Get Involved! Take your career to the next level with SCCT!

Whether it’s participating on the FiRST Committee or attending one of SCCT’s training programs, Fellows and Residents now have more opportunities than ever to get involved:

- **FiRST Applications Now Being Accepted!**
  - Deadline: March 14, 2014
- SCCT Annual Meeting
- Training Courses, Webinars, Board Review
- Grassroots, Advocacy
- SCCT Membership for Fellows/Residents
- CBCCT Certification & Road to FSCCT

FiRST Committee with SCCT Past-President Dr. John Lesser at SCCT 2013 in Montreal, Canada
Establishing a successful coronary CT angiography program in the emergency department: Official writing of the Fellow and Resident Leaders of the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (FiRST)

Christopher D. Maroules MD†, Michael J. Blaha MD, Mohamed A. El-Haddad MD, Maros Ferencik MD, PhD, Ricardo C. Cury MD

In recent years, coronary CTA has emerged as a useful technique to evaluate patients with acute chest pain presenting to the ED with several multicenter, prospective randomized trials now demonstrating the ability of CTA to rapidly diagnose and exclude obstructive CAD with a high sensitivity and negative predictive value.

In this FiRST official writing, published in the Journal of Cardiovascular CT, Dr. Christopher Maroules and colleagues join SCCT President-Elect Dr. Ricardo Cury to provide a 10-step approach to establish a successful CTA program in the ED. Including recommendations for CTA interpretation, patient management, and a sample ED CTA order set, this writing provides a fundamental overview of tips for CTA implementation, to include:

1. Creating a safe & efficient environment for patients
2. Appropriate resource utilization; and
3. Standardized patient selection/acquisition/reporting

Lead author and FiRST board member, Dr. Christopher Maroules is a senior radiology resident and graduate of the Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center. A co-investigator in the Dallas Heart Study, Dr. Maroules’ interests include cardiovascular CT and MRI, with plans for additional fellowship training at UT Southwestern upon completion of his residency.

Research Spotlight: CTA in the ED with Dr. Chris Maroules

‘FiRST In Imaging’ Video Blog

With significant growth in the field of cardiac imaging there has never been a greater need for access to the latest research.

For the first time ever, trainees interviewed leading experts at SCCT2013 to provide late-breaking news and live perspective via the ‘FiRST in Imaging’ Video Blog – available at: www.youtube.com/firstinimaging

If interested in participating in this effort at SCCT2014 in San Diego, CA, email Mike Cheezum at mcheezum@partners.org. No experience necessary. This is a great opportunity to network, get involved and meet experts in cardiac imaging!
FiRST — Fellow and Resident Leaders of SCCT

Spotlight: International Training in Cardiovascular CT

[Dr. Williams] What attracted you to join the SCCT?
[Dr. Bittencourt] It really is the opportunity to work and interact with the top leaders in CT throughout the world – to learn from the best.

[Dr. Williams] What is SCCT doing to engage international trainees?
[Dr. Bittencourt] I believe SCCT is truly an international society. Take the International Regional Committees (IRC), for example. While each IRC acts independently to focus on key issues in CT in their region, they collaborate with the SCCT to share different experiences and consider how to move the field forward. Additionally, the SCCT meetings highlight different geographical areas each year, and have expanded to different locations to provide opportunities for the non-US community to present their research. Last year’s Top 10 International Abstract Session in Montreal, Canada provided some of the most interesting discussions.

[Dr. Williams] What are you looking forward to at SCCT2014 in San Diego?
[Dr. Bittencourt] While I share everyone’s interest in the technical advances in cardiac CT, I believe the higher impact research will be more clinically oriented, with attention to improving patient outcomes. I think cardiovascular CT is still young when compared to other modalities, and we are still learning how to best use our available technologies. The annual meeting is an opportunity to share ideas, network and to hear about cutting edge research. In recent years we have seen some interesting trends in CT, with the introduction of CT-FFR, gradients and perfusion research. 2013’s big theme was CT for TAVR. It will be interesting to see what comes next!

Call for Action - Survey Participation Needed!

In an effort to better understand training opportunities in cardiovascular CT, the FiRST Committee is requesting participation in a brief survey by current CT training program directors or imaging providers on their behalf.

To assist us in this important study, please complete the following survey or forward to the appropriate personnel at your institution.

Radiology Program Survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/X3WNTHQ

Cardiology Program Survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2T8BTQJ

For any questions, please contact Lauren Simprini at Lauren.Simprini@yale.edu. Thanks for your assistance!

2014 - Important Dates
March 14, 2014 FiRST Committee Application Deadline
March 14, 2014 SCCT2014 Abstract Deadline
March 20, 2014 CBCCT Exam Registration Opens
July 9-10, 2014 7th Annual SCCT Board Review & Update of Cardiovascular CT San Diego, California
July 10-13, 2014 SCCT 9th Annual Meeting San Diego, California
September 16-17, 2014 CBCCT Certification Exam
SCCT Announces Winners of Siemens Outstanding Academic Research (SOAR) Award

First Place: Francesca Pugliese, MD, PhD
Dynamic Computed Tomography Perfusion Imaging: Performance in the Detection of Functionally Significant Coronary Lesions

First Runner-Up: Maros Ferencik, MD, PhD

Second Runner-Up: Lorenzo Azzalini, MD, MSc

Other Finalists: Jian Cao, MD; Jin-Ho Choi, MD, PhD; Michelle Williams, MBChB

2013 Toshiba Young Investigator Award (YIA) Winners

Marcio Bittencourt, MD, MPH
Long Term Cardiovascular Events and Extent of Non-Obstructive CAD Detected by Cardiac CT

Kate Hanneman, MD
CT in the Diagnosis of Pericardial Constriction: Predictive Value of IVC Diameter and Cross-Sectional Area

Other Finalists: Fabian Plank, MD; Ryo Nakazato, MD, PhD; Taylor Dowsley, MD

Fellow Trainees,

In 2012 the FiRST Committee was created by SCCT leadership to engage trainee participation in cardiovascular CT education, research and career development. Since its creation, FiRST has participated at many levels within SCCT, from increasing outreach through social media, expert interviews and website development, to involvement in annual meeting sessions, research and a FiRST official publication. At a time of growth in the SCCT and cardiac imaging, we look forward to 2014 and beyond for new opportunities to expand trainee involvement. We welcome anyone interested in joining FiRST to contact us at first@scct.org, and encourage any feedback or ideas to improve our efforts.

Hope to see you in San Diego, CA for SCCT2014!

Sincerely,

Michael Cheezum, MD
Chair, FiRST Committee
Executive Committee

Michael Cheezum, MD – Chair
Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Lauren Simprini, MD – Vice Chair
Yale University School of Medicine

Marcio Bittencourt, MD, MPH – Secretary
Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Board Members

Amir Ali Ahmadi, MD
University of British Columbia

Michael Lu, MD
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Special thanks to Debra Fernandez and SCCT staff, the SCCT community, and the SCCT leadership for your support and continued guidance.

- The FiRST Committee