Improving Outcomes in Patient with Atrial Fibrillation: An Update for the Primary Care Physician
Des Moines University, Des Moines, IA
Saturday, April 20, 2013
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Presentation Objectives

Epidemiology, Natural History and Risk Factors for Atrial Fibrillation
Gary Hoff, D.O., FACOI, F.A.C.C.
1. State the epidemiology (incidence and prevalence) of atrial fibrillation in the United States.
2. Understand the future implications of rising numbers of people with atrial fibrillation.

Insights into the Mechanisms of AFib
Samuel J. Asirvatham, M.D.
1. Review triggers that initiate atrial fibrillation.
2. Present an approach to recognized patients likely to benefit from atrial fibrillation ablation.

Working Up the Patient with Newly Diagnosed Atrial Fibrillation
Lisa Benton, NP
1. Identify possible underlying conditions causing atrial fibrillation.
2. Identify important first steps in evaluating the patient with new onset of atrial fibrillation.

Assessing Stroke Risk: Who Needs to be Anticoagulated?
Calvin J. Hansen, M.D.
1. Identify factors that increase risk of stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation.
2. Apply standardized tools to determine bleeding risk in patients that are anticoagulated.

Which Drug for Which Patient? Coumadin or the Newer Agents: Current Status and Review
Samuel J. Asirvatham, M.D.
1. Review recent approved agents for stroke prophylaxis in atrial fibrillation.
2. Develop an approach in assessing benefits and risks of individual anticoagulation agents in specific patients.

Trips, Falls, and Spills: The Geriatrician's Perspective on Anticoagulating
1. Analyze the risks involved in anticoagulating the geriatric population.
2. Evaluate which individuals in the geriatric population are not good candidates for anti-coagulation.

Rate Versus Rhythm Control AFFIRMING the Right Choice
Craig B. Clark, D.O., F.A.C.C.
1. Describe which patients are appropriately managed with a rate control and anticoagulation strategy.
2. Compare different pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic methods to achieve rate control and targets for optimal management.

Pharmacological Therapy of AFib
Prasad R. Palakurthy, M.D., F.A.C.C.
1. Manage patients who present with atrial fibrillation for the first time.
2. Select appropriate antiarrhythmic agenda for patients with different underlying disease states.

Ablative Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation
Robert H. Hoyt, M.D., F.A.C.C.
1. Delineate the potential benefits, risks, and limitations associated with ablation therapy for atrial fibrillation.
2. Identify specific patient characteristics in favor of referral for ablative therapy of atrial fibrillation.

What the Provider Needs to Know When Their Patient Returns to the Office After an Ablation
Christopher J. McLeod, M.B., Ch.B., Ph.D.
1. Manage the post-ablation patient in the first three months after their procedure.
2. Identify common complications in the post ablation patient.
Presentation Objectives

LA Appendage Closure Devices
Alexander Mazur, M.D.
1. Identify novel devices for stroke prophylaxis in patients with AFib.
2. Analyze results of clinical trials involving novel devices for stroke prophylaxis for patients with AFib.

Provider and Patient Resources
Kevin Carnevale, M.D.
1. Locate and utilize the resources and guidelines of treating atrial fibrillation from Journals, American Heart Association, American College of Cardiology, internet sources, and other media options.
2. Use the American College of Cardiology AFib Toolkit and be able to find and utilize the risk assessment in terms of symptoms, functional status, thromboembolic risk, and bleeding risk using Severity of AFib (SAF) Scale, CHADS2 Score for Atrial Fibrillation Stroke Risk, CHA2DS2-VASc Score for Atrial Fibrillation Stroke Risk, HAS-BLED Score for Major Bleeding Risk, and Combo calculator.