Abstract:

**Introduction**: Career satisfaction is a key determinant in how engaged someone will be at work and actively care about the outcomes of their work. This can directly influence employee morale, job performance, absenteeism, turnover, and the quality of work. The purpose of this study was to analyze if perfusionists in the United States are satisfied with their careers, and which factors which were primarily associated with career satisfaction.

**Methods**: An online survey containing 47 questions was sent via Perflist, Perfmail, and LinkedIn to active perfusionists in the United States. All responses of “agree, strongly agree, satisfied, or extremely satisfied” were considered positive. Questions that scored a 65% or higher positive response rate were considered a high level of satisfaction while areas that scored below 65% were considered to be areas for improvement.

**Results**: There were 309 respondents who completed the survey from May to July 2017 and 88.7% of surveyed perfusionists reported overall satisfaction with their perfusion career. Factors that influenced their satisfaction included salary, benefits, caseload, case type, and hospital type.

**Conclusion**: Overall, perfusionists are satisfied with what they do, but there are other influencing factors that reduce job satisfaction. The majority of these issues stem from management issues such as a lack of respect, mistrust, or a general feeling of being unappreciated or underutilized. Using these survey results, managers can help facilitate an work environment that will improve overall employee satisfaction and retention among their existing employees.