



## American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography PRESS RELEASE

51 Monroe Street • Plaza East One • Rockville, Maryland 20850-2400  
Toll-free: (800) 541-9754 • Fax: (301) 738-0313 • Web: [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org)

Contact: Dana Murphy  
Phone: (301) 738-8401, ext.221  
E-mail: [murphy@ardms.org](mailto:murphy@ardms.org)

### **The ARDMS Physicians' Vascular Interpretation Examination Content Outline Now Online**

(ROCKVILLE, MD, May 16, 2005) — The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) is proud to announce the online availability of the examination content outline for the soon-to-be available ARDMS Physicians' Vascular Interpretation (PVI) examination. This ARDMS credential is offered exclusively to physicians who practice vascular ultrasound/technology.

You can view the brand-new PVI examination content outline online by visiting [www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org); click on "Examination Information" and then select "Content Outlines." ([www.ardms.org/examinations/pvi.htm](http://www.ardms.org/examinations/pvi.htm))

The PVI examination is currently in its development phase, but will be available to everyone in early 2006. ARDMS will perform pilot administration and evaluation of the PVI examination and will use the pilot data to statistically validate each of the exam questions and to establish the passing score for the exam.

Like all other ARDMS examinations, the content outline for the PVI examination is based on the results of a task analysis survey (practice blueprint), followed by a formal review by the ARDMS PVI Examination Development Task Force members.

For the PVI examination, physicians currently practicing in vascular laboratories were invited to respond to a detailed survey of current practice in interpreting vascular sonograms. The selection of physicians participating in the survey was performed using a standard randomization procedure. The physicians that were sampled included practitioners from diverse specialties, including cardiology, radiology, vascular surgery and vascular medicine.

The PVI Examination has been designed to test the knowledge and skills that physicians commonly use when working as part of a team in a vascular laboratory setting. Therefore, the emphasis is on relevant anatomy, physiology, instrumentation and physical principles as these apply to the interpretation of vascular laboratory tests.

As the vascular laboratory continues to grow, and the number of specialties involved in this field continues to expand, the Registered Physician in Vascular Interpretation (RPVI) credential – earned by passing the PVI examination – offers a uniform standard for validating expertise in the interpretation of vascular tests.

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The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS), incorporated in 1975, is an independent, nonprofit organization that administers examinations and awards credentials in the areas of diagnostic medical sonography, diagnostic cardiac sonography, and vascular technology. All ARDMS credentialing programs are accredited through the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). ARDMS has more than 47,000 certified individuals in the U.S., Canada and throughout the world.