



Advanced Cardiac Imaging Consortium (ACIC)

Year launched: 2007

Current number of participants:

- 41 Hospitals
- 5 Physician Organizations

Description:

The ACIC project is aimed at improving the quality of care for patients through encouraging the appropriate use of Coronary Computer Tomographic Angiography.

Select objectives:

- Develop and implement a collaborative radiation dose reduction program
- Evaluate current referral patterns for CCTA
- Determine the best clinical use of CCTA
- Influence practice patterns by sharing data on current guidelines and referral patterns
- Evaluate long-term outcomes of patients undergoing CCTA

Results:

Within five months of its launch in 2007, ACIC was able to reduce radiation exposure for patients undergoing CCTA by 53 percent.

Project leadership:

Kavitha Chinnaiyan, M.D., serves as program director of ACIC and is also the medical director of Non-invasive Cardiology Education in the Cardiology Division of William Beaumont Hospital. Ann DePetris, R.N., M.S.A., C.C.R.P., serves as ACIC's program manager.

About the Coordinating Center

The Beaumont Research Coordinating Center at William Beaumont Hospital is the ACIC Coordinating Center.



Collaborative Quality Initiatives

Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, Collaborative Quality Initiatives bring together Michigan physicians and hospital partners to address some of the most common and costly areas of surgical and medical care. As a result of the collection and analysis of procedural and outcomes data from each hospital, the participants are able to implement changes in practice based on the knowledge acquired from the initiative. These changes in practices lead to increased efficiencies, improved outcomes, including decreased complication and mortality rates, and enhanced value such as improved clinical outcomes and lower costs.

This model is the first of its kind, nationally, and is highly regarded as an innovative approach to improving health care quality and enhancing health care value. Findings from these programs have been published extensively in peer-reviewed journals, adding measurably to knowledge about optimal approaches to patient care. In 2006, this unique approach received a *Best of Blue* award from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association for collaborative efforts in "excellence and innovation." In 2007, the program was recognized by the National Business Coalition on Health with an *eValue8 Health Plan Innovation* award.

For more information, contact:

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