What Is R-SCAN?

R-SCAN™ is a clinical practice improvement activity that brings radiologists and referring clinicians together to reduce avoidable imaging and streamline image ordering. R-SCAN delivers immediate access to web-based tools and clinical decision support (CDS) technology that help you optimize imaging care, reduce unnecessary imaging exams and lower the cost of care. R-SCAN is sponsored by a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Transforming Clinical Practice grant, and there is no cost to participate.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

R-SCAN's goal is to optimize imaging care in outpatient and emergent care settings. Radiologists, primary care physicians, emergency care physicians and other clinicians who order imaging exams in these settings are welcome to participate. All resources needed to carry out an R-SCAN project are located at **rscan.org**.

WHY R-SCAN?

- **It's the right thing to do for your patients.** Now you can focus on ordering the right image at the right time — guided by evidence-based appropriateness data.

- **It's focused on highly relevant imaging exams to improve utilization.** Radiologists and referring clinicians collaborate to improve image ordering based upon **Choosing Wisely® topics** — many endorsed by multiple medical societies — that are likely to yield success.

- **It's an opportunity to fulfill the Improvement Activity requirements under the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS) track of the CMS Quality Payment Program (QPP).** Referring clinicians and radiologists must demonstrate improved patient care at lower costs under the QPP, and R-SCAN provides a proven path forward.

- **It's an easy (and free) way to give CDS a try.** In the future, most advanced imaging orders for Medicare patients must be based on appropriate use criteria (AUC) that are integrated into CDS. For facilities that do not already have CDS implemented, R-SCAN helps them get started now. Participants can access ACR Select®, a digital representation of the **ACR Appropriateness Criteria®,** via the **CareSelect Imaging** platform.

- **It's a data-driven way to improve imaging utilization.** R-SCAN provides quantitative results that demonstrate improvements made in the ordering of imaging exams. Supportive educational tools and resources are available at **rscan.org** — several offering CME.

HOW DOES R-SCAN WORK?

It all starts when referring clinicians and radiologists agree to form a team to improve image ordering using R-SCAN. The team selects one or more **Choosing Wisely topics** from **rscan.org** that best fit the team goal for clinical improvement. The R-SCAN team leader (either a referring clinician or radiologist) registers for free R-SCAN participation.

> **Now available!** Facilities that have the CDS CareSelect Imaging platform integrated with the order entry systems can create R-SCAN reports using their CDS data. Contact us at **rscaninfo@acr.org** for more information.

The R-SCAN team carries out the clinical improvement activity in three phases — typically over a three- to six-month period. See the **R-SCAN How-to Guide** for more information.

Phase 1: Review Cases

- Radiology team members identify cases, either retrospectively or prospectively, that the referring clinicians' practice ordered. The R-SCAN team determines how the cases will be reviewed — ideally by a collaborative group of referring clinicians and radiologists.

- Using a free, web portal version of **CareSelect Imaging**, the designated person or team reviews the cases, rates the appropriateness of each exam, and enters the case data into the R-SCAN database. The process is automated for facilities with the CareSelect Imaging platform.

- The R-SCAN team reviews an automated report of appropriate vs. inappropriate exams ordered to identify opportunities for improvement.

Phase 2: Conduct Educational Activities

- Based on the team's recommendations for improvement, radiologists propose and hold educational activities with referring clinicians and staff that guide improved imaging ordering.

- The R-SCAN team capitalizes on a wide variety of **educational resources** — some of which offer CME Credit — to support the educational program.

Phase 3: Assess Improvement

- After the educational program, the case review process is repeated.

- The R-SCAN team then reviews the project results to determine overall improvement in image ordering and completes an online project report.

HOW MUCH TIME IS REQUIRED?

Developed to minimize time commitment, R-SCAN projects can be completed in anywhere from 15 to 30 hours over a three- to six-month period.

WHAT ARE THE CHOOSING WISELY IMAGING TOPICS?

R-SCAN was launched with 10 **Choosing Wisely topics** pertaining to outpatient and emergent imaging that were selected by the R-SCAN physician advisory panel.

Topic selection criteria include: potential impact to improve imaging exam ordering and the existence of associated **ACR Appropriateness Criteria®** or other evidence-based imaging guidelines. The list of Choosing Wisely imaging topics included in R-SCAN is available at **rscan.org**. R-SCAN teams can also pursue other topics of interest. **Contact us** for more information.

HOW IS CDS USED IN R-SCAN?

One of R-SCAN's many free tools is CareSelect Imaging, a CDS platform that delivers ACR Select, a digital version of the ACR Appropriateness Criteria (AC) to participating clinicians' desktops.

Referring clinicians can become familiar with how imaging CDS works and with the AC, which are used to determine the appropriateness rating of exams ordered by the collaborating referring physicians.

Facilities with CareSelect Imaging integrated into their order entry systems can demonstrate how collaboration improves imaging care using automated R-SCAN reports.

The team uses CDS to rate the appropriateness of exams ordered for one of R-SCAN's Choosing Wisely topics before and after an educational program is carried out. R-SCAN participants can select from presentations, case reviews, podcasts, videos and articles featuring the most current evidence to support clinicians ordering the right imaging exam for the right reason for patients.

Facilities participating in R-SCAN that do not have CDS integrated into their order entry systems will receive free access to the web portal CareSelect Imaging platform available for R-SCAN use.

HOW CAN REFERRING CLINICIANS GAIN EXPERIENCE WITH CDS VIA R-SCAN PARTICIPATION?

Referring clinicians participating in R-SCAN can gain CDS experience several ways:

1. **By registering for R-SCAN, referring clinicians gain free access to a CareSelect Imaging web portal on the R-SCAN website.** For each of R-SCAN's Choosing Wisely topics, sample cases show how to enter patient and clinical information to view a list of possible imaging exams that could be ordered and the associated appropriateness rating. Referrers can explore recommended imaging for hundreds of other indications and clinical scenarios.

2. **Participating R-SCAN, referrers and radiologists can review cases ordered for their patients as a team and use CareSelect Imaging to guide the discussion about the most appropriate imaging option.** R-SCAN's Choosing Wisely imaging topics are among those with the most potential for improved ordering through joint case review and discussion.

3. **Referring clinicians can try CDS to experience how it facilitates selecting the best exam for their patients.** As part of the education to improve imaging exam ordering for one of R-SCAN's Choosing Wisely topics, a referring practice can opt to use CDS when placing an order for each exam.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR REFERRING CLINICIANS WHO USE R-SCAN AND CDS?

Gaining experience with CDS now will help referring clinicians be prepared for the implementation of federal reimbursement requirements for consultation of AUC prior to ordering advanced imaging. This alternative to preauthorization reduces time and expense for practices and patients when imaging is the next step in the diagnostic process. Referring clinicians can also fulfill their Improvement Activity requirements for the MIPS track of the CMS Quality Payment Program.

WHAT IF I ALREADY HAVE A CDS TOOL INSTALLED?

The ACR will provide a reporting tool for R-SCAN participants to generate automated reports. Please contact the R-SCAN team for more details at **rscaninfo@acr.org**.

IS TECHNICAL SUPPORT REQUIRED?

No. Participants can easily use a stand-alone, Web-based version of CareSelect Imaging to rate case appropriateness in R-SCAN, so no IT support is required. However, some R-SCAN participating practices request IT support to collect retrospective case data.

IS MOC OR CME AVAILABLE?

Yes, radiologists and internal medicine physicians who plan to claim MOC Part 4 Credit for R-SCAN participation will need to demonstrate having played a meaningful role in carrying out one or more of the R-SCAN steps. For many topics, physicians can earn CME Credits and equivalent SA-CME for radiologists.

WHO SPONSORS R-SCAN?

R-SCAN is funded through a **CMS Transforming Clinical Practice Initiative (TCPi)** grant. Additional financial support is provided by the American College of Radiology (the TCPi grant recipient) with in-kind support provided by the National Decision Support Company.

**R-SCAN Champion
Ashima Lall, MD, MBA, FACHE**

Radiology Associates of the Main Line

"We are excited about the significant improvement achieved with our emergency medicine colleagues in the ordering exams for suspected pulmonary embolism. It was gratifying to demonstrate how the R-SCAN project led to more appropriate imaging for patients. It also was a straightforward way for both practices to be successful in the QPP."

**R-SCAN Champion
Brandon Skelton, MD**

Magnolia Imaging Associates

"R-SCAN helped our four-member radiology practice meet the demands of both MOC and QPP. The adnexal cyst educational materials were especially helpful. Our practice will continue to focus on improving recommendations for adnexal cyst follow-up while we pursue a new R-SCAN topic for 2018. I highly recommend R-SCAN to other radiology practices both large and small."

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?
Visit **rscan.org** or email questions to **rscaninfo@acr.org**.