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American Society of Echocardiography Invests in Joint Research Initiative to Help Patients Suffering from Wide-Reaching Form of Heart Failure

(DURHAM, NC, Sept. 29, 2022)—[The American Society of Echocardiography \(ASE\)](#) is targeting its research funding over the next five years to help solve some of the mysteries around the early detection of a common form of heart failure. ASE is one of the key partner organizations in a joint research initiative that aims to identify more precise treatment strategies for patients suffering from heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF).

The Accelerating Medicines Partnership® Heart Failure (AMP® HF) Program will utilize more than \$37 million in funding from private and public collaborators—which includes ASE—to better diagnose and develop treatment options for HFpEF and improve the outlook for millions of patients around the world. The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) will facilitate the program over the next five years.

“One of ASE’s current strategic goals is to focus our efforts where they are most needed,” says **Stephen H. Little, MD, FASE, FRCPC, FACC**, ASE’s 2022-2023 Board of Directors President. “The Society is proud to support research projects like AMP HF because of the great promise the findings can have in advancing the field of cardiovascular ultrasound and improving patient care.”

HFpEF is a common form of heart failure that is difficult to detect. It is often deadly, with a five-year survival rate of just 35-40%. In addition to a high risk for mortality, patients with HFpEF live with declining quality of life and poor capacity to perform tasks of daily living.

The AMP HF Program will advance the understanding of HFpEF using two complementary and integrated research components: analyzing existing HFpEF datasets, sourced from public and private sector funded studies, and initiating a new clinical trial to confirm retrospective findings in an observational cohort with a goal to develop a framework for new precision treatments.

“Echocardiography is a specialty that already plays a significant role in diagnosing heart conditions, and we look forward to continuing to learn how echocardiographic screenings can be used in understanding the many still unanswered questions about HFpEF,” says **Judy Hung, MD, FASE**, who is a cardiologist with Massachusetts General Hospital and an ASE past president.

“Research shapes the future of medicine, and ASE is honored to be among some of the largest and most innovative biomedical partners contributing to this important initiative,” Dr. Hung added.

ASE's charitable arm, the [ASE Foundation](#), provides support for initiatives that are not funded by membership dues—such as training scholarships and scientific research. In the last 25 years, the Society and its Foundation have contributed more than \$7.3 million to cardiovascular health research.

About American Society of Echocardiography

The American Society of Echocardiography (ASE) is the Society for Cardiovascular Ultrasound Professionals™. ASE is the largest global organization for cardiovascular ultrasound imaging serving physicians, sonographers, nurses, veterinarians, and scientists and as such is the leader and advocate, setting practice standards and guidelines for the field. The Society is committed to advancing cardiovascular ultrasound to improve lives. For more information, visit the ASE website [ASEcho.org](#) or social media pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).

About the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health: The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) creates and manages alliances with public and private institutions in support of the mission of the NIH. FNIH works with its partners to accelerate biomedical research and strategies against diseases and health concerns in the United States and across the globe. The FNIH organizes and administers research projects; supports education and training of new researchers; organizes educational events and symposia; and administers a series of funds supporting a wide range of health issues—all efforts focused on areas of unmet need, paving the way toward better patient experiences and outcomes. Established by Congress in 1990, the FNIH is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. For additional information about the FNIH, please visit <https://fnih.org>.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH): NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <https://www.nih.gov/>.

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