



Key Impediments to PET

SURVEY RESULTS



Introduction

The American Society for Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC) and the Society for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI) released a position statement on PET imaging last year that highlighted the benefits of the technology. Quoting ASNC Immediate Past President, Dr. Brian Abbott, “Myocardial perfusion PET, because of its unique properties, is the right test, at the right time for certain patient populations.” You can view the position statement here: [https://www.asnc.org/files/Guidelines and Quality/ASNCandSNMMIJointPETPositionPaper2016.pdf](https://www.asnc.org/files/Guidelines%20and%20Quality/ASNCandSNMMIJointPETPositionPaper2016.pdf)

MedAxiom conducted a survey of member groups regarding their interest and knowledge of Cardiac PET. Responses were received from 55 groups in 27 states. Of the 55 groups 24 currently offer Cardiac PET and 29 groups are either planning to offer PET, considering their options, or feel like the barriers are too difficult to overcome.

Introduction Continued

For those groups currently offering PET, we asked them to rank the benefits of PET. There was some variability but in rank order, the following attributes were reported:

1. Better diagnostic/prognostic capabilities
2. Lower radiation exposure
3. Patient convenience
4. Added revenue stream
5. Faster throughput

For those groups that do not offer PET, the reasons for not providing the service include:

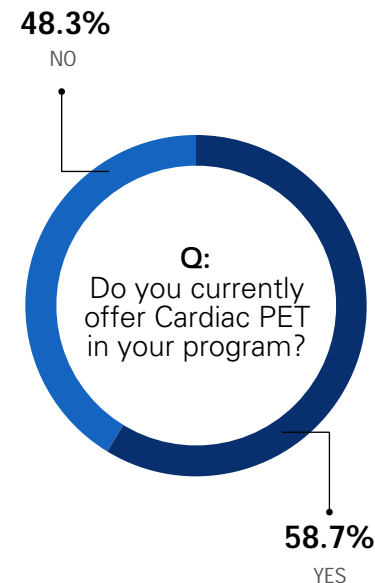
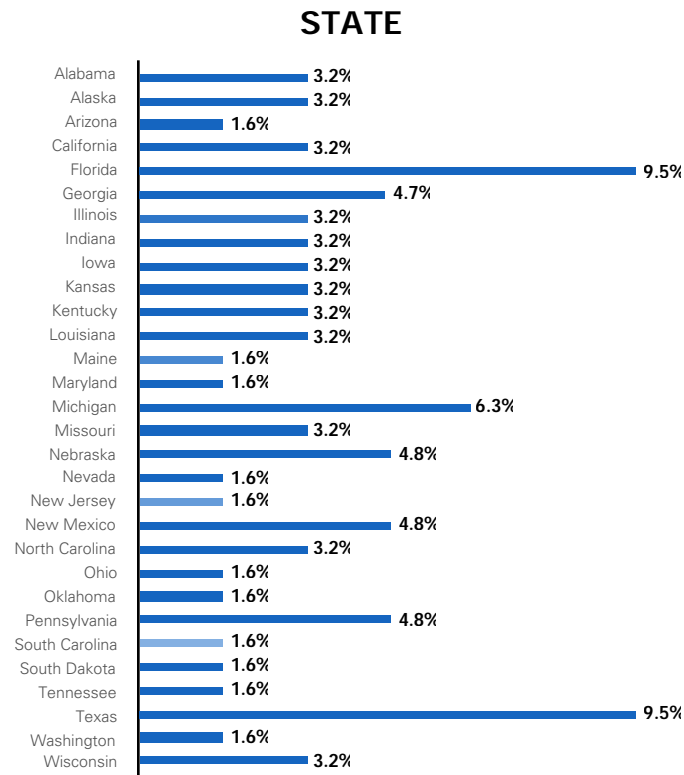
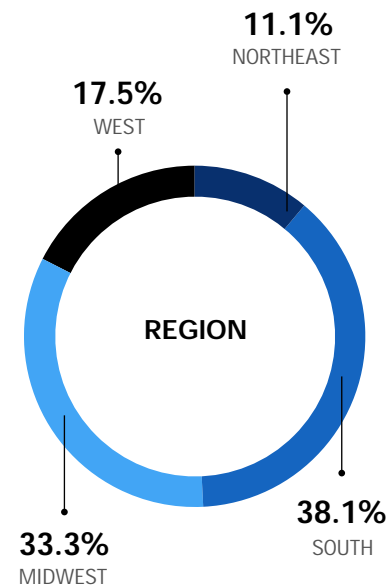
- Inadequate reimbursement
- Expensive equipment
- Rubidium generators are too expensive
- Difficulty in getting cardiologists to refer to PET
- Radiology has the exclusive contract to provide PET
- System financial people are not convinced of the ROI
- PET is not covered by some payors
- CON restrictions

It is interesting that the groups currently offering PET ranked finance as the next to last issue when asked to name the benefits associated with PET. Yet those groups that currently don't offer PET listed eight different barriers and most of those are financial in nature.

It is also interesting that, despite the fear of barriers, six of the groups are either implementing PET or considering offering PET.

As we continue to move toward population health and the need to improve quality and reduce cost (especially long-term cost), we will continue to offer educational programs to help our members understand the impact PET imaging can have on a practice. As Coronary Flow Reserve (CFR) gains traction, it will be very important for programs to evaluate the impact CFR can have on cath lab procedures and overall cost.

Survey Demographics

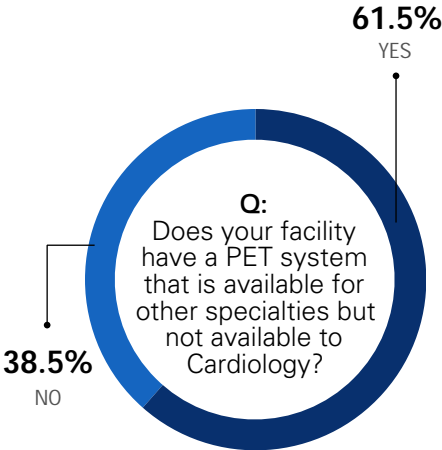
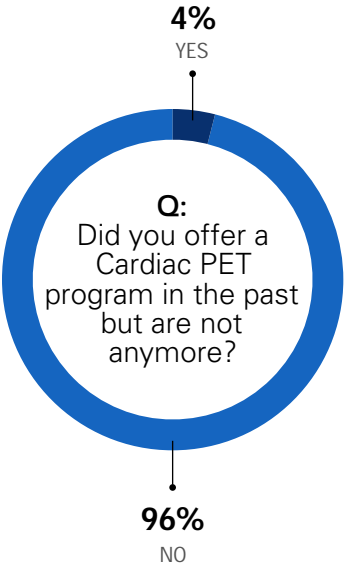
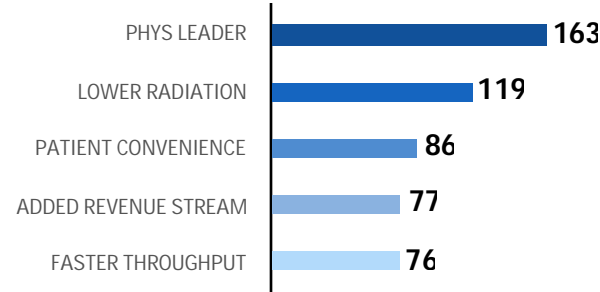


Survey Results

Q:

Please rate the most valuable aspects of adding Cardiac PET to your program.

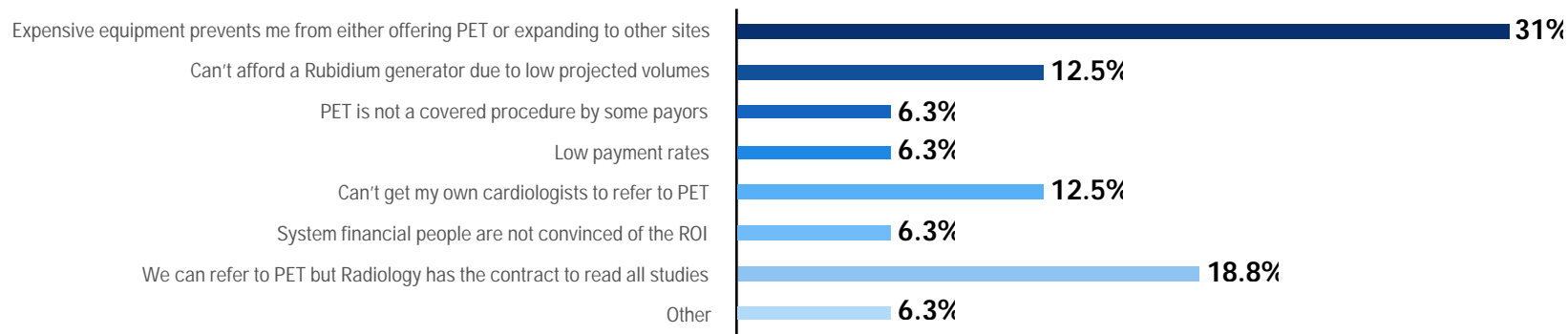
(Note: 1 being the most valuable. 5 being the least valuable)



Survey Results

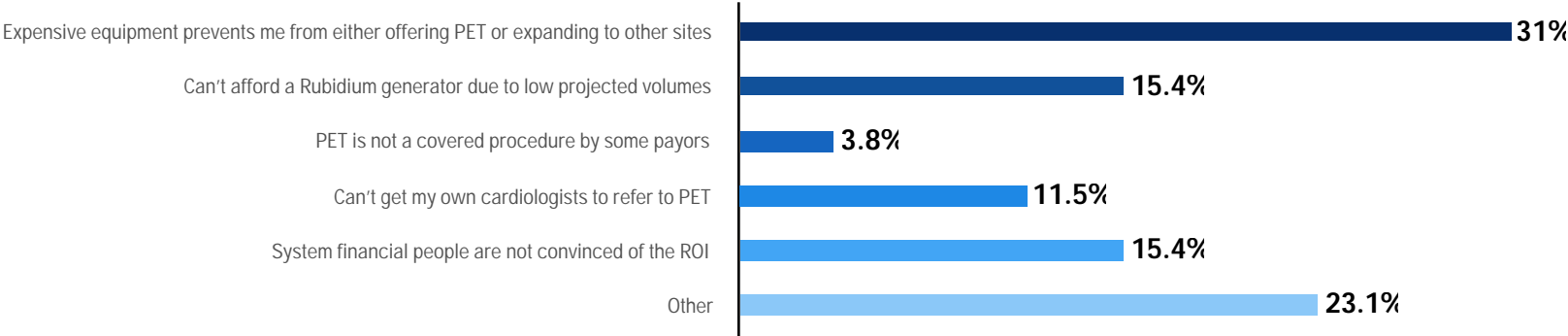
Q:

What are the key barriers to expanding the PET program to include Cardiac?



Survey Results

Q:
What are the key barriers impeding your program from utilizing PET?





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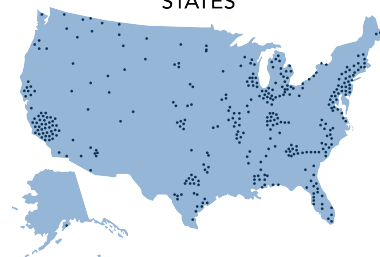
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C-SUITE LEADERS

46

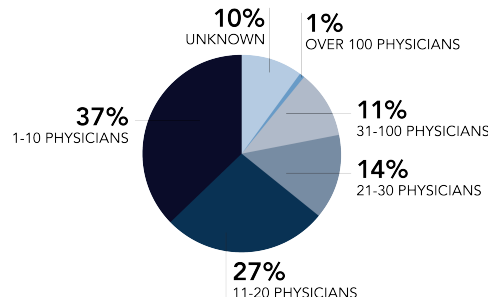
STATES



1,800+

LOCATIONS

Membership By Group Size



Membership By Ownership Model

