

Summer 2019 Newsletter

Vascular Society Reports

Report from Ian Loftus President of the Vascular Society



The proposed NICE guidelines regarding aortic aneurysm repair have been the focus of much attention. The publication date has been delayed again, creating further uncertainty and anxiety. A revised date for publication has not been set, but stakeholders including the VSGBI have been advised that this is to develop a plan of implementation.

The VSGBI Council has repeatedly raised concerns about the guidelines, and are unanimous in our approach. We will continue to do so in collaboration with other stakeholders, including BSIR.

We have a meeting of the Joint Vascular Programme Board at the end of July. We will again raise our concerns about the implications of the guidelines for patient safety and

outcomes, vascular services, training and workforce retention.

On a positive note, myself, President-Elect Chris Imray, and Vice President-Elect Mike Jenkins recently had a very fruitful and positive meeting with the current and incumbent Presidents of BSIR, Trevor Cleveland and Ian McCafferty. A joint statement will be issued shortly, and we will be meeting on a regular basis going forward. We aim to ensure collaboration on all areas of mutual interest, including the provision of services, training and audit.

The theme of the ASM in November, in Manchester, will be 'a safe and sustainable vascular service'. The NICE guidelines will be very pertinent to this, as will our important Quality Improvement Programme for lower limb ischaemia. It's a crucial time for the Society and for vascular surgery as a speciality. We hope as many of you will join us in Manchester for what proves to be a fascinating and thought provoking meeting.

Critical limb threatening ischaemia is the focus of much attention. Our PAD-QIF was published on the website in April to find out more look [here](#) and the Global Vascular Guidelines on CLTI – endorsed by VS, BSET and BSIR - have recently been published in JVS and EJEVS to view this please click [here](#).

Report from the Audit and QI committee – Chair Jon Boyle



PAD-QIF Early Implementation Centres.

We are interested to hear from centres who would like to be involved in the early adoption and implementation of the PAD-QIF. It is envisaged that 6 to 10 centres will be chosen to come together and discuss current patient pathways and share ideas and good practice to improve timelines to limb-salvage and patient outcomes.

The RCS England QI Team has agreed to support a day at the College to facilitate discussions and the dissemination of good practice. The date for this has just been confirmed as Thursday 17th October 2019 at RCS in London.

If your centre is interested in being involved please email me directly with a copy to Louise Collins, Vascular Society Administrator.

jonathan.boyle@addenbrookes.nhs.uk and
admin@vascularsociety.com

Circulation Foundation and RCS England QIF Fellow.

We have been successful in obtaining funding from the Circulation Foundation and the RCS to support a Research Fellowship in investigate the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the PAD-QIF. This is a fantastic opportunity for a trainee to complete an MD in quality improvement and work closely with the NVR Team. The closing date for this fellowship is 5th July 2019. More details are available [here](#).

NVR Vascunet Validation

I am pleased to report that we have agreement in principle for an external validation of the NVR by a team from Vascunet. We are therefore looking for volunteer centres to be visited by a team from Vascunet, who will spend a couple of days cross checking NVR data with hospital systems. It is envisaged that this will take place in the Autumn 2019 and Spring 2020 and will involve about 8 centres.

If you would like to be involved please e-mail swaton@rcseng.ac.uk or
jonathan.boyle@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Report from the Research committee – Chair Ian Chetter

Special Interest Groups Chairs

As part of its national research strategy the Vascular Society aims to establish 9 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in the following areas: Amputation; Aorta; Carotid; Diabetic Foot; Peripheral Arterial Disease; Vascular Access; Venous, Wound Management, Service Organisation, Access & Delivery.

We wish to appoint 9 SIG Chairs & deputy Chairs

a) to support a national Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) with the James Lind Alliance (JLA) to help oversee the development of research priorities for the vascular specialty

b) to develop a portfolio of sub-speciality studies to address these research priorities.

It is envisaged that each of the 9 SIGs will have representation from vascular surgery, trainees, patients, and other appropriate affiliated groups.

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of a multi-disciplinary programme of research with national impact. More information can be found [HERE](#).

Closing date for applications: 2nd September 2019

Interview date (RCS England): 3rd October 2019

If you wish to discuss this further please contact professor Ian chetter ian.chetter@hey.nhs.uk



Circulation Foundation / RCS England fellowship

An exciting opportunity for trainees to secure a 2 year research fellowship investigating critical limb ischaemia. For further details click [HERE](#)

Vascular research day save the *date*

On Friday 4th October at the RCS England the Vascular Society will host its inaugural research day. We will highlight various academic training pathways, identify sources of funding, and provide advice and support regarding developing successful funding application. We aim for this to be a novel, interactive and productive day which should appeal to all involved in the provision of care to vascular patients.

Please put it in your diaries now!

Report from the Education Committee - Chair Keith Jones



The Vascular Society and the Rouleaux Club held a successful Introduction to Vascular Surgery at the Charing Cross meeting. 53 potential vascular surgeons attended.

Feedback was excellent –“a fantastic day” said Helena Smith from the Whittington, “I would highly recommend the introduction to vascular surgery event to any junior trainee” said Maria Tennyson from Addenbrookes.

The success of the course is due to the enthusiasm of the Rouleaux club trainees who supported it. The attendees were invited to compete to write a report of the event, and

Lucy Belk, the winner, will have her report published in Vascular News.



It has been a busy summer in Cambridge. Addenbrooke's hosted the Clinicals for the May diet of the Vascular FRCS and offered an excellent and varied selection of patients for the exams. The ASPIRE 4&6 courses were also held in Cambridge over the week starting the 17th June at the surgical training centre. Both courses are predominantly cadaveric courses focusing on the lower limb (ASPIRE 4) and abdominal, chest and neck exposures.

(ASPIRE 6)

The course was supported by an excellent faculty from throughout the Eastern region and Course Director Patrick Coughlin



With the start of the IST run through training programme approaching, Keith Jones, chair of the Education committee is beginning to plan ASPIRE 1 / 2 . The next ASPIRE 3 course will be held in Wolverhampton in 27th-29th September, and ASPIRE 8 will run from 4-5th February 2020.

Further information about the ASPIRE courses can be found on the VS website [HERE](#)

NEWS ITEMS



The Vascular Societies' Annual Scientific Meeting 2019

In conjunction with the Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland, the Society of Vascular Nurses, and the Society for Vascular Technology of Great Britain and Ireland.

27th - 29th November 2019
Manchester Central

The Annual Scientific Abstracts Deadline

The Vascular Societies' Annual Scientific Meeting, Wednesday 27th November - Friday 29th November 2019, held at Manchester Central.

The Vascular Societies' are pleased to announce that the abstract submission online process is open and the deadline for submissions is **5th July 2019**.

For the guidelines on abstract submissions [CLICK HERE](#)

To submit your abstract please [CLICK HERE](#)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN - REGISTER HERE

Vascular Society's Privacy Policy – Important News

To see the Vascular Society's revised Privacy Policy please look [HERE](#)

Research Study

The Vascular Society are keen to publicise and promote recruitment to national, multicentre clinical research studies in vascular surgical patients to their membership [Here](#)

If you have a research study would wish to be publicised please submit a short summary including the following information to admin@vascularsociety.org.uk

- Funder
- population
- intervention
- control
- outcomes
- start date
- end date
- number of patients required
- contact details of PI
- a link to the relevant web site
- logos or images that you may wish to be considered for publication.

Once we receive your request, we will acknowledge receipt of your email, the material will then be reviewed by Professor Ian Chetter, the Chair of the Research Committee.

If approved this, your trial will be published on the website, and included in the VS newsletter.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact admin@vascularsociety.org.uk

FSSA Foundation Membership

The FSSA have asked us to highlight the new surgical union to our members. Details are attached [HERE](#)



EVENTS



OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

The second vascular access course will be available to Vascular Society members, September 2019. To find out more please click [HERE](#).