



## News You Can Use

February 2021

### [ACC Celebrates Heart Month](#)

To kick off #HeartMonth, ACC CEO Cathy Gates shares the importance of celebrating American Heart Month and some of the activities ACC has planned for the full month. February marks an important time to raise awareness for the prevention of heart disease, and the ACC is thankful to all its members, leaders and staff who work year-long to achieve the shared vision of a world where innovation and knowledge optimize cardiovascular care and outcomes. [Watch the full video.](#)

### [ACC's 2021 Distinguished Awardees Announced](#)

The College has announced the 2021 Distinguished Awardees – representing a diverse group of individuals from around the globe who are tangibly helping to transform cardiovascular care and improve the heart health of patients worldwide. The College looks forward to formally recognizing and honoring their distinguished contributions during Convocation at the hybrid Annual Scientific Session & Expo (ACC.21) in May. [View the full list of awardees.](#) To learn more about the planning for ACC.21, which will take place live in Atlanta, GA, as well as virtually, visit [ACCScientificSession.org](#).

### [New Training Statement Defines Core Competencies For Vascular Medicine Specialists](#)

A new advanced training statement from the ACC, American Heart Association, Society of Vascular Medicine and American College of Physicians defines core competencies required of Level III vascular medicine specialists. The [2021 ACC/AHA/SVM/ACP Advanced Training Statement on Vascular Medicine](#) was published in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* and complements the [ACC 2015 Core Cardiovascular Training Statement \(COCATS 4\)](#) – which defines the training requirements for all clinical cardiologists. The new advanced training statement describes the knowledge and skills necessary for vascular medicine specialists, including the ability to interpret patients' clinical presentation, plan diagnostic testing, apply clinical and laboratory information, and develop appropriate management plans for patients with vascular disease. [Read more.](#)

### [New ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway Provides Checklist For Same-Day Discharge After PCI](#)

A new ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway aims to address the uncertainty around same-day discharge after PCI and provides a checklist of clinical, social and facility/systems factors that clinicians can use to help determine whether a patient can be safely considered for same-day discharge. The Pathway, published Jan. 7 in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, provides an overview of the evolution of PCI and resulting improvements in safety and efficacy that make it possible for same-day discharge to occur with select adult patients without observed increases in other complications, mortality and readmissions. It also highlights the benefits of same-day discharge after PCI in leading to efficient resource utilization, including increased inpatient bed availability and reduced costs related to supplies and room and board. [Read more.](#)

## **The ACC to Hold Virtual Career Fair March 11**

For the second consecutive year, the ACC is proud and excited to hold a Virtual Career Fair. On March 11, 2021, from 5 to 8 p.m. ET, ACC members will be able to meet with leading employers from across the country as they seek to advance their careers. [Interested job seekers can register here](#), and practices and institutions looking to sign up as employers [can do so here](#).

## **[ACC Issues Updated Guidance For Managing Patients With HFrEF](#)**

The ACC has released an updated Expert Consensus Decision Pathway providing guidance and recommendations on streamlining clinical care to achieve optimal outcomes for patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF). The document, published Jan. 11 in the [Journal of the American College of Cardiology](#), is an update to the [2017 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway For Optimization of Heart Failure Treatment](#). Led by Chair **Thomas M. Maddox, MD, MSc, FACC**, and Vice Chair **James L. Januzzi, Jr., MD, FACC**, the Pathway aims to address 10 “pivotal” issues that remain unresolved in clinical guidelines related to how to implement guideline-directed medical therapy; how to address specific challenges like referral, care coordination, specific patient cohorts, etc.; and how to manage areas of increasing complexity, comorbidities and palliative care. [Read more](#).

## **JACC Leadership Page Highlights Value of NCDR in Advancing Patient Care and Outcomes**

“To improve patient outcomes, we must accurately measure, reliably compare, and constantly improve the quality of care we deliver,” write ACC President Athena Poppas, MD, FACC, and NCDR Oversight Committee Chair Frederick A. Masoudi, MD, MSPH, FACC, in a [JACC Leadership Page](#) highlighting the ways ACC’s NCDR registries are consistently delivering on this aspirational goal. In addition to helping hospitals, practices and institutions improve the care provided to patients, Masoudi and Poppas underscore the value inherent in registry-derived research, as well as the integration of education and quality improvement activities into the registry experience. They also offer a glimpse at the future of the NCDR, and a focus going forward on four objectives: 1) reducing the burden of data collection while exploring additional sources of data; 2) enhancing NCDR value to stakeholders; 3) promoting local, regional, national, and international quality improvement; and 4) supporting population health management through advocacy and generalizable information.” [Read more](#).

## **JACC Journals Accepting Manuscripts For 2021 Focus Issues**

To grow the body of literature surrounding diabetes and heart failure, *JACC: Heart Failure* [is accepting submissions](#) for a focus issue on this topic planned for August of this year. Submissions are due on or before April 2. Responding to the need for expanded knowledge on emerging trends, novel treatment approaches and outcomes for patients with AL and ATTR amyloidosis, *JACC: CardioOncology* [is inviting research](#) for a special issue planned for Winter of this. Submissions are due on or before April 15. Learn more and access tips for publishing in the [JACC.org Author Center](#)