The Status of Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation Programs in Arizona: 2019 Update

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Abstract
The American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR) recommends that every cardiac rehabilitation program should have an appropriate number of qualified staff, be under the direct supervision of a physician and deliver a high-quality program. In Arizona, cardiac rehabilitation programs are an integral part of the health care delivery system. This study retrospectively evaluated programs that were certified by the AACVPR in 2019 and determined the number of programs that were offering outpatient cardiac rehabilitation (CR) and pulmonary rehabilitation (PR) services.

Methods
The AACVPR offers certification to CR and PR programs in the United States, and it provides a comprehensive list of the requirements needed to obtain certification.

Results
The AACVPR has facilitated the certification of 211 CR and 162 PR programs across the United States. In Arizona, there were 72 CR and 16 PR programs that were certified by the AACVPR in 2019. A comprehensive list of these programs is provided in the table. These programs are located in various parts of the state, including metropolitan areas and rural communities.

Discussion
The AACVPR provides a comprehensive list of the requirements needed to obtain certification. Certified programs continue to provide optimal clinical care according to the latest evidence-based guidelines. The new Annual Report assures that programs seeking certification have all the components in place during their data submission. In addition, the Certification Program Manual provides clear instruction on the certification process and the roles and responsibilities of the program director and staff.

Conclusion
The AACVPR provides an important role in the certification of CR and PR programs. The availability of these programs is crucial in providing optimal clinical care and improving patient outcomes. The information provided in this study can help health care providers and patients make informed decisions about the quality of care they receive.