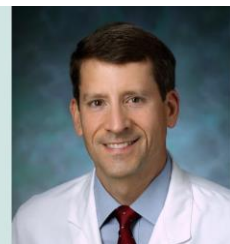




Maryland  
CHAPTER

# Message from the President

Joseph Marine, MD, FACC



President's Message

August 2019

## WIC, Diversity, and Inclusion

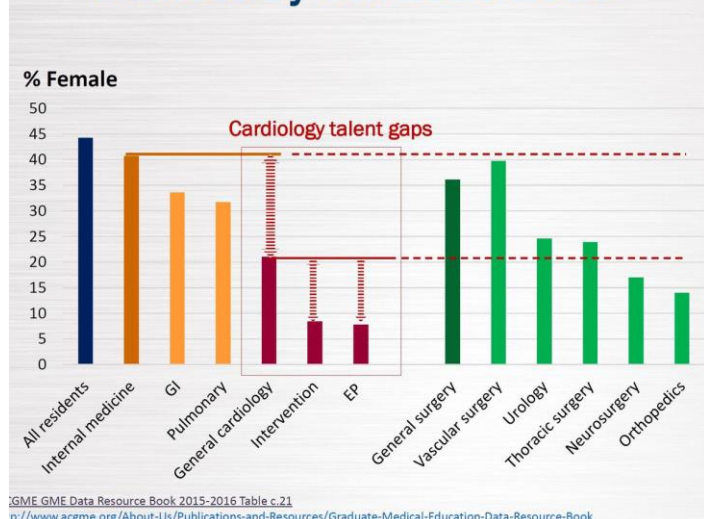
I hope everyone has been enjoying a good summer. We at Maryland ACC have been busy planning for the annual meeting at the Mid-Atlantic Capital Cardiology Symposium (**MACCS**) We had record attendance last year and look forward to another great meeting this year focused on cardiac imaging and geriatric cardiology, supported in part by a national ACC grant that our chapter earned. Agenda will be forthcoming soon.

Next month, our Maryland Chapter Women Cardiologists (WIC), led by Garima Sharma, will be hosting a regional WIC meeting in Delaware on Sunday, September 29, 2019 as part of the Delaware ACC-by-the-Sea chapter meeting in Rehoboth Beach. MDACC member Mukta Srivastava, Garima, and several Maryland FITs will be presenting at the event, which will be joined by ACC Vice President Athena Poppas. It looks like a great **program**. Please consider attending.

WIC plays a key role in ACC's larger **Diversity and Inclusion Initiative**, which is a vital part of ACC's 5-year **Strategic Plan**.

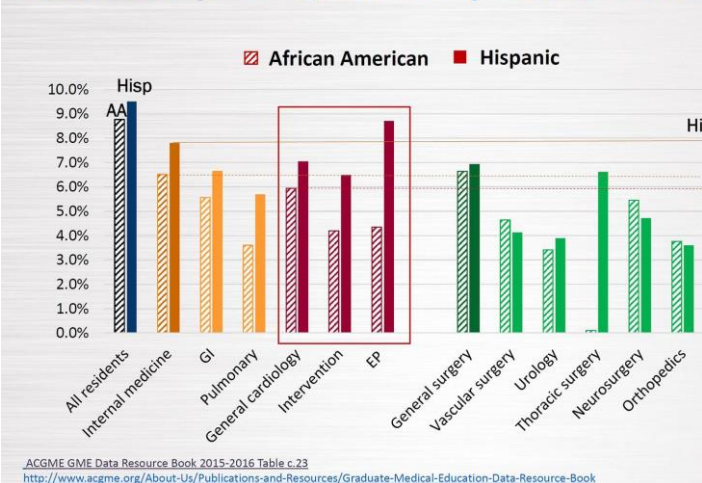
The numbers are striking. In 2015, only 10% of ABIM-certified US FACCs were women. And the pipeline looks only modestly better – according to 2015-16 ACGME data, women constitute over 40% of internal medicine residents, but just 21% of general cardiology fellows. This stat is below other demanding specialties, such as vascular surgery (39% women) and thoracic surgery (24%). We go off a second "cliff" in subspecialty training, where less than 10% of trainees in interventional cardiology and EP are women.

### Trainees By Sex 2015-2016



Looking at 2015-16 ACGME data by race/ethnicity, the gap is smaller, but cardiology still has room for improvement. It has been well-recognized that the critical problem here has been to encourage more students in underrepresented groups to choose a career in medicine (the "deep pipeline").

## Trainees By Race/Ethnicity 2015-2016



Why should ACC members care about these demographics? There are many **reasons**, but perhaps the most compelling is to consider the talent gap. For the field of cardiology to thrive, we must continue to attract the best and the brightest into the field and promote their success. The statistics shown above suggest we are falling short, and the field could pay a price over time if the problem is not corrected.

Fortunately, ACC is working on this issue. I sit on the ACC Board of Governors Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion and would welcome the thoughts of any and all MDACC Members as to how we can meet this challenge. Please send your comments, questions, and suggestions to [president@marylandacc.org](mailto:president@marylandacc.org).

One month to Labor Day – have a peaceful and relaxing remainder of the summer.

Joseph E. Marine, MD, FACC  
 President, Maryland ACC

Missed last month's message? [Click here.](#)