



**For Immediate Release**

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**Strategic Radiology Patient Safety Organization  
Approved by AHRQ**

***AHRQ listing sets stage for unprecedented sharing of best practices in  
radiology related safety and quality***

Palmetto, FL — June 27, 2013— Strategic Radiology (SR) announced today that the organization’s Patient Safety Organization (PSO) is now listed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), on behalf of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

PSOs are designed to help clinicians, hospitals, and healthcare organizations improve the care they deliver to patients by encouraging them to conduct quality and safety analyses. Through federal protections of legal privilege and confidentiality, authorized by the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005, PSOs foster a culture of safety and create a secure environment where providers can collect and analyze data to identify and reduce the risks and hazards associated with patient care.

“We are very excited that the AHRQ has approved our PSO, enabling us to move forward with this initiative designed to enhance the safety of patients served within SR market areas, as well as the healthcare industry overall,” said Arl Van Moore, Jr., MD, FACR, Chairman of Strategic Radiology. “Having 15 nationally recognized radiology groups sharing experiences and best practices within a PSO infrastructure will undoubtedly uncover some unique opportunities to enhance the way the radiology industry maintains a safe and quality focused environment.”

PSOs also are designed to aggregate data across multiple healthcare provider groups, encouraging faster identification of issues and allowing for improved early warning and communication in regards to risk reduction and quality improvement. As de-identified data become available from PSOs, a network of Patient Safety Databases will receive, analyze, and report trend data nationally, which will be included in AHRQ’s annual *National Healthcare Quality Report*.

“We know that clinicians and healthcare organizations want to participate in efforts to improve patient care, but they are often inhibited by fears of liability and sanctions,” said AHRQ Director Carolyn M. Clancy, MD. “PSOs facilitate a shared learning approach that supports effective interventions to reduce risk of harm to patients and improve quality.”

To learn more about PSOs or to view an updated directory of all listed PSOs, visit the AHRQ PSO website at [www.pso.ahrq.gov](http://www.pso.ahrq.gov).

SR consists of geographically diverse and forward thinking American radiology group practices representing more than 1,000 radiologists. The goal of SR is to achieve higher quality patient care and more cost efficient delivery of medical imaging through an integrated approach of shared data and best practices, interchanging clinical expertise, and consolidating certain practice expenses. More information can be found on the SR website at <http://www.strategicradiology.org>.

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