Welcome to the first Medical Imaging and Data Resource Center (MIDRC) newsletter! MIDRC has been up and running since August 2020 and a tremendous amount of work has happened behind the scenes. As you probably know, the current aims of MIDRC are twofold: 1) to develop a high quality repository for medical images related to COVID-19 and associated clinical data, and 2) to develop and foster medical image-based AI development for the detection, diagnosis, prognosis, and monitoring of COVID-19 to benefit society at large in the ongoing pandemic.

The five Technology Development Projects (TDP) and twelve Collaborative Research Projects (CRP) within MIDRC have made tremendous progress towards these aims, and the data portal (data.midrc.org) has been live for a few months now, albeit with a modest number of cases available. Thousands more cases, however, are currently being ingested into MIDRC and are slated for release to the public soon.
If you are interested in becoming a MIDRC partner, please contact kpizer@bsd.uchicago.edu

Medical Imaging and Data Resource Center.

There are currently 13 clinical sites working to contribute data to MIDRC through two data intake portals: the American College of Radiology (ACR) MIDRC-CIRR registry and the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) MIDRC-RICORD registry. We are actively looking to work with more clinical sites to collect data from multiple sources including academic medical centers, community hospitals, private practices, and others.

The MIDRC website is updated on an ongoing basis to reflect the number of cases in the pipeline. Currently, 13 clinical sites are working with MIDRC to contribute data.

Furthermore, partnerships have been formed with the international society for optics and photonics (SPIE), the American Society for Neuroradiology (ASNR), the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM), the Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research, and the Society for Imaging Informatics (SIIM) to help publicize our effort, to diversify the medical images ingested beyond chest radiographs and chest CT, and to sponsor scientific Challenges organized by MIDRC.

As Dr. Bruce Tromberg, Director of the National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), said during the first Annual MIDRC meeting, "This is kind of a dream come true for many of us in the community. It's the culmination of lots of discussion and effort and thought that's gone into how we can be most impactful in the imaging community. And it's the beginning of an initiative that we hope will show the way for data science."

Number of visitors to MIDRC.org site since launch: 7,300
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Funding Opportunity for COVID Research Data:
RSNA is currently inviting proposals for funding to help researchers gather and submit data to MIDRC, a national database of COVID-related images and clinical data for AI research. This funding opportunity is open to all levels of U.S.-based investigators and will support chosen recipients in selecting, processing and submitting data to MIDRC. Funding recipients will receive up to $38,000 for a one- to two-year project. Applications will be accepted until all available funding has been awarded. Learn more about this important opportunity.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF MIDRC!