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NEW GUIDELINE PUBLISHED FOR EVALUATION OF VALVULAR REGURGITATION AFTER CATHETER-BASED VALVE INTERVENTIONS

April 22, 2019, Durham, NC – Valvular regurgitation is a prevalent cardiac disorder, in which one or more of the heart's valves "leak," often leading to extra burdens on the heart muscle and requiring treatment. Catheter-based interventions to treat Valvular Heart Disease (VHD) have increased over the past few years with the advent of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR), edge-to-edge mitral valve repair, and other investigative devices to repair or replace diseased valves. Guidelines to assess the results of these interventions are lacking, but a new document, [**Guidelines for the Evaluation of Valvular Regurgitation After Percutaneous Valve Repair or Replacement: A Report from the American Society of Echocardiography Developed in Collaboration with the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, Japanese Society of Echocardiography, and Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance**](#), provides a resource to guide clinicians in best practices for approaching valvular regurgitation after repair or replacement of a valve. This document supplements the previously published guideline [**Recommendations for Evaluation of Prosthetic Valves with Echocardiography and Doppler Ultrasound**](#).

ASE's Chair of the writing group, William A. Zoghbi, MD, MACC, FASE, of Houston Methodist DeBakey Heart & Vascular Center in Houston, Texas, commented, "This new guideline is timely, as cardiologists and valvular heart disease specialists need consensus on how to evaluate results of catheter-based valve repair or replacement — novel approaches that help many patients with valve disease." Echocardiography is essential in the evaluation of valvular regurgitation after percutaneous interventions and is the first-line tool for evaluation of procedural results. Its assessment, however, is more difficult than in native valvular regurgitation because of the multitude of procedures and hardware involved. This highlights the need for an integrative approach of all information gleaned from various parameters.

The document outlines in detail the technical considerations and imaging techniques, as well as the value that 3D echocardiography and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging can add to the diagnostic process. It delves into specific issues with each type of regurgitation, namely mitral regurgitation (MR), aortic regurgitation (AR), tricuspid regurgitation (TR), and pulmonary regurgitation (PR). The document includes nine useful tables summarizing techniques and advantages of each modality, as well as 23 figures to illustrate various concepts.

In conjunction with the publication of this guideline Dr. Zoghbi will conduct a live webinar, including a question and answer section this June. The webinar will be available for free to all ASE members and open to all other clinicians for just \$25. Registration and all ASE-hosted guideline webinars are available on ASEUniversity.org.

The full guideline document is available on the *Journal of American Society of Echocardiography* (JASE) website (OnlineJASE.com). This document and all ASE Guideline documents are also available to the medical community at ASEcho.org/Guidelines.

About ASE

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 ASEcho.org or ASE's public information site, SeeMyHeart.org.