# American College of Radiology (ACR)

## Association Membership

ACR’s membership includes 38,000 diagnostic radiologists, radiation oncologists, interventional radiologists, nuclear medicine physicians and medical physicists.

## Key Assets Promoting Practice Transformation

**Radiology Support, Communication and Alignment Network (R-SCAN)** is a collaborative action plan that brings together radiologists and referring clinicians to improve imaging appropriateness based on *Choosing Wisely* recommendations. R-SCAN encourages radiologists to become transformational leaders who align themselves with other key stakeholders to deliver enhanced value to patients.

## Bringing Transformation to Professional Sector

ACR provides technical support, resources and tools to practices implementing R-SCAN through a web portal and the CDS R-SCAN Registry. ACR’s goal is to reduce unnecessary imaging by at least 20 percent across all R-SCAN projects, resulting in less harm to patients and significant cost savings. To achieve that goal by September 2019, R-SCAN’s reach will include more than 4,000 affiliated radiologists and practices with more than 20,000 affiliated referring clinicians.

To date, ACR reports the following results:

- 22 percent average improvement in the ordering of imaging exams across 80 R-SCAN Choosing Wisely projects.
- 16,000-plus imaging cases reviewed for adherence to evidence-based guidelines.
- More than 4,000 participating radiologists and 10,000 clinician providers engaged.

## Supporting PTNs and Other Partners

Within the network of TCPI-enrolled practices, ACR partnered with 12 PTNs on 34 different projects to implement R-SCAN. Through these partnerships, ACR has reached 2,230 clinicians in 23 practices.

Results from these partnerships between ACR and PTNs include:

- Mayo PTN and HealthPartners Delmarva (HPD) PTN partnerships: 39 percent (Mayo) and 36 percent (HPD) reduction in ordering of low- to medium-value chest CT angiography for possible pulmonary embolism in patients with low clinical probability.
Supporting Movement to Value-based Care

ACR will continue its active role in promoting value-based care, to include:

1. Creating new opportunities for radiologists to demonstrate their role in ensuring patients receive optimal imaging care.
2. Working with radiology leaders and CMS to provide new APM opportunities.
3. Educating its members about value-based care opportunities through webinars, chapter meetings and the College’s many member communications.

Promoting Exemplary Practice

ACR defines exemplary practice as taking significant and meaningful steps to move from volume to value-based imaging care through various types of actions. Exemplary practices actively and progressively adhere to quality standards through the following actions:

1. Participate in ACR-sponsored programs and data registries for performance improvement and benchmarking.
2. Adopt standardized framework for results reporting to reduce the variability of report terminology and to include evidence-based imaging follow up recommendations for improved communication with referring physicians and patients.
3. Obtain facility accreditation that demonstrates fulfillment of requirements for equipment performance, skilled medical personnel, and quality assurance processes.

Web Resources

- **R-SCAN Website**
  
  **R-SCAN Case Study Examples:**
  
  - **Engaging the Physician:** Using R-SCAN, radiologists collaborate with family medicine clinics to enhance imaging appropriateness of lumbar spine orders.
  - **Backed by Guidance:** Hershey Medical Center’s R-SCAN project decreases inappropriate low back pain imaging and utilization in the ED.
  - **Partners in Quality:** Radiologists and ED physicians collaborate using R-SCAN to achieve a 45% improvement in appropriate CT ordering for pulmonary embolism.
  - **Shaping Change from Within:** Using R-SCAN as a transformation tool, a radiology group reduces inappropriate follow-up imaging by nearly 55% for patients with ovarian masses.

View the full compendium of R-SCAN case studies [here](#).

Key Contact

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Publications

See list of publications.