

Tony Trela



Friends and colleagues, I humbly ask for your vote to be the next Allied Professional representative on the PACES Executive Council. Assuming this role will allow me to put my commitment to PACES – and to PACES allied professionals – into further action. Within PACES, allied professionals are fortunate to have so many physician colleagues that recognize our value. We have earned this reputation with hard work and tireless advocacy for our patients in clinical settings. However, there are other ways that we can further support PACES’ overall mission through AP-driven research, AP-authored publications, and AP-led advocacy efforts. In addition, with PACES’ increasing recognition by HRS as the definitive voice on pediatric and congenital EP, we are primed to raise the profile not only of pediatric heart rhythm disorders, but of allied professionals in heart rhythm care as a whole.

I have been an active member of PACES since I joined in 2014, shortly after starting with the EP team at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford. In my eight years as a member of PACES, I have been an active participant in many AP initiatives. As a member of the AP Patient Education Committee I helped improve and modernize the educational content

on the PACES website by producing two educational videos for patients – one on EP basics and one explaining the process of EP study and ablation. This committee's efforts have since expanded to include the authorship of the pediatric content on the HRS' UpBeat website. I am also the Co-Chair of the PACES AP Research Committee, which will soon complete a pilot study assessing device-related emotional stress in adolescent patients with the goal of developing an AP-led intervention based on our results. This study was conceived, developed, and executed by a panel of PACES AP members. Finally, I have also spoken multiple times at PACES Advancing the Field meetings.

More recently, I have expanded my efforts beyond PACES to HRS. I am currently an active member of the HRS Digital Health Committee, where I am the sole pediatric provider – AP or MD. I have also participated in multiple working groups at HRS on issues related to AP education and mentoring, again, frequently serving as the only voice representing pediatric and congenital patients. As a result, I have earned a place in the HRS Leadership and Education for Allied Professionals (LEAP) program for the 2022-2023 cycle. I hope to utilize the lessons I learn as your next AP representative on the PACES executive committee to further PACES' overall organizational goals and to raise the overall profile of PACES AP members.