The ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation has been making serious progress on a number of key initiatives: 1) Fundraising, 2) “Doers”, 3) Patient Safety and Education Committee, 4) Clinical Alarm Management and Integration, and 5) Professional Credentialing Committee.

1) Fundraising:

Financially the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation continues to be strong; however, it is imperative to keep projects funded and initiatives moving forward, therefore, the Board of Directors continues to focus on fundraising. We have been successful in securing many corporate sponsors and are working diligently to add a few more this year. Individual donations are also critical. The support from ACCE members has been tremendous and the commitment of the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation Board of Directors has historically and continues to maintain 100% participation. As always any support is greatly appreciated and if you would like more information please visit our website: http://www.acce-htf.org

2) “Doers”

The success of the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation initiatives depend upon those who chair and volunteer their time and effort in support. “Doers” is a term coined at our April annual meeting. There is funding to support projects and leaders to organize them but it takes many individual “doers” to make it happen. Therefore, we are embarking upon a campaign to locate additional “doers”; those people who can assist in small and large tasks assigned by the chair to help carry the project forward. We received feedback and names at the ACCE annual meeting and following various Clinical Alarm Task Force activities. Are you interested in making an impact - be a “doer”? Do you like the initiatives we are pursuing and think you can volunteer some time and effort? If so please contact Dr. Yadin David or Jennifer Ott (see contact information below). Be a “Doer”!

3) Patient Safety and Education Committee

The Patient Safety and Education Committee has been hard at work continuing the process of educational module development on specific safety topics that can be shared with the
public and used for a variety of patient educational activities. They have secured a legal review of the process and assignment to ensure copyright issues are addressed. The group has set a goal to complete one education module development in 30 days: “Patient Devices Brought from Home”. The goal is to submit this module at the August ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation Board meeting. If all goes well further modules will be pursued through the solicitation of authors and bids.

4) Clinical Alarm Management and Integration

The Clinical Alarm Management and Integration project has also made some significant progress over the past few months. It began with the first town meeting held at AAMI. This was followed shortly by an ACCE Teleconference. There is now a formal Clinical Alarms Task Force who meet to review feedback from these two meetings, discuss specific institution alarm tools, and develop additional articles and educational material to promote the activities of the task force. The biggest portion of their time has been the development of a clinical alarm survey tool. This tool has been reviewed by other national clinical groups such as American Association of Critical Care Nurses, AACN, and will be utilized to gather information on overall alarm issues. Look for further information as we solicit our ACCE partners to assist in data collection. The goal is to gather as much information in various settings and user groups to develop a white paper on issues, guidance, and best practices.

5) Professional Credentialing Committee

A Clinical Engineering Certification exam was held in June 2005. The second for 2005 will be held in November. You will see a greater emphasis on promotion for this exam through many channels such as publications and websites. The biggest promoters are those who have recently taken the exam. They have expressed many positive comments on the exam process and the material covered. All clinical engineers are encouraged to pursue certification and to maintain their certification through the renewal process. The Healthcare Technology Certification Commission continues to develop questions for the test bank.

The ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation continues to move forward on many projects. We again would like to thank our supporters and please let us know if you have any questions or an interest in a particular project. We thank you for your support of the Foundation’s mission either personally or through your daily contacts. More information is available at our website: http://www.acce-htf.org

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