



The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions

Society News

SCAI's Interventional Committee: An Invitation to Help Guide Your Professional Challenges Through Changing Times

The strength of the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI) lies in its members. And, like many medical societies, SCAI get its much of their work accomplished by organizing into committees. SCAI has done this for nearly three decades, putting member-volunteers to work in the areas that interest them most in any of a host of standing and ad-hoc committees. However, SCAI has put a rather unique and regularly modern twist on this traditional association structure: SCAI committees are open to all members in good standing. As the comments below, by SCAI Interventional Committee Chair Lloyd W. Klein M.D., FSCAI, convey, members are enthusiastically welcomed, their ideas embraced, allowing them to begin making an immediate and positive impact on their profession and their patients. It's often as simple as showing up and expressing interest.

With this Society News update, we launch the first of an occasional series of articles written by SCAI committee chairs — the Fellows who often do the welcoming when members sit in on a committee meeting, interested but perhaps unsure how they can contribute. Dr. Klein offers his perspective on some of the many accomplishments and activities of the Interventional Committee, whose long-standing mission is “to critically review current and future trends in the field of Interventional Cardiology and make recommendations to the Interventional Cardiology community to provide support and recommendations to other committees of the Society as requested.”



Lloyd W. Klein, M.D., FSCAI, Chair, SCAI Interventional Committee.

Dr. Klein is a professor of medicine at Rush Medical College in Chicago and the director of Research and Program Development at Gottlieb Memorial Hospital in Melrose Park, Ill.

This is an exciting time to be an interventional cardiologist! In almost every respect, the profession is experiencing breakneck change and growth. In response to such rapid evolution, SCAI's Interventional Committee has developed a broad, aggressive agenda designed to help guide the growth. The committee's activities build on the important efforts of my predecessor, Randy Bottner, M.D., FSCAI.

DOI 10.1002/ccd.20196

Published online in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com).



A subcommittee of “early-career” interventionalists has formed to examine and respond to the concerns of those whose careers are just getting underway.

Our members are dedicated to addressing the important policy issues facing interventional cardiology across the country and internationally. Our agenda encompasses many key medical, health care policy, and occupational questions relevant to contemporary practice.

The committee brings together interventionalists from all practice types (e.g., private practice, academic, government) and from all environments (e.g., urban, suburban, and rural; from both the United States and abroad). Represented on the committee are cardiologists at all points in their careers — from long-timers who recall the early days of the profession to those just launching their careers. We are especially proud that many early-career interventionalists are active members of the committee. All of the committee’s members have their own research and practice interests as well as their personal perspective about the issues we are tackling. These various vantage points encompass the views of SCAI members. This great diversity is our core strength.

Another attribute of our membership is spirited volunteerism and willingness to work hard. This committee is quite active all year round, mostly because everyone participates, investing as much time as their practice demands and interests allow. We are a “can-do” committee that sets high standards and then gets the job done by the self-imposed deadline. Our members take the committee’s work seriously because we know that we are helping the profession and our patients.

Here is just a sample of the subjects we have recently addressed and are currently working on —

- Initiated the SCAI Drug-Eluting Stent (DES) Position Statement Task Force (chaired by John McB. Hodgson, M.D., FSCAI) to meet the urgent need of interventionalists to have a clear policy on DES usage starting immediately after the devices were introduced to the U.S. marketplace;
- Developed guidelines for the prevention and management of the no-reflow phenomenon, which I led;
- Created an occupational safety analysis of orthopedic problems in our profession, led by James Goldstein, M.D., FSCAI;
- Created several PDA programs for use by the SCAI membership, including downloadable programs on anaphylactoid reactions and no-reflow. We are currently developing a program for assessing lesion morphology based on the SCAI lesion classification system developed by Ron Krone, M.D., FSCAI. [You can download the existing programs onto your handheld device from <http://www.apprisor.com/dlselect.cfm>];
- Designed a mechanism for electronically surveying the membership on issues such as infection control, radiation safety, groin closure, and many others, spearheaded by Bonnie H. Weiner, M.D., FSCAI;
- Revised guidelines on the use of ad-hoc PCI, led by James Blankenship, M.D., FSCAI;
- Created a subcommittee for young interventional cardiologist to join and set their own agenda according to their interests; and
- Recently created a subcommittee led by Jim Dwyer, M.D. and Tom Wharton, M.D., to address the emerging issue of cath labs with off-site surgical backup.

In summary, the Interventional Committee has rapidly become an important center of activity for our Society. It is a vehicle that will enable you to address critical issues and it provides a very rewarding way for you to directly contribute to shaping the future of our profession. The committee is extremely active, constantly pursuing an ambitious agenda in our rapidly changing field. We are dedicated to working and volunteering to best serve our patients. We meet during the SCAI, ACC, AHA, and TCT meetings, with considerable interaction between those gatherings. If you would like to become a member, please send me an e-mail at lloydklein@comcast.net. I urge you to join us!