IR embraces agility in navigating the COVID-19 crisis

IR training begins new era; practicum quickly reshapes to preserve quality learning in 2020

As part of the transition to the IR training format, the last class of vascular and interventional radiology (VIR) fellowships completed their program on June 30. As of July 1, all medical students pursuing careers in IR will matriculate through either an IR integrated residency program or a diagnostic available radiology residency, followed by an IR independent residency.

The NRMP Main Residency Match took place on March 20, placing 148 students into integrated IR residency programs and filling 95% of available positions. The NRMP Radiology Fellowship Match took place on June 10, placing 141 diagnostic radiology residents into independent IR residency programs and filling 94% of available independent positions. Finally, the 2020 Fellows Spring Practicum successfully converted into a virtual education experience with 250 total registrants, reaching more attendees than ever.

**IMPACT:** Corporate partners are an essential part of trainee development, especially through participation in the Fellows Spring Practicum. Industry contributions in networking, technology and research through symposium offerings and participation on the official online forum were paramount to creating a complete practicum experience.

**ACTION:** Learn more about the new training paradigm for interventional radiology and evolving plans to maintain quality learning programs for future IRs. Please contact Jonas Nash, SIR director of corporate relations, at jnash@sirweb.org or (786) 512-4228.
SIR Foundation launches emergency funding for COVID-19 research

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, SIR Foundation issued a request for letters of intent (LOIs) for multidisciplinary, minimally invasive/locoregional therapies for treating critically ill COVID-19 patients. Collaboration outside the IR specialty was required and grant recipients will be announced later this year.

**IMPACT:** Innovative IR-based therapeutic approaches will transform the care of COVID-19 patients.

**ACTION:** SIR Foundation grant funding is made possible by our individual and corporate donors. To learn more about how your company can support SIR Foundation, contact Terrianne Zeifman, SIR Foundation development director at tzeifman@sirweb.org or (703) 460-5591.

GEMS Program creates virtual experience for scholarship recipients

Since its inception in 2019, the Grants for Education of Medical Students (GEMS) Program has awarded seven medical students with scholarships to fund visiting clerkship rotations in interventional radiology and travel to the SIR Annual Scientific Meeting. Many institutions canceled visiting clerkship rotations for 2020 due to COVID-19. In response, SIR Foundation adapted the GEMS program into a 6-week virtual curriculum with an emphasis on studying health equity and diversity. The 2020 recipients and their instructors will also be given copies of the *Patient Care in Vascular and Interventional Radiology Syllabus* and the *IR Playbook: A Comprehensive Introduction to Interventional Radiology* to use throughout the program. This program, developed through the generosity of Alan H. Matsumoto MD, FSIR, and his family, would not be possible without the support of our corporate partners who provided matching funding for this initiative in 2019.

**IMPACT:** The GEMS program will continue to strengthen the specialty by providing an incredible learning opportunity for medical students from diverse backgrounds.

**ACTION:** Look for a recap of the 2020 GEMS virtual program in the last corporate impact report of the year.
SIR pursues robust advocacy agenda to advance interventional radiology

This year SIR joined 20 other groups on the American Medical Association’s (AMA)’s amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court to preserve the Affordable Care Act. The Supreme Court will hear the case in October 2020. The society is also working with AMA, American College of Radiology (ACR), American College of Surgeons (ACS) and 90 other organizations to delay Medicare payment cuts based around evaluation and management (E/M) codes scheduled to take effect Jan. 1, 2021.

In addition, following a briefing with the bipartisan Congressional PAD Caucus, SIR joined the CardioVascular Coalition (CVC) as a supporting member. CVC is comprised of national organizations representing physicians, care providers, advocates and manufacturers working to advance community-based solutions to improve awareness and prevention of PAD, reduce geographic disparities in access to care, and secure patient access to high-quality, cost-effective interventional treatments.

Finally, SIR joined AdvaMed, American Hospital Association (AHA), Association of periOperative Nurses (AORN) and 22 other organizations in signing the Re-entry Guidance for Health Care Facilities and Medical Device Representatives, which recommends reintegration measures after the onset of the COVID pandemic.

**IMPACT:** SIR continues to strengthen relationships among healthcare decision-makers and to collaborate on measures that improve healthcare outcomes.

**ACTION:** To learn more about the society’s cooperative action with government and other major not-for-profit organizations, please contact Jonas Nash, SIR director of corporate relations, at jnash@sirweb.org or (786) 512-4228.

**JVIR** impact factor breaks 3 for the first time

The Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology (JVIR) impact factor has broken 3 for the first time. According to Journal Citation Reports, published by Clarivate Analytics, JVIR’s impact factor jumped 7% in the last year to 3.037 from 2.828. This achievement comes as the journal looks forward to the prospect of new growth. SIR has announced Daniel Sze, MD, PhD, FSIR, will be the journal’s incoming editor-in-chief, beginning his duties in October 2020. Outgoing editor-in-chief Ziv J Haskal, MD, FSIR, concludes his 10 years of visionary leadership for the journal on Dec. 31.

**IMPACT:** Breaking an impact factor of 3 places JVIR in a distinct class of peer journals, outdistancing all IR specialty journals, and paves the way for further success in top-level research publication.

**ACTION:** The ongoing growth in scientific excellence of the specialty is enabled through the far-sighted investments and support of its many partners and allies. To learn more, please contact Jonas Nash, SIR director of corporate relations, at jnash@sirweb.org or (786) 512-4228.
**Collaboration supports outcomes in interventional oncology**

SIR Foundation and Society of Interventional Oncology (SIO) have formed the IO-CORE Foundation Board to develop the Global Interventional Oncology–Clinical Outcomes Registry (IO-CORE). The idea for the registry grew out of SIR Foundation's 2018 research consensus panel (RCP) on musculoskeletal IO interventions, led by Matthew R. Callstrom, MD, PhD.

**IMPACT:** This important, ongoing collaboration between SIR Foundation and SIO ensures widespread adoption of this much anticipated registry.

**ACTION:** If you are interested in learning more about this collaborative registry, please contact Eleanore Moye, SIR Foundation director of clinical research and grants, at emoye@sirweb.org or (703) 460-5596.

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**You make our impact possible**

*Thank you to all our Corporate Ambassadors for helping SIR and SIR Foundation to advance the limitless potential of interventional radiology.*

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**Corporate Ambassador Program**

SIR and SIR Foundation are grateful for the Corporate Ambassador Program (CAP) Partner companies that invest in the specialty and help make our missions possible.

*Partner listing current as of 07/29/20*

### VANGUARD
- Boston Scientific Corporation
- Varian

### LEADER
- Medtronic

### ADVOCATE
- AngloDynamics
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- GI Supply, Inc.
- Inari Medical
- Philips Healthcare
- Stryker IVS
- Terumo
- Interventional Systems
- United Biologics, Inc.

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**Make an impact, get involved.**

The Corporate Ambassador Program (CAP) is a high-visibility, coordinated support-and-recognition program for businesses that seek more for IR, now and in the future. Ambassador companies partner with us to advance critical efforts that enhance minimally invasive patient care, promote image-guided therapies and improve patient outcomes. Learn more at sirweb.org/cap.