Indiana Chapter of the American College of Cardiology
Vijay Rao, MD, PhD, FACC, FASE, FHFSA, FICOS, Governor
Parin Patel, MD, FACC, Governor-Elect
Angela Raymer, MBA, CV Team State Chapter Representative
Gwen J. Goldfarb, Chapter Executive Director

2024 State of the State Report

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENT

State-Level Advocacy

Indiana-ACC public health and advocacy committees wrote and sponsored two resolutions both of which passed at the Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) convention on September 6-8th and became part of the 2025 agenda for the organization. The resolutions focused on seeking out and supporting legislation in Indiana to remove non-competes for subspecialists and to raise awareness for enhanced CV risk among the south Asian population. Having stronger ties to ISMA will allow Indiana-ACC to be more impactful on the advocacy front both in the current and future legislative sessions.

INCREASE RELEVANCE AS THE CV PROFESSIONAL HOME

Accomplishments

- Our chapter CV team council is focused on how to speak more effectively to CV team members so that they find value within our chapter.
- Our CV pharmacist workgroup (10 members) continues to interface with our chapter by contributing a column to the quarterly governor's newsletter highlighting authorization of drugs as well as education about new therapies.
- 12 members participated in the IN state legislative day in coordination with the Indiana Public Health Day at the state capitol on Jan 16th, 2024. We were able to celebrate passage of House Resolution 4 which proclaimed February 2024 as American Heart Month with the support of state house representative, Dr. Garcia-Wilborn. We also advocated for the physician non-compete bill, AED bill, ban on flavored tobacco and e-liquids.
- 9 members participated in the ACC national legislative conference in DC on October 1, 2024.
- IN ACC CV team lead Angela Raymer attended the national ACC meeting and helped her section finalize CardioSmart graphics including one on Air Pollution and Your Heart.
- FIT members participated in the ACC Jeopardy competition at the national ACC meeting.

Opportunities

Continue to promote greater ties with ISMA to provide more opportunities for our members to engage on the advocacy front.

GENERATE AND DELIVER ACTIONABLE KNOWLEDGE

Accomplishments

- 28th Annual Meeting of the Indiana-ACC was held in-person at the French Lick Resort in southern Indiana on August 3, 2024, with 70 participants and 27 exhibiting companies. This was the first year in our history that we chose to host a destination annual chapter meeting and we sought to have a venue that would allow for more members to include their family members. The venue was well received by attendees and kicked off with a dinner at the Pete Dye Pavilion. We presented the 2024 Indiana-ACC Career Achievement Award to Edward Fry, MD, MACC. The meeting included panels/speakers that were well represented by diverse groups from our membership, including women, minorities, FITs, early career, as well as senior members. We had more residents attending and presenting posters than in any prior year with 12 participants. Given the positive feedback from members, plans are to host at this venue every third year.
- Continued to provide quarterly e-newsletters giving updates to all Indiana-ACC members.
- Continued the Education IN ACCtion quarterly cardio bites video series to provide education regarding non-clinical topics in cardiology. The most recent cardiobite included a discussion of GLP-1 drugs and their utility in the CV space. The videos have been archived on our IN ACC website.

Opportunities
Continue to support and develop the IN ACCtion cardio bites and include topics specific to best practices in subspecialties of cardiology.

ADVANCE QUALITY, EQUITY, AND VALUE OF CV CARE
Accomplishments

- Established the Heart Failure subsection of IN ACC which plans to include an annual city-wide case conference to improve overall heart failure care and share best practices.
- Our Board of Governors partnered with Project ADAM, a non-profit organization, focused on providing high schools with AED awareness, education, and action plans. Angela Raymer is working with Tobacco Free Allen County, thus expanding our reach and influence within our communities.
- IN-ACC WIC section hosted a live lecture in June 2024 with Dr. Torbeck from IUPUI on professional development and met during a break-out session at the IN ACC state-wide annual meeting.
- Dr. Rao represented IN ACC at the Indiana State Medical Association (ISMA) Specialty Society Leadership Conference to discuss and prioritize upcoming state legislation.
- Dr. Vijay Rao and Dr. Ankur Kalra represented IN ACC at the ISMA statewide convention and presented two resolutions both of which passed.
- Established a new IN-ACC community outreach taskforce led by Dr. Ankur Kalra (several projects in the works including IN Black Expo PAD initiative, AED grant through the NFL Smart Hearts program and the AHA, partnership with ISMA on education initiative about increased CV risk in South Asians).
- Cardio-Oncology subsection completed work on the ACC multi-state grant to develop a CardioOncology passport to create a mobile solution for patients to house their health information, plans are underway to launch the app in 2025. This section also guided the Long Island cardio-oncology programs on how to set up an effect case conference series based upon the Indianapolis Cardio-Oncology Network (ICON) case series.

Opportunities
Continue to support our WIC section and provide opportunities for both women and underrepresented minorities within our chapter.

ENSURE ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
Accomplishments

- IN-ACC has stable membership with 993 members as of December 2024.
- Continued support of new poster internal medicine resident category at annual meeting to develop the pipeline of future leaders for the Indiana-ACC.

Opportunities
Work more closely with cardiology fellowship program directors to establish FIT to FACC as a priority for the chapter. Engage new members through micro-volunteering as we are doing with the CV Pharmacists workgroup and the CV Team Council.