

## CORAL Study Enters Second Year

The CORAL Study (Cardiovascular Outcomes with Renal Atherosclerotic Lesions) is entering its second year of funding by the National Institutes of Health. This study is the most important study of interventional and medical treatment of renovascular hypertension.

Timothy P. Murphy, MD, co-principal investigator of the study, said, “The CORAL Study will be the only study of its kind. It is the definitive study of renal artery stenosis and hypertension, and has the potential to answer many of the questions surrounding the disease.”

SIR recognizes this study as having tremendous strategic significance for interventional radiology. CORAL is an opportunity for

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interventional radiology to demonstrate its commitment to scientific investigation of one of the diseases that it treats, and to showcase its importance in management of patients with renal artery stenosis. There are many specialties competing to manage patients with peripheral artery disease. There are large numbers of interventional radiologists who perform renal artery interventions commonly. SIR believes it is of vital importance to interventional radiology’s profile in the management of PAD that interventional radiologists support the CORAL study at a high level. Contact [CORAL@SIRfoundation.org](mailto:CORAL@SIRfoundation.org) if you are interested in getting involved. ❖

## Sites Needed for PAD Study CLEVER

*Alan T. Hirsch, MD, Study Chair; Timothy P. Murphy, MD, Principal Investigator Niki C. Oldenburg, DrPH; Joselyn Cerezo, MD*

The Claudication: Exercise Vs. Endoluminal Revascularization (CLEVER) trial is the first investigation that will evaluate the relative efficacy and safety of three major treatment strategies for patients with peripheral arterial disease and claudication. CLEVER will compare supervised exercise vs. endovascular revascularization vs. “optimal medical care” (usual care, including claudication pharmacotherapy) in a multicenter, prospective randomized trial design. For exploratory purposes, CLEVER will also examine the potential synergistic benefit of a combined endovascular and supervised exercise intervention. Importantly, CLEVER represents a national interdisciplinary clinical collaboration whose primary goal is to inform fundamental clinical decisions that can improve symptoms and enhance quality of life for individuals with PAD.

Site selection is now underway for this major National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute clinical investigation and will be completed by July 2006. Each candidate site should be able to:

- successfully recruit individuals with PAD
- provide PAD-specific medical care
- provide endovascular intervention per study protocol
- have access to exercise rehabilitation facilities, usually at an established cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center

You are invited to apply. Please complete the site application at: <http://www.lifespan.org/services/clintrials/vdrc/Studies/CLEVER/default.htm>. Email Joselyn Cerezo, MD, at [JCerezo@Lifespan.org](mailto:JCerezo@Lifespan.org) for username and password to gain access to the application. ❖

# AngioDynamics Donates \$200,000 to SIR Foundation



*Angiodynamics staff and guests at the opening reception at SIR's Annual Scientific Meeting. Left to right: Shea and Sheila Collins, Danielle Longnecker and Eamonn Hobbs, Angiodynamics CEO.*

AngioDynamics, Inc., donated \$200,000 to the SIR Foundation in 2005 as part of a million-dollar commitment, to be paid over five years, to support the Foundation's ongoing mission of advancing interventional radiology research for the enhancement of patient care. A strong supporter and advocate of the Foundation, AngioDynamics had also previously contributed to the Interventional America 2000 (IA 2000)

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campaign and has sponsored the Foundation's annual Leaders in Innovation Award since its inception in 2002.

“AngioDynamics strongly believes in the mission of the SIR Foundation and the work that the Foundation supports. The Foundation serves a crucial role in ensuring that innovative research is conducted,” said Eamonn Hobbs, president and chief executive officer of AngioDynamics, Inc. The company designs, develops, manufactures and markets therapeutic and diagnostic medical devices used by interventional radiologists and other physicians for the minimally invasive diagnosis and treatment of peripheral vascular disease, tumor therapy and other non-vascular disease. Hobbs, an honorary fellow of SIR, was named to the SIR Foundation Board of Directors last year.

“We are grateful for the generous donation made by AngioDynamics,” Foundation Chair Joseph Bonn, MD, said. “Their generosity makes it possible for the Foundation to support important basic science and clinical research that enhances evidence-based practice and the development of innovative therapies that improve patient care and quality of life.” ❖

## SIR Members Receive American Cancer Society Grant

### GRANT EXPLORES MR DIFFUSION-WEIGHTED IMAGING IN LIVER TUMORS

Reed Omary, MD, Andrew Larson, PhD, and Riad Salem, MD, have been awarded a \$100,000 American Cancer Society - Illinois Chapter grant to study MR diffusion imaging of tumor response in VX2 rabbits. Their study will evaluate the ability of MRI to distinguish between live tumor tissue and necrotic tumor tissue. Another goal is to compare a functional evaluation to anatomic evaluation of HCC tumor response to embolization treatment.

“By establishing MRI's ability to evaluate HCC tumor response to therapy in an animal model, we hope to offer an alternative method of tumor evaluation ultimately to improve tumor therapy decision making for both physicians and their patients with HCC,” Omary said. ❖

## (IR)<sup>2</sup> Meeting Scheduled for Washington This Fall

The next (IR)<sup>2</sup> meeting—(IR)<sup>2</sup>: Cardiovascular Imaging & Image-Guided Therapy—will be held as part of the SIR multi-modality meeting, to be held this October at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C. Specifically, the dates for the (IR)<sup>2</sup> portion of the meeting are October 17 and 18.

This multi-disciplinary program is directed at basic scientists, physician-scientists, academic trainees and federal and industry researchers. It will present state-of-the-art reviews and abstracts of current research in cardiac and vascular imaging technology, as well as novel techniques for image-guided vascular interventions.

More information on this meeting will be announced at <http://www.SIRweb.org> as it becomes available.

By attending this course, attendees will learn to:

- Discuss the fundamentals of vascular anatomy, physiology and disease as they pertain to imaging and image-guided therapies
  - Employ techniques for non-invasive imaging of cardiovascular disease and therapy
  - Describe animal models for imaging research
  - Identify new developments in materials for image-guided therapies
  - Review emerging procedures for image-guided therapy
  - Identify funding opportunities for research in imaging and image-guided therapy ❖
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