RSNA Press Release

Suhny Abbara, M.D., Named Editor of Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging

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Suhny Abbara, M.D.

Dr. Abbara is professor of radiology at UT Southwestern Medical Center, in Dallas, Texas. He currently serves as an attending physician at Zale Lipshy University Hospital, Clements University Hospital and Parkland Health & Hospital System, where he is the medical director of Parkland Cardiothoracic.

“I was thrilled when I learned that RSNA was creating the new journal, Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging,” Dr. Abbara said. “The next 10 years in cardiothoracic imaging will be very different from the last 10. This new journal can serve as a catalyst for the science and research that drive this positive change, and I am convinced that it can aid in the translation of research into clinical practice. I am honored to be able to serve as editor for
this timely new journal.”

The focus of Dr. Abbara’s research has been in cardiac CT and MRI, lung cancer screening and early detection, and the identification of imaging biomarkers to predict the outcomes of post-surgical procedures and anesthesia outcomes. He also specializes in cardiac CT angiography and coronary calcium scoring, a noninvasive CT scan of the heart which calculates a person’s risk of developing coronary artery disease by measuring the amount of calcified plaque in the coronary arteries.

A 1995 graduate of Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf, Dr. Abbara completed a vascular surgery internship at the same institution in 1997, and his first three years of residency in radiology at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C., in 2000 and an internship in surgery at the University of Hawaii Surgical Residency Program in Honolulu in 2001. From 2001 to 2002, he was the chief radiology resident at Georgetown University Hospital. He then received advanced training in cardiac imaging through a fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

After completing his fellowship in 2003, Dr. Abbara became an instructor and later an assistant professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School in Boston, where in 2009, he became an associate professor of radiology.

From 2003 to 2013, he was director of education for the Cardiac MR and CT Program at Harvard Medical School, where he also served as director of the Clinical Cardiac Imaging Division from 2004 to 2011 and director of the Clinical Cardiac Imaging Fellowship from 2005 to 2013. Currently, Dr. Abbara is chief of the Cardiothoracic Imaging Division, chair of CT Operations, and Texas Medical Board Accredited Program director for the Cardiothoracic Imaging Fellowship at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Dr. Abbara served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Thoracic Imaging, Cardiovascular Diagnosis and Therapy and Imaging in Medicine. He served as associate editor for the Journal of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography and The International Journal of Cardiovascular Imaging. Dr. Abbara has co-authored 250 peer-reviewed PubMed-referenced articles, several books and textbooks, over 40 clinical guidelines and reports, and several book chapters and monographs. He has been a reviewer for nearly 25 scientific journals, including Radiology, RadioGraphics, Journal of the American Heart Association, International Journal of Cardiology, International Journal of Cardiovascular Imaging and Academic Radiology.

Among Dr. Abbara’s many awards and honors are the Editor’s Recognition Award from RadioGraphics, Volunteer Service Award from the American Board of Radiology, Golden Apple Award from UT Southwestern Medical Center and numerous Cum Laude awards from RSNA. In 2017, Dr. Abbara was the recipient of the RSNA Honored Educator Award, which is presented to individuals invested in furthering the profession of radiology by delivering high quality educational content in their field of study. Dr. Abbara was listed among America’s Top Doctors by Castle Connolly in 2016 and 2017.

A longtime member of RSNA, Dr. Abbara has served two terms on the Cardiac Subcommittee of the Scientific Program Committee (2008-2010 and 2011-2013). He was a member of the Education Exhibits Awards Committee from 2012 to 2014 and in 2016, and is currently chair of the Cardiac Track on the Refresher Course Committee. Dr. Abbara is also a member of the Cardiac Radiology Panel for RadioGraphics. He has presented over a
dozen times at RSNA annual meetings and contributed to several cardiac “Cases of the Day.”

“Suhny Abbara brings a wealth of cardiac expertise and years of dedicated service as an RSNA volunteer to his new position as editor,” said Mary C. Mahoney, M.D., RSNA Board Liaison for Publications and Communications. “The RSNA Board looks forward to his stewardship of Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging.”

Dr. Abbara also has served with a number of other professional societies, including the American Heart Association, American College of Radiology (ACR), the American Roentgen Ray Society, the Society of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (SCCT), North American Society for Cardiovascular Imaging, the American College of Cardiology and the American Society of Echocardiography. He is a fellow of the ACR and SCCT.

Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging will emphasize research advances and technical developments in medical imaging that drive cardiothoracic medicine. Launching in spring 2019, the journal will be published bi-monthly and available exclusively online. RSNA members will receive a complimentary subscription as a member benefit. Original research and editorial submissions to Radiology: Cardiothoracic Imaging will be accepted beginning fall 2018.

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RSNA is an association of over 54,200 radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and related scientists, promoting excellence in patient care and health care delivery through education, research and technologic innovation. The Society is based in Oak Brook, Ill. (RSNA.org)