



Dear members of the American College of Cardiology, **Date:** 26 September, 2023

Subject: Request to distribute global survey about ACHD interest

My name is Dr. Katia Bravo-Jaimes, Adult Congenital Cardiologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine at Mayo Clinic Florida.

In the United States, the number of adults with congenital heart disease (ACHD) has outnumbered the one for children for over a decade. Despite this, there are at least four times more pediatric cardiologists compared to board-certified ACHD cardiologists. This indicates substantial deficiencies in providing healthcare services for ACHD patients, highlighting the existence of significant gaps in their medical care, need for emergency services and poor outcomes. Worldwide, ACHD patients in Africa, the UK, Latin America, and the Caribbean face significant challenges in receiving specialized care due to the shortage of trained ACHD cardiologists and specialized units. Taking these challenges into consideration, it is crucial to thoroughly investigate the causes underlying the scarcity of ACHD specialists worldwide.

Therefore, my research team and I have designed a global survey focused on gathering insights from cardiologists and trainees regarding their ACHD interest. The primary objective of our research is to understand what motivates physicians to pursue a career in ACHD, and to identify factors that may discourage them from doing so. By examining both the positive and negative forces, we hope to gain a comprehensive understanding of the factors that influence career choices in this field. Our study has been deemed exempt by the Mayo Clinic IRB with number 23-006759.

I am actively seeking support from your institution to distribute our survey among your members. Please find the link below
<https://forms.gle/nFP1RmcdAKc7Tjxo7>

Thank you for considering this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information. Your support would significantly contribute to the success and impact of this research.

Sincerely,
Katia Bravo-Jaimes, MD
Adult Congenital Cardiologist
Mayo Clinic Florida