

ImageGuideEcho

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW ECHO-SPECIFIC REGISTRY OPENS ENROLLMENT, AIMS TO IMPROVE QUALITY IN CV IMAGING

Durham, NC (January 29, 2018) – The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is pleased to announce that ImageGuideEcho™, a module under the ImageGuide Registry® platform, is now open to enrollment for U.S.-based physicians. ImageGuideEcho is the first registry exclusively devoted to measuring quality in cardiovascular ultrasound. Its mission is to provide the framework necessary to support a community of cardiology labs committed to patient-centered imaging, patient safety, outcome improvement, practice transformation, and innovation through ongoing data collection and quality improvement.

ASE President Vera Rigolin, MD, FASE said, "The launch of ImageGuideEcho reflects a key Society objective years in the making, and we are thrilled to begin its realization. We look forward to the continued development and growth of the registry as ASE puts echo data into the hands of its physicians with the ultimate goal of improving quality of care for our patients."

Participation in the ImageGuide Registry will assist cardiovascular imaging physicians with satisfying Medicare reporting requirements under the MIPS legislation. Furthermore, targeted quality measures assessing echo-specific metrics allow echo labs to receive valuable feedback unique to the modality. Through examination of these quality metrics, imaging physicians have the capability to both inform healthcare decisions and quantify quality improvement in a way that has not previously been undertaken.

Sherif Nagueh, MD, FASE, Medical Director of the Echocardiography Laboratory at Houston Methodist Hospital and Chair of the ASE Registry Committee, states, "Lab managers can look to this registry to provide quality feedback metrics per individual physician and across the entire lab in comparison to national standards. This feedback loop is essential to continual quality improvement. The volume of patient encounters expected in this registry will also be an advantage for future imaging research efforts."

ASE is pleased to partner with Gold Level supporter Lantheus Medical Imaging and Silver Level supporters Bracco Diagnostics Inc. and the National Board of Echocardiography within the ImageGuideEcho module. By working with these stakeholders, ASE looks forward to driving the field of echocardiography forward in quality, advocacy efforts, and technology development for the benefit of physicians and patients alike.

ImageGuideEcho is a free member benefit for U.S.-based physicians in 2018. ASE, with its partners support, is underwriting the cost of the enrollment to benefit the field of cardiovascular ultrasound.

For more information and enrollment, please visit ImageGuideEcho.org or contact info@imageguideecho.org. Labs that have already signed up for enrollment information will be updated as news is available.

As the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging, the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines. Comprised of over 17,000 physicians, sonographers, nurses, and scientists, ASE is a strong voice providing guidance, expertise, and education to its members with a commitment to improving the practice of ultrasound and imaging of the heart and cardiovascular system for better patient outcomes. For more information about ASE, visit <u>ASEcho.org</u> or ASE's public information site, <u>SeeMyHeart.org</u>.

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