

VASCULAR MEDICINE

From *Vascular Medicine*: Focus on Rare Vascular Disease

June 2024: *Vascular Medicine*, the official journal of the Society for Vascular Medicine, has dedicated its June 2024 issue to the topic of rare vascular diseases. The entire issue is freely available to all for a limited time, thanks to its publisher, SAGE. This collection of original research, reviews, and images shine a spotlight on tremendous diversity of rare vascular “zebras,” including vascular Ehlers-Danlos syndrome (vEDS), Takayasu arteritis, carotid body tumors, external iliac endofibrosis, spontaneous coronary artery dissection (SCAD), fibromuscular dysplasia (FMD), arterial calcification due to deficiency of CD73 (ACDC), and others.

The complete issue is available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/vmj/29/3>.

In the opening [editorial](#)¹, Editor in Chief, Dr. Heather L. Gornik (Vascular Medicine, University Hospitals Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute, Cleveland, OH) stated: “A rare disease is as real, relevant, and important to the afflicted patient as a more common condition, like venous thromboembolism, atherosclerotic carotid artery stenosis, and peripheral artery disease. Patients afflicted with rare vascular diseases hope and deserve to receive quality, compassionate, and informed longitudinal medical care, even if their rare disease is one of the 90% estimated by the [National Organization for Rare Disorders \(NORD\)](#) to have no FDA-approved specific treatment.”

“Further, these articles provide hope for patients and the providers who care for them in the form of clinical research studies of potential new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.”

“If you are a vascular clinician or investigator, I hope you are able to download a few of the articles in this year’s focused issue of *Vascular Medicine* and expand your knowledge of one or multiple rare vascular diseases and perhaps be prepared for the next patient to walk through your clinic door. If you are a patient struggling with a rare vascular disease, I applaud your search for knowledge and answers, and although this collection of articles only represents a minute fraction of the work that needs to be done in the field of rare vascular diseases...and may not include an article on YOUR disease...I do hope you know there is a community of clinicians and researchers worldwide who sees you and all of the beautiful vascular zebras. And this community is working hard on finding more answers and cures.”

Vascular Medicine is currently seeking manuscript submissions for the next focused topic - implementation science for vascular disease – to be released in Spring 2025. To learn more and submit a manuscript, please visit <http://journals.sagepub.com/home/vmj>.

About Vascular Medicine

Vascular Medicine is an ISI-ranked, peer-reviewed international journal, and a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). VMJ publishes the latest clinical and scientific information in vascular medicine and related specialties including original research, review articles, research letters, images, and patient information pages.

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1. Gornik HL. Spotlight on the vascular zebras. *Vasc Med*. 2024;29:243-244. DOI: [10.1177/1358863X241250325](https://doi.org/10.1177/1358863X241250325)