

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAY 2021



Dear SVM Colleagues,



I hope everyone is vaccinated and is looking forward to a much better summer this year. I can't wait to get out more and enjoy small graduation parties and attend a good 4th of July celebration. I can't believe that this is my last President's message.

I want to start with some great news – **We have a new management company!** Let me back up a bit. In early fall 2020, the SVM Board of Trustees reached a unanimous decision to initiate a search for a new association management company (AMC). Kellen Company had been SVM's AMC since 2007. While the decision was difficult, it was essential and took months of deliberation. SVM needs a partner that shares our long-term vision, serves our members and committee volunteers, and guides our officers with fiduciary and administrative responsibilities. As an immediate first step, the leadership created an SVM Taskforce to assist with the AMC replacement. This task force consisted of Drs. Mark Creager, James Froehlich, Elizabeth Ratchford, Herb Aronow, Esther Kim, and I. We hired a consultant – an AMC expert (Mr. Terrance Barkan) and an attorney to help us navigate the complex process. Over the past six months, we mapped our transition, and most importantly, secured our finances; we then sought RFPs from AMCs and conducted interviews. The Board of Trustees ultimately voted to select **Veritas Association Management** as our new AMC, as recommended by the Task Force.

After a month of transition time with Kellen, Veritas took over SVM's management from April 26th, 2021. Veritas shares our values, and I am confident that this partnership will help SVM advance in the right direction. The leadership is highly optimistic, and we have already noted a significant improvement in customer service. We welcome Veritas to our SVM team.

Here is what you need to know about the transition and the Team that will support SVM's goals and activities:

THE VERITAS TEAM

- **Sue O'Sullivan** – Veritas President – SVM Managing Director
- **Donna Kelly** – Veritas Executive Vice President - SVM Education Director
- **Gina Baxter** – SVM Executive Director
- **TBD** – SVM Associate Director
- **Johnny Fields** – SVM Finance Manager
- **Denise Castetter** – SVM Industry Relations Director
- **Jennifer Manthei** – Event Management Director
- **Karen Potempa** – SVM Membership Manager
- **Christina Espiritu** – SVM Marketing Director
- **Curtis Ksenak** – SVM Website Manager
- **AJ Pfatschbacher** – SVM Communications Manager
- **Marissa Gomez** – SVM Social Media Coordinator



The email to communicate with the head office remains the same – info@vascularmed.org
Head office telephone number (847) 752-5355.

A huge thanks to SVM Trustees, especially the Executive Team members, for leading SVM through these challenging past nine months.

In other news, Dr. Herb Aronow and his Program Committee have again created stellar content for the **2021 Virtual Annual Scientific sessions. Please mark your calendars for September 9-11. We will have our virtual Annual Business meeting on June 18th.** Please note that the business meeting is separate from our Annual Scientific sessions this year as well. The leadership will present several significant updates. Most importantly, we will present a new slate of nominees for the SVM Board of Trustees (see below). I hope to see you all virtually.

Regarding inter-societal relations, I am delighted to inform you that **SVM and American Venous Forum** have signed a memorandum of understanding to forge a stronger relationship between the two societies. Reciprocal sessions at the annual meetings and sharing newsletters will kick off this partnership. Collaborating with and disseminating veno-lymphatic guidelines are also in the works, with the potential to achieve a lot more as we build a stronger relationship between the two societies. This partnership will be a win-win for both organizations. I would like to thank AVF's past presidents, Drs. Brajesh Lal and Harold Welch, and the current President Dr. Tony Gasparis, for the initiative and their confidence in this collaboration.

Moving on to education: I would like to inform you that SVM has collaborated with Medscape and Minute Go CME/Duke Heart in creating two different educational programs. The RPVI review course that we partnered with Oakstone is also available now. Thanks to all SVM faculty members and chairs for participating in these educational activities. SVM remains a go-to organization for vascular education. Please see the details of these programs below.

I know some of you are eager to learn about the ABVM test date. The ABVM examination is scheduled to open for administration in July 2021. Applications will open by June 2021. Application details are coming in May 2021. For more information, please visit <https://www.apca.org/certifications-examinations/american-board-of-vascular-medicine/>

As you can see, we have been quite busy despite the pandemic. I want to close my letter on a positive note with more good news that our finances remain firm. Our membership remains strong, special thanks to our Secretary, Dr. Elizabeth Ratchford, a true servant leader, and the membership committee.

I am really excited about the future of SVM. I hope to see you in person in 2022.

Warm regards,
Raghu Kolluri, MD, MS, FSVM

SVM LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

The Society for Vascular Medicine Annual Business Meeting will be virtual this year on Friday, June 18th, 3:00 - 4:00 pm ET. All SVM members are invited to attend. If you have yet to renew your membership, please do so that you can attend this meeting, and I hope you will vote for our Society's future leaders. During this meeting, voting members will elect incoming SVM Trustees. Call-in details will be shared in advance of the June 18th meeting.

The slate of Nominees for the SVM Board of Trustees

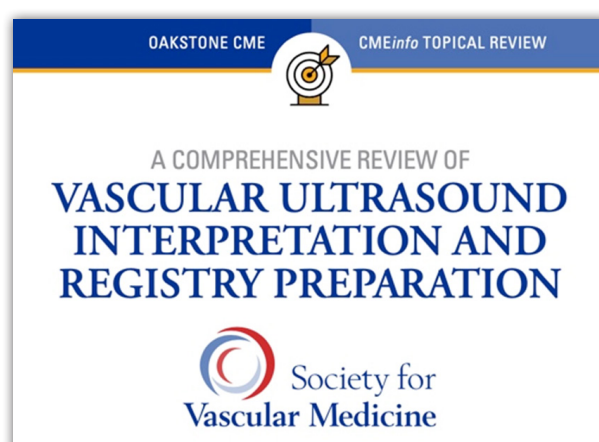
Trustee-at-Large:	Mehdi Shishehbor, DO, Ph.D., FSVM (2nd Term)
Trustee-at-Large:	Yogen Kanthi, MD, FSVM (1st Term)
Trustee-at-Large:	Scott Kinlay, MD, FSVM (1st Term)
Trustee-at-Large:	Aditya Sharma, MD, FSVM (1st Term)
President:	Herb Aronow, MD, MPH, FSVM
President-Elect:	Ido Weinberg, MD, MSc, MHA, FSVM
Secretary:	Elizabeth Ratchford, MD, FSVM (2nd Term)
Treasurer:	Esther Kim, MD, RPVI, FSVM
Past President:	Raghu Kolluri, MD, MS, RVT, RPVI, FSVM



https://www.medscape.org/sites/advances/pad?src=acdmupart SVM-PAD_pad



<https://www.mededontheego.com/Video/program/710>



<https://oakstone.com/a-comprehensive-review-of-vascular-ultrasound-interpretation-and-registry-preparation/>

FROM VASCULAR MEDICINE

FOCUSED ISSUE: CRITICAL LIMB ISCHEMIA

The April 2021 issue of Vascular Medicine is dedicated to critical limb ischemia (CLI). This collection of articles approaches CLI from a variety of angles. For a limited time, the entire issue is free to download at <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/vmjc/26/2>.

Editorials

- **Intensifying our focus on critical limb ischemia**
Ehrin J Armstrong
- **Addressing disparities in chronic limb-threatening ischemia care: What are we waiting for?**
Andrew J Klein and Beau M Hawkins
- **Advances in chronic limb-threatening ischemia**
Tarek A Hammad and Mehdi H Shishehbor

Editor's Choice – Review Article: Core Curriculum in Vascular Medicine

Medical therapy for cardiovascular and limb-related risk reduction in critical limb ischemia
Stefanos Giannopoulos and Ehrin J Armstrong

Vascular Disease Patient Information Page

- **Critical limb ischemia**
Ehrin J Armstrong and David G Armstrong

Society for Vascular Medicine Communication Page

- **Interview with writing committee of Advanced Training Statement on vascular medicine and talking points from Paclitaxel Coalition**
Daniella Kadian-Dodov, Mark A. Creager, Naomi M. Hamburg and Herbert Aronow

MESSAGE FROM DR. SURESH VEDANTHAM

THE NHLBI SPONSORED C-TRACT TRIAL

Patients with post-thrombotic syndrome (PTS) and iliac vein obstruction suffer from severe limb symptoms and poor quality of life. The National Institutes of Health funded C-TRACT (Chronic Venous Thrombosis: Relief with Adjunctive Catheter-Directed Therapy) trial is being performed to evaluate if venous stent placement can improve symptoms safely and durably. All study patients receive close monitoring and outstanding multi-modality PTS care that includes medical therapy, compression garments (usually provided by the study), and venous ulcer care.

Vascular Medicine specialists are premier leaders in vascular disease care, and actively contributed to the development and ongoing conduct of the C-TRACT trial. Please support this important NIH-sponsored study by regularly referring your patients with PTS to participating study sites. visit <https://bloodclotstudy.wustl.edu/c-tract/health-provider-referral/>

