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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARDMS Introduces a Midwife Sonography Certificate

(ROCKVILLE, MD, June 25, 2015) The Board of Directors of the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®), has approved the development of a Midwife Sonography Certificate examination. The new Midwife Sonography Certificate will document expertise and commitment to high-quality patient care in women's point-of-care ultrasound. The first Midwife Sonography Certificate examination will be administered in spring 2016 at testing centers located throughout North America.

In 2013, the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) approached the ARDMS regarding the development of an ultrasound assessment for midwives. Together, ARDMS and ACNM explored the trends of midwives' utilization of point-of-care ultrasound and ARDMS determined that an assessment would provide an important mechanism for midwives to demonstrate proficiency in point-of-care ultrasound.

The midwifery-focused certificate examination will assess ultrasound knowledge, skills, and abilities in the areas of the female reproductive system as well as the fetus in the first, second, and third trimesters of pregnancy. Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs) are eligible to sit for the examination. To earn the Midwife Sonography Certificate, applicants must apply and pass the Midwife Sonography Certificate examination as well as demonstrate technical proficiency in ultrasound scanning. Midwives earning the certificate will gain a critical edge in promoting patient safety in women's point-of-care ultrasound.

This examination will be a voluntary assessment. The expectation is that by attaining certification, a standard level of achievement will be set which will impact quality of care, third-party reimbursement and institutional credentialing. In support of the ARDMS Midwife Sonography Certificate, ACNM has developed an examination review course for its members.

"The development of the Midwife Sonography Certificate is a groundbreaking effort in the field of ultrasound and for the ARDMS," said Thomas Shipp, MD, RDMS, Chair of the ARDMS Board of Directors. "The new Midwife Sonography Certificate program will help build the foundation for a new community of healthcare professionals working towards our shared goal of patient safety."

"Our goal is to teach, support and inspire our peers who want to integrate ultrasound assessment into clinical practice," said Cydney Afriat Menihan, CNM, MSN, RDMS, Chair, ARDMS Midwife Examination Development Task Force. "The creation of the Midwife Sonography Certificate program will represent the highest standard of midwife sonography practice, and assures that we are applying our ultrasound knowledge and skill to enhance all aspects of women's health care."

The development of a new ARDMS certificate examination is a multi-stage and rigorous process and components of the Midwife Sonography examination are still being created by the ARDMS and the Midwife Sonography Exam Development Task Force. For current information about the release of the Midwife Sonography examination, please visit www.ARDMS.org/MW.

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The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS®), incorporated in June 1975, is an independent, nonprofit organization that administers examinations and awards credentials in the areas of diagnostic medical

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sonography, diagnostic cardiac sonography, vascular technology, physicians' vascular interpretation, musculoskeletal sonography and midwifery ultrasound. ARDMS credentialing programs (RDMS, RDCS, RVT, and RPVI) are accredited by ANSI-ISO 17024. ARDMS has over 90,000 certified individuals in the U.S., Canada, and throughout the world and is the recognized international standard in sonography credentialing.

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