



HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
TEACHING HOSPITAL

Education and Training: *How and who should be trained for a future in transcatheter valve therapies?*

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Interventional Cardiology and Structural Heart
Disease*



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HEART CENTER**

Disclosures

Research grants: AHA, Siemens Healthcare

The CMS National Coverage Determination (NCD) outlines volume qualifications for new TAVR physicians

Hospital Requirements

≥ **50 total AVRs** in the previous year prior to TAVR, including ≥ 10 high-risk patients

+

≥ **2 physicians** with cardiac surgery privileges

+

≥ **1,000 catheterizations/Year** including ≥**400 PCIs/Year**

Physician Requirements

Cardiac Surgeon

≥ **100 career AVRs** incl. 10 high-risk patients; *or*

≥ **25 AVRs** in one year; *or*

≥ **50 AVRs** in 2 years, including **at least 20 AVRs** in the year prior to TAVR initiation

Interventional Cardiologist

≥**100 structural heart procedures** lifetime; *or*

≥**30 left-sided structural procedures** per year of which 60% should be BAV

The CMS NCD outlines volume qualifications for new transcatheter mitral repair physicians

Hospital Requirements

≥ 25 total mitral valve surgeries in the previous year, including **≥ 10 MV Repairs**

+

≥ 2 physicians with cardiac surgery privileges

+

≥ 1,000 catheterizations/Year including **≥400 PCIs/Year**

Physician Requirements

Interventional Cardiologist

>50 structural heart procedures annually including ASD/PFO closure and trans-septal punctures

Cardiac Surgeon

Same?

Are these requirements adequate?

- Case volume may not reflect technical proficiency given the diversity of cases.
- Case complexity may be a primary concern of new operators.
- Skills transfer may not be sufficient to build case volume.
- Unclear what role the criteria assume the operator will play.

Procedural volume has been the primary concern of new operators.

Have sought OUS & mini-fellowship training programs or initiated basic SHD programs to build case volume.

Structural Heart Interventions

TAVR



• Device closure: ASD, VSD, PDA, PFO

• Transseptal catheterization

• Coronary sinus catheterization

• Intracardiac echocardiography

• Pulmonary artery angioplasty/stenting

• LAA occlusion

• Septal ablation

• Foreign body retrieval devices

• Wire exteriorization

• Embolization: coils, vascular plugs

• Dry pericardial entry

• Pericardiotomy / pericardial biopsy

• Large bore vascular access/ closure

• Complex ACHD catheterization

• Baffle, conduit stenting

• Aortic coarctation

• Transcatheter valve interventions

– Valvuloplasty: Aortic, mitral, pulmonic, tricuspid

– Transcatheter valve replacement: mitral, pulmonic, ViV

– Transcatheter valve repair: mitral leaflet & annuloplasty, tricuspid repair

– Paravalvular leak closure

Structural Heart Cognitive Knowledge

For every structural intervention, one must understand disease-specific:

- 3D anatomic relationships
 - Normal anatomy
 - Pathologic variants
- Hemodynamics
- Noninvasive imaging
 - TTE, TEE, 3D TEE
 - Cardiac CT
 - Cardiac MR
- Clinical management options
- Surgical alternatives / techniques
- Device options
- Patient selection
 - Procedural efficacy/limitations
 - Indications for intervention
 - Surgical risk assessment: STS, frailty, anatomic concerns
 - Complications of therapeutic options
- Pre- / Post-procedure care



Who do we want doing these procedures?

- Expansion to lower risk patients
- Evolution to include more complex anatomy (mitral/pulmonic/tricuspid)
- Expanding number of devices and techniques

The ideal?

KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER
STATION

Attg
CTS

Structural
IC/CTS

Attg
IC

AORTA

STENT
GRAFT

J. RHEAD

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TCT for Surgeons course will highlight hybrid surgical and interventional techniques

'Emerging Directions for the Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgeon' to be co-sponsored by the American Association for Thoracic Surgery

CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Cardiologists should have basic surgical skills training

Ali Khavandi,¹ Stephen Hamilton,² Adam Fitzpatrick,³
David J Wright,⁴ Michael Lewis,⁵ Alun Harcombe,⁶
Edward Rowland⁷

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Structural Heart Disease Council

The SCAI Structural Heart Disease Council: Toward Addressing Training, Credentialing, and Guidelines for Structural Heart Disease Intervention

Ted Feldman,^{1*} MD, FACC, FSCAI, Carlos E. Ruiz,² MD, PhD, FACC, FSCAI, and Ziyad M. Hijazi,³ MD, FACC, FSCAI

Interventional Fellowship in Structural and Congenital Heart Disease for Adults

Carlos E. Ruiz,^{1*} MD, PhD, FACC, FSCAI, Ted E. Feldman,² MD, FACC, FSCAI, Ziyad M. Hijazi,³ MD, FACC, FSCAI, David R. Holmes, Jr.,⁴ MD, FACC, FSCAI, John G. Webb,⁵ MD, FACC, FSCAI, E. Murat Tuzcu,⁶ FACC, FSCAI, Howard Herrmann,⁷ MD, FACC, FSCAI, and Gerard R. Martin,⁸ MD, FACC

Results of the Society of Cardiac Angiography and Interventions Survey of Physicians and Training Directors on Procedures for Structural and Valvular Heart Disease

Howard C. Herrmann,^{1*} MD, FACC, FSCAI, Sandra Baxter,² PhD, Carlos E. Ruiz,³ MD, PhD, FACC, FSCAI, Ted E. Feldman,⁴ MD, FACC, FSCAI, and Ziyad M. Hijazi,⁵ MD, FACC, FSCAI, on behalf of the SCAI Council on Structural Heart Disease

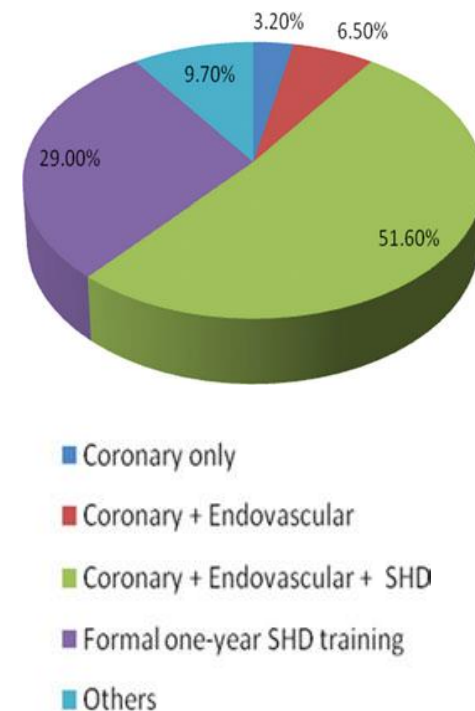


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Structural Heart Disease Training Programs

- 86% of programs perform SHD interventions
- Most (52%) integrate structural interventions into 1 or 2 year IC fellowship programs
- Several programs with “advanced IC” training programs that focused on structural and peripheral arterial interventions
- Only 29% offer focused 1 year training in structural heart disease
- None are ACGME accredited



Structural Heart Disease Training Programs

- **Banner - University Medical Center - Phoenix, Arizona**
- Scripps Clinic - La Jolla, California
- University of California - San Diego, California
- Yale University School of Medicine - New Haven, Connecticut
- University of Miami Miller School of Medicine - Miami, Florida
- Prairie Heart Institute - Springfield, Illinois
- Ochsner Medical Center - New Orleans, Louisiana
- Johns Hopkins Hospital - Baltimore, Maryland
- University of Maryland - Baltimore, Maryland
- Massachusetts General Hospital - Boston, Massachusetts
- Henry Ford Hospital - Detroit, Michigan
- William Beaumont Hospital - Royal Oak, Michigan
- Mayo Clinic - Rochester, Minnesota
- **Minneapolis Heart Institute® at Abbott Northwestern Hospital - Minneapolis, Minnesota**
- University of Minnesota - Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Washington University - St. Louis, Missouri
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center - Lebanon, New Hampshire
- Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School - New Brunswick, New Jersey
- Duke University - Durham, North Carolina
- **Lankenau Medical Center - Wynnewood, Pennsylvania**
- Brown Medical School - Providence, Rhode Island
- Methodist DeBakey Heart and Vascular Center - Houston, Texas
- Carilion Clinic - Roanoke, Virginia
- University of Washington - Seattle, Washington

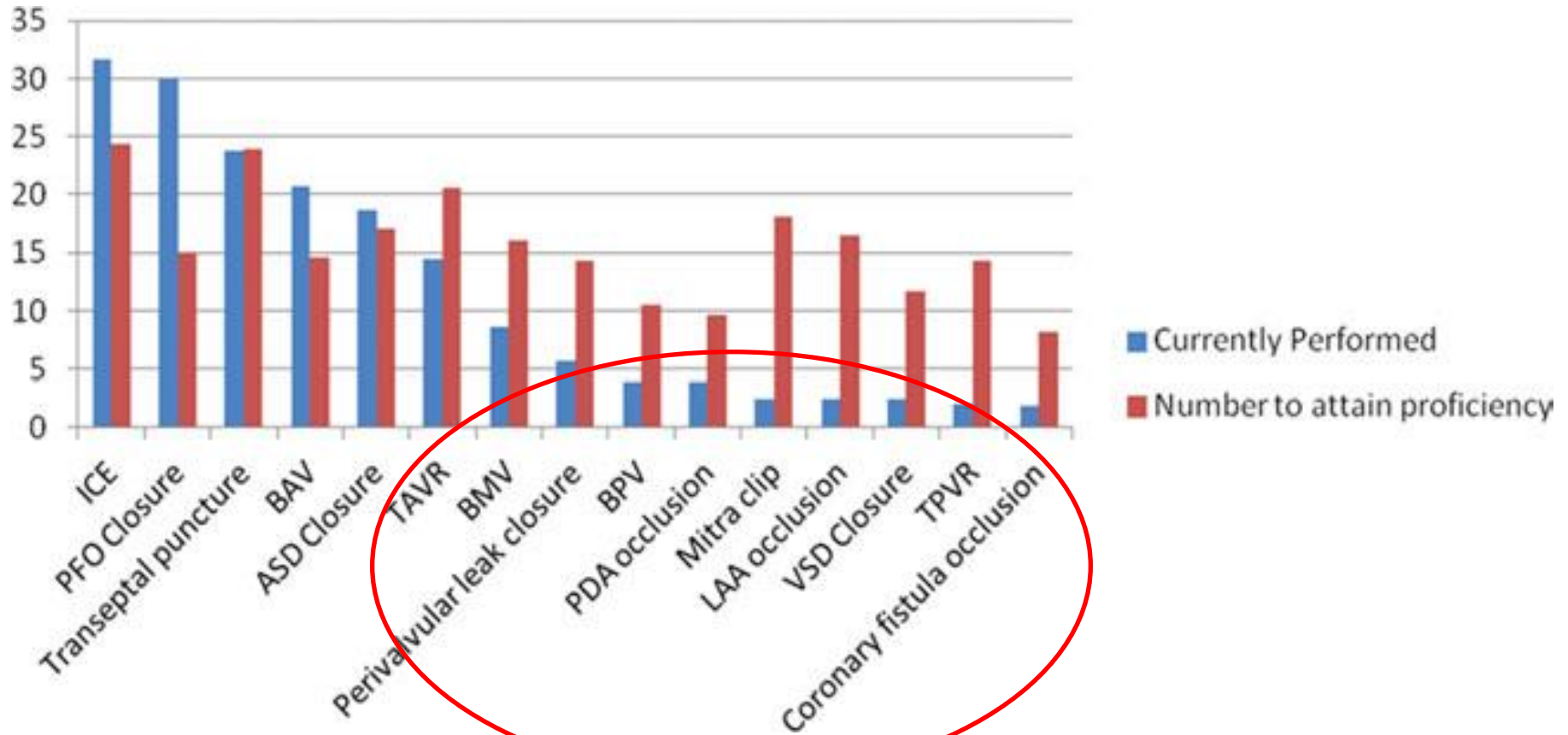
Out of 136 ACGME-accredited IC training programs.

BOLD denotes IC and/or surgeons accepted

Barriers to SHD Growth

- Lack of sufficient volume of patients
- Lack of sufficient training programs
- Lack of good treatments/devices
- Reimbursement issues
- Surgeon resistance
- Lack of transseptal skills
- Lack of hybrid OR
- Lack of certification or malpractice concerns
- Lack of adjunctive imaging

Attaining Proficiency



CT Surgical Training

- CT surgical trainees face similar problems to IC



Endovascular CT Surgical Training

- Few “formal” programs
- Mini 1 to 6 month fellowships in endovascular skills
- Travel overseas to gain hands-on exposure
- Most trainees develop customized training programs that include endovascular procedures

CT Surgery Training Pathways

Currently, there are three training pathways in cardiothoracic surgery:

- **Independent Programs** (Traditional Pathway — 5 years of general surgery, plus 2-3 years of cardiothoracic surgery residency)
- **Joint Thoracic/General Surgery Track** (Fast-track Pathway — 4 years of general surgery, plus 3 years of cardiothoracic surgery residency), all completed at one institution
- **Integrated Pathway** (I-6 — 6 years of cardiothoracic surgery residency)

Industry Leadership



Edwards



Medtronic
When Life Depends on Medical Technology



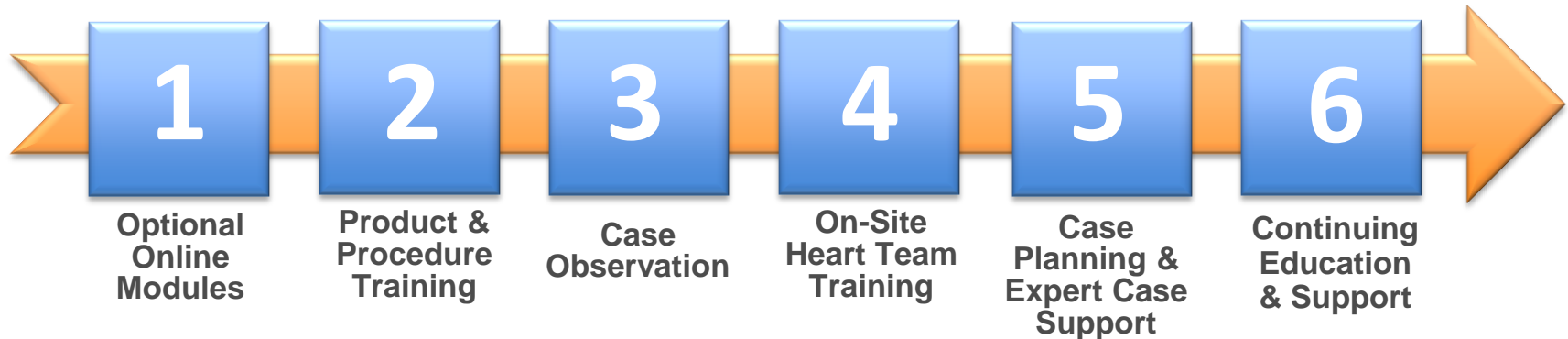
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TAVR Industry Training



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TAVR Industry Training

DAY 1

*Patient Screening:
Defining the TAVR Patient*

*TF Technology
Overview*

*Echocardiography and
MDCT Screening
Workshops*

Taped Live-Case TF

*Procedural Deep-dive
Complication Mgt
Complex Anatomy
Best Practices*

**Procedural
Simulations**

**Pt Case
Presentations**

DAY 2

Technology Overview

Taped Live-Case TA

*Procedural Deep-dive
Complication Mgt
Complex Anatomy
Best Practices*

**Procedural
Simulations**

**Pt Case
Presentations**

Combined TF/TA



Take home

Potential solutions

- Focus on developing standardized & accredited training programs with clear objectives (ACGME & COCATS)
- Design training programs to provide a foundation for lifelong learning using evolving technologies
- Establish levels of SHD competency (basic/advanced)
- Increase availability and dependence on simulators for training
- Consider shift from case volume requirements to proficiency, especially in light of the requirement for multiple operators (IC and CTS)
- Foster greater cross-pollination between IC and CTS
- Centers (“and operators”) of excellence for 1st generation devices, more complex procedures (mitral), and perhaps more complex patients

Thank you!



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