

Capital Campaigns Important Source of Funds for Interventional Radiology Research



SIR Foundation's First Capital Campaign: "IA2000"

In 1996, SIR Foundation launched Interventional America 2000 (IA2000)—a campaign to raise unrestricted funds for investigator-initiated and Foundation-initiated research and education projects. The campaign achieved its goal of raising \$5,000,000 by January 2000, including \$1,000,000 in challenge grants from IA2000 corporate chairs, Cook Incorporated and Medi-tech/Boston Scientific Corporation.

SIR Foundation Contributors are Making a Difference

With funds raised through IA2000, SIR Foundation established an annual research grant program that has awarded over 80 grants totaling over \$1.7 million. Thus far, these grants have been the catalyst for many scientific journal publications with more currently in preparation. Published manuscripts provide the body of scientific evidence for the specialty, which in turn leads to approved reimbursement codes and credibility with primary care physicians and the public. What's more, many of these investigators are beginning to receive large multi-year grants from the National Institutes of Health and other funding organizations. SIR Foundation grant recipients have received over \$6,000,000 in federal grant funding since receiving their SIR Foundation grant.

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Additional significant contributions made possible with contributions from IA2000:

- Uterine Artery Embolization Fibroid Registry for Outcomes Data (FIBROID) has ended its data collection phase and has been a resounding success as the largest, multi-center, prospective, voluntary registry on any procedure for benign uterine fibroids
- Over 130 sites from the U.S. and Europe have expressed interest in participating in the Transatlantic Asymptomatic Carotid Intervention Trial (TACIT); trial leadership is working with the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and industry to assess the feasibility for funding this pivotal trial designed to assess interventional, medical and surgical treatments for asymptomatic patients with carotid atherosclerotic disease
- The Thrombus Removal with Adjunctive Catheter-directed Thrombolysis (ATTRACT) trial has been submitted for funding determination to NIH
- Research priorities within liver oncology, lung oncology and cardiovascular imaging were identified as gaps in the current body of knowledge, and research that might address these gaps have been discussed by a multidisciplinary panel of experts;

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Bibliography of Select SIR Foundation-Funded Research

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SIR Foundation Explores the Development of a Clinical Trial on UAE and Myomectomy

Uterine Artery Embolization (UAE) has been an area of strategic priority of the SIR Foundation for many years. In 2005, with the activities of the FIBROID Registry winding down, SIR Foundation assembled a multidisciplinary panel of experts charged to discuss the next steps in UAE research. The UAE Research Consensus Panel concluded that the most important strategic clinical study needing to be performed would investigate the impact of UAE and myomectomy on fertility, but before such a study could be instituted, additional data on the impact of myomectomy and UAE on the ovaries and endometrium was needed. These factors are important to fertility and have not been adequately studied for either UAE or myomectomy. A study to compare the impacts of these therapies on ovarian and endometrial function was therefore the first priority of the consensus panel.



James Spies, MD, performs uterine artery embolization



“We are excited to be involved in the development of this trial. It addresses a very important unanswered question about fertility. This is why the CAIRR network exists—to help interventional radiologists be the leaders in the design and conduct of pivotal trials affecting the practice of medicine.”

—John Rundback, MD, Chair, CAIRR Network

SIR Foundation’s interventional radiology clinical trials network, the Cooperative Alliance for Interventional Radiology Research (CAIRR), is facilitating the development of this trial and has been pivotal in designing the study, identifying potential sites, and preparing the NIH funding application. James Spies, MD, lead investigator, is working closely with interventional radiologists, gynecologists, and fertility experts to design a clinical trial protocol to address these issues. In the months ahead, the trial development team will finalize the study design and subsequently submit the trial to the National Institutes of Health for funding support.

For more information on this trial please contact SIR Foundation at (703) 691-1805. ❖

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meeting proceedings and findings are currently being drafted for publications and development of clinical trial protocols

IA2000 donations also supplemented donations that made the SCVIR Transluminal Angioplasty and Revascularization (STAR) Registry possible. The STAR Registry was the first multi-center, prospective trial of balloon angioplasty and other interventional procedures used to treat patients with lower extremity ischemia.

These are just some examples of how a medical specialty’s research

foundation can drive the development of a field of medicine through a successful fundraising campaign.

IA2000 was a great success and its effort continues to shape IR today. As interventional radiology continues to grow and its needs change, SIR Foundation must again be positioned with the resources to effectively respond to new opportunities. By generously supporting the funding initiatives of SIR Foundation, contributors are ensuring that the clinical needs of interventional radiology continue to advance and shape the practice of medicine. ❖

