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## **ARDMS® Announces an Expanded Organizational Structure to Include a Companion Physician Certification Organization and an Umbrella Governance and Management Company**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

(ROCKVILLE, MD, January 8, 2016) The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®), the internationally recognized standard in sonography credentialing, has expanded its organizational structure and governance model to better meet the needs of diverse healthcare professionals around the world. On January 1, 2016, ARDMS launched a non-profit umbrella governance and management company (Inteleos™) and a physician-centric certification organization (Alliance for Physician Certification and Advancement™ - APCA™) which joined ARDMS in furthering its long-standing vision of raising the global standards of excellence in healthcare and patient safety. The new structure is expected to be fully implemented by June 2016.

### **NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE MODELS**

**Inteleos™ - [www.Inteleos.org](http://www.Inteleos.org)**

Inteleos, the umbrella governance and management company of ARDMS and APCA, is a non-profit certification organization that oversees rigorous assessments and cultivates a global community of professionals dedicated to the highest standards in healthcare and patient safety. Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, Inteleos sets the strategic directions, holds fiduciary responsibilities, provides psychometric consulting services, manages all intellectual property and oversees the development of future assessment programs for medical professionals such as nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants and many others.

**American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®) – [www.ARDMS.org](http://www.ARDMS.org)**

The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) will continue its 40-year mission of promoting quality care and patient safety through the certification and continuing competency of ultrasound professionals. Under the new organizational structure, ARDMS is recommitting to its sonographer core constituency and will continue to provide unparalleled credentialing opportunities and exceptional service while championing the role and voice of sonographers around the world. The existing ARDMS sonographer-level certifications, Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer® (RDMS®), Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer® (RDCS®), Registered Vascular Technologist® (RVT®) and Registered Musculoskeletal Sonographer™ (RMSKS™) and maintenance of certification programs will be governed by a volunteer ARDMS Council of sonographers and subject-matter experts. The launch of future sonographer-level certifications and assessments will be governed by the volunteer ARDMS Council. The new ARDMS logo, which will be integrated throughout all ARDMS materials over the next year, was

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designed to honor the long ARDMS history, celebrate Registrants, symbolize the field of sonography and represent the ARDMS mission. To learn more about the new logo, please visit [www.ARDMS.org/NewLogo](http://www.ARDMS.org/NewLogo).

**Alliance for Physician Certification and Advancement™ (APCA™) – [www.APCA.org](http://www.APCA.org)**

The Alliance for Physician Certification and Advancement (APCA) exclusively serves the physician community and supports their enduring commitment to continual learning and providing high-quality and compassionate patient care through certification. The APCA governance Council, led by physician volunteers, oversees the Registered Physician in Vascular Interpretation® (RPVI®) and Registered in Musculoskeletal® (RMSK®) sonography physician certifications as well as certification examinations being delivered in China and Latin America. Additionally, per a January 1, 2016 merger agreement with the Council for Certification in Cardiovascular Imaging (CCCVI), APCA also welcomes the Certification Board of Nuclear Cardiology (CBNC) and the Certification Board of Cardiovascular Computed Tomography (CBCCT) examinations to the APCA portfolio. The APCA Council will also identify new areas of physician practice which would benefit from assessment programs.

#### **TIMELINE FOR THE NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE MODELS:**

Below is a timeline leading to the full operational launch in June 2016.

**January 2016:** The volunteer Inteleos Board of Directors and the ARDMS and APCA governance Councils began operating in the new organizational structure. Introductory websites for Inteleos ([www.Inteleos.org](http://www.Inteleos.org)) and APCA ([www.APCA.org](http://www.APCA.org)) are available to provide general organizational information.

**January – June 2016:** All active and prospective ARDMS Registrants (sonographers, physicians, midwives and others) will continue to receive the high-quality, accurate, timely and professional information and services from the ARDMS at:

- Website: [www.ARDMS.org](http://www.ARDMS.org)
- Phone: 800-541-9754 or 301-738-8401

Extensive information regarding the new organizational structure and governance model will be accessible throughout this time period.

Physicians holding or seeking the CBNC and CBCCT certifications will continue to be served via:

- Websites: [www.CBNC.org](http://www.CBNC.org) and [www.CBCCT.org](http://www.CBCCT.org)
- Phone: 240-631-8151
- E-mails: [administration@cbnc.org](mailto:administration@cbnc.org) and [administration@cbcct.org](mailto:administration@cbcct.org)

**June 2016 for Sonographers:** Existing and prospective sonographer Registrants will continue to access information regarding the RDMS, RDCS, RVT and RMSKS credentials and maintenance of certification programs via:

- Website: [www.ARDMS.org](http://www.ARDMS.org)
- Phone: 800-541-9754 or 301-738-8401

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**June 2016 for Physicians:** All physicians holding or seeking the RPVI and RMSK certifications will be transitioned to APCA. The APCA website ([www.APCA.org](http://www.APCA.org)) will be the online resource for the RPVI and RMSK physician certifications and all maintenance of certification programs. Additionally, as APCA is a companion organization to the ARDMS, physicians holding ARDMS-awarded RDMS, RDCS and RVT sonographer-level certifications may manage and maintain these certifications through APCA. New phone numbers are expected to be established for the APCA.

Physicians holding or seeking the CBNC and CBCCT certifications will continue to be served via:

- Websites: [www.CBNC.org](http://www.CBNC.org) and [www.CBCCT.org](http://www.CBCCT.org)
- Phone: 240-631-8151
- E-mails: [administration@cbnc.org](mailto:administration@cbnc.org) and [administration@cbcct.org](mailto:administration@cbcct.org)

Please visit and bookmark our family of websites ([www.Inteleos.org](http://www.Inteleos.org), [www.ARDMS.org](http://www.ARDMS.org) and [www.APCA.org](http://www.APCA.org)) for up-to-date information about the new structure.

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*Inteleos™ is a non-profit certification organization that delivers rigorous assessments and cultivates a global community of professionals dedicated to the highest standards in healthcare and patient safety. Inteleos is the umbrella governance and management company of the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®) and the Alliance for Physician Certification and Advancement™ (APCA™) which represent nearly 107,000 certified medical professionals throughout the world.*

*The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®) administers examinations and awards certifications in the areas of diagnostic medical sonography (RDMS), diagnostic cardiac sonography (RDCS), vascular technology (RVT), and musculoskeletal sonography (RMSKS). ARDMS credentialing programs are accredited by ANSI-ISO 17024. ARDMS has over 85,000 certified sonographers throughout the world and is the recognized international standard in sonography credentialing. ARDMS is part of the non-profit Inteleos™ family of certification organizations.*

*The Alliance for Physician Certification and Advancement™ (APCA™) administers examinations and awards certifications in the areas of physician vascular interpretation (RPVI and RPVI-China), musculoskeletal sonography (RMSK), and cardiovascular imaging (CBNC and CBCCT). The RPVI and RMSK certifications are accredited by ANSI-ISO 17024. In 2016, APCA will begin awarding certificates in the areas of point-of-care ultrasound as well as abdominal\*and obstetrics and gynecological sonography\* (\*exclusively for physicians in Latin America). APCA has over 21,000 certified physicians throughout the world and is part of the non-profit Inteleos™ family of certification organizations.*