Technology Committee (SETCOM) decided to prioritize the inclusion of method of detection (MOD) in national databases. The SETCOM believes screen-detected vs not-screen-detected information, tied directly to individual patient data, will be invaluable to understand the clinical impact of screening on numerous outcomes across a large and diverse population. The SETCOM also believes that method of detection, if implemented for breast cancer, may serve as a model for other malignancies and imaging such as lung and colon cancer. The committee was divided into 3 subgroups, which are planning to meet at SBI. The third subgroup agreed to pilot a system to document method of detection in diagnostic mammogram reports in which a biopsy is recommended.
- Over the course of the last 6 months, the SETCOM developed guiding principles and a goal for including MOD in national databases:
- Guiding principles
 - i. Seek the truth.
 - ii. Accuracy is more important than easy.
 - iii. Bias is not an option.
 - iv. Patients are the highest priority.
- Goal: A written proposal to submit to state and national cancer registries requesting inclusion of MOD for breast cancer in individual patients with high likelihood of acceptance

II. Government Relations

- MQSA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
 - i. In late March, the Food and Drug Administration published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) proposing updates and modifications to MQSA regulations. The GR committee managed the development of ACR's comments on the NPRM, incorporating input from a broad representation of relevant commissions, committees and interested members. Among the issues addressed in ACR's comments were retention and provision of facility personnel records, breast density reporting, equipment and quality control, mammographic assessment categories, mammography medical outcomes audits, and more.
- PALS
 - i. PALS language has been included in both the House and Senate versions of the FY2020 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Appropriations bill, positioning us well to extend the current moratorium on the 2009 USPSTF recommendations until January 1, 2022. (The current extension expires on January 1, 2021.) There is also standalone PALS legislation in both the House and Senate. This issue was included in ACR's Capitol Hill Advocacy day during ACR's annual meeting.
- FDA Panel Meeting/ FDA Draft Guidance – MRI for Assessment of Silicone Breast Implant Rupture

- i. At the request of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), ACR was represented at a March 26, 2019 meeting of the General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee. Stamatia (Toula) Destounis MD, FACR, presented on behalf of ACR; her talk conveyed ACR recommendations regarding MRI for the assessment of silicone breast implant rupture including the basis of the recommendations, and how they came about. In October 2019, FDA issued draft guidance on labeling for silicone breast implants, including post-implant imaging recommendations that differ significantly from and exceed the ACR recommendations, including recommendations for routine surveillance for asymptomatic patients. ACR submitted comments on the draft guidance reiterating the recommendations contained in ACR’s Appropriateness Criteria on Breast Implant Evaluation.
- State GR Issues
 - i. Insurance Coverage Issues
 - 1. All 50 states met during the 2019 legislative session and Colorado and Minnesota were successful in securing health insurance coverage mandates for digital breast tomosynthesis. Bills died in Hawaii, Iowa, and a bill was left pending in Massachusetts. States with Digital Breast Tomosynthesis Coverage Mandate now include: AR, CO, CT, IL, KS, KY, LA, MD, MO, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OK, PA, TX, VT, WA.
 - 2. Additionally, Texas was successful in modifying its existing mammography coverage statute to mandate that “a health benefit plan that provides coverage for a screening mammogram must provide coverage for a diagnostic mammogram that is no less favorable than the coverage for a screening mammogram.” (TX HB 170). Likewise, Louisiana was successful in modifying its statute and, as a result, effective January 1 2021, LA plans “shall include coverage for diagnostic imaging at the same level of coverage provided for the minimum mammography examination.” (LA HB 347)
- Breast Density Reporting
 - i. There are now a total of 39 states plus the District of Columbia with some type of disclosure or reporting requirement for breast density: AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NM, NY, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI.
 - ii. In 2019, Georgia, Illinois, New Mexico, Oklahoma and South Dakota enacted legislation on reporting of breast density information to patients. Bills on breast density reporting died upon adjournment in AR, RI, and WV.
- State Chapter Breast Imaging Experts
 - i. The GR Committee is working to identify an in-state breast imaging expert for each ACR-affiliated state chapter to assist the chapter when relevant state legislative or regulatory issues arise. The committee hopes to have completed this initiative by January when most state legislative sessions begin.

III. Breast Screening Leadership Group

- Monthly webinars continued in 2019 and 2020. Agenda now includes regular article review, headed by Dr. Lars Grimm.
- Screening Toolkit completed.
 - i. CME available at ACR and AMA Ed-Hub
 - ii. Decision Aids, PPT, and brochures available online.

- iii. SLG outreach to state chapters – initially successful; more quantification will be provided with Shawn’s report in January
- October 2019
 - i. Shawn has detailed report on outreach, which includes activities beyond, but including the toolkit.
- Dr. Kelly Biggs named SLG Co-chair in late October.
 - i. We are actively working on Winter 2020 webinar schedule.
- Future plans
 - i. We continue to weigh the value of starting a fourth group of trainees. Enthusiasm is mixed, as some current members are not as engaged as desired.
 - ii. The SLG leadership will continue to active monitor the pros and cons over time.

IV. Economics

- The Committee provided input on a Coding Q&A on how to report two new breast lump ICD-10 CM codes, N63.15 Unspecified lump in the right breast, overlapping quadrants and N63.25 Unspecified lump in the left breast, overlapping quadrants with Medicare and third-party payers.
- The Committee provided input on an appeal letter to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) for edits pertaining to fine needle aspiration reported with a biopsy procedure code for the same lesion for the same patient on the same date of service. According to the NCCI Policy Manual 2019, “if the specimen is not adequate and another type of biopsy (e.g., needle, open) is subsequently performed at the same patient encounter, the physician shall report only one code, either the biopsy code or the FNA code.” Outcome of the appeal is pending.
- Several members of the Committee continue to assist with the review of improper NCCI edits and ensure breast imaging procedures are reimbursed appropriately.
- The 2019 Breast Imaging FAQs were reviewed and updated by the Committee to include updating the Q&A’s with new mammography with CAD codes 77065, 77066, 77067 and new MRI with CAD codes 77046, 77047, 77048, 77049. New Q&As were also added to include how to report Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA) biopsy(ies) of the breast(s), coding for the diagnosis of abnormal findings in overlapping quadrants seen on a mammogram study, coding a core breast biopsy that is performed using both stereotactic and tomosynthesis imaging guidance, and how to code screening breast ultrasound exams for states that have passed a law that requires mammography providers to directly inform their patients of their breast density category. The law includes an insurance mandate covering screening breast ultrasound for women with mammography-detected dense breasts.
- Committee Membership
 - i. The Committee continues to actively recruit and engage new members. Eleven new members were added, while eleven members rotated off the Committee.
- Priorities/Goals for 2020
 - i. Support the ACR in the RVS Update Committee (RUC) process by completing any RUC surveys that are circulated to the Committee for completion.
 - ii. Continue to support the Economics Commission through review and comment on surveys for the RUC and coding proposals.
 - iii. Continue to provide input on coding consensuses, Q&As, CPT Assistant articles, National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) and Medically Unlikely Edits (MUE).
 - iv. Dr. Destounis will serve as the Subject Matter Expert for the Category III Breast CT CPT code being presented at the May 2020 meeting of the CPT Editorial Panel.

V. Communications

- Screening Toolkit was completed and dispersed in October for breast cancer awareness month
 - i. CME available at ACR and AMA Ed-Hub
 - ii. Decision Aids, PPT, and brochures available online
- Advocacy outreach has been slow, but efforts to partner with patient advocacy and other medical specialty organizations to improve access to and distribution of the materials continue.
- Members of the group participated in a tweet chat discussing the 10/24/19 USA Today article, “3D Mammograms Getting the Hard Sell.”
- Dr. Sally Friedewald

VI. Committee on Practice Parameters – Breast Imaging

- 2020 cycle-
 - i. ACR Practice Parameter for Preoperative Image-Guided Localization in ^[1]the Breast - Principal Reviewer and Chair: Dr. Karla Sepulveda, New, ready for adoption
 - ii. ACR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Stereotactic-Guided and DBT guided Breast Interventional Procedures. Principal Reviewer and Chair Phoebe Freer, MD
- 2021 cycle-
 - i. ACR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Ultrasound-Guided Percutaneous Breast Interventional Procedures - Previous Principal Reviewer: Lora Barke, DO
 - ii. ACR Practice Parameter for the Performance of a Breast Ultrasound Examination - Previous Principal Reviewer: Lora Barke, DO
 - iii. ACR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Magnetic Resonance Imaging-Guided Breast Interventional Procedures - Previous Principal Reviewer: Linda Moy, MD

VII. Panel on Appropriateness Criteria-Breast Imaging

- Split into two panels
 - i. Panel 1 – Chair Ana Lourenco, MD, vice chair Bethany Niell, MD
 - ii. Panel 2 – Chair Priscilla Slanetz, MD, vice chair, Alana Lewin, MD
- AC’s to be released:
 - i. Stage I Breast Cancer: Initial Workup and Surveillance for Local Recurrence and Distant Metastases in Asymptomatic Women (Lewin, Moy)
- New AC’s in development
 - i. Imaging of the Axilla - High priority designated by GAHC (LePetross, Slanetz) Draft narrative and Narrative Checklist to be submitted by December 2019
 - ii. Supplemental Screening - High priority designated by GAHC (Weinstein, Slanetz) Draft and Narrative Checklist submitted on October 2019
 - iii. Imaging after Reconstruction – Medium priority designated by GAHC (Heller, Lourenco). Revised draft narrative and comment response to pre-rating panel review submitted November 2019
 - iv. Imaging of Transgender Patients - Medium priority designated by GAHC (Brown, Lourenco). Draft and Narrative Checklist to be submitted November 2019

- Standing AC's
 - i. Evaluation of Nipple Discharge (Lee, Trikha)
 - ii. Palpable Breast Masses (Heller, Moy)
 - iii. Breast Implant Evaluation- (Lourenco, Moy)
 - iv. Breast Imaging of Pregnant and Lactating Women (di Florio, Slanetz)
 - v. Evaluation of the Symptomatic Male Breast (Niell, Lourenco)
 - vi. Breast Pain (Holbrook, Moy)
- Proposed new AC's that are recommended for development by GAHC
 - i. Split from Practice Parameter - Post-operative breast
 - ii. Split from Practice Parameter - Imaging of Invasive Breast Cancer
 - iii. Split from Practice Parameter - Imaging of Ductal Carcinoma In Situ

VIII. BI-RADS® 5th edition

- Total Atlas sales: 3269 hardcopies; 1425 e-books; 397 bundles (hardcopy + e-book); 46 institutional licenses; 97 MCR/eBook bundles; 335 reference guides (through 11/11/19)
- Atlas translations: 6 complete (Spanish, Portuguese, German, Mandarin, Japanese, Greek): an academic translation into Lao is underway; a request to translate the atlas into Farsi has been received and is under legal review; ACR is working with the Russian College of Radiology to arrange for a Russian edition of the atlas
- 5th Edition full licenses: 21
- 5th Edition limited licenses: 4
- 5 vendors (Applied Software - Magview, Jambayang, MRS Systems – Aspen & MRS7, PenRad, and Siemens) are now approved for NMD 3.0, which means that the 5th Edition material has been completely incorporated into their software products; 2 have been conditionally approved (Cerner & Epic)
- Task Force on Digital Breast Tomography – The DBT supplement for the Mammography Lexicon is now available on the ACR website

Areas of Concern: We continue to be very concerned about maintaining access to annual screening mammography starting at age 40 and the potential impact of implementation of the USPSTF final screening recommendations on the women of the United States.

Member Value: The Commission continues to advocate to maintain access for annual screening mammography for all women 40 years and older.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Smetherman, MD, MPH, MBA, FACR
 Commission on Breast Imaging

2019 Annual Report

Commission on General, Small, Emergency and/or Rural Practice

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- The Military Subcommittee hosted a CME session at ACR 2019 titled Warfare and Austere Environments: Relevant Lessons from Military Radiology for the Practicing Radiologist.
- The Teleradiology Work Group was formalized as a subcommittee of the Network Committee.
- The Teleradiology Subcommittee had a white paper published in the JACR about the state of teleradiology practice in the US: “The Current State of Teleradiology Across the United States: A National Survey of Radiologists’ Habits, Attitudes, and Perceptions on Teleradiology Practice.”
- The Rural Practice and Critical Access Hospital Subcommittee completed a project with HPI and submitted for publication an article on Geographic, Hospital-Level, and Racial Disparities in the Use of Advanced Imaging in Emergency Departments in the United States.
- Two GSER-sponsored sessions are in development for ACR 2020.
- The Committee on Emergency Radiology and Network Committee hosted a CME session on mass casualty incident planning at ACR 2019.
- A work group has been formed to focus on specific challenges facing Puerto Rico; the group is working with the PFCC Outreach Committee and planning for speaker participation in a session at ACR 2020.
- The Council adopted the GSER sponsored/co-sponsored Practice Parameters for ACR 2019, with the exception of the ACR Practice Parameter for Communication of Diagnostic Imaging Findings, which the Council referred. The Communications PP, along with two other GSER-sponsored documents will be presented at ACR 2020.
- The Committee on Economics drafted a resolution on the Generalist/Multispecialty radiologist and socialized it for sponsorship to be presented to the Council at ACR 2020.
- A new chair was appointed to the Committee on Quality and Safety.
- As a result of work facilitate by the GSER liaison to the Commission on Human Resources the annual workforce survey and membership tracker will be updated to collect information on subspecialists.
- The commission appointed a liaison to the Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning; through this liaison, we communicated an educational gap related to how AI will roll out and involve small and rural practices.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Pyatt, Jr., MD, FACR

Chair, Commission on General, Small, Emergency and/or Rural Practice

Commission on Interventional and Cardiovascular Imaging

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- I. The Interventional Radiology (IR) Commission Credentials Oversight Committee, in conjunction with the SIR and SPR leadership, Resolution 23 on Core Privileging for Radiologists performing image-guided procedures was passed at the 2019 annual meeting. The intent of the Resolution is to support the principles of privileging based upon core competencies and a total body of experience gained during training, rather using arbitrary procedural numbers and volumes. The Committee is in its final stages of completing the project and creating a library of core privileging templates and will begin working with ACR Marketing to post to the website.
- II. An IR Commission proposal for an ACR survey that was focused on exclusive contracts and how they may be adversely influencing the practice of independent IRs was accepted. The intent of the survey was to provide information about the factors, general feelings and attitudes of both DRs and IRs about this topic, given that cardiologists, vascular surgeons and interventional nephrologists may have the same privileges being requested by independent IRs. There was also sentiment that this issue will only become bigger as the number of graduates from the new Integrated and Independent IR residency programs continue to increase. The inaugural meeting of this working group was held on Oct 16, 2019. The IR Commission, in conjunction with SIR members and leadership, the initial survey authors and the ACR Office of Strategic Planning and Business Excellence, developed, tested and iterated the ACR survey between November 2019 and January 2020. The final survey was distributed to random ACR/SIR members on February 7, 2020, with the last request for completion of the survey being on February 27th. The plan is for the data to be initially reviewed in early March and discussed at the SIR Annual Meeting in Seattle, on March 28, 2020. The hope is that the information gained from this survey provides the IR Commission an understanding of the factors that influence the maintenance of exclusive contracts and attitudes of a diverse group of practicing Radiologists that lead to the exclusion of independent IRs from having either admitting, diagnostic radiology and/or procedural privileges at their hospital. The intent is to have this information help us to develop and write a white paper document that provides ideas on how to better build more mutually beneficial collaborations and inclusiveness amongst independent IRs, DRs and larger Radiology practice groups.
- III. The IR Commission, GSER and SIR leadership have participated in several conference calls to develop and GSER/IR Workforce Task Force to develop a better understanding of how best to address concerns about the recruitment and retention of interventional radiologists in smaller communities/practices to provide access for patients and these communities to the much needed IR services. This process is well underway.
- IV. The IR Commission Chair, Dr. Matsumoto represented the ACR on a multi-organizational coalition (ACC, ACR, AHA, SCAI, SIR, SVM and VESS) that presented information at the FDA Paclitaxel Panel on June 18-19, along with more than 20 other groups, to discuss the late mortality signal that was seen in a meta-analysis of five RCTs on the use of PTX drug coated balloons in the treatment of superficial femoral artery disease in patients with claudication. The Panel was essentially unanimous in saying that PTX devices should continue to be available to patients and providers and not be removed from the marketplace at this time based upon the totality of information available, but a discussion must occur with patients about a potential statistical signal for late mortality risk

for patients in whom these devices have been used. The FDA recognized the clear early benefit of PTX devices for patients. Industry will continue to collect more data, and if there continues to be a signal of higher late mortality risk, additional randomized control trial data or a requirement for patient enrollment in a Registry may be necessary to answer the question. The coalition members are having continued engagement and formal conversations with the FDA and the MDEpiNET group. The possibility of creating a white paper document on this topic is also being considered. The ACR will have representation in creation of the manuscript. More recently, the SVS has joined this PTX Coalition. In person meetings with the FDA occurred in June and November of 2019 and January of 2020, with a future meeting planned for May 2020, along with some type of weekly call.

- V. The IR Commission Chair, Dr. Matsumoto recommended to ACR leadership to renew the Balance Billing Statement on page 76 of the Digest of Council Actions, during the annual 10-year Policy Review.
- VI. An invitation was issued to the ACR IR Commission to collaborate with The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) on limb ischemia. Dr. Matsumoto nominated Dr. Aaron Fischman to represent the ACR.
- VII. The IR Commission submitted a response through ACR Government Relation to the FDA Draft Guidance on Guidewires, Intravascular Catheters, and Delivery Systems for review.
- VIII. The IR Commission chair has participated in two Practice Parameters for 1) Interventional Clinical Practice and Management and 2) Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (SIRT) or Radioembolization for the Treatment of Liver Cancer field review process.
- IX. The IR Commission chair reviewed five proposal submitted to the Innovation Fund LOI Application, the Letters of Interest were approved, and the full applications were received for four of the five proposals. The fifth proposal was withdrawn due to IP concerns by the investigator. Reviews of the four full Innovation Fund proposals were performed and submitted to the Executive committee. The IR Commission chair reviewed the CoPLL Educational Program Questionnaire survey from the Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning.
- X. The IR Commission made recommendations at the request of ACR Government Relations for a representative to be appointed to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee. The commission nominated J. David Prologo, MD, a practicing IR at Emory.
- XI. The IR Commission, at the request of ACR Government Relations, reviewed and provided comment to the FDA released draft Pain Management Interagency Task Force on Pain Management Best Practices document that was open for public comment. The provided comments were forwarded to ACR Government Relations for review and submission.
- XII. The IR Commission, RO Commission and Committee on Drugs and Contrast drafted a commitment statement to be sent to the BOC regarding the National Call for Commitment Statements on Reversing the US Opioid Epidemic.
- XIII. A member of the IR Commission, Dr. Ignacio, will work with the CIR Task Force under Dr. Berland's leadership, to create a white paper draft around the concept of and principles associated with Board Certification by May 2020. Depending upon bandwidth, Dr. Matsumoto may join.
- XIV. US Preventive Task Force Draft Research Plan for Asymptomatic Carotid Artery Stenosis: Screening draft document was forwarded to IR Commission to provide comment during the open for public comment period.
- XV. ACP Care Coordination Initiative - Procedural Consultation Subgroup established and reached out to commission for participation.

Respectfully,



Alan H. Matsumoto, MD, FACR
Commission on IR and CV Imaging

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Medical Physics

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- First Morin Fellow – Ashley Rubinstein, PhD became the first Richard L. Morin, PhD Fellow in Medical Physics. She attended the ACR Annual Meeting in May and served on a reference committee, visited ACR headquarters in November, has been active as the resident member of the Commission on Medical Physics, and has promoted the College throughout the year to her colleagues in medical physics.
- Dr. Mahesh, with help from Richard Morin, PhD, FACR and Gerald White, MS, FACR has been integral in moving the first diagnostic medical CPT code (skin dose calculation) forward. The service was approved for a CPT code in Oct. 2019 and scheduled for presentation at the Jan. 2020 RUC meeting.
- The commission sponsored a two-hour continuing education training session at the 2019 AAPM Annual Meeting in San Antonio.
- The commission, in collaboration with AAPM, has begun revising and updating the Radiation Safety Officer Resources report.
- The commission created a Medical Physics Resources page (launched April 2019) on acr.org.
- Commission chair, Dr. Mahesh, gave an invited oral presentation at RSNA on the new NCRP Report 184 – Medical Radiation Exposure to Patients in the United States.
- The commission created the Committee on Clinical Practice Assessment to create a pool of actively practicing experts in medical physics to provide review and comment as needed and prepare for leadership roles in the medical physics community.

Respectfully submitted,



Mahadevappa Mahesh, MS, PhD, FAAPM, FACR
Chair, ACR Commission on Medical Physics

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Neuroradiology

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- Input provided to the American Academy of Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery for two of their Clinical Practice Guidelines: Meniere's Disease and Nosebleed (Epistaxis).
- Input provided to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) regarding their Strategic Planning Process. The mission of NINDS is to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease. The work was coordinated and assisted by ACR CRI.
- Recommendations and approval of Brent Weinberg MD as chair of the newly formed BT-RADS (brain tumor) committee.
- Strategic planning for an approach to request CMS' reconsideration of a local coverage decision (LCD) for the CT perfusion Category III code.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander. Norbash, MD, MS, FACR
Chair, Commission on Neuroradiology

Commission on Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Economics

- Submitted comments to Anthem regarding its medical policy review of the evidence for dopamine transporter (DaT) scan citing there sufficient evidence to prove its value in the evaluation of suspected Parkinsonian syndromes with its high sensitivity and specificity for the detection of abnormalities using SPECT to assist in the evaluation of suspected Parkinsonian syndromes. Based on comments received, Anthem updated its medical policy to include SPECT imaging.
- As part of the CPT Code Set Maintenance review, codes 78120 *Red cell volume determination (separate procedure); single sampling*, 78135 *Red cell survival study; differential organ/tissue kinetics (eg, splenic and/or hepatic sequestration)*, and 79200 *Radiopharmaceutical therapy, by intracavitary administration* were identified as low utilization codes. The CPT Editorial Panel solicited feedback whether these codes should be deleted or retained from CPT code set. The Committee provided comments recommending these codes be retained as these services are currently still being performed.
- Reviewed and provided input on several AMA/ACR *Clinical Examples in Radiology* articles pertaining to nuclear medicine to include Thyroid Carcinoma whole body and SPECT/CT, Renal SPECT/CT, GI Bleed SPECT/CT, Myocardial PET/CT.
- Facilitated participation in the RUC surveys for the myocardial PET and SPECT/CT codes.
- Reviewed and provided comments on NCCI edits relating to the new myocardial PET, and SPECT/CT codes, to help ensure the proposed NCCI edits and MUE values are appropriate.
- Reviewed and provided input on the updated 2020 *Nuclear Medicine Coding User's Guide*.

Education

- Inaugural ACR Nuclear Medicine course was held at the ACR center 3/4-3/5/2019 with Drs. Don Yoo and Phillip Kuo as Co-Directors. This course is currently being offered biannually at the ACR center.

Government Relations

- Participated in a GR-Federal Regulatory Committee workgroup that met with legislators and regulators, and developed comments on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) evaluation of training and experience requirements for authorized users of certain unsealed materials.
- Developed comments on NRC's draft guidance regarding release of patients administered radioactive material.
- Continued to support federal funding for Department of Energy (DOE) cooperative agreement holders working to establish domestic production of Mo-99/Tc-99m (per the ACR-endorsed American Medical Isotopes Production Act).
- Monitored NRC advisory committee meetings and teleconferences.

NM & PET Accreditation – as of February 2020

- NM: 3450 facilities active; 35 facilities in process; 3485 facilities accredited; 29 active clinical; 31 active phantom reviewers; average reviewer turnaround time = 7.6 days.
- PET: 1625 facilities active; 15 facilities in process; 1640 facilities accredited; 25 active clinical; 24 active phantom reviewers; average reviewer turnaround time = 6.9 days.
- Conducted clinical and phantom reviewer training, resulting in 13 new phantom reviewers and 8 new clinical reviewers.
- ACR accreditation data is being used to assess diagnostic reference levels for several nuclear medicine studies.

Practice Parameters & Technical Standards

The following practice parameters will be presented for adoption at the 2020 Annual Meeting:

1. ACR–ACNM–ASNR–SNMMI Practice Parameter for Brain PET-CT Imaging in Dementia – **Revised**
2. ACR–ACNM–SNMMI–SPR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Gastrointestinal Tract, Hepatic, and Splenic Scintigraphy – **Combine the GI and Liver Scintigraphy practice parameters into one document**
3. ACR–SPR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Liver and Spleen Scintigraphy – **Sunset**
4. ACR–AAPM–ACNM–SNMMI Practice Parameter for Reference Levels and Achievable Administered Activity for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging – **Revised**
5. ACR–ACNM–SNMMI–SPR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Radionuclide Cystography – **Revised**
6. ACR–ACNM–SNMMI–SPR Practice Parameter for the Performance of Neuroendocrine Tumor Scintigraphy – **Revised**
7. ACR–ACNM–ASTRO–SNMMI Practice Parameter for Lutetium (Lu-177 DOTATATE) Therapy – **New**

Other Issues

ABR Changes to 16-month Pathway

- Continue to publicize significant changes that ABR has made in 16-month Pathway; currently there 85 residents in the newly redesigned 16 month ABR dual certification in radiology and NM pathway with 47 radiology residency programs participating.

Appropriateness Criteria (AC) Panels

- Continued to identify NM & MI expert representation to serve on each AC Panel.

Respectfully submitted,

Don C. Yoo, MD, FACR

Chair, Commission on Nuclear Medicine & Molecular Imaging

Commission on Pediatric Radiology

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

Pediatric Safety and Quality Committee: Chair, Jonathan Dillman, MD

Committee has reached consensus to develop two safety registries:

A. MRI safety events

Aim(s): To understand the incidence of safety events at children's hospitals, identify predictors of MRI safety events and create a classification system (if one does not exist). Develop a registry/learning network to foster inter-institutional learning around such events. Align efforts with ACR MRI safety committee.

B. Pediatric Quality/Safety Registry

Aim(s): To create Registry of pediatric radiology safety events (e.g., IV contrast infiltrations, imaging wrong body part or patient, contrast reactions, MRI safety events, etc.) in order to understand frequency and serve as baseline data for future interventions. This will help serve to understand the spectrum of safety issues encountered in pediatric radiology and assist ACR members in developing best practice solutions.

Initiative Anesthesia practices for children undergoing imaging.

Children undergoing imaging often require general anesthesia, with its associated risks including concern for neurodevelopmental sequelae. Survey of SCORCH (Society of Chairs of Radiology in Children's Hospitals) regarding anesthesia practices was completed and will serve as baseline data for future interventions to decrease sedation/anesthesia use related to pediatric imaging. Data will be presented at a May 2020 meeting of the Society for Pediatric Radiology) and has been submitted for publication.

Pediatric Radiology Workforce Committee: Chair, Shannon Farmakis, MD

Committee Mission: To increase the pediatric radiology workforce through education and collaborative relationships

Committee Goals:

- Work collaboratively within the College with the Commission on Human Resources, the Commission on Publications and Lifelong Learning, the Resident and Fellow Section with Medical Student Subcommittee, and the Education Committee within the Commission on Pediatric Radiology, and outside the organization with professional medical societies (SPR, SCORCH, AAWR, SPIR, AUR, A³CR², AAP Section on Radiology) to serve as a resource and provide information regarding pediatric radiology as well as foster communication
- Collaborate with the Commission on Human Resources to focus on the pediatric radiology workforce as part of the annual ACR Workforce survey.
- Committee will create resources for members, serve as a resource for members, and work to increase the number of practicing pediatric radiologists.

Pediatric Research Committee: Chair, Raj Krishnamurthy, MD

Committee developed proposal to develop Imaging Registry for Orphan and Rare Diseases (I-ROAR) aimed at identifying imaging biomarkers to improve Dx and Rx of orphan and rare diseases children.

- Proposal awarded ACR Innovation grant with Raj Krishnamurthy, PI

Pediatric Education Committee: Co-Chairs: Cindy Rigsby, MD and Ben Taragin, MD

- ACR Education committee and WFPI have collaborated on submitting a grant to the ACR to fund an effort with *Imaging the World* for pediatric ultrasound education in Kampala, Uganda. The grant proposal was not funded by the ACR this year, but there is significant interest in having the groups reapply.
 - A gap analysis will be put together to strengthen the grant in collaboration with the WFPI.
- Pediatric Radiology leaders in both the ACR and SPR have asked for representation in the discussion of content in the Education Center acknowledging that dedicated Pediatric Radiology courses attract relatively small numbers of attendees resulting in omission of this content in that venue. Pediatric content as part of specialty courses (e.g. Neuroradiology) is expected to create value for ACR members. On January 26, 2020, we learned an Advisory Board was being formed and on February 12, we learned that Dr. Cindy Rigsby would represent the pediatric radiology community in this discussion.

Pediatric Economics & Government Relations/Advocacy Committee: Chair, Richard A. Barth, MD, FACR

Initiative: Develop CPT code guidance for ultrasound contrast voiding urosonography (USVUS)

Lumason (ultrasound contrast agent) is FDA approved for voiding urosonography in children as a non-radiation, alternative to fluoroscopic voiding cystourography. In collaboration with ACR CPT coding committee, a survey was developed to acquire utilization data. Survey participants were the members of SCORCH (Society of Chairs of Radiology in Children's Hospitals). Based on data, ACR has published two coding guidelines (<https://www.acr.org/Advocacy-and-Economics/Coding-Source/May-June-2019/QandA-Voiding-Urosonography>)

Advocacy Collaboration with American Academy of Pediatrics resulted in United Healthcare decision to revise the Radiology Site of Care Guideline age limit from age of 10 to under 19.

Committee on Practice Parameters: Chair, Beverley Newman, MD, FACR

In 2019, 13 Practice Parameters developed and updated in collaboration with the SPR passed. Work began and continues on the 17 collaborative Parameters to be acted on in 2020.

Pediatric Rapid Response Committee: Dr. Marta Schulman, MD, FACR – The Pediatric Rapid Response Committee is currently reviewing current pediatric content to assess how it will overlap with Appropriateness Criteria Content.

Abusive Head Trauma Resolution – Collaboration between the ACR Commission on Pediatric Radiology, ACR Council, and SPR Board of Directors

Resolution was enacted at May 2019 Council meeting. The abusive head trauma resolution highlights a significant pediatric health care issue related to medical legal expert witness denialism of child abuse. The resolution affirms the existence of abusive head trauma and underscores the importance for legal testimony to be supported by the medical evidence.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Barth, MD, FACR, FAAP
Chair, Commission on Pediatric Radiology

Commission on Radiation Oncology

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

ACR RO continues enhancing RO resources visibility through various avenues, such as: conferences, Engage, ACR website, RO Webpages, social media, newsletters, emails, involving current RO committee members etc. <https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Radiation-Oncology-Resources>

- ✓ Continued presence at the ASTRO annual meetings continues to prove to be of value to the profession, members and the College with the success of current and potential collaborations
- ✓ 2019 -2020 appointment & nomination process for all radiation oncology committees and the CRO was successfully submitted, approved and completed. The ACR staff worked with Chairs to ensure diversity inclusion
- ✓ The June 2019 AMA radiation oncology segment lead by ACR & ACR RO RFS Rep continues to be a success
- ✓ CARROS & CRO Chair Endorsed (3) candidates approved for FACR in 2019; continuing work to facilitate targeted outreach campaigns (retention for 2019 is up a little over 3%)

The ACR Radiation Oncology Journal Advisor (JA) and the ACR Data Science Institute teamed up to include Artificial Intelligence as a new specialty on the JA. The site received a complete online facelift and successfully debuted the redesign on November 9, 2019. <https://www.acrjournaladvisor.com/home>

- ✓ Integrated Redesign features:
 - Streamline creation and management of monthly Editor's Choice commentaries
 - Improve user experience
 - Update application to use modern tools and technologies
 - Leverage web service provided by the National Library of Medicine for obtaining reference data instead of manually processing Medline files
- ✓ JA editors successfully completed the 2019 appointment process, creating a more diverse group of editors.

Eight RO Practice Parameter were produced and approved; 2020 currently has Four RO Practice Parameters under field reviews and 2021 parameters are underway. <https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Practice-Parameters-and-Technical-Standards/Practice-Parameters-by-Subspecialty>

RO Practice Accreditation (ROPA) continues to provide radiation oncologists with peer review and evaluation of patient care; Currently 715 sites accredited and 44 under review. ACR has received 25 R-O & 3 MP PEER applications. RO Accreditation Information Article created and released in December 2019; FAQs incorporated <https://www.acraccreditation.org/modalities/radiation-oncology-practice>

Education Committee held a successful RO Education Session at the 2019 ACR annual meeting with a high attendance of 70. <https://www.acr.org/Lifelong-Learning-and-CME/Meetings-and-Course-Calendar/ACR-Annual-Meeting/Radiation-Oncology>. The following projects are underway:

- ✓ Identified Drs. Anna Laucis, Hina Saeed and Ms. Theresa Powell as the ACR RO educational webinar team; planning is underway for the launching of the quarterly series
- ✓ Dr. Arya Amini is working diligently with ACR staff & potential speakers to develop the radiation oncology content for the May 2020 ACR Annual meeting.

Economics: The College and RO Commission submitted comments to the QCF Model and RO-APM <https://www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Radiation-Oncology-Resources/Services-Rules-and-Regulations>

CARROS continues facilitating resident engagement within the ACR RO community. Five travel grants (ACR & CARROS donations- \$1k each) were awarded to attend the ACR 2019.

Thank you ACR and RO members!

Respectfully submitted,

William Small, Jr., MD, FACR, FASTRO, FACRO
Chair, Commission on Radiation Oncology

2019 Annual Report

Commission on Ultrasound

The following items were accomplishments of the Commission in 2019:

- **ORADS Committee**

The O-RADS committee is chaired by Rochelle Andreotti, the Vice-Chair of the US Commission, who worked diligently with her members throughout 2019 to advance the mission of this committee. This committee has expended years of effort as our very first in person committee meeting was in November, 2015. Our committee was organized into two working groups, one for ultrasound and another for magnetic resonance imaging. The goal for O-RADS was to function as a quality assurance tool and clinical decision support system for the standardized description of ovarian/adnexal pathology and its management. This is an international committee made up of imaging experts from the ACR, AIUM, CAR, ESR, IOTA, ISUOG, SPR and SRU. Non-imaging liaisons represent other societies such as ACOG (American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology), ISGYP (International Society of Gynecologic Pathologists), SGO (Society of Gynecologic Oncologists), and SOGC (Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology of Canada). In 2019, the committee completed our second manuscript entitled “O-RADS Ultrasound Risk Stratification and Management System: A Consensus Guideline from the ACR Ovarian-Adnexal Reporting and Data System Committee.” This manuscript was accepted in September for publication in the journal, *Radiology*. The reference is as follows: Andreotti RF, Timmerman D, Strachowski LM, Froyman W, Benacerraf BR, Bennett GL, Bourne T, Brown DL, Coleman BG, Frate MC, Goldstein SR, Hamper UM, Horrow MM, Hernanz-Schulman M, Reinhold C, Rose SL, Whitcomb BP, Wolfman WL, Glanc P: O-RADS US Risk Stratification and Management System: A Consensus Guideline from the ACR Ovarian-Adnexal Reporting and Data System Committee. *Radiology* 294(1): 168-185, January 2020 Notes: Electronically published Nov 5, 2019.

The first O-RADS article on the adnexa lexicon was published online by *JACR* in August 2018 and was in print in the October issue, vol 15; 1415-1429. It was entitled “Ovarian-Adnexal Reporting Lexicon for Ultrasound: A White Paper of the ACR Ovarian- Adnexal Reporting and Data System Committee”. Rochelle Andreotti, was also first author and Phyllis Glanc, the vice chair of the US commission was the senior author.

The MR working group had their first article published online in January, 2020 by JAMA Network Open. The reference is “Ovarian Ovarian-Adnexal Reporting Data System Magnetic Resonance Imaging (O-RADS MRI) Score for Risk Stratification of Sonographically Indeterminate Adnexal Masses. Isabelle Thomassin-Naggara, Edouard Poncelet, Aurelie Jalaguier-Coudray, Adalgisa Guerra, Laure S. Fournier, Sanja Stojanovic, Ingrid Millet, Nishat Bharwani, Valerie Juhan, Teresa M. Cunha, Gabriele Masselli, Corinne Balleyguier, Caroline Malhaire, Nicolas F. Perrot, Elizabeth A. Sadowski, Marc Bazot, Patrice Taourel, Raphaël Porcher, Emile Darai, Caroline Reinhold, and Andrea G. Rockall.

Numerous oral presentations on O-RADS were presented in 2019, one given by myself at the National Medical Association Annual Meeting and Scientific Assembly in Honolulu, Hawaii, July 27-31. Rochelle spoke at the 2020 Tennessee Radiological Meeting and at an AIUM OB-GYN US

course in February, 2020. A combined O-RADS/IOTA preconvention course was scheduled for the AIUM Annual Conference in March 2020 in New York City however, due to the coronavirus, this was cancelled. There are two webinars being planned for this spring. Kate Maturen is taking the lead in an internal reproducibility study of O-RADS US that the ACR is supporting. O- RADS US has a calculator AP being developed by the ACR and we are planning a storyboard on the website that will be an educational product.

- **SRU Adnexal Cysts**

I participated in the publication of an article related to the difficult issue of managing ovarian cysts in pre and postmenopausal patients. The original statement published in 2010 was very well received and all committee members agreed that this year was an appropriate time to update the document, especially in view of the first O-RADS publication in JACR. Dr. Deborah Levine, the most recent past ACR US Commission chair, was the first author along with national experts and contributing authors including Rochelle Andreotti. This article was also published in Radiology and recently featured in November in a podcast. The reference is Levine D, Patel M, Suh-Burgmann E, Andreotti RF, Benacerraf BR, Benson CB, Brewster WR, Coleman BG, Doubilet PM, Goldstein SR, Hamper UM, Hecht JL, Horrow MM, Hur HC, Marnach ML, Pavlik E, Platt LD, Puscheck E, Smith-Bindman R, Brown DL. Simple Adnexal Cysts: SRU Consensus Conference Update on Follow-up and Reporting. Radiology 293(2): 359-371, Nov 2019.

- **Ultrasound Education Task Force**

The US Commission has three task forces related to education focused on medical student education, global education and point of care ultrasound. Roya Sohaey became the chair of the medical student ultrasound education work group in 2019 after the retirement of Donald DiSalvo. She reviewed our survey results and identified the fact that radiology involvement in medical student education is almost exclusively in the later clinical years of residency. She wrote a draft manuscript summarizing our findings from radiology department chairs and proposing potential solutions to this issue with the hopes that radiology departments will become more involved during the preclinical years with perhaps the benefit of attracting more students to enter the profession of radiology. Roya, Donald and I worked in writing, editing and revising this document, which was rejected for publication in JACR in April 2019. The article has been significantly revised and is to be resubmitted to Ultrasound Quarterly.

The global US education task force sent out a brief survey trying to identify radiologists engaged in teaching US internationally. The survey was conducted with the assistance of the ACR and the committee chair, Sharlene Teefey, analyzed the results. A second survey was then required although the first was not anonymous. Our first conference call will be conducted April 6, 2020. Dr. Teefey will also write a manuscript describing the results of these efforts aimed at organizing a group of dedicated ultrasound educator to share ideas including best practices.

- **Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound and Elastography Codes**

The ACR CPT Advisory Committee chaired by Mark Alson worked with me and other US and economics commission members communicating with US leaders in contrast usage for almost 2 years. The ACR, in conjunction with other organizations, was able to successfully get 3 CPT codes approved for contrast enhanced ultrasound and 2 for elastography, indicated a total of 5 new US

codes, now applicable in 2019. This feat was accomplished after many months of effort including the need to contest the proposed CMS reduction in RUC recommended values for the initial contrast evaluation of a lesion.

- **Point of Care Ultrasound**

David_Bahner, Professor of Emergency Medicine and Ultrasound Division Chief at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center approached our BOC leadership at the AMA meeting in mid-June, inquiring about the possibility of “collaboration” with radiology on the issue of quality and safety related to point of care ultrasound examinations. I communicated with him via email and we had a conference call July 8, in reference to the fact that he has concerns that there are now mid-level providers such as nurses, nurse assistants and others who are performing scans without the appropriate documentation of findings and retention of images. He has been trying to bring this matter to the attention of the AMA leadership. He emphasized that emergency medicine doctors had “no idea” that such developments would happen with PoCUS. I reiterated the history of my involvement with PoCUS and my concerns over 15 years ago related to how such scans were being performed nationally by many specialties who were taking oral or online courses, buying small office US machines and then scanning patients, often for financial gains, I informed him that the US Commission had a PoCUS task force which basically was nonfunctional and therefore no longer active in this regard as of the spring of 2019, however, the commission would be willing to work with him and other emergency medicine physicians on issues related to quality and safety. The issue of PoCUS will remain a controversial topic in this new year of 2020.

- **ACR Appropriateness Criteria on Blunt Trauma**

I was contacted in September 2019 by Mark Lockhart in his capacity as Vice Chair of the ACR Appropriateness Criteria Committee. The panel for this document, comprised of radiologists, trauma surgeons, and ER physicians, felt that FAST should be included in this document due to its supporting literature and widespread use in this specific clinical scenario. This is an evidence-based process with input from different stakeholders. However, for future appropriateness criteria documents, I agreed with the recommendation NOT to include FAST US on the variant tables, because it is not an orderable imaging examination and is considered an extension of the physical exam. For the clinical scenarios where FAST may impact the appropriateness of other imaging exams, it will be briefly discussed in the narrative text. The plan is to prepare template language that can be used across AC panels to ensure consistency in the messaging about the use of FAST US in any future AC documents.

- **USPSTF’s Recommendation Statement on Screening for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms**

This document was reviewed and commented upon by ACR US Commission members.

The USPSTF recommends 1-time screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) with ultrasonography in men aged 65 to 75 years who have ever smoked. The USPSTF recommends against routine screening for AAA with ultrasonography in women who have never smoked and have no family history of AAA.

- **SMFM and Placenta Accreta US Task Force**

Debbie Levine and I worked as ACR representatives along with numerous other specialists on this task force. I led the “Placental-myometrial Interface” work group. We assisted in writing and revising a draft manuscript which was circulated to the general members in July 2019. This draft was further refined and is in the process of being submitted for publication in a top notch obstetrics journal.

- **AIUM First, Second and Third Trimester US Task Forces**

I represented the ACR on the Detailed First Trimester practice parameter committee that met multiple times through the spring, fall and winter of 2019. The final draft has been approved but still has not been formerly published as of yet. Carol Benson and I represented the ACR on this AIUM ultrasound practice parameter committee. ACR US Commission members reviewed and commented on the last draft. The document was then finalized and distributed in late June, 2019.

- **AIUM Echocardiography Practice Parameter**

Carol Benson and Mary Frates represented the ACR on this committee. This document was very well written however, very few radiologists actually perform this type of scan. The ACR US Commission was solicited for comments on this document which was finalized in late 2019.

- **SDMS Guidelines for Infection Prevention and Control in Sonography**

The ACR US Commission was asked to comment upon this document that describes in detail the correct processes for the proper cleansing and sterilization of ultrasound equipment including intracavitary probes used in imaging procedures such as transvaginal sonography. The ACR Human Resources Commission also reviewed and agreed on the quality of this document. The executive board of the Board of Chancellors voted to endorse this very comprehensive and well-written document, which is now posted on the website of the Society for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers with a list of other societies that also endorsed the document.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly G. Coleman, MD FACR FAIUM FSRU
ACR Commission on Ultrasound

2019 Annual Report

Audit Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Audit Committee in 2019:

- Reviewed and approved acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2018 Form 990 and 990-T tax returns for ACR, ACRA, ACRF, and AIRP
- Evaluated the external auditor and re-appointed RSM to conduct the FY19 Financial Statement audits
- Reviewed audit firm proposals for the annual Retirement Plan audits and appointed RSM to conduct the December 31, 2018 audits.
- Reviewed the Fiscal Year 2019 audit plans for the financial statement and retirement plan audits
- Provided education to audit committee on Financial Accounting Standard Board (FASB) new standards and impact to ACR accounting and financial reporting
- Reviewed results of audit and accepted audit reports for FY19 Financial Statement audits and 2018 Retirement Plan audits
- Received legal and compliance updates at each committee meeting occurring during the board meetings
- Reviewed HIPAA risk analysis assessment and approved risk management plan
- Held executive sessions with Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, and external audit firm

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander M. Norbash, MD, MS, FACR
Chair, Audit Committee

2019 Annual Report

Awards and Honors Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- Committee members received and reviewed the nominees for the awards of Gold Medal and Honorary Fellowship in preparation for the committee meeting on Monday, July 29, 2019, in Chicago, Illinois.
- The committee deliberated and determined the nominees to be considered by the Board of Chancellors.
- The Board of Chancellors, by vote during the Fall 2019 meeting, approved the following awardees:
 - Gold Medalists
 - Albert L. Blumberg, MD, FACR, Baltimore, MD
 - Priscilla F. Butler MS, FACR, Rockville, MD
 - Honorary Fellows
 - David Lee Ball, MB BS, MD, FRANZER, Australia
 - Luis Marti Bonmati, MD, Spain
- Lisa Puertas and Bea Cottrell have supported the committee's work. This work is year round with collection of nomination/support letters, communications with committee members to include one face to face meeting per year, database updates with membership and awardees, logistical preparations for the annual committee meeting, document (historical, procedural, protocol, minutes) maintenance, and preparations for the annual Convocation.

Respectfully submitted,

James H. Thrall, MD, FACR
Chair, Committee on Awards and Honors

2019 Annual Report

Board Self-Evaluation Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- Post meeting surveys were completed for the following board meetings:
 - January 2019 – McLean, VA
 - May 2019 – Washington, DC
 - October 2019 – Scottsdale, AZ
- A biennial Past-Meetings Survey and 2019 Self-Assessment Survey was conducted in September 2019
 - The Past Meetings Survey comprised a summary of the following board meetings:
 - Fall 2017 – Hualalai, HI
 - Winter 2018 – Amelia Island, GA
 - Spring 2018 – Washington, DC
 - Fall 2018 – Park City, UT
 - Winter 2019 – McLean, VA
 - Spring 2019 – Washington, DC
 - The BOC Self-Evaluation survey included 48 questions with 8 topic areas:
 - Board Members
 - Board Meetings, Materials
 - Board Meetings, Process
 - Board Policy and Management
 - Financial Management and Oversight/Audit
 - Board Chair
 - Staff Support
 - Future Direction
 - A full report was presented at the Fall 2019 Board meeting with Committee recommendations

Respectfully submitted,

Claire E. Bender, MD, MPH, FACR
Chair, Committee on ACR Board Self-Evaluation

2019 Annual Report

Budget and Finance Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- Monitored financial health of ACR, ACRA, ACRF and AIRP
- Oversaw financial planning for ACR, ACRA, ACRF and AIRP
 - Reviewed Fiscal Year 2020 Operating and Capital Budgets and recommended BOC approval
 - Reviewed alignment of Fiscal Year 2020 Budget with ACR Strategic Plan
 - Reviewed 5-year forecast for Operating & Capital Budgets through Fiscal Year 2024
 - Reviewed *off-cycle budget requests* for Fiscal Year 2019 and recommended BOC approval
 - Reviewed *net asset reinvestment requests* and recommended BOC approval. Net asset reinvestment requests designated \$5.5M of prior year surpluses to support one-time activities/projects in February 2019. There have been no further net asset reinvestment requests since.
- Fiscal Policy
 - **Member Dues Recommendation:** In accordance with BOC charge, discussed member dues rates for Calendar Year 2020 and did not recommend a dues increase for Calendar Year 2020 dues.
 - **Member Value and Dues Task Force:** Reviewed and provided feedback for Treasurer's Report to Council in response to Resolutions 10 and 11 regarding Dues and Member Value
 - **Operating Reserves:** Reviewed ACR-ACRA Operating Reserve and made recommendation to align reserve by legal entity.
 - **Socially Responsible Investing:** Reviewed options for socially responsible investing, weighing pros and cons, and recommended no change to the current passive-investment strategy.
- Held executive sessions with Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, and external audit firm

Respectfully submitted,

James V. Rawson, MD, MS, FACR
Treasurer, Budget & Finance Committee

2019 Annual Report

Bylaws Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- The Committee implemented Resolution 44, memorialized by the 2019 Council. Article II, Membership, Section 1, Classes of Membership, required Members and Associate Members to maintain at least 10 consecutive years of membership to be eligible for a Fellowship nomination. The resolution removed the terms “consecutive” and “without interruption” to encourage those members who otherwise would not meet the criteria due to a gap in their membership to be nominated.
- The Bylaws Committee considers suggestions for amendment of the ACR Bylaws. The goal of the committee is to work with other college commissions and committees to improve the Bylaws and keep them current.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert L. Blumberg, MD, FACR
Chair, Bylaws Committee

2019 Annual Report

Ethics Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- ACR staff configured a website dedicated to the secure transmission of images in which complainants can submit images related to ethics cases considered by the Committee. Site accessibility is limited to members of the Ethics Committee and staff. Select independent reviewers may receive access on a case by case basis.
- The Committee dismissed a matter involving expert witness testimony due to insufficient supporting evidence.
- One member was involved in two separate serious matters considered by the Committee. In lieu of a hearing, the Committee conducted a meeting in absentia of the respondent. The Committee determined the medical physicist violated the College's Code of Ethics as delineated in Article XI, Ethics and Discipline, Section 3, Rules of Ethics, which states:

"Members' behavior should conform to high standards of ethical, legal, and professional conduct. Any activity that fails to conform to the standards compromises the member's personal integrity and casts aspersions on the College and the medical profession."

The Committee voted to remove the member from the rolls of the College by expulsion.

- Two separate complaints related to expert witness testimony were received. Both matters remain under review.
- The Committee continues to review reports of federal and state law enforcement investigations, verdicts, and settlements that involve ACR members. However, the Committee does not itself investigate matters until litigation has concluded through an adjudication of guilt or liability.
- The Committee continues to focus on its goals as established by the 1997 Committee on Ethics: to assist its members and the College in understanding and addressing the dynamic ethical issues that confront diagnostic radiology, radiation oncology, interventional radiology, nuclear medicine, and medical physics. Accordingly, the Committee may contribute articles to JACR and the ACR Bulletin that inform members about relevant ethical challenges in their practices.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter M. Doubilet, MD, PhD, FACR
Chair, Ethics Committee

2019 Annual Report

Governance Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- The Governance Committee was asked to evaluate the practice of appointing the Speaker to both the Audit Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee and make a recommendation. The Committee reviewed the Sarbanes-Oxley-Act of 2002, recommendations from Board Source, CA statutes and other materials prior to delivering the following recommendations to the Board of Chancellors:
 - The Speaker should continue to hold a position on the Budget and Finance Committee as delineated in the ACR Bylaws.
 - The Speaker may and should serve on the Audit Committee as specified in that committee's charter.
 - The Vice Speaker should not serve on the Audit Committee but remain eligible to serve on the Budget and Finance Committee as prescribed in the Bylaws.
- At the 2008 AMCLC, the Council adopted the ACR Electioneering Policy proposed by the Governance Committee to develop binding regulations that govern how candidates might seek ACR elective office. Thereafter, the GC has continued to review the policy to consider any further needed recommendations. The 2019 Committee recommended the following clarifications be addressed in the ACR Election Manual candidate guidelines:
 - Candidates may be introduced at a caucus they would normally attend but should not speak, not even to simply announce their name, state chapter or office sought (no campaigning has been understood and adhered to for some time). Simply raising their hand or standing in a caucus meeting should suffice to allow those in a smaller room to see them.
 - Candidates should decline an invitation to a caucus they do not normally attend.
 - If the outgoing Speaker is a candidate for a contested position, she or he is allowed to attend caucuses as a normal business practice of the presiding officer of the Council. The Speaker is not limited only to her or his normal caucus.
 - If a candidate has ACR business that warrants attending caucus meetings, she or he must petition the Speaker, Vice Speaker, and Chair of the CNC for permission to attend multiple caucuses, and then only to conduct such business.
 - The GC is still not favorably disposed to use of electronic media even to simply announce one's candidacy for an office.
- The GC surveyed the Board of Chancellors (BOC) and Council Steering Committee (CSC) in June 2019 to obtain demographic information pertaining to age, gender, ethnic identity, primary area of practice, and geographic representation. The Committee sought to assess whether the BOC and CSC have a balanced representation of constituencies. No formal recommendations were made.
- The committee continues to focus on its overall goals: (1) to address issues of governance and representation within the College and (2) to monitor and evaluate the College's election process.

Respectfully submitted,

William T. Herrington, MD, FACR
Chair, Governance Committee

2019 Annual Report

Intersociety Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

A. Goals

- To promote collegiality within the field of radiology.
- To foster and encourage communication and interchange among the national radiological societies.
- To identify, evaluate, and make recommendations on problems and areas of concern in radiology identified by the member societies or at the Summer Conferences.
- To establish and promote communication among the leaders of national radiological societies and to provide them with open access to all the resources of the ACR through the Committee.
- To establish the agenda for and conduct an annual Summer Conference.

B. Accomplishments

- 2019 Summer Conference

The Intersociety Summer Conference was held August 9-11, 2019 at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA. The topic was “Fostering Wellness and Professional Fulfillment by Developing High Functioning Teams.” Sixty (60) attendees represented 29 societies.

Invited guest speakers were Tait Shanafelt, MD, Chief Wellness Officer, Stanford University Medical Center, and C. Matthew Hawkins, MD, Director, Pediatric Interventional Radiology, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

As a follow-up to the meeting, a Statement of Professionalism developed by the ISC Executive Committee has been sent to attending societies for their review. The adoption of the Statement of Professionalism will be discussed at the 2020 Summer Conference.

- 2020 Summer Conference

The August 7-9, 2020 Intersociety Summer Conference will be held at The Chateaux Deer Valley in Park City, UT. The tentative topic is “Healing the Professional Culture Gaps in Radiology.”

- ISC Executive Committee

A special thank you to the two members who rotated off this past year, Cheri L. Canon, MD, and Carolyn C. Meltzer, MD, for their excellent service and input to this group. The committee continues to embrace and include representative thought leaders in our field, and I am pleased to announce the current committee members (new members in italics):

Lori A. Deitte, MD; Peter R. Eby, MD; *Laura K. Findeiss, MD*; Iris C. Gibbs, MD; *Sonia Gupta, MD*; *Courtney Raybon, MD*; Derek L. West, MD.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan B. Kruskal, MB, ChB, PhD, FACR, FSAR

Chair, Intersociety Committee

Journal of the American College of Radiology (JACR)

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- The JACR has achieved an Impact Factor of 3.785, its 7th consecutive increase in impact factor year-over-year. The JACR ranks 25th among the 128 journals in the Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Medical Imaging category, an increase from our previous rank of 28 and outpacing several peer publications.
- The JACR published two special issues and two supplements, in addition to the monthly print issue. The [Health Equity Special Issue](#) was released in April. The [Quality and Data Science Special Issue](#) published in September. ACR Appropriateness Criteria supplements were released in [May](#) and [November](#).
- A [joint publication](#) with RSNA, CAR, and ESR was released Oct. 1 and delved into the ethics of AI in radiology. The publication resulted in coverage in [Politico](#), in addition to [HealthImaging](#) and [Radiology Business](#).
- JACR reviewers are now eligible for up to 15 SA-CME credits per year, as a means of rewarding our reviewers and encouraging high-quality reviews.
- The [JACR Reviewer Toolkit](#), created by K. Elizabeth Hawk, MD, PhD, launched at RSNA. The resource includes CME credit and will educate radiologists on completing a quality review. This document serves as the backbone of a reviewer education program that will be rolling out in 2020. It will include in-person trainings at institutions, chapter meetings, and larger medical meetings.
- A new [Reviewer Recognition and Awards Program](#) acknowledges those who have a longstanding contribution to the journal with gold and silver levels for lifetime high-quality reviews. Six silver medals were awarded at the 2019 RSNA editorial board meeting.
- Consulting statistical experts have been engaged to review manuscripts on an as-needed basis.
- The journal launched a private practice initiative, beginning with two focus groups held at ACR 2019. To better address this readership's needs, a [private practice special collection](#) was released online and in print in August 2019 and distributed at the fall RLI meeting. A focus issue on Private Practice will be guest edited by Robert Pyatt and Amy Patel in early 2021. A recurring column titled Private Practice Perspective will begin in 2020.
- The JACR.org site has been redesigned to be more user friendly and up to date with continued updating of relevant online-only special collections.
- The Hillman Fellowship in Scholarly Publishing welcomed the 2019 fellow (Hansel Otero, MD) in September. His project will focus on supporting ACR Innovation Fund recipients in publishing their findings in scholarly journals.
- JACR continues to innovate in the social media space, with robust presence on Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram. #JACR tweet chats reach millions of users each month and connect the journal and specialty with stakeholders throughout healthcare.

Areas of Concern:

Key areas of concern for the ACR, BOC, or profession moving forward include (please list in the order of importance):

- Maintaining our first-mover advantage in content recruitment and impact as new, competing journals enter the arena with overlapping scope (e.g., *Radiology: Artificial Intelligence*, *Radiology: Imaging Cancer*, *Healthcare: The Journal of Delivery Science and Innovation* from Academy Health).

- Balancing the need to publish rigorous science (which supports the use of our content in payment and policy decision as well as a rising journal impact factor) while presenting content of interest to all ACR members.

Member Value:

Please describe how your current activities provide value to ACR members. Please note that the value may be to a particular demographic group (e.g., subspecialty, age, gender). **Please ensure that the Member value is easily understood by the rank-and-file Member.**

- JACR informs, educates, and engages radiologists and other physicians, giving them the information and tools they need to provide evidence-based, patient-centric imaging care while moving the science of radiology forward.
- JACR publishes novel material that will help shape health care policy and the economics of imaging-related practice while remaining focused on delivering patient care efficiently and effectively.
- JACR offers SA-CME credit to both readers and peer reviewers, the vast majority of whom are ACR members.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth C. Carlos, MD, MS, FACR
Editor-in-Chief: *JACR*

2019 Annual Report

RSNA-ACR Public Information Website Committee

The following items were accomplishments of the Committee in 2019:

- Continued record number of visitors topping 2.5 million unique visits in 5 months of 2019 and nearly 2.3 million unique visits in January 2020, a record for January.
- In order to ensure all content is accessible by the largest audience, we have worked hard to improve the readability of all content on the site, specifically with regards to reading level. This is an ongoing effort at a complete overhaul. English clinical content is at an average 9.1 Flesch Kincaid Grade Level (FKGL). 85.33% of English clinical content is currently at 7-9.9 FKGL. Letters to the editors of the JACR and AJR reflecting this commitment to reduce readability level have been accepted for publication.

Respectfully submitted,

Arun Krishnaraj, MD, MPH