



SATURDAY

**PICS~AICS 2013
Strengthens Its Focus on
Clinical Cases**

By Damien Kenny, MB, MD and Ziyad M. Hijazi, MD, MPH, FSCAI



The sensational South Beach of Miami provides the backdrop to the 17th Annual Scientific Sessions of PICS~AICS, the largest international meeting dedicated solely to the interventional treatment of patients with Congenital and Structural Heart Disease with approximately 750 attendees expected this year. Miami represents the eighth international city that has hosted the meeting, reflecting sustained efforts to visit new places and make new friends with continued drive to ensure that the scientific and clinical excellence that represents the meeting is maintained. This year's meeting will see the addition of taped cases to the array of live cases that has come to define the meeting; focused clinical experience, that provides the foundation of interventional therapies, will be more evident than ever. Continued emphasis has been placed on emerging technologies, both within device design and technical experience, and also on imaging techniques used to assist interventions. Dedicated non-competitive sessions have been put in place for the oral abstract presentations to ensure that all attendees have the opportunity to assimilate the broad wealth of cutting-edge research and experience presented from 27 different countries. Each day, the *Daily Briefing* from *Congenital Cardiology Today* will detail the events of the meeting and brief you

on major sessions and the latest news. The Directors of the meeting are extremely grateful to Tony Carlson, Richard Koubanis and all the team at *Congenital Cardiology Today* for the unparalleled quality of their continued support for the meeting. The *Daily Briefing* is available at the registration desks and online at www.CongenitalCardiologyToday.com.

The scientific sessions of this year's meeting begin on Saturday, January 19th with the Welcome address from Dr. Ziyad M. Hijazi. Following this, there will be a new session format, a live "Tips and Tricks" session with three world-renowned speakers sharing their collective experience. Dr. Frank Ing will provide insight and visual technical tips for stent preparation and delivery. He will be followed by a précis on evolving surgical access methods to support interventional therapies by Dr. Michel Ilbawi. Finally, Dr. Evan Zahn, as one of the leading experts on transcatheter pulmonary valve replacement, will share his extensive experience with methods to augment success in transcatheter pulmonary valve replacement. The value of this session is to support the clinical and didactic parts of the meeting with a more interactive experiential demonstration. This trend continues in the next session, when Dr. Shak Qureshi will moderate four taped interventional

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cases with patients ranging from fetal life to adulthood, demonstrating the variety of interventional therapies available, and offering the attendees the opportunity to interact with the case operators to discuss their respective approaches to specific lesions.

During lunch, there will be three separate breakout sessions evaluating "Stents in Practice," "Optimization of Device Design" and "Specialist Imaging" techniques.

Following lunch, the focus will switch to the oral abstract presentations, with 21 presentations from around the globe, chosen as the best of almost 150 abstracts submitted to the meeting, the most of any year since its inception. This year, two abstracts are up for the scientific scholarship award, which provides a \$5,000 grant to the winner to support further development of the winner's research project. These, along with the top three chosen abstracts, will be represented during the lunchtime session on Monday, January 21st, for selection of a winner that will be presented with a prize at the Dinner Event on Monday night.

The first of many breakout sessions takes place from 5-6 pm on Saturday evening with the return of the popular "Meet the Experts" session, capping off the day with a significant clinical and scientific focus. The attendees are then invited to a "Welcome Reception" to browse the exhibit hall, and mingle with friends, old and new.

On Sunday, January 20th the presentation of live cases will begin; they will be broadcast throughout each morning of the remaining three days of the conference. *PICS~AICS* remains the standard-bearer for live case demonstrations, beamed from multiple international venues with experienced operators that will demonstrate the latest in medical device technology using approved and investigational devices/valves/stents, etc. The live cases this year will be transmitted live via satellite from 9 different centers in 4 countries across 3 continents. In Miami, we will see the number of collective live cases pass the 300 mark in total, since the inception of the *PICS* meeting.

Following lunch, there will be a session on "Catheterization in the Developing World" with an exciting update on the

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launch of an initiative as a follow-on from the round table discussion at last year's meeting regarding measures to centralize donated equipment. This will be followed by a session on interventional issues in the treatment of "Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome" with a special debate pairing Drs. Shunji Sano and Lee Benson arguing whether "The Sano Procedure Leads to More Favorable Pulmonary Artery Growth Compared to the Hybrid Procedure." There is also a breakout session on "Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion." There will be further breakout sessions throughout the meeting for nurses and technologists and younger interventionalists who are establishing their practice, as well as "Aortic and Mitral Valve Therapies," and a special breakout for those of our Spanish-speaking attendees. Finally, "My Nightmare Case in the Cath Lab" will take place on Tuesday, January 22nd, and again the audience will choose the most deserved case. This will be followed by a final session on "Interventions on the Pulmonary Valve and Pulmonary Arteries," again with a taped case to demonstrate some of the technical challenges with these procedures.

"The annual Dinner Event will take place at Bongos Cuban Café, which overlooks the port of Miami and Biscayne Bay, and is owned by international superstars Gloria and Emilio Estefan."

On Sunday night, there will be an imaging symposium, "Advanced Fluoroscopic Imaging and Fusion Modalities for Congenital and Structural Interventions" co-sponsored by Siemens, Philips and Toshiba. This will highlight the potential benefits and future directions of advanced fluoroscopic imaging, and will provide a significant educational platform

for those interested in updating their interventional imaging capabilities. This symposium requires pre-registration, and therefore, only those with tickets will be granted access as numbers are limited.

Some of the other social highlights of this year's meeting include the first annual PICS~AICS 5km run and 1 mile walk co-sponsored by Siemens. This is to support the Congenital Heart Intervention Mission Support Project (CHIMS) that will be launched during the meeting, and the walk/run will take place at 6:00 am on Monday, January 21st. Please come and support this fun and important event. The annual Dinner Event will take place at Bongos Cuban Café, which overlooks the port of Miami and Biscayne Bay, and is owned by international superstars Gloria and Emilio Estefan.

What's New with PICS 2013 – These have evolved through constructive feedback from attendee's suggestions. Please continue to help us to ensure we provide what you want to see and hear!

- *Tips and Tricks Session* – Live demonstrations of various techniques from world-renowned experts in their fields.
- *Taped Case Sessions* – To augment the learning experience for focused interventions with the ability to stimulate discussion and interaction from the audience.
- *Dedicated time for the full Oral Abstract Presentations*
- *Special Dinner Imaging Symposium* – Sunday, January 20th. Pre-registration required.
- *Lunchtime Breakout sessions* – Saturday, January 19th.
- Return of *Meet the Experts* session – Saturday, January 19th.
- Fun run to support the launch of *Congenital Heart Intervention Mission Support (CHIMS)* – Monday, January 21st, 6:00 – 8:00 am.



Be sure to see the
CONGENITAL CARDIOLOGY TODAY
PICS~AICS Job Board Poster

OVERVIEW OF THE WEEK'S LIVE CASES AT PICS

SUNDAY

8:15-10:30 am - Live Cases
(Córdoba, São Paulo, Riyadh)
Panelists: David Balzer, Manolis Pursanov, Mansour Al-Jufan, Howaida El-Said, Donald Hagler

11:00 am-1:15 pm - Live Cases
(Córdoba, São Paulo, Riyadh) –
Panelists: Levent Saltik, Jae Young Choi, Jacek Bialkowski, Francisco Chamie, Workanan Promphan

MONDAY

8:00-10:15 am - Live Cases (Orlando, Miami, Jackson)
Panelists: Teiji Akagi, Mazeni Alwi, Wei Gao, Dan Gruenstein, John Rhodes

10:45 am-1:00 pm - Live Cases
(Orlando, Miami, Jackson)
Panelists: Donald Hagler, Alex Javois, Masood Sadiq, Robert Vincent, Bryan Goldstein

TUESDAY

8:00-9:40 am - Live Cases (West Palm Beach, Denver, Los Angeles)
Panelists: Jou-Kou Wang, Bryan Goldstein, Terry King, Seong-Ho Kim, Darren Berman

11:50 am-1:00 pm - Live Cases
(Denver, Los Angeles)
Panelists: Yun Ching Fu, Anthony Hlavacek, Chris Petit, Dan Levi, David Nykanen

Exhibit Passport Drawing

for the Apple iPad Mini
Closing Remarks -
Tuesday at 5:00 pm

Winner Must Be Present!



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