



# American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin

March 2026 • Debasish Roychoudhury, M.D., Editor

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## AACIO Information

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Website: [aacio.org](http://aacio.org)

## American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin (AACIO) International Society of Cardiovascular Ultrasound (ISCU)

### TO PRESENT

### INDIAN PHYSICIANS/CARDIOLOGISTS SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Saturday, March 28, 2026

5:00 p.m. – 8:30 pm

The Westin New Orleans

100 Iberville Street

New Orleans, LA 70130

Phone: (504) 566-7006

Room: Riverbend Ballroom, Level II

### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

5:00 – 6:00 pm Registration, Snacks/Refereshments

Symposium Directors: Drs. Rakesh K. Sharma, Harvinder Dod, Vishal Gupta, Jagadeesh Kalavakunta, Kalgi Modi, Navin C. Nanda, Hanumanth Reddy, Debasish Roychoudhury, Vasanth Bethala and Surendra Purohit

6:00 – 7:00 pm  AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP,  
Presentation: Rethinking Hyperkalemia to Optimize  
RAASi Therapy. Paul Tomasic, MD

7:00 - 7:15 pm Novartis Presentation: Lp(a) and South Asians and Impact  
on Cardiovascular Health. Anthony Lozama, PhD and  
Maitri Patel, PharmD, BCACP

7:15–7:30 pm Panel Discussion: The importance of Lp(a) in the South  
Asian Community. Prof. Raman Puri, Drs. Rakesh K.  
Sharma and Navin C. Nanda

7:30 – 7:40 pm Questions and Answers.

7:40 – 8:00 pm Medtronic Presentation: Renal Denervation in Treatment  
of Hypertension. Rakesh K. Sharma, MD, FACC, FSCAI

### GENERAL MEETING

8:00 – 8:30 pm Young Investigator Awards, Honorees, Announcements

8:30–10:00 pm Dinner Indian Cuisine/Bollywood Songs, Entertainment

10:00 pm Closure

**Reservations:** E-mail: [aacio123@gmail.com](mailto:aacio123@gmail.com)

## **SYMPOSIUM DIRECTORS AND FACULTY**

**Vasanth Bethala, MD**, Cardiologist, Ochsner Health and Slidell Memorial Hospital, Slidell, Louisiana

**Harvinder Dod, MD**, Adjunct Professor, University of Arkansas Medical Sciences, Little Rock, Arkansas and Director of South Arkansas Cardiology, El Dorado, Arkansas

**Vishal Gupta, MD, MPH, FACC, FSCAI**, Clinical Professor of Medicine, WMU Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine, Chief of Medicine, Ascension Borgess Medical Center, Co-Chair, Borgess Heart Institute, Medical Director, Beacon Kalamazoo Hospital Cardiovascular Lab and Medical Director, Structural Heart Disease, Kalamazoo, Michigan

**Jagadeesh Kalavakunta, MD, FACC, FSCAI**, Clinical Associate Professor, Michigan State University and Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine and Interventional Cardiologist, Beacon Kalamazoo Hospital, Kalamazoo, Michigan

**Anthony Lozama, PhD**, Medical Director, ASCVD/Lp(a), IM US Medical Affairs, Cardiovascular, Renal & Metabolism (CRM), Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, New Jersey

**Kalgi Modi, MD**, Professor of Medicine, Program Director, Acting Chief, Louisiana State University Health, Shreveport, Louisiana

**Navin C. Nanda, MD, DSc (Hon)**, Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama. President, International Society of Cardiovascular Ultrasound

**Maitri Patel, PharmD, BCACP**, Medical Science Liaison, Associate Director, Cardiovascular & Metabolism Field Medical, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, East Hanover, New Jersey

**Raman Puri, MD, DM**, President, Lipid Association of India, Senior Interventional Cardiologist, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, Delhi, India

**Surendra Purohit, MD**, General and Vascular Surgeon, Covington, Louisiana

**Hanumanth Reddy, MD**, Clinical Professor of Medicine, St. Louis University Medical School, St. Louis, Missouri, and Medical Director, Poplar Bluff Regional Hospital, Poplar Bluff, Missouri

**Debasish Roychoudhury, MD**, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine and Attending Cardiologist. NYP Queens, New York

**Rakesh K. Sharma, MD, FACC, FSCAI**, Interventional Cardiologist, BayCare Medical Group, Clearwater, Florida; Adjunct Clinical Professor of Medicine and Cardiology

**Paul V. Tomasic, MD, MS, FACP, FACE**, Cardiovascular, Renal & Metabolic Disease Senior Field Physician, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, Wilmington, Delaware





## **Special Announcement in Honor of the Late Professor Dr. Kul Aggarwal**

With heavy hearts, we celebrate the extraordinary life and legacy of our beloved colleague, Dr. Kul Aggarwal, whose recent passing on November 27th has left an irreplaceable void in the AACIO community. His absence resonates deeply with all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Dr. Aggarwal was not just an exceptional cardiologist; he was a beacon of hope and inspiration. As a dedicated leader within the American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin, his visionary contributions and unwavering commitment to advancing cardiovascular health have enriched our community and the wider medical world. His tenure as a past president was marked by profound passion, integrity, and a selfless devotion to service.

**We are proud to announce that we have decided to name a Young Investigator Award in honor of Dr. Kul Aggarwal.** This award will serve as a lasting tribute to his enduring spirit, inspiring future generations of cardiologists to follow in his footsteps of excellence and compassion.

Dr. Aggarwal leaves behind a legacy that will continue to guide us - a legacy defined not just by professional achievements but by the kindness, warmth, and grace that he extended to everyone he met. His legacy echoes in the countless lives he touched through both his practice and his unforgettable contributions to AACIO.

Born in Nairobi, Kenya, Dr. Aggarwal cherished a joyous childhood before moving back to India, where at the tender age of 14, he faced the heartbreaking loss of his father. Despite this early tragedy, his path led him to graduate from Amritsar Medical College in 1975, embarking on a 50-year journey of compassionate care. Throughout his career, he remained a constant learner and teacher, revered by patients and peers alike.

His pioneering spirit led him to establish the Interventional Cardiology fellowship at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, leaving an indelible mark on the field. In a testament to his extraordinary impact, a teaching award was dedicated in his honor upon his retirement.

Beyond his professional life, Kul was a devoted husband to Archana and a loving father to two daughters. Their adventures around the globe showcased his deep commitment to family and the true essence of love and sacrifice.

As we remember Dr. Kul Aggarwal, let us celebrate his unparalleled legacy of kindness, brilliance, and dedication - a legacy that will forever inspire us to serve with the same altruism and passion he exemplified.

## President's Message at ACC 2026



Dear Fellow Members,

It is a privilege to serve as your President, and I remain deeply grateful for your trust and continued support. Since 1986, the American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin (AACIO) has proudly represented cardiologists of Indian heritage across the United States, fostering academic excellence, mentorship, and collaboration within the global cardiovascular community.

Our semiannual meetings at the ACC and AHA Scientific Sessions reflect the best of AACIO—high-quality education, scientific innovation, and the invaluable contributions of our members. This year's AACIO program at ACC 2026 in New Orleans will be held at:

The Westin New Orleans  
100 Iberville Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
Riverbend Ballroom, Level II

This program continues our proud tradition with an outstanding lineup of expert speakers, original research presentations by young investigators, and opportunities to honor distinguished leaders in cardiovascular medicine.

A major milestone for AACIO has been our strengthened partnership with the American College of Cardiology (ACC). The Navin C. Nanda International Service Award, established in perpetuity by ACC, continues to gain remarkable visibility across ACC platforms. Throughout 2025–2026 and beyond, this award will be featured prominently in ACC publications, distinguished award promotions, and key scientific events.

In 2026, the award and its inaugural recipient will receive further recognition in the Distinguished Award announcements, the pre-ACC 26 issue of *Cardiology*, the ACC 26 newspaper, and ACC's X channel. It will also appear on the 2026 Convocation website, the 2025 Annual Report, and the Hall of Recognition screens at Heart House. This visibility underscores AACIO's ongoing commitment to advocating for our members and honoring the exceptional achievements of cardiologists of Indian origin.

Looking ahead, AACIO remains dedicated to expanding academic programming, strengthening partnerships with national and international cardiovascular societies, and supporting regional educational initiatives organized by our members throughout the United States. We are equally committed to promoting the next generation of cardiovascular physicians through our Young Investigator Award program, which has now recognized 93 exceptional early-career researchers.

To encourage broader engagement, our life membership continues to be offered at the significantly reduced rate of \$50. I warmly invite you and your colleagues to join or renew your membership at [www.aacio.org](http://www.aacio.org) and help us grow our vibrant and dynamic community.

We look forward to welcoming you to our AACIO meeting at ACC 2026 at The Westin New Orleans. Your participation strengthens our mission and inspires the important work we accomplish together.

Warm regards,

Rakesh K. Sharma, MD, FACC, FSCAI, FSCCT  
President, AACIO  
[www.aacio.org](http://www.aacio.org)



## AACIO Newsletter Editor's Column



Dear Colleagues and Fellow Members,

Spring is in the air, and as we prepare to welcome you to our semiannual AACIO March meeting in New Orleans, I reflect on a truly historic moment — the presentation of the International Service Award to Dr. Navin C. Nanda by the American College of Cardiology (ACC).

This distinguished honor, now bearing his name, is one among many accolades in his remarkable career. Yet beyond awards and titles, what stands highest is his lifelong devotion to teaching, mentorship, and the global advancement of cardiovascular medicine.

As the Founder President of our organization, Dr. Nanda laid the foundation upon which AACIO continues to grow and thrive. His vision extended beyond academic excellence; it was rooted in building a professional family that connects cardiologists of Indian origin across the world while contributing meaningfully to global cardiovascular science.

For decades, Dr. Nanda has been a pioneering force in echocardiography and cardiovascular imaging. His scholarship has shaped contemporary cardiac ultrasound, while his international leadership has built enduring bridges across continents. Through AACIO and global educational initiatives, he has elevated not only the science of imaging, but the spirit of collaboration within our profession.

On a personal note, many of us — myself included — have been direct beneficiaries of his mentorship. His guidance has shaped not only academic trajectories but professional character. He has consistently demonstrated that excellence in medicine must be anchored in humility, integrity, and compassion.

The true measure of a teacher lies not in honors received, but in the generations he inspires. By that measure, Dr. Nanda's legacy is profound and enduring.

As we gather in New Orleans, we celebrate not only a prestigious award, but a lifetime dedicated to inspiring cardiologists to strive higher, think deeper, and serve nobly.

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

With deep respect and gratitude,

Debasish Roychoudhury, MD  
Editor, AACIO Newsletter  
Past President, AACIO

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## New and Improved AACIO Website is NOW LIVE

We are thrilled to share some exciting news – **the new and improved AACIO website** is now live!

A special thank you to these two for all their efforts. They have worked diligently for many weeks into the late hours/early morning hours to make this happen.



Dr. Jagadeesh Kalavankunta



Akash Shah (Website [akash@skyinfosolutions.com](mailto:akash@skyinfosolutions.com))

Our goal was to make your online experience smoother, faster, and more secure. With this update, you'll notice:



**Enhanced security** to keep your data protected at every step.



**Simpler payment options** for membership renewals, donations and event registrations.



**A clean, modern design** that makes finding what you need easier than ever.

We encourage you to visit the new site ([www.aacio.org](http://www.aacio.org)), explore its features, and enjoy a safer, more seamless experience built just for our community.





## AACIO Young Investigator Awards – March 2026

### DR. KRISHNA RAMASWAMY AWARD



**Outcomes of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement in Patients with Amyloidosis: Insights from a Large Real-World, Sex-Stratified Analysis.**

**Vijayadithyan Jaganathan, MD**

Department of Internal Medicine, University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine, Reno, NV

### PROF. KUL AGGARWAL AWARD



**High-Sensitivity Troponin Implementation Improves Inpatient Cardiac Care Efficiency Without Reducing Revascularization**

**Vaidehi Mendpara, MD**<sup>1</sup>; Vijayadithyan Jaganathan, MD<sup>2</sup>; Robert Robinson, MD<sup>3</sup>; Michael Buhnerkempe, PhD<sup>4</sup>; Shruti Hegde, MD, FACC<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH

<sup>2</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine, Reno, NV <sup>3</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield, IL

<sup>4</sup>Center for Clinical Research, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield, IL

<sup>5</sup>Department of Cardiology, UMass Chan Medical School, Worcester, MA

### DR. MADHUKAR DESHMUKH AWARD



**Impact of Pre-existing Depression and/or Anxiety on Cardiovascular Outcomes in Women with Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD): A Real-World Evidence Study.**

Sze Jia Ng, MD<sup>1</sup>; **Sahith Reddy Thotamgari, MD**<sup>1</sup>; Hui Chong Lau, MD<sup>1</sup>; Akhilesh Babbili, MD<sup>1</sup>; Paramjit Kaur, MD<sup>1</sup>; Kalgi Modi, MD<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine, LSU Health, Shreveport, LA

## **KISHORE HARJAI FAMILY AWARD**



**Novel Risk Score For 1-Year Mortality After Cardiac Surgery in Valvular Cardiogenic Shock**

**Raunak M. Nair, MD, MSc**, Andrew Higgins, MD, Ran Lee, MD, Venu Menon, MD

Cleveland Clinic Heart, Vascular, and Thoracic Institute

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## **Special AACIO Awards – March 2026**



**AI-Enabled Electrocardiography for Detection of Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction and Future Risk Stratification**

**Parth Adrejiya, MD**<sup>1</sup>; Musa Sharkawi, MBBCh, MD, FACC<sup>2</sup>; Wael Aljaroudi, MD, FACC, FASNC, FASE, FSCCT<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, Wellstar Spalding Medical Center, Griffin, Georgia, USA

<sup>2</sup> Faculty, Program Director, Department of Structural Cardiology, Cleveland Clinic, Abu Dhabi, UAE

<sup>3</sup> Faculty, Program Director, Division of General Cardiovascular Medicine, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia, USA



**GLP-1 Receptor Agonists and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Cardiac Rehabilitation: A Real-World Cohort Study**

**Yesh Dhruva, B.S.**<sup>1</sup>; Leah Vaikutis, B.S.<sup>1</sup>; Mark Kneupfer, Ph.D.<sup>2</sup>; Chien-Jung Lin, MD, PhD<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Saint Louis University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO

<sup>2</sup>Center for Cardiovascular Research, St. Louis, MO

<sup>3</sup>SM Health University Hospital, St. Louis, MO



## **Outcomes of Beta-Blocker Therapy in Cocaine-Associated Myocardial Infarction**

**Rohit B Ponnada, BS<sup>3</sup>**; Atharva M Bhagwat, BA<sup>3</sup>; Atman K Shah, BS<sup>3</sup>; Joanne Salas, MPH<sup>2</sup>; Justin Ching-Hsien Lu, MD<sup>1</sup>; Ventaka Praneeth Peddada, DO<sup>1</sup>; Chien-Jung Lin, MD, PhD<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Cardiology, Department of Internal Medicine, SSM-Saint Louis University Hospital, Saint Louis, MO

<sup>2</sup>Advanced HEALTH and Data (AHEAD) Institute, Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, MO

<sup>3</sup>Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, MO



## **Predictors of Mechanical Circulatory Support Device Selection in Acute Myocardial Infarction-Related Cardiogenic Shock**

**Koushik Sanku MD**, Sahil Ghay DO, Baneet Kaur DO MPH, Tarec Elajami MD, Karthik Vedantam MD, Nirat Beohar, MD

Mount Sinai Medical Center, Miami Beach, FL



## **Transcatheter Edge-to-Edge Repair Versus Surgical Mitral Valve Repair/Replacement in Severe Mitral Regurgitation Complicated by Cardiogenic Shock**

**Roopeessh Vempati MD<sup>1</sup>**, Majd Alahmd, MD<sup>2</sup>, Kirit Patel, MD, FACC<sup>3</sup>, Abdul R Halabi, MD, FACC<sup>3</sup>, M Chadi Alraies, MD, MPH, FACC, FSCAI,<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, Trinity Health Oakland/ Wayne State University School of Medicine, Pontiac, Michigan

<sup>2</sup>Department of Internal Medicine, University of Missouri-Columbia, Missouri

<sup>3</sup>Department of Cardiovascular Medicine, Trinity Health Oakland/ Wayne State University School of Medicine, Pontiac, Michigan

<sup>4</sup>Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Detroit Medical Center/Wayne State University School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan

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## MEMBER NEWS

### DR. JAGADEESH KALAVAKUNTA



Dr. Jagadeesh Kalavakunta, AACIO Vice President and in charge of AACIO Website, recently published an interesting article in the Journal of Clinical Medicine titled "Yu DC, Yaser Ahmad Y, Randhawa M, Rai AS, Paul A, Elzalabany SS, Ryan Yu, Wasan R, Nanda N, Nanda NC, Kalavakunta JK. Beyond the Usual Suspects: A Narrative Review of High-Yield Non-Traditional Risk Factors for Atherosclerosis. J. Clin. Med. 2026,15,584." <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm15020584>. The publication also focuses on specific factors relating to the more vulnerable population of Indians living in India and abroad.

### DR. NAVIN C. NANDA IN THE NEWS



#### 1. UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA (UAB) NEWS

##### Nanda Celebrated as Pioneer of Echocardiography

Navin Nanda, M.D., distinguished professor in CVD, was recognized in the American Society of Echocardiography's Echo magazine for his contributions to congenital, pediatric and fetal echocardiography. The feature highlights his decades of work that have advanced the field and improved patient outcomes.

#### UAB Annual Report - February 03, 2026

##### Recognizing Excellence

Navin Nanda, M.D., Distinguished Professor in the UAB Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Disease, was honored by the American College of Cardiology (ACC), which named its **International Service Award** after him in recognition of his significant contributions to cardiovascular medicine, particularly in echocardiography. The inaugural Navin C. Nanda International Service Award will be presented at the 2026 ACC Scientific Session.

2. **THE CARDIOLOGY SOCIETY OF INDIA – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES CHAPTER** bestowed on Dr. Navin C. Nanda the Lifetime Achievement Award in Cardiovascular Imaging in recognition of his pioneering and lifelong contributions to echocardiography and cardiovascular imaging (February 01, 2026)



3. Navin C. Nanda is **the second Editor-in-Chief** after Dr. H.K. Chopra of a new book "Advances in Obesity and Lipid Management in CVD (Textbook of Cardiology), February 2026.

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## AACIO HONOREES



**Dr. Robert Gatewood, Jr., MD**, the eldest of 13 children, was born on a naval base off the coast of San Francisco. After completing medical school at Georgetown University and residency at SUNY Buffalo, Dr. Gatewood accepted a cardiology fellowship at The University of Rochester Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, NY. During his fellowship he met and was mentored by Dr. Navin Nanda. This relationship, which still endures nearly 50 years later, gave shape and clarity to Dr. Gatewood's future pursuits in the field of echocardiography. After his fellowship, Dr. Gatewood and his wife Cathy returned to Cathy's hometown of Buffalo, NY. Here Dr. Gatewood established his practice, Buffalo Cardiology and Pulmonary Associates, consistently cited as the preeminent practice of its kind in the region. Throughout his career, Dr. Gatewood introduced key advances in echocardiography to Western New York, including 3-D and intraoperative echocardiography, and was Co-Developer of Gates Vascular Institute, a 10-story interdisciplinary facility for state-of-the-art cardiovascular care and research. Dr. Gatewood has received numerous national and international distinctions for his contributions in his field and for his devoted care of his patients — a skill perhaps developed overseeing his 12 younger siblings. In 2018, Dr. Gatewood retired from full-time practice and currently serves as a faculty coach at the University of Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biosciences, where he relishes his new role as mentor to the next generation of physicians. Dr. Gatewood credits much of his success to the guidance and inspiration Dr. Nanda has provided him over the years and is touched and honored to be distinguished by the American Association of Cardiologists of Indian Origin at the March 2026 conference in New Orleans. AACIO is most proud to honor him for his outstanding contributions to Cardiology.



**Dr. Nicole L. Lohr, MD, PhD, FACC, FAHA** is Professor and Director of the Division of Cardiovascular Disease, Department of Medicine, Co-Director of the Cardiovascular Institute (CVI) and Associate Director of the Comprehensive Cardiovascular Center (CCVC), Heersink School of Medicine, at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Her professional activities include fundamental and clinical research, as well as direct patient care. She has a longstanding interest in exploring the critical role of nitric oxide in vascular function, oxidative stress and consequent cardiovascular diseases (CVD) and is developing therapies to reduce oxidative stress and improve vascular function. Lohr and colleagues investigated the mechanisms of coronary collateral growth in health and disease and gained proficiency in various *in vivo* and *in vitro* models of arteriogenesis and angiogenesis and in ameliorating and reversing the sequelae of CVD. Dr. Lohr is actively funded by NHLBI. She carries extensive experience in addressing morbidity and mortality from CVD across the lifespan, i.e., effects from acute coronary syndromes, cardiomyopathies, diabetes, and peripheral artery disease and how these diseases greatly reduce QOL for these patients. As a leader in academic cardiovascular medicine, she devotes her time to mentoring the next generation of physician scientists to advance the quality of research training at UAB and other universities. Dr. Lohr also serves in various leadership capacities with the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and serves as President for the American Heart Association (AHA) Birmingham Metro Board, serves as Chair-Elect for the ACC Membership Committee and contributes as Reviewer and Editorial Board Member for various prestigious journals. AACIO is most proud to honor Dr. Nicole Lohr for her pioneering contributions in the field of Cardiology.



**Dr. Kameswari Maganti, MD, FACC, FASE**, is a Professor of Medicine, where she serves as Section Chief of Non-Invasive Cardiology and Director of the Echocardiography Lab, Cardiodynamics, and Vascular Imaging at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. She is a board-certified cardiologist with advanced training in cardiovascular imaging, including fellowships at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Northwestern University, following earlier research training at UCSF.

Over a two-decade academic career at Northwestern, she held major leadership roles, including Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation and Director of the Cardiovascular Service Line for Solid Organ Transplantation. Her clinical and scholarly work emphasizes echocardiography, multimodality imaging, valvular heart disease, transplantation cardiology, and point-of-care ultrasound implementation, with ongoing participation in multicenter clinical trials and NIH-supported research as a co-investigator and safety officer.

Dr. Maganti has extensive national society leadership, including serving on the American Society of Echocardiography Board (2024–2026), ASE Foundation Board (2026-2028), prior Chair of ASE's Membership Steering Committee (2021–2024), and ongoing roles within ASE, ACC, and AHA. She has received multiple teaching awards and national recognition. She is an active educator and mentor, directs the Rutgers Echo Symposium, and has led global health outreach with the ASE Foundation, including medical leadership roles in Vietnam (2023) and Bengaluru, India (2025). AACIO is most proud to honor Prof. Kameswari Maganti for her outstanding achievements in the field of Cardiology.



**Dr. Vaikom S. Mahadevan, MD, FACC, FRCP, FSCAI**, is an internationally renowned expert and a leader in structural and adult congenital heart disease. He completed his medical education at Stanley Medical College, Chennai, India, before pursuing cardiology training in the United Kingdom. He underwent advanced adult congenital heart disease and interventional training at leading centers including the Royal Brompton Hospital in London and Toronto General Hospital.

Dr. Mahadevan, after serving as Consultant Cardiologist at the University of Manchester, joined the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), and served as Director of Structural and ACHD Interventions, William W. Parmley Endowed Chair in Cardiology. At UCSF, he played a transformative role in developing the structural heart program while mentoring numerous fellows who now lead programs across the country.

Most recently, he served as Chief of Cardiology, Edward-Budnitz Endowed Chair in Cardiology at UMass Chan / UMass Memorial Health, where he expanded the program with several new faculty appointments. After completing this role, he returned to California and now serves as Director of Structural and ACHD Cardiac Interventions at the Stockton Cardiology Group, one of the largest cardiology groups in California's Central Valley, while maintaining an academic affiliation with UMass.

Dr. Mahadevan has received numerous research grants, including from the British Heart Foundation, and has been Principal Investigator for over 20 multicenter studies. He has authored over 150 publications, several book chapters, including serving as Editor-in-Chief of a textbook on ACHD interventions. He serves on the editorial board of JACC: Advances and previously as Associate Editor of JACC Case Reports. AACIO is most proud to honor Dr. Vaikom Mahadevan for his outstanding accomplishments in the field of Cardiology.



**Dr. Andrew Miller, MD.** Dr. Miller's career reflects deep commitment to clinical investigation, education, cardiovascular medicine leadership, and service to the American College of Cardiology. He graduated with highest honors from Indiana University School of Medicine in 1998, where he contributed to congenital heart disease research, after earning a Bachelor of Philosophy from Miami University. He completed Internal Medicine residency and Cardiovascular Disease fellowship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), serving as Chief Fellow with recognition for outstanding teaching and patient care.

During his clinical-scientist fellowship with Dr. Suzanne Oparil, he published groundbreaking research on vascular injury inflammation and estrogen's aging-related cardiovascular effects. With Dr. Navin Nanda, he published over 40 manuscripts, chapters, and a textbook in echocardiography. As Associate Director of UAB's Cardiology Fellowship and Vascular Biology & Hypertension Programs from 2005-2008, he developed expertise in geriatric cardiology and women's cardiovascular health.

From 2008-2025, he practiced at CardioVascular Associates, Alabama's premier private practice founded in 1946, serving on its Joint Operating Committee and becoming a nonclinical competency thought-leader. He returned to UAB as Professor of Medicine in 2025.

His extensive ACC leadership spans over two decades, including roles as Chair of the Board of Governors, Secretary, Trustee, Membership Committee Chair, and HeartPAC Chair. Through service on the Health Affairs, Science and Quality, Governance, and Nominating Committees, he has championed critical issues including prior authorization reform, diversity and inclusion, cardiovascular team engagement, clinician well-being, and maintenance of certification. His advocacy work enables him to represent all cardiovascular professionals—academic and private practice, physician and cardiovascular team members across all subspecialties. AACIO is most proud to honor him for his outstanding contributions to Cardiology.



**Dr. Debabrata Roy, MD, DM (Cardiology)** is Senior Consultant Interventional Cardiologist and Academic Coordinator at NH-Rabindranath Tagore International Institute of Cardiac Sciences, Kolkata, India. He currently heads the "School Children Health Project" of the Cardiological Society of India (CSI), with the objective of understanding the evolution of cardiovascular risk factors and assessing the impact of lifestyle modifications among school children. This initiative aims to generate evidence-based insights to guide preventive strategies and promote heart-healthy habits from a young age.

He also undertook a project titled "Increasing Air Pollution Awareness among School Children and Neighbouring Community to Mitigate CVD" for which he received the Outstanding Chapter Innovation Award at the American College of Cardiology Annual Sessions held in Chicago in 2025. He is also heading the project "Pan India Survey of Prescription Patterns, Treatment Adherence, and Control of Traditional Cardiovascular Risk Factors – Hypertension, Diabetes, Dyslipidemia, and Tobacco Use", which was initiated by the CSI. The study will enroll 100,000 patients and aims to provide actionable insights for improving cardiovascular care at a national level.

He has published/presented several papers in different national/international journals. He has been a member of the Writing Group of CSI's Position Statements on many subjects including STEMI, Guidelines for Dyslipidemia management, Genetic testing of cardiomyopathies and Cardiac evaluation in patients awaiting kidney transplant. AACIO is most proud to honor him for his outstanding contributions to Cardiology in India.



**Dr. Satyendra Tewari, MD, DM (Cardiology)** is the President-Elect of the Cardiological Society of India (CSI). He is currently Senior Professor in the Department of Cardiology at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences in Lucknow, India. He did his MD and DM from the G.S.V.M. Medical College, Kanpur. He is a clinical cardiologist with emphasis on preventive cardiology and genetics as well as an interventional cardiologist who has performed over 5000 cases using the radial artery approach.

In addition to his role as a WHO collaborator, he has participated in multicenter studies on coronary artery disease in North India and published research papers in both national and international journals. His research showed an association between Apo lipoprotein B gene polymorphisms and elevated Apo lipoprotein B along with very low-density lipoprotein levels. He was honored by the Governor of his State (Uttar Pradesh) for organizing many super specialty clinics and camps in various cities and villages and for establishing the first Lipid Clinic in his State. These have created an immense impact on the lifestyle of both urban and rural populations in his State.

Besides being a popular teacher, he has been active in organizing several important Conferences in his home city of Lucknow including a National Interventional Conference and the Annual Conference of the CSI in 2024. AACIO is most proud to honor him for his outstanding contributions to Cardiology in India.



**Dr. Srinivas Vengala, MD, FACC** is a distinguished interventional cardiologist, physician leader, and community advocate whose career reflects sustained excellence in clinical care, innovation, and service. Board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiovascular Disease, Interventional Cardiology, and Echocardiography, Dr. Vengala has more than 15 years of experience delivering advanced cardiovascular care in both academic and community-based settings.

After completing advanced fellowship training at nationally recognized institutions—including the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Allegheny General Hospital/Drexel University, and the University of Pennsylvania—Dr. Vengala joined CHI St. Vincent Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas in 2011. Since that time, he has played a pivotal role in bringing advanced cardiac therapeutics and contemporary interventional technologies to the local community, significantly expanding access to high-quality cardiovascular care in a non-academic setting. His clinical expertise includes high-volume coronary and peripheral interventions as well as structural heart disease procedures, resulting in improved patient outcomes and reduced need for out-of-region referrals.

Dr. Vengala has also made substantial academic contributions, authoring and co-authoring more than 30 peer-reviewed publications with a focus on live three-dimensional echocardiography, valvular and congenital heart disease, and advanced cardiac imaging. His scholarly work has contributed meaningfully to the evolution of modern cardiovascular imaging and intervention.

In addition to his clinical and academic accomplishments, he serves as the 2026 President of AAPI Arkansas, representing over 450 physicians statewide, with a focus on mentorship, professional development, and physician engagement. He is also leading efforts to advance cardiovascular education, prevention, and research.

Dr. Srinivas Vengala exemplifies the highest ideals of medicine through clinical excellence, innovation, leadership, and service. His contributions have advanced cardiovascular care, strengthened physician communities, and improved public health outcomes. AACIO is most proud to honor him for his outstanding accomplishments.

## SPECIAL HONOR



**Anila Keswani** is a dedicated restaurateur and experienced Certified Public Accountant. Having migrated from India, Anila brings a unique blend of entrepreneurial spirit and financial expertise to her work.

In addition to her success in the restaurant industry, Anila is also well known for her active role in the community and in AACIO, where she has been organizing all meetings held in New Orleans since 1984.

Anila is also a proud mother of two sons. Her son Anjay runs the businesses, while her son Sundeeep is a dedicated pediatric surgeon.

Through her multifaceted career and community involvement, Anila continues to make meaningful contributions, earning the respect and admiration of both her professional peers and the broader New Orleans community. We are most proud to honor her for her outstanding contributions to AACIO for the past several decades.

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## WORLD CONGRESSES OF ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY under the auspices of INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CARDIOVASCULAR ULTRASOUND

XXXI World Congress of Echocardiography and Allied Techniques will be held **September 25-27, 2026** in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Prof. Firas Al Badarin will serve as the National President of the Congress and Prof. Galal Elkilany will serve as the Chairman of the Organizing Committee



XXXII World Congress of Echocardiography and Allied Techniques and Clinical Cardiology will be held **October, 2027** in Manta, Ecuador. Congress President: Jorge Endara MD

Dr. Navin C. Nanda is International President for the above World Congresses

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