



**SEPTEMBER 18<sup>th</sup> - FRIDAY**

## **PICS~AICS 2015 to Showcase the Best in Collaborative Efforts Between Congenital and Structural Heart Disease Interventional Therapies**

*By Karim Diab, MD*

Greetings from Las Vegas and **PICS-AICS 2015**, the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Sessions of this meeting, which is solely dedicated to interventional therapies for congenital, as well as structural heart disease in children and adults. After repeated successful meetings, **PICS-AICS** returns to Vegas with a comprehensive program that will cover various aspects of interventional therapies together with imaging modalities applied during interventional procedures in congenital and structural heart disease, from the neonate to the adult. The **Daily Briefing** from **Congenital Cardiology Today (CCT)** will follow the events of the meeting, and brief you on major sessions and topics and the latest news discussed during the meeting. It will also keep taking photos of the sessions and attendees (and possibly of you!) throughout the meeting. **Make sure to check it in the app every day!!**

This year's meeting focuses on how to overcome greater complexity through collaboration. Hence, you will notice sessions that focus on outlining opportunities for greater integration with adult structural heart disease specialists and congenital surgeons. This will be in sessions that discuss both congenital and structural interventions to try to learn from specialists in both fields. This will include: discussing echocardiographic imaging done by congenital specialists during structural interventions, blood preservation, transeptal techniques and antiplatelet therapy from the structural guys, review of various devices as well as other topics.

This year's meeting was preceded by an **Imaging Symposium** on Thursday evening with discussions concentrated on advanced imaging platforms for cardiac catheterization (if you missed it, check out a summary in a later issue of the **Daily Briefing**).

The live cases remain the focal point of the meeting. After the successful format adopted since 2012, **PICS~AICS** continues with a similar format this year with the morning sessions being dedicated to the live case transmissions, and the afternoon sessions dedicated to didactic and break-out sessions.

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This year, live cases will start the first day of the meeting! Live cases will be beamed from nine national and international venues with experienced operators who 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: Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, India, Las Vegas, Seattle, Columbus, Houston and San Diego.

The popular “Taped Case Sessions” will also continue with three taped cases presented and discussed on both Friday and Saturday. The afternoon sessions on Friday will include: a session focused on **QA/QI issues for the cath lab** and the new accreditation benchmarks for the cath lab that are evolving, including review of the effect of IMPACT data, Multicenter QI initiatives and QA in developing countries. Friday will finish with “Oral Abstract Presentations,” with the best abstracts going forward to an abstract final presentation during Sunday Luncheon. There will also be the **PICS~AICS Award** that day. Don't miss the **PICS~AICS Award**, which will be announced at 5:50 pm.

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>, September, live cases will again take place in the morning and will be followed by taped cases at noon. The highlight of the afternoon will be a special collaborative joint session with the Congenital Surgeons discussing opportunities and obstacles for development of hybrid techniques. This will discuss topics pertaining to hybrid procedures from both the interventionalists' and surgeons' perspectives, myths and truths about CPB, ways

to improve the hybrid room design, hybrid approach to neonates with outflow obstruction, periventricular VSD closure, PV replacement, hybrid intervention for branch PAs, hybrid for HLHS as well as others. There will also be a Structural Heart Breakout session entitled, "Innovations in Structural Heart Disease" focusing on MV and LA appendage interventions, TV and Aortic valve disease and PFO and paravalvar leaks. There will be further breakout sessions for nurses and technologists and younger interventionalists who are establishing their practice. In addition, the "Meet the Experts" session will also take place in the afternoon.

Sunday will start off with morning sessions focusing on updates on clinical trials, such as device development and EFS, atrial decompression and Heart Failure and PARCS and COAST II trials. There will also be discussions on Occlusion devices studies, followed by discussion of futuristic and promising approaches, such as the long-awaited bioresorbable stents and occlusion devices, stem cell technology, holography, the use of various access approaches and protocols. The afternoon sessions will focus on some controversies in CHD interventions, such as palliation in NBs with TOF, complex aortic arch stenting vs surgical repair, risk of erosion in ASD closure, transcatheter perimembranous VSD closure and closure of AP collaterals in patients with a single ventricle. There will also be continuation of the *special breakout for our Spanish speaking attendees*, discussing fetal cardiac interventions, long-term outcome in PA/IVS and others. The last session of the afternoon will focus on valve interventions in CHD, such as updates on the Melody valve, valve-in-valve interventions and the COMPASSION data. The day will end with the **PICS~AICS Gala Dinner**.

The last day of the meeting will again start off with live cases in the morning, followed by a special session that focuses on new interventions in extremely premature infants, such as PDA device closure, Hybrid for HLHS, special imaging during interventions in this high risk population, RVOT stenting and CPB. Other popular sessions, including "My Nightmare Case in the Cath Lab" will ensure the opportunity for discussion and learning from each other's experiences. The final afternoon will provide a competitive feel, as *the girls will challenge the boys* to a "Best Case" lunchtime session followed by a "Battle of the Continents," a quiz-based session on all aspects of catheterization, with the winner claiming global victory and dominance!

Of course, the *Poster Abstracts* will be displayed throughout the meeting. **PICS** will continue its support for younger interventionalists with the *Young Leadership Program*, and the winner receiving faculty status and involvement in the meeting. Additional awards include: **The Charles S. Kleinman, MD Scientific Scholarship Award**, in memory of Dr. Charlie Kleinman, who was so close to the **PICS** family. The winner will receive a \$5,000 grant towards their research endeavor.

Hence, this year **PICS-AICS** promises an extensive educational program that goes beyond ground-breaking science and interventional device technology with multiple sessions presented in a variety of formats, and discussing emerging technologies and learning from specialists in both congenital, as well as structural heart disease.

For more on the meeting's events and hot topics, keep checking the **Daily Briefing** from **CCT** on your app!

## Live Cases at PICS~AICS 2015

By Karim Diab, MD

As usual, the live cases represent the backbone of the **PICS~AICS**. These cases provide a unique educational experience, and are a major highlight of **PICS~AICS**. Leaders in cardiac interventions from various worldwide locations present to the audience live procedures with many times the need to take decisions during the live transmission, which allows the audience to experience live what interventionalists have to deal with during challenging cases. Las Vegas will see the collective live case number surpass 300 in total since the inception of the **PICS~AICS**.



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On Friday, live case transmissions will take off at **PICS~AICS 2015**. This year, cases will be beamed from nine national and international venues with live satellite transmission from: Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, India, Las Vegas, Seattle, Columbus, Houston and San Diego.

There will be a total of 18 (possibly 19!) live cases this year, which will be transmitted via satellite as follows:

• **Friday September 18<sup>th</sup>:**

- **From Cordoba, Argentina:** Drs Peirone and Ferrero and their team will perform a ASD closure using the Nit-Occlud device, PFO closure using the new pfm Nit Occlud PFO device and PDA closure using the pfm Nit Occlud PDA-R device

**From Sao Paolo, Brazil:** Drs. C. Pedra, S. Pedra and R. Costa will be performing: closure of Aorto-Pulmonary window, ASD closure using the Figulla Flex II ASD Occluder, and possible a third case for PDA closure using the Occlutech Ductal Occluder

- **From Riyadh, Saudi Arabia:** Drs. M Aljufan, F. AlFadley and M. alAhmadi will perform cases including: percutaneous Fontan completion in SV patients and hybrid PPIV

• **Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>:**

- **From Mumbai, India:** Drs. B. Dalvi, P. Kerkar, R Pinto will perform cases including: ASD closure using the Amplatzer Septal Occluder with Balloon Assisted Technique, closure of ruptured sinus of Valsalva with amplatzer Duct Occluder

- **From Las Vegas, Nevada:** Drs. A Galindo and A Rothman will attempt percutaneous placement of an Edwards Sapien valve, and a case of closure of perimembranous VSD using the Amplatzer Duct Occluder II

- **From San Diego, California:** Drs. J. Moore and H. AISaid will perform 2 cases of occlusion of arterial feeders of AVM, and a case of Melody valve implantation

• **Monday September 21<sup>st</sup>:**

- **From Columbus, Ohio:** Drs. D. Berman, A. Armstrong and C. Daniels will perform a case of transcatheter PV implantation using the Melody Valve, transcatheter CardioEMS implantation

- **From Houston, Texas:** Drs. H. Justino and A. Qureshi will perform percutaneous splenic puncture and possible placement of device in portosystemic shunt, balloon dilatation and stenting of Pulmonary vein stent and a case of transcatheter VSD closure

- **From Seattle, Washington:** Drs. T. Jones, A. Rubio, T. Johnston and B. Morray will perform two cases of transcatheter PV implantation, one using a 3D reconstruction of RVOT conduit

## Sign up Now for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PICS~AICS 5K Run Sponsored by Siemens Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 am - You'll Be Making a Difference and Supporting CHIMS - Congenital Heart Intervention Mission Support!

*By Karim Diab, MD and Damien Kenny, MD*

**PICS 2015** marks the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PICS~AICS 5km Run/1 mile Walk** co-sponsored by Siemens. This run/walk is to support the **Congenital Heart Intervention Mission Support (CHIMS)** project that was launched during **PICS 2013**. The organization has been very active in providing a coordinated and sustainable benefit to interventional catheterization for structural heart disease in developing countries through centralizing and consolidating pre-existing charitable mission work. It focuses on three main approaches:

1. Centralizing all unused and donated equipment relevant to cardiac catheterization from catheter laboratories in North America to a central repository with provision of an online inventory facilitating those involved in mission work to pre-order required equipment to support the intended procedures for their mission.
2. Developing a registry of missions involved in congenital catheterization in the developing world and also a registry of interventionalists, nurses and technologists who would like to support this work.
3. Developing channels for bipartisan educational support with the ultimate aim of ensuring a sustainable self-sufficient catheterization program in emerging countries interested in developing local programs.

**EXHIBITORS Will Be Available Throughout the Symposium in the Juniper Ballroom, Level 3**

We encourage you to visit the exhibits.

***This year we will be having an Exhibitor Passport Game for a chance to win an Apple Watch.***

The object of the game is to completely validate your passport by visiting all the booths and getting a stamp.

**Turn your completed Passport in at the Registration Desk**

*The drawing for an Apple Watch will be Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm. The winner must be in attendance.*



# FRIDAY

The project has organizational support through the **PICS Foundation**, as well as from the **International Children's Heart Foundation** and the **PICES** group, an organization supporting younger interventionalists internationally.

The work at **CHIMS** is far from imaginary and many steps have already taken place on the ground. Since CHIMS inception, over 20 centers have shipped equipment to a centralized repository in Memphis through a cost-free shipping service supported by the **International Children's Heart Fund**. Beginning in June 2013, a **CHIMS** volunteer traveled to the warehouse to begin the process of sorting, categorizing and shelving the 60-plus boxes of donated equipment. An inventory system has been purchased which helped facilitate instant access to continually updated available equipment. Financing from this has been supported through the annual **CHIMS Run** at **PICS** like the one taking place this year, which continues to be kindly supported by Siemens, the **PICS Foundation** and people like you. Eventually, the aspiration is that mission organizations will be able to access these data directly through the website, and order equipment for their mission trips that will be shipped directly.

To date, **CHIMS** has been able to support eight mission trips and over 50 catheterization procedures. On a recent trip to the Dominican Republic, eight children underwent catheterization including: ASD closure (n=2), pulmonary valvuloplasty (n=2) and one symptomatic 6-year old, who had closure of a ruptured sinus of Valsalva aneurysm with an ADO II.

It is clear that many of us feel a further urge to assist those less fortunate children and adults with Congenital Heart Disease (CHD) who have limited access to the care we take for granted. For some, this will involve travel to these areas through mission trips to disseminate knowledge and skills. However, for others, this may not be possible due to time constraints. The **CHIMS** endeavor provides an opportunity to help and contribute by simply sending the equipment that your laboratory is no longer using to a central repository so that it can be acquired, and used by those who can for those who need.

Finally, when getting started with this project, the decision was to accept all donations, and we will continue to do so. That said, we are particularly interested in non-coronary balloon expandable

stents, occlusion devices of all sizes and makes, and balloons and delivery sheaths.

Please log on to the **CHIMS** webpage [www.chimsupport.com](http://www.chimsupport.com) if you have unused equipment which you are willing to donate, or if you would like to request product for a mission trip. Volunteers are also welcome to help with the inventory management at the warehouse.

In the meantime, while at **PICS 2015**, enjoy a fun run to support this charitable cause!!

#### The \$30 donation includes:

- Technical T-shirt (Men & Women), digital chip timing, registration, finish line and post-race refreshments.
- All race packets can be picked up at the Siemens booth Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
The race will take place rain or shine. All fitness levels are welcome!

**The 5K Run** will be held on the beautiful property of Aria. The 5K 2 loop course will start and finish near the lobby area of the hotel.

Maps will be available at packet pick-up on Saturday afternoon from 8:00 am-5:00 pm at the Siemens Booth #408.

Come have some fun in the sun while doing something healthy during the **PICS~AICS Symposium**.

#### TO REGISTER FOR THE RUN GO TO:

[www.seashorestriders.com/race-schedule/3rd-annual-pics-aics-5k-run](http://www.seashorestriders.com/race-schedule/3rd-annual-pics-aics-5k-run)

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