SCMR 13th Annual Scientific Sessions
January 21 – 24, Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel

This year’s scientific program has been developed to emphasize learning in three targeted tracks: General CMR, Congenital/Pediatric, and Basic Science, providing attendees the opportunity to focus on their own individual and specialized needs.

Key Dates:
- December 21: Hotel Reservation Deadline
- December 31: Early Meeting Registration Deadline
- January 21: Physician and Basic Science Pre-Conference Courses
- January 22 – 24: Technologist Workshop
- January 22 – 24: Scientific Sessions

In addition to the educational program offerings, the Scientific Sessions will, once again, include a CMR Technology Update, the CMR Interactive Questionnaire, and 436 abstracts to be presented by your colleagues from across the globe.

Andrew Arai, 2010 Program Chair and Sven Plein, 2010 Abstract Chair

SCMR Regional Scholarship Awards
Financial support to attend the 2010 Scientific Sessions

The SCMR Education Committee has awarded scholarships to the following trainees and young professionals to attend the 2010 SCMR annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona:

Asia
Charaslak Charoenpanichkit, MD
Ramathibodi Hospital

Canada
Nowell Fine, MD
London Health Sciences Center

Europe
Ingo Eitel, MD
University Leipzig

USA
Peng Hu, PhD
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

USA
JiaDe Yu, BS
University of Virginia

The award is to encourage trainees and young professionals to attend the Annual Scientific Sessions and become active in SCMR. Two winners are selected each year from the region where the meeting is held, plus one each from other regions.

Congratulations to all of the recipients!

Don’t forget to sign up for e-mail alerts for new articles posted on the JCMR website at: www.jcmr-online.com/alerts

US Chapter Updates

Coding and Reimbursement:
SCMR has worked closely with the ACC and ACR on flow/velocity quantification coding. As of January 1, 2010, CMR practitioners will have a new add-on code to report flow quantification (75565), which is an important addition to CMR studies, and is accorded an RVU of 0.25. As a result of this new code for flow quantification, four previous codes (codes 75558, 75560, 75562, and 75564) will be deleted as of January 1, 2010 - all of which incorporated the previously non-covered flow quantification.

National Coverage Analysis:
SCMR has again worked with the ACC and ACR on a revision to the National Coverage Analysis requesting that CMS remove reference to blood flow measurement in the National Coverage Determination (NCD) that describes nationally non-covered indications. This fall the NCD was released and CMS recognized the clinical importance of flow quantification and removed its restriction of "blood flow measurement" coverage. This determination is in concert with the new add-on flow code described above.

SCMR will continue to work with payors to make them aware of these coding changes, educate them on the importance of flow measurements in certain CMR indications, and to review their payment policies for the add-on code.

The SCMR Board of Trustees and the SCMR Headquarters Staff wish you and your families a happy, healthy, holiday season and new year!

Please send comments and content for future issues of this newsletter to Lon Simonetti (simonetti.9@osu.edu).

Upcoming Meetings:
January 21 - 24
SCMR Thirteen Annual Scientific Sessions in Phoenix, Arizona, USA

February 13 – 18
SPIE Medical Imaging, San Diego, CA

February 24 – 26
AHA/ASA International Stroke Conference, San Antonio, TX

February 24 – 28
ISMRM: Current Concepts of Motion Correction for MRI & MRS, Kitzbuehel, Austria

March 4 – 8
European Congress of Radiology ECR 2010, Vienna, Austria

March 14 – 16
ACC 59th Annual Scientific Session, Atlanta, GA

April 14 – 17
IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

May 1 – 7
ISMRM-ESMRMB Joint Annual Meeting, Stockholm, Sweden

May 27 – 29
EuroCMR 2010, Florence, Italy

Please don’t hesitate to inform us about meetings you consider relevant to this newsletter

Visit our website www.scmr.org - to stay informed!