SOCIETY OF INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY
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Society of Interventional Radiology Names James F. Benenati as President

James F. Benenati, M.D., FSIR, Medical Director at Baptist Cardiac & Vascular Institute in Miami, Begins 2010–11 Term as SIR President

FAIRFAX, Va.—James F. Benenati, M.D., FSIR, an interventional radiologist and medical director for the Noninvasive Vascular Laboratory at Baptist Cardiac & Vascular Institute in Miami, Fla., assumed office as the 2010–11 president of the Society of Interventional Radiology. SIR, a national organization of nearly 4,500 doctors, scientists and allied health professionals dedicated to improving health care through minimally invasive treatments, introduced a new slate of officers during its 35th Annual Scientific Meeting in Tampa.

"The Society of Interventional Radiology is actively moving forward with its mission to improve the health of the public through pioneering minimally invasive treatments for a wide variety of diseases," said Benenati, who is also fellowship director for the institute's cardiovascular and interventional radiology fellowship program and a clinical associate professor of radiology at the University of South Florida College of Medicine, Tampa. "SIR and its members lead in the development, advancement and maintenance of minimally invasive, image-guided treatments that are first-line care for a variety of disease conditions that used to only be treated surgically," he added. "Today, many conditions that once required surgery can be treated less invasively by interventional radiologists, and interventional radiology continues to be at the forefront of patient care," noted Benenati, who is known for his work in peripheral vascular interventions and fibroid therapy and is active in his institute's clinical research on intravascular stents, stent grafts and thrombolytic therapy for the treatment of peripheral arterial disease.

As president, Benenati has several goals, including advancing the creative and innovative spirit of interventional radiology—supporting research, procedures and technology that improve patient care; ensuring that the invaluable contributions of interventional radiology to patient care are recognized and properly reimbursed by both public and private health insurers; continuing a revolution in patient care by obtaining needed data to support the effectiveness of IR treatments; facilitating national and international outreach to advance the profession; providing high-quality member service by offering essential education programs; continuing an initiative to relay the importance of interventional radiology to hospital administrators; and supporting the educational and other professional needs of SIR members and the training and mentorship of young professionals.

Benenati, who has been active with the startup of focused service lines (for peripheral arterial disease, interventional oncology and venous disease), emphasized the importance of adhering to the society's strategic plan to revolutionize health care by continually inventing new image-guided treatments for the benefit of patients. "The society and its members are committed to developing and maintaining the highest standards of excellence in patient care, always placing the interests of patients first," stressed Benenati, who previously was an assistant professor of radiology and surgery at the Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, Md.

The 2010–11 SIR president has participated in clinical research projects for abdominal aortic aneurysm repair with endografts, stents in peripheral arterial disease and prevention of restenosis in the femoral and popliteal arteries, including brachytherapy. He has also participated in national trials involving tumor embolization, such as uterine fibroid embolization, and has organized national educational symposia regarding fibroid embolization.

Benenati received his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Ind., and his medical degree from the University of South Florida College of Medicine. He completed a radiology residency and a fellowship in vascular radiology at Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis. Currently, he is a voluntary associate professor of radiology at the University of Miami School of Medicine

and a courtesy associate professor at the Biomedical Engineering Institute at Florida International University, Miami.

In addition to lecturing internationally, Benenati has authored and co-authored numerous scientific articles that have been published in medical journals including the Journal of Vascular and Interventional Radiology, the Journal of the American Medical Association and Radiology. He has also edited medical textbooks dealing with different aspects of interventional radiology. He is a fellow of SIR, the Society of Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiology and the American Heart Association.

More information about the Society of Interventional Radiology, interventional radiologists and how to find an interventional radiologist in your area can be found online at www.SIRweb.org.

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About the Society of Interventional Radiology

Interventional radiologists are physicians who specialize in minimally invasive, targeted treatments. They offer the most in-depth knowledge of the least invasive treatments available coupled with diagnostic and clinical experience across all specialties. They use X-ray, MRI and other imaging to advance a catheter in the body, such as in an artery, to treat at the source of the disease internally. As the inventors of angioplasty and the catheter-delivered stent, which were first used in the legs to treat peripheral arterial disease, interventional radiologists pioneered minimally invasive modern medicine. Today, interventional oncology is a growing specialty area of interventional radiology. Interventional radiologists can deliver treatments for cancer directly to the tumor without significant side effects or damage to nearby normal tissue.

Many conditions that once required surgery can be treated less invasively by interventional radiologists. Interventional radiology treatments offer less risk, less pain and less recovery time compared to open surgery. Visit www.SIRweb.org.