



Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories

8830 Stanford Boulevard, Suite 306, Columbia, Maryland 21045
phone 410.872.0100 toll free 800.838.2110 fax 800.581.7888 web www.icael.org

Press Release

Date: April 28, 2009

To: _____

Contact: Tamara Sloper

Regarding: Accredited Echocardiography Laboratory

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One American dies every 32 seconds of cardiovascular disease, disorders of the heart and blood vessels. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, costing society over 83.7 billion dollars each year in health services, medications and lost work time due to disability. Cardiac structure and flow information provided by echocardiographic testing is useful in the detection and management of many types of heart disease. This noninvasive test has become one of the standard diagnostic tools in cardiology with an estimated 10 million echocardiograms performed annually in the United States. Echocardiography is a complex imaging technique that relies on the experience and training of both the physician and sonographer. Their interpretive and technical abilities determine the diagnostic accuracy of an echocardiographic examination. The Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) has developed an accreditation program which evaluates the quality of these and other critical elements of an echocardiography laboratory.

Soundview Medical Associates located in Norwalk, CT was granted accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL). The laboratory is one of the first one thousand echocardiography laboratories in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico to be so recognized for its commitment to high quality patient care and its provision of quality diagnostic testing.

The ICAEL was established with the support of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the Society of Pediatric Echocardiography (SOPE) to provide a peer review mechanism to encourage and recognize the provision of quality echocardiographic diagnostic evaluations by a process of voluntary accreditation. A non-profit organization, the ICAEL is dedicated to ensuring high quality patient care and to promoting health care.

Participation in the accreditation process is voluntary. Accreditation status signifies that the facility has been reviewed by an independent agency which recognizes the laboratory's commitment to quality testing for the diagnosis of heart disease.

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Beverly Gorman, RDCS

Tao-Nan Chi, MD
Tina Yost, RDCS
Soundview Medical Associates
761 Main Avenue
Suite 201
Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

Re: Application #9047

Dear Dr. Chi and Ms. Yost:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on seeking and acquiring accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories. You and your staff are to be commended for demonstrating your laboratory's pursuit of excellence in the field of echocardiography.

Your laboratory has been awarded accreditation in the following area of echocardiography:

Adult Transthoracic

The Accreditation Portfolio is sent via UPS ground shipping to the Technical Director and contains the following items:

- A certificate for each clinical area in which your laboratory was granted accreditation.
- A press release announcing the recent accreditation of your laboratory.
- A CD-Rom containing the ICAEL logo designed for use by accredited laboratories.

In addition to explaining what your laboratory's accreditation signifies, the press release enclosed within the Accreditation Portfolio includes basic statistics on cardiovascular disease, designed to explain the role of the echocardiography laboratory within the community. If you would like for us to send this official press release, on ICAEL letterhead, to your local news media, including newspapers, television and radio stations, please complete the media list included within your Accreditation Portfolio and return it to the ICAEL office.

Beginning May 1, our address will be 6021 University Blvd, Suite 500, Ellicott City, MD 21043

