



# Introducing the PICS Society

On behalf of our Board, our volunteer committees and our growing global membership, we are honored to introduce the *PICS Society*, the professional society devoted solely to specialists in minimally invasive treatment of congenital heart disease (CHD). We represent the collective voice of physicians, nurses and technologists in our growing field. We foster the highest quality of care by connecting our community and learning from one another. Join us and strengthen our voice!

## Our Vision

A world where anyone who can benefit from minimally invasive techniques to treat CHD can access safe, effective care.

## Our Mission

We promote the highest quality care globally for infants, children and adults with CHD through minimally invasive techniques. We partner to further knowledge and skills of all involved, fostering research, education and advocacy on behalf of you and the patients we are privileged to treat.

## Background and History

We are new AND we are also celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> silver anniversary! We have a new name (and a new logo!) but our history runs deep. Since 1997 the *PICS Foundation* has held the annual *Pediatric & Adult Interventional Cardiac Symposium*. The Symposium has a proud history of excellence in education for physicians, nurses and technologists in our field. Each year the Symposium focuses on the newest technologies, teaching via live cases, dealing with (and avoiding) challenges, tried-and-true refreshers and much more. The Symposium will continue as best-in-class for many years to come. **However...**

## 2020 - Transformation and Growth

In recent years, many reached out to Symposium organizers recommending that our profession needs its own medical professional society devoted solely to our maturing discipline. Common threads emerged, threads which quickly became the core values of our—**your**—new professional organization. Here are those values:

- Our perspective is truly international
- Our leadership comes from many nations
- Our commitment is to the highest quality care
- Rigorous, high standards for membership are key
- Education is year-round, available anytime
- We must lead in developing guidelines
- We are pursuing universal advocacy principles
- Respectful partnership with national societies is vital
- We take pride in working with our industry partners
- We commit to mentoring the “next generation”
- We will ensure the Symposium continues best in the field
- We are VERY affordable to all who wish to join us

As a result, in our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year the *PICS Foundation* has formally transformed into the *PICS Society*, the professional global “home” for those dedicated to our field. We are equally dedicated to partnering with national societies to ensure their continued growth. This signifies transformation of our global profession into a recognized, unified community of dedicated medical providers.

The *PICS Society* will continue to offer the annual *PICS Symposium* as our flagship event. As a professional society of global colleagues, we will also do more—MUCH more. Join us!



*Pediatric and Congenital Interventional Cardiovascular Society*

## PICS Society Representative Activities

**Adult Congenital Heart Disease:** Our profession now treats adults of all ages who have CHD. This Committee coordinates educational programs, guidelines, advocacy, early career, quality & industry engagement in Adult CHD (led by Drs. Jamil Aboulhosn, Eric Horlick and Lars Sondergaard).

**Advocacy:** Patients who can be helped should not be barred from treatment due to non-medical issues. We will engage relentlessly with policymakers and payors in pursuit of that goal (Drs. John Cheatham, Hideshi Tomita and Cliff Kavinsky).

**Evidence/Documents/Guidelines:** The need is urgent. While other societies have produced excellent documents that address this in part, until now no international organization has focused solely on standards of care in our field. We are changing that (Drs. Doff McElhinney, Peter Ewert and Athar Qureshi).

**Early Career Development:** Our Fellows & Early Career Course will be August 2021 in Las Vegas, the first global program for next generation CHD interventionalists. We are engaging future leaders to learn, grow & lead (Drs. Aimee Armstrong, Darren Berman, Gianfranco Butera, Vivian Dimas and Dan Gruenstein).

**Industry Relations:** Thanks to decades of partnership between physicians and innovative companies, our ability to treat those with CHD has advanced exponentially. The *PICS Society* is proud of those partnerships and actively partners with industry on behalf of the patients we all serve (Drs. Evan Zahn, Tom Forbes and Gregor Krings).

**Membership:** Our members believe it a privilege to care for patients of all ages with CHD. We are THE professional home for CHD interventional professionals globally. We welcome all physicians, nurses and technologists who commit to the highest standards of patient care (Drs. Shakeel Qureshi, Jae Yong Choi and Allison Cabalka).

**Nurses, Technologists & Other Medical Professionals:** Our commitment to engaging the care team into all we do is a core value. We also engage with professional societies in allied disciplines. (Dr. Sharon Cheatham and Ms. Kathleen Nolan).



**PICS Annual Scientific Symposium:** We (sixteen course directors) look forward to welcoming everyone from around the globe in-person September 2021 at the Aria Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Professional Education:** With the evolution of the Foundation to become the *PICS Society*, we expanded our educational offerings to include Master Class webinars and fellows-in-training courses, with much more planned (Drs. Dan Levi, Teiji Akagi and Tom Jones).

**Quality Improvement:** We are leading development of a major clinical document, "Standards for Cardiac Catheterization of Pediatric Patients & Patients with CHD" partnering with six other societies, the first global comprehensive guideline for quality in our field. Other Q.I. initiatives are in the queue (Drs. Ralf Holzer, Lisa Bergersen and John Thomson).

For more information, please go to [www.CHDinterventions.org](http://www.CHDinterventions.org) (click on "PICS Society") or email [nlinsky@CHDinterventions.org](mailto:nlinsky@CHDinterventions.org).



## PICS Society Leadership



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Dublin, Ireland



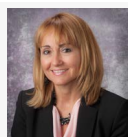
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Sao Paulo, Brazil

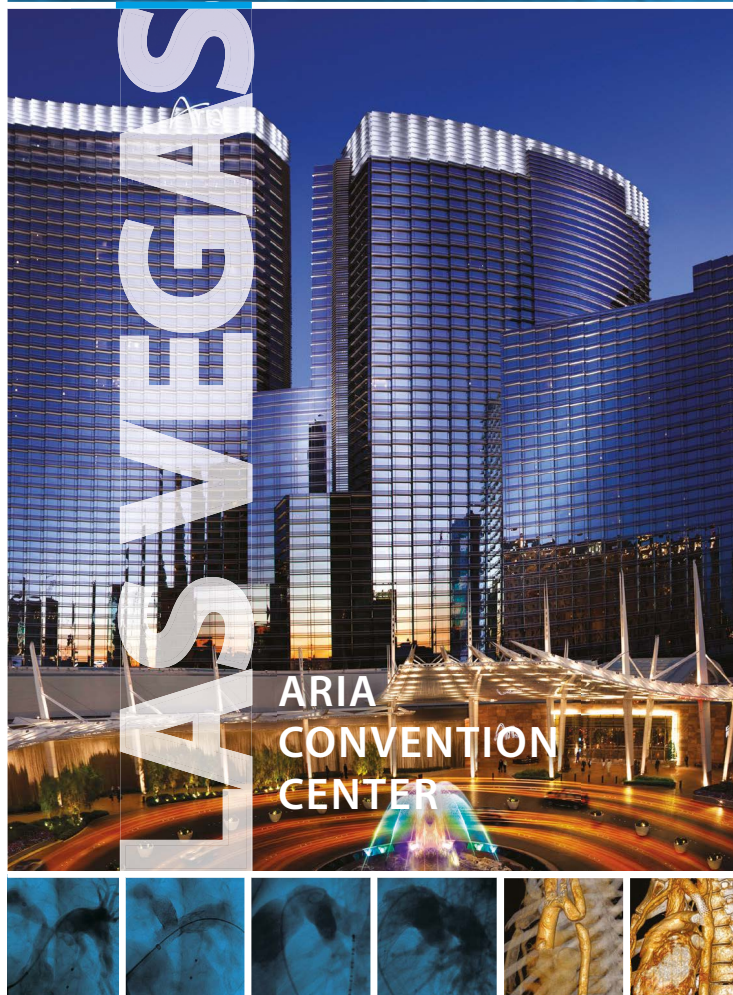


**PICS Society**

Pediatric and Congenital Interventional Cardiovascular Society



**SAVE THE DATE** **SEPT 1-4 2021**



Focusing on the latest interventional catheter strategies for congenital and structural heart disease in children and adults.

[www.picsymposium.com](http://www.picsymposium.com)  
[www.CHDinterventions.org](http://www.CHDinterventions.org)