2018-2019
A Year in Review

Membership
AACVPR now has 3,400 members, including 896 new members this year alone. Joint Affiliate members now make up 64% of all AACVPR Membership. There are currently 39 known AACVPR Affiliates, 19 of which are Joint Affiliates — compared to only five a few years ago.

Look for exciting additions and changes to our membership program including those for groups, emerging professionals, and retirees.

Professional Certifications
Currently, 911 individuals have earned the Certified Cardiac Rehabilitation Professional (CCRP) designation.

The Pulmonary Certificate, developed with AARC and introduced in early 2018, has awarded 259 certificates to date.

Relationship with Science and Research Community
AACVPR has made great strides in enhancing the association’s relationship with the science and research community. There was a 30% increase in scientific abstract submissions between the 2017 and 2018 Annual Meetings, and Moderated Abstract Tours continue to grow in popularity, allowing researchers to present their findings to a captive audience as real-world, clinical application.

Program Certification
In 2018, 641 cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation programs were approved for AACVPR Program Certification. The application process for 2019 has closed, and Annual Reports will open in March 2019. New this year, certified programs will receive a robust marketing kit with tips, templates and graphics to help promote and raise awareness of AACVPR Program Certification.

New Learning Center
In response to member feedback, AACVPR launched a new online Learning Center. It’s now mobile-friendly and a guaranteed “one-stop-shop” for essential educational resources. Your CE information has been transferred to the new platform. A virtual tour of the platform is available on the Learning Center page of the AACVPR website. Use it to get acclimated to the new interface.
Day On The Hill
AACVPR headed to Capitol Hill again in 2019, with more than 25 meetings with state representatives and senators. The 2019 plan furthers our initiative of seeking support for legislation that would correct the mandated payment reduction for off-campus or re-located hospital outpatient services. For the first time, AACVPR brought a news crew along, producing a video to increase awareness of DOTH. The video can be found on the AACVPR website. Our thanks to LSI for supporting this new endeavor for us.

Cardiac Rehabilitation Change Package
AACVPR, in partnership with the CDC Million Hearts initiative, released the Cardiac Rehabilitation Change Package (CRCP), composed of change concepts and resources to help hospital teams and CR programs improve patient care. AACVPR plans to partner with Million Hearts on future strategic initiatives. Access the CRCP at millionhearts.hhs.gov.

Legislation
Reimbursement updates are sent regularly and cover a wide variety of important topics such as Intensive CR and Heart Failure, Site Location Neutrality and Consequences, Heart Health Legislation, Medicare Plans and Physician Fee Schedules, and more. An archived list of updates can be found at aacvpr.org/Advocacy/Reimbursement-Updates.

Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Outpatient Data Registries
As of January 2019, there were 517 CR programs and 265 PR programs subscribed to the Registries. In total, more than 500,000 patient records have been entered, and roughly 30% of AACVPR Certified Programs use the Registries.

In 2018, AACVPR began development of a new Data Analytics Center, which will allow researchers to access data from the Registries while maintaining the security, quality, accuracy and completeness of the data. More information to come in 2019.

We encourage you to stay engaged with your local affiliate and with AACVPR. And most importantly... THANK YOU for your involvement and your focus on patient care.