

Dear Colleagues,

We had our second and very constructive virtual Zoom meeting between representatives of the Vascular Society and the British Society of Interventional Radiologists on 17<sup>th</sup> June. This is part of our ongoing informal discussions between the two societies.

We discussed a number of issues including the:

**1. The Vascular All-Party Parliamentary Impact of Covid 19 on vascular patients (both surgery and IR)**

Emma Hardy, MP for Hull West and Hessle, chaired a Zoom meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June. The brief was to look at -amongst other things- the impact of CV19 has had on vascular disease in the UK. There were a number of notable presentations including Thanos Saratzis, Leicester (VS), Athanasios Diamantopoulos, London (BSIR) and Dan Carradice, Hull (VS). It was great to see the importance of both specialities emerging as the discussions developed.

**2. Letter from Derek Alderson (President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England) and Dr Jeanette Dickson (President of the Royal College of Radiologists)**

A positive letter addressed to Chris Imray and Ian McCafferty and dated 11<sup>th</sup> June from the Presidents of the RCS and the RCR was discussed. The letter noted the challenges of CV19 and in particular thanked both the VS and the BSIR for the marked improvement in relationships between the two societies.

*Colleges rarely write to thank professional groups for their efforts and while there is always the opportunity for improvement, we wish to place on record our gratitude to those professionals who have contributed to an improved situation at a particularly difficult time.*

We (IM and CI) like to thank the membership of both societies for this collaborative approach. Clearly there remain units where there are issues, but the steady improvement noted by the Presidents of the RCS and RCR does reflect a very positive direction of travel.

**3. Vascular curriculum**

We talked about the ongoing discussions between the VS and BSIR with regards to the submission of the updated vascular surgical curriculum to the GMC. We understand the submission is in the proof reading stage and we hope very close to sign off by the RCR.

**4. Cover Study**

The Cover Study is a trainee led observational study that is assessing the impact CV19 is having on the delivery of vascular interventions. The study is being rolled out worldwide.

<https://vascular-research.net/projects/cover-study-covid-19-vascular-service-study/>

Recruitment to all three Tiers is well underway, and the Tier 1 data is being considered for publication and the Tier 2 data is being written up. Great to see this collaboration between VERN, VS, BSIR and BSIRT.

**Next meeting**

We plan to meet (probably virtually) again in 6-8 weeks and would be happy to discuss ideas and issues from either society's membership.

Attendees:

Chris Imray	VS
Mike Jenkins	VS
Ian McCafferty	BSIR
Phil Haslam	BSIR