Theresa and Eugene M. Lang Center for Research and Education

Residents and Fellows Research Day Keynote Speaker 2009

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Kim Allan Williams, M.D.

"The Changing Politics and Economics of Cardiac Imaging"

Dr. Kim Allan Williams was born and raised in innercity Chicago, and attended the College of The University of Chicago, followed by the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine, internal medicine residency at Emory University, and overlapping fellowships in Cardiology at the University of Chicago, Clinical Pharmacology, and Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Williams joined the faculty of the University of Chicago in 1986, specializing in clinical cardiology, nuclear medicine and nuclear cardiology. He is currently Professor of Medicine and Radiology and Director of Nuclear Cardiology at The University of Chicago School of Medicine. He is board certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Nuclear Medicine, and Nuclear Cardiology.

Dr. Williams has published numerous peer reviewed articles, monographs, book chapters, editorials, and review articles in the field of nuclear cardiology and minority health issues, with emphasis on education and innovations in perfusion imaging and quantitation of ventricular function. His current research is in selective adenosine receptor agonists, metabolic imaging with iodinated fatty acids and neuronal imaging in patients with congestive heart failure.

Dr. Williams has served on numerous committees and boards at the national level,

including the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC), the American Heart Association (AHA), the American Medical Association (AMA), the American College of Cardiology (ACC), the Certifying Board of Nuclear Cardiology, the Certifying Board of Cardiac Computed Tomography and the Association of Black Cardiologists.

He is a past president of ASNC, past chair of the Coalition of Cardiovascular Organizations, past Chair of the Nuclear Medicine Section Council of the AMA Specialty Service Society, serves as a delegate of the ACC and a representative of ASNC to the AMA, chair of the ACC's Imaging Council, and Chairman of the Board of the ABC. Through these positions he remains an active lobbyist for Medicare payment reform, eliminating racial disparities in healthcare, and patient access to medical imaging.

Dr. Williams will review how cardiac imaging has revolutionized diagnostics in the diagnosis and management of heart disease. Rapid growth in the field has fueled accusations that much of cardiac imaging is inappropriate and financially motivated while escalating costs have put a strain on third-party payers, hospitals and physicians. Dr. Williams will discuss the initiatives he believes will provide the best solutions to the problems.

