

## ACC ANNOUNCES APPROPRIATE USE FOCUS COMMUNITY

**FEBRUARY 2010** | The **FOCUS (Formation of Optimal Cardiovascular Utilization Strategies) Innovation Community** is an American College of Cardiology national quality improvement initiative designed to help medical professionals use Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) to increase imaging appropriateness rates.

**FOCUS is a quality improvement and innovation community for physicians to self-assess and gain quantitative feedback on their level of appropriate use, as well as share ideas on appropriate use criteria (AUC) implementation.** FOCUS allows members to share strategies and help design systems to optimize utilization of cardiovascular imaging. Through participation in the community, facilities gain access to a shared list of tools and best practices that can be integrated into daily practice. In addition, community members will have access to a performance improvement module (PIM) that can document participation in FOCUS and help individual physicians identify their ordering pattern. FOCUS examines a range of CV modalities including ECHO, CT and RNI, and provides online performance improvement tools and community learning.



To join FOCUS, please visit the ACC website ([www.cardiosource.org/Science-And-Quality/Quality-Programs/Imaging-in-FOCUS.aspx](http://www.cardiosource.org/Science-And-Quality/Quality-Programs/Imaging-in-FOCUS.aspx)) or contact ACC at [focus@acc.org](mailto:focus@acc.org) for more information. Download the FOCUS FAQ at [www.intersocietal.org/nuclear/forms/FOCUS\\_FAQs.pdf](http://www.intersocietal.org/nuclear/forms/FOCUS_FAQs.pdf)