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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NEW ASE GUIDELINE FOCUSES ON THE ACQUISITION OF ESSENTIAL TRANSESOPHAEGAL ECHOCARDIOGRAM IMAGES FOR STRUCTURAL HEART DISEASE ASSESSMENT BEFORE INTERVENTION**

January 11, 2022, Durham, NC – As the increasing number of structural heart interventions are assisted by real-time imaging guidance, interventional echocardiography is being recognized as a subspecialty requiring advanced training for intraprocedural guidance. The new guideline document from the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), [Standards for the Performance of Transesophageal Echocardiographic Screening for Structural Heart Intervention](#), focuses on providing a teaching resource for this growing population of specialists. The guideline elucidates and standardizes the acquisition of essential pre-interventional transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) images to help accurately identify the mechanism of structural/valvular dysfunction, the hemodynamic as well as anatomic severity of the disease, and specific anatomic features to facilitate appropriate device selection or exclusion. This peer-reviewed guideline, created by 14 international echocardiographers who are experts in this emerging field, has been endorsed by 25 ASE International Alliance Partners and is published in the January 2022 issue of the [Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography](#).

Lead guideline author Rebecca T. Hahn, MD, FASE, said, "The guideline is intended for the Level II or III echocardiographer whose pre-procedural imaging becomes the backbone of structural heart disease (SHD) procedural planning for the heart team. The structured imaging acquisition protocols and extensive figures and tables in this document show examples of the protocols and should benefit all echocardiographers involved in the care of SHD patients. ASE has been an early adopter of the concept that Interventional Echocardiography is a new subspecialty. As with other developing clinical imaging needs, ASE has taken the lead on defining the training and competencies required for Interventional Echocardiography, and has now taken the first step to standardizing the education around this exciting new field with this guideline."

In conjunction with the publication of this guideline as an article in press in November, Dr. Hahn conducted two live webinars in December 2021.

- [Part 1: Introduction to the Guidelines and Review of Aortic and Mitral Imaging](#)
- [Part 2: Guidelines and Review of Tricuspid and Interatrial Septum/LAA Imaging Protocols](#)

This document and all ASE Guideline documents are also available to the online at [ASEcho.org/Guidelines](https://ASEcho.org/Guidelines).

### **About ASE**

The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the Society for Cardiovascular Ultrasound Professionals™. Founded in 1975, ASE is the largest global organization representing cardiovascular ultrasound imaging. ASE is the leader and advocate for physicians, sonographers, scientists, veterinarians, students, and all those with an interest in echocardiography, setting practice standards and guidelines for the field. The Society is committed to advancing cardiovascular ultrasound to improve lives. For more information about ASE, visit: [ASEcho.org](https://ASEcho.org) and follow us [@ASE360](https://twitter.com/ASE360).