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CRT 2018 Conference Highlights Women in Interventional Cardiology



The Cardiovascular Research Technologies (CRT) 2018 conference, a comprehensive four-day interventional cardiology event held March 3-6 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., included a daylong program for nurses and technologists. A highlight of the track was the women and heart symposium, “Interventional Cardiology: Prevention, Detection and Treatment.”

With approximately 400 people in attendance, the women and heart symposium addressed the disparities and gaps still being faced by female cardiology practitioners in multi-faceted areas of interventional cardiology.

“For the past decade, [CRT has] focused on women and heart topics and recently, more specifically, on women in interventional cardiology,” said Ron Waksman, MD, CRT Course Chair. “Through the past years, it was apparent that there are disparities among females who perform interventional cardiology. These disparities include differential in pay; judgment of their performance as operators; under participation in clinical trials and research, and leadership of trials; podium time in national meetings; and participation in live-case presentations.”

Panel moderators included Cindy L. Grines, MD, FACC, FSCAI, medical school chair and academic chief of cardiology at Northwell Health in Great Neck, N.Y.; Alice K. Jacobs, MD, FAHA, vice chair for clinical affairs in the Department of Medicine at Boston Medical Center; and Roxana Mehran, director of interventional cardiovascular research and clinical trials at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City.

Keynote speaker Dolvett Quince, veteran health and fitness guru most notably known for his role on *The Biggest Loser* (pictured left), took the stage to inspire and promote physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health in his lecture, “Reshape Your Mind, Body and Future.” His presentation focused on the power and importance of consistency for maintaining a regular physical activity routine for not



just patients but healthcare providers. Although he acknowledged that lack of time is a common barrier for maintaining personal health, Quince urged anyone with a goal of becoming healthier to find time for what's important.

After his lecture, Quince joined the panel of female cardiologists to discuss how physicians can inspire their patients to live healthier personal lives through

example. Using his speech as a foundation, the panelists agreed that they should find the time to live healthier lives in order to bring authenticity and experience when counseling their patients.

The panelists also considered ways to incorporate healthy practices into their busy work lives and discussed the external factors that act as barriers when seeking to improve their patients' lifestyle. This was in response to Quince's challenge to the group to not just tell their patients what to do, but to practice it in their own lives.



The conference and the panel discussion reinforce CRT's commitment to spotlight and promote women in interventional cardiology.

"Once again, CRT is in the forefront to promote and present women in intervention cardiology, which we hope will encourage more female cardiologists to pursue careers in interventional cardiology," Waksman said.

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NEWSSTAND EDITOR'S PICKS

[Obese patients 40% more likely to develop new-onset AFib](#)

Individuals with obesity are more likely to develop atrial fibrillation (AFib), according to a study published April 18 in the American Journal of Cardiology.

[CMS proposal requires hospitals to post prices online](#)

A new CMS proposal will require hospitals to post their standard prices for treatments online and aims to increase patient access to electronic health records (EHRs).

[Valve-in-Valve TAVR: Mortality, Adverse Events Similar to Redo Surgery at 30 Days](#)

Among patients with failing bioprosthetic aortic valves, transcatheter valve-in-valve (VIV) and standard secondary surgical aortic valve replacement are each associated with similar rates of mortality and adverse events at 30 days, according to a new meta-analysis.

[How to Perform Transcaval TAVR Access](#)

Patient selection for who is best suited for a transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) procedure is partly based on vascular access routes that can accommodate the large diameter TAVR devices.

[New Biomarker on the Block, FGF-23, May Aid in Secondary-Event Prediction Following ACS](#)

A relatively new biomarker being explored in the field of cardiac event prevention, fibroblast growth factor 23 (FGF-23), may be associated with death and secondary adverse events following ACS, according to an analysis of the SOLID-TIMI 52 trial.

[CMS finalizes decision to cover MRIs for those with ICDs](#)

CMS published a memo April 10 that finalized a proposal to cover MRI scans for Medicare beneficiaries with implantable cardiac devices (ICDs).

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INDUSTRY PRESS RELEASES



[Abbott Releases Planned Security and Performance Updates for Implanted Cardiac Devices](#)

April 17, 2018

Abbott is releasing the latest in its planned series of cybersecurity and battery performance alert updates: a firmware upgrade to further strengthen the security and enhance the performance of certain high-voltage implantable cardiac devices.



[Abbott Initiates Groundbreaking Study to Assess Superiority of High-Resolution Imaging Versus Standard-of-Care Angiography in Treating Coronary Artery Disease](#)

April 11, 2018

Abbott today announced the initiation of a clinical trial evaluating long-term outcomes of patients who undergo stent implantation guided by high-resolution light-based imaging technology—called optical coherence tomography (OCT)—compared to a common X-ray-guided technique called angiography.



[Medtronic Announces Renal Denervation Pivotal Trial for the Treatment of Hypertension](#)

April 9, 2017

Medtronic today announced U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval to begin an investigational device exemption (IDE) pivotal trial

to evaluate the Symplicity Spyral(TM) renal denervation system in patients with high blood pressure (hypertension).



[Abiomed Announces European Approval \(CE Marking\) for Impella 5.5™ and First Patient Treated at University Heart Center Hamburg](#)

April 4, 2018

Abiomed, a leading provider of breakthrough heart recovery and support technologies, announced today that the Impella 5.5™ heart pump received CE marking approval in Europe and the first patient was treated at University Heart Center in Hamburg, Germany.



[Abiomed Receives FDA Approval for Impella CP® with SmartAssist™ and Optical Sensor](#)

April 2, 2018

Abiomed, a leading provider of breakthrough heart support and recovery technologies, announced today that it has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Pre-Market Approval (PMA) for its Impella CP® heart pump with SmartAssist™, utilizing an optical sensor.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



HRS 2018

Date: 05/09/2018 - 05/12/2018

City/State: Boston, MA

Venue: Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

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NCVH 19th Annual Conference

Date: 05/30/2018 - 06/01/2018

City/State: New Orleans, LA

Venue: The Roosevelt Hotel

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