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European Independent Foundation
in Angiology/Vascular Medicine

Education, Research, Prevention



Web content

VAS Headquarters: c/o Research Center on
Vascular Diseases – University of Milan, Ve-
rona and Bologna.

VAS European Book on Angiology/Vascular Medicine

First edition

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Introduction

EDITORS

It is with enormous satisfaction we present the European Book on Angiology/Vascular Medicine, which represents a concrete expression of a unique collaboration.

160 European Authors from 26 Countries have allowed the realization of a consistent text, fundamental for the development of European knowledge and training in our Specialty.

In this textbook Angiology/Vascular Medicine skills are expressed and enriched by multidisciplinary expertise.

The quality of the Authors guarantees the result that also expresses the reality of today, ready to incorporate any future development.

The preparation has been laborious and we thank the dedication and professionalism of those who made it possible and the patience of those who waited for its publication, giving us confidence.

The book is intended to be followed with an E-book, which will encourage consultation and expansion. Updating will be frequent, as required by the speed of development in knowledge.

We ask everyone to consider this book and the next editions a common heritage to be used, to be supported and to which you can send your suggestions and proposals.

We hope it will both stimulate future research and be a useful book also during every day practice for European Physicians in the field of vascular disease.

A book connects ideas, knowledge, reality and people.

We are confident that this important project by VAS will extend European and international collaboration, will give visibility and vigour to Angiology/Vascular Medicine while reinforcing it both at National, European and International level. In the meantime the book will represent a European Educational reference, able to support European training, courses, CME and Exams, expanding the path of European harmonization as a guarantee for our patients, health professionals and students from all our different countries.

Editors

Mariella Catalano (IT), Zsolt Pecsvarady (H), Jean-Claude Wautrecht (BE), Dan Mircea Olinic (RO), Grigoris T. Gerotziafas (FR), Francesco Boccardo (IT), Beatrice Amann-Vesti (CH), Debora Karetova (CZ), Bengt Fagrell (SE), Curt Diehm (DE), Matija Kozak (SL), Michael E. Edmonds (UK).

Introduction

VAS BOARD

The “creation” of a European Book in Angiology/Vascular Medicine was considered a priority by VAS, to further strengthen the development and harmonization of Angiology/Vascular Medicine in Europe and to contribute to its international diffusion for the benefit of knowledge, patients and the population. VAS represents the birth and recognition of European Angiology/Vascular Medicine that has progressively become established.

In 1991 the European Working Group on Medical Angiology (EWMA) was born, the first embryo of European A/VM. In 1998 the European Working Group in Angiology/Vascular Medicine became the European scientific association, VAS-Vascular-Independent Research and Education-European Organisation. In 2018 VAS transformed itself into the VAS-European Independent Foundation in Angiology / Vascular Medicine, a non-profit Scientific Foundation that gathers the existing enormous previous baggage, guaranteeing its strength and opening up to further development.

European Education, the backbone of every development and every offer of assistance as well as of quality in Research, has been the first focus of VAS, since its creation.

Education closely linked to Research and Clinical Practice, an inseparable triad for doctors, specialists and health professionals,

guaranteeing both quality for patients and professional satisfaction for operators.

Over the years, VAS has fostered collaboration at all levels, stimulating multidisciplinary contributions and interaction both throughout Europe and internationally, seeking to join energies by recognizing and combining existing expertise, instead of creating overlapping and competition.

The intensive scientific activity, independent from economic interests, aims at obtaining concrete results in terms of education, European training, indications to improve health organisations, the recognition of A / MV and awareness, along with an irreplaceable contribution from the patients.

The profound relationship with UEMS guaranteed the recognition of the Division of Angiology/Vascular Medicine of which VAS was the Founder Organization where it is today represented and where it operates as an Educational Body.

In these years a solid training base has been built by VAS (European Master in Angiology/Vascular Medicine, Postgraduate Courses etc) also in close collaboration with European Universities and Scientific Societies, which has led to the launch of UEMS Accreditation for European Training Centers, the CESMA-UEMS European Exam to obtain the UEMS European Diploma: the European Book on Angiology/Vascular Med-

icine represents the reference text that will adequately support European training courses, which prepare for the European Exam. A dynamic book, with the possibility to expand and frequently up-date, a book that asks for the interaction of those who read it to favor not only the harmonious development of European Education and Training, but also of European and international collaboration.

Europe needs Angiology/Vascular Medicine, but still the specialty is not recognized in all countries: even in this sense a European Book strengthens national initiatives, but also expresses with a single powerful voice the will to obtain recognition in more countries satisfying the EU regulations underlying the

European Directives, contributing with the appropriate skills, to vascular prevention, to early diagnosis, guaranteeing the right to adequate care everywhere, arriving in time, canceling the complications that are no longer acceptable from an ethical point of view and that today express only the shortcomings of the NHS in our countries.

VAS Board

:

Mariella Catalano (IT), Mary-Paula Colgan (IRL), Katalin Farkas (HU), Bahare Fazeli (IRN), Gerry Fowkes (UK), Grigoris Gerotziapas (FR), Dan Olinic (RO), Zsolt Pecsvarady (HU), Jean-Claude Wautrecht (BE).

Introduction

UEMS GENERAL SECRETARY

It is a great honour and a great pleasure to write this forward for the prestigious publication you have in your hands. This textbook is the opus of a truly distinguished group of authors serving in many top class European Institutions and with well-known and widely respected experience and expertise.

I believe that this textbook is a most valuable companion for any Colleague with an interest in the field of Angiology/ Vascular Medicine for the following reasons:

1. The entire width and depth of the field are covered in a robust and comprehensive way based on the most recent and advanced available evidence.
2. The topics are covered in a holistic way, including sound research background, state of the art clinical practice and carefully selected clinical paradigms.
3. The authors present the topics in way that facilitates learning and stimulates critical thinking and analysis. The reader feels as an active player of a masterly designed and interactive educational process.
4. The textbook gives major emphasis in the multidisciplinary approach as the proper and sound way to deal with the complex challenges faced in modern Angiology/ Vascular Medicine. I am sure that this will be game changing and will facilitate the close and constructive collaboration

of the specialties involved in this rapidly evolving field.

5. The authors give a lot of emphasis on patient centred and patient tailored care with thorough analysis of clinical and quality of life outcomes.
6. This world class text book has been designed, developed and presented not as one snapshot in time but as a dynamic element of the broader educational process in the field produced by VAS and the UEMS Division of Angiology/ Vascular Medicine.

As Secretary General of the UEMS, I feel most proud that this superb piece of work reflects most vividly the UEMS European Training Requirements in the field as well as the whole work produced through the massive educational portfolio of our Division of Angiology/ Vascular Medicine and VAS as its educational arm.

I learned a lot and felt truly enriched clinically and academically when I completed the review of the book and I am sure you will have the same most gratifying experience.

Warmest congratulations and kudos to the Editors and the Authors!
Enjoy reading it!

UEMS Secretary General
Professor Vassilios Papalois