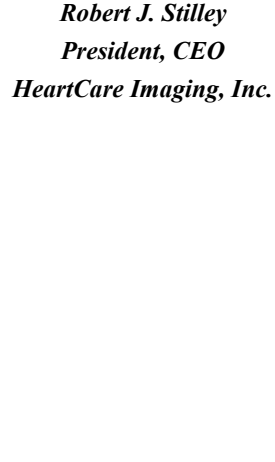




THE HCI SPOTLIGHT

Dear Colleague—

It was great to see new and old friends at the recent ASNC meeting in Boca Raton. The Boca Resort provided a great venue for the meeting. There was a renewed emphasis on cardiac PET based on many factors including a potential Tc shortage, lower radiation levels, and shorter scan times. SPECT imaging does have a place in our industry too as we are finding at small rural hospitals. Many physicians also prefer the data gained from a treadmill stress test vs. a pharmacologic stress test. With regard to radiation, there are software solutions and solid state detector technologies that help reduce both time and dose. I suspect both PET and SPECT will continue to have a place in cardiology imaging for some time. HCI is positioned to provide the best alternative for our customers based on their individual needs. If you are interested in learning more about Cardiac PET or SPECT, please contact us.



Robert J. Stille, President, CEO HeartCare Imaging, Inc.

Please enjoy this month's newsletter!

Best regards,

Bob

CARDIOLOGY

PET tops list of non-invasive imaging procedures

Findings from the PACIFIC trial—a single study trial of 208 patients with suspected coronary artery disease conducted by the ESC—show that PET scans are the most significantly accurate for diagnosing coronary disease.

http://www.healthimaging.com/topics/coronary-intervention-surgery/pet-tops-list-non-invasive-imaging-procedures#V8W0KJrthUJmail

Stress-induced myocardial ischemia risk higher among young women with CHD

A study in the Journal of the American Heart Association found the incidence of mental stress-induced myocardial ischemia among patients aged 50 years and younger with coronary heart disease was 82.6% higher in women, compared with men.

http://www.healio.com/cardiology/chd-prevention/news/online/%7B7878150a7-620e-4a83-8eaf-a9855f01a251%7D/young-women-with-stable-cad-susceptible-to-mental-stress-induced-myocardial-ischemia

Report warns of shortages of Mo-99

Supplies of a key radioisotope used in nuclear cardiology scans could be disrupted next month when a Canadian nuclear reactor begins shutting down. U.S. healthcare providers could be left scrambling for new sources of molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) until other suppliers are able to step in and fill the void.

http://www.auntminnie.com/index.aspx?sec=sup&sub=nmol&pageid=8&itemid=115106

AHA "sit less, move more"

Sedentary behavior, even among those who are physically active, is associated with greater risk for CVD, diabetes, impaired insulin sensitivity and all-cause mortality, according to a new scientific statement from the American Heart Association.

http://www.healio.com/cardiology/chd-prevention/news/online/%7B8d6ba96e-249d-4a90-89de-4fa2f12969%7D/aha-sit-less-move-more

ESC's new lipid guidelines keep LDL-cholesterol targets

New dyslipidemia management guidelines from the European Society of Cardiology, issued in late August, retain the same LDL cholesterol targets as the prior, 2011 guidelines, a sharp and purposeful departure from the "risk-based" U.S. guidelines introduced in 2013 that eliminated treating patients to specific LDL cholesterol targets.

http://www.escardiologynews.com/news/conference-news/european-society-of-cardiology-congress/single-article/escs-new-lipid-guidelines-keep-ldl-cholesterol-targets/24f133000f9b4512489065a0a289a71.html

Poor sleep is a lifestyle CV risk factor: AHA

Sleep duration and sleep disorders may be risk factors for cardiometabolic and cardiovascular disease, according to a new scientific statement from the American Heart Association

http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/868971

PET agent, flurpiridaz F 18, shows promise over SPECT for cardiac imaging

More specifically, flurpiridaz F 18, Lantheus' investigational PET agent for myocardial perfusion imaging (MPI), was found superior to SPECT for evaluating patients with coronary artery disease (CAD) during exercise stress testing.

https://www.dotmed.com/news/story/33124

High resting heart rate tied to African American heart failure risk

For African Americans, a high resting heart rate may indicate greater risk of death or hospitalization with heart failure, a recent analysis finds.

http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-africanamericans-heart-rate-idUSKCN124273

Popular Painkillers Like Ibuprofen Are Linked to Heart Problems

Taking prescription pain meds, including common ones like ibuprofen and naproxen, on a regular basis may increase risk of heart failure

http://time.com/4512169/painkillers-ibuprofen-heart-problems/

HEALTH

Body Clock gene may help lethal spread of breast cancer

Can the body's circadian rhythms influence cancer? Shift workers are more prone to cancer, and now a study in mice has found that changes to a gene that regulates the circadian clock seem to increase the likelihood of breast cancer spreading and becoming deadly. The finding could mean that disrupted sleep may worsen a person's breast cancer prognosis.

http://www.newscientist.com/article/2106849-body-clock-gene-may-help-lethal-spread-of-breast-cancer/

Cancer on course to become top killer of Americans

Cancer is on track to become the leading cause of death in the United States, closing in on heart disease as America's number one killer, a new government study shows.

http://consumer.healthday.com/cancer-information-5/mis-cancer-news-102/cancer-on-course-to-become-top-killer-of-americans-714169.html

Midlife physical activity linked to better cognition in old age, study says

Following up with more than 3,000 twins 25 years after they provided information on their exercise habits shows physical activity in midlife leads to better cognition later in life, report researchers in Finland in a new study published in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease

http://www.upi.com/health-News/2016/09/09/Midlife-physical-activity-linked-to-better-cognition-in-old-age-study-says/2921473451073/

Study reveals weight loss drug's effect on the brain

A weight-loss drug dampened the response to food cues in regions of the brain associated with attention and emotion, leading to decreases in caloric intake and body mass index (BMI), a team led by scientists at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) reported. In the first study of the drug lorcaserin in the human brain, the research revealed the mechanism underlying the drug's efficacy and provides insight into which individuals may benefit most from the medication.

http://medicalexpress.com/news/2016-09-reveals-weight-loss-drug-effect.html

Researches work to develop first total-body PET scanner

At the World Molecular Imaging Congress (WMIC) conference at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York, Cherry told the attendees that his team is working on a total-body PET scanner that has 40 times greater sensitivity than current clinical PET/CT scanners.

https://www.dotmed.com/news/story/328537p_begin=0

TB can persist in lungs despite treatment, researchers find

It has been known that the microbe that causes TB, Mycobacterium tuberculosis, can persist in the lungs even after patient tissue samples test negative for the bacteria. In new research, scientists have found through the use of positron emission tomography/computerized tomography scanning that TB lesions can remain in the lungs long after treatment with antibiotics has been completed.

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/09/160906131454.htm

Genetic factors shed light on Barrett's esophagus and adenocarcinoma

The researchers identified nine new risk loci associated with either condition or both. And, said Dr. Gharakhani, the team "found a genetic marker which may help to identify patients who are at higher risk of transition from the precancerous changes of esophagus to the actual cancer."

http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/868342

Smoking permanently damages your DNA, Study Finds

Smoking scars DNA in clear patterns, researchers reported Tuesday. Most of the damage fades over time, they found—but not all of it.

http://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/smoking-permanently-scars-your-dna-study-finds-n651471

Breast Cancer treatments vary widely in cost and complications

Women with early-stage breast cancer may have fewer treatment complications and lower costs when they don't get a mastectomy followed by reconstructive surgery, a US study suggests.

http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-breastcancer-costs-complication-idUSKCN1202MA

BUSINESS

CMS Eases MACRA pain for Doctors

Responding to complaints from Congress and organized medicine, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) announced that they will give physicians several options to comply with Medicare payment rules set to go into effect next year

http://www.mediagetoday.com/publichealthpolicy/medicare/6018

Legal issues impact delivery of Telehealth

Telehealth technologies can allow delivery of high-quality care at a lower cost, especially in underserved areas, but there is currently no uniform legal approach to telehealth, hampering its provision

http://www.physiciansbriefing.com/Article.asp?AID=713961

ICD-10: CMS will not be so flexible after October 1

ICD-10 went live on Oct. 1, 2015, and at the time CMS said it would not deny claims as long as healthcare providers used codes in the correct "family" related to the treatment. However, with the grace period ending, providers will now be held to using the correct degree of specificity in their coded claims.

http://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/cms-icd-10-specificity-sicks-oct-1-2016

Financial Pressures Reshape Medical Practices

"We are seeing a growing trend of more healthcare providers buying into practices with a partnership or purchasing an existing practice because they are seeking added financial security and well-established businesses," said Dan Croft, head of Healthcare Practice Solutions at TD Bank, in a media release.

http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/finance/financial-pressures-reshape-medical-practices

Physician Survey: EHRs Increase Practice Costs, Reduce Productivity

Three out of four physicians believe electronic health records (EHRs) increase practice costs, outweighing any efficiency savings, and seven out of 10 think EHRs reduce their productivity, according to a Deloitte's recent 2016 Survey of U.S. Physicians.

http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/news-item/ehr/physician-survey-ehrs-increase-practice-costs-little-improvement-clinical-outcomes

PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

After flooding in Louisiana, Officials brace for Public Health Crisis

The rains have stopped and floodwaters are beginning to recede in Louisiana. But as the cleanup begins, officials are bracing for a public health crisis at shelters that have drawn thousands of displaced residents and in communities where occupants face exposure to infection disease as they return to their homes and work to salvage their possessions.

http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-08-19/after-flooding-in-louisiana-officials-brace-for-public-health-crisis

EDUCATION / CONFERENCES

RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE logo and icons with tagline 'Celebrating the Power of Rural!'

To remove your name from our mailing list or if you have any questions or comments, please email us at info@heartcareimaging.com or call 561.746.6125