American Heart Association – Heart Rhythm Society Collaboration FAQ

1) Q. What is the reason for the joint collaboration?
   A. The American Heart Association and The Heart Rhythm Society have a shared mission for the care of patients with heart rhythm disorders and this collaboration will combine the resources of 2 leading organizations to impact the care of so many patients, families, and providers.

2) Q. What is the focus area of the collaboration with the two organizations?
   A. The focus and scope of the collaboration is all components of the Get With The Guidelines-AFIB program. The program is designed to assist clinicians and hospital care teams in consistently providing the latest evidence-based treatment for their AFib patients. At the same time, it offers a means of monitoring the quality of AFib care in U.S. hospitals and building a database for continued research and further quality improvement.

3) Q. What specific ways will AHA and HRS support clinicians and hospitals through Get With The Guidelines-AFIB?
   A. This includes but is not limited to:
   - Access to the most up-to-date research and scientific publications
   - A competitive advantage in the healthcare marketplace
   - Clinical tools and resources
   - Identification of improvement opportunities
   - National and local recognition for hospital team program achievement
   - Patient education resources
   - Performance comparison
   - Professional education opportunities, such as workshops and webinars
   - Quality & Systems Improvement (QSI) field staff support
   - Reduction of noncompliance and medical errors through data-driven peer review

4) Q. What will the role of HRS be in the Get With The Guidelines-AFIB Program?
A. HRS will have equal representation on the GWTG-AFIB Clinical Work Group. This group provides clinical insight and guidance to the overall quality components of the Get With The Guidelines-AFIB Program, including all components of the patient database including development of data collection points and performance measures. The group also will contribute knowledge and expertise to education programs and tools including national webinars for clinicians and offer input on the research and publications generated from the Guidelines-AFIB Program.

5) Q. Will this collaboration change the look of the program?
A. Any program materials for Get With The Guidelines-AFIB will be co-branded with both the AHA logo and HRS logo.

6) Q. As a HRS member, how will this program impact me?
A. There will be multiple benefits to members with this collaboration.
   • HRS will now have full access to all the benefits that currently exist with using the Get With The Guidelines program.
   • Members will be encouraged to participate in the program. This will include the ability to benchmark care and outcomes including the most up to date published measures.
   • HRS will be using access to the data to assist in developing relevant journal articles and education available through the annual Scientific Sessions and the HRS Learning Center.
   • HRS members’ requirements and preferences can be shared directly with their peers representing HRS on the Clinical Work Group. HRS periodically will solicit members’ opinions to help guide the ongoing effectiveness and experience of participating in the Get With The Guidelines-AFIB program.
   • Other benefits include research capabilities, customizable filter options to break out individual clinician or service results, patient level reports and all the other resources that that Get With The Guidelines-AFIB program offers.

GET WITH THE GUIDELINES-AFIB

Get With The Guidelines-AFIB draws from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s vast collection of content-rich resources for patients and healthcare professionals, including educational tools, treatment guidelines and quality initiatives.

To learn more about Get With The Guidelines-AFIB, go to heart.org/focusonafib.

Web-based Patient Management Tool provided by Outcome, A Quintiles Company, Cambridge, Mass.