News Flash

Complimentary Webinar: ‘COVID-19 Preparedness for Nuclear Cardiology Labs: Insights from the U.S., China, & Singapore’

ASNC and the Chinese Society of Nuclear Medicine (CSNM) are bringing together global leaders from the United States, China, and Singapore for a complimentary webinar highlighting strategies for mitigating risk of COVID-19 exposure in nuclear cardiology practice.

The discussion will be held on Friday, March 20, at 8:00 PM (US EDT) and will include:

- The patient's journey through the imaging lab, including changes and prioritizing orders, patient and staff precautions, equipment considerations, changes to the interpretation and reporting experiences in the reading room, and more.
- New imaging and test preparation considerations for protecting technologists as they interact with patients.
- Insights from Wuhan and Shanghai, shared by CSNM members based there.
- Successful lessons learned from Singapore.
- Methods to protect nuclear cardiology personnel from potential COVID-19 exposure, and:
-Opportunities for your experience and questions.

Moderated by Dr. Benjamin & Ms. Whanen Sikai, MD, the webinar will feature ASNC President Sharmila Dorbala, CSNM President Shu Li, MD, PhD, and these panelists:

From the U.S: Stephen Blouin, MD, FASNC, Regina Druz, MD, FASNC, and Joanne Fantony, RT(H), CMR

From China: Weiheng Shih, MD, PhD (Shanghai), and Kaihao Luo, MD, PhD (Wuhan)

From Singapore: Felix Kang, MBBS, FASNC, and Hong Meng

ASNC thanks HK-Med for hosting this activity.

COVID-19 NEWS & RESOURCES

CMS Eases QPP Reporting Requirements. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, CMS is extending the MIPS submission deadline of 2019 performance data from March 31, 2020, to April 30, 2020. Clinicians who don't submit data by the new deadline will be disqualified for the "automated exception and uncodable circumstances policy" and will receive a neutral payment adjustment for the 2021 MIPS payment year. Read CMS's press release.

AMA Announces New CPT Code for Lab Tests to Diagnose COVID-19. Effective immediately, the new Category I CPT code and description is 89205 – COVID-19 molecular detection by nucleic acid amplification test (NAT).

CMS Requires Limiting Nonemergent Adult Elective Procedures and Surgeries. CMS says decisions should be made on a case-by-case basis and should consider factors such as current and projected COVID-19 cases, supply of personal protective equipment, bed and ventilator availability, patients' health, and urgency of the procedure. See CMS's current-tiered framework to guide decisions.

CMS Releases Requirements for Medicare’s Telehealth Billing. SCIC will now pay for telehealth visits for dates of service starting March 6, 2020. These telehealth visits will be reimbursed under the Physician Fee Schedule in the same amount as for in-person visits. For details, see CMS's Telehealth Services Fact Sheet.

ASNC will reschedule Nuclear Cardiology News on Mo-99 delivery have been successfully addressed and there have been no “significant transport-related disruptions”. No Significant Disruptions to Mo-99 Transport.

ASNC UPDATES

ASNC Abstract Submission Deadline Extended. The ASNC2020 Program Committee will accept original basic science and clinical research abstracts for consideration through April 24, 2020. Please submit abstracts by the extended deadline.


Early-Career Research Awards Deadlines Extended. The new deadline for both the IANC Research Transportation Grant and the ASNC/Pfizer Young Investigator in Cardiac Amyloidosis Research Fellowship Award is June 15, 2020.

COVID-19 Resource Center

Nuclear Cardiology News


The ASNC team is continuing to work for you. Be safe. Be well.