Is vascular surgery giving up the vascular lab?

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Fellows’ Survey 2004 -2012

• SCVS in March
• Anonymous
• 22 questions
• 519 of 611 (85%) attendees responded
Goals

• Self-assessment of vascular fellows’ training
• Assess their concerns for future of vascular surgery and tools to address these concerns
Fellows’ Survey 2004 and 2005

• Males 84 %
• 4 % ages 25 – 30 years
• 60 % ages 31 - 35 years
• 78 % ages 36 - 40 years
• 6 % age > 41
• 66 % Second-year fellows
Planned Practice

- Academic: 28%
- Private: 35%
- Mixed: 20%
- Solo: 10%
- Military: 1%
- Don’t know: 7%
Breakdown of Vascular in Anticipated Practice

- 100% Vascular: 71%
- > 70% Vascular: 20%
- > 50% Vascular: 6%
- 50-50: 2%
Satisfaction with Present or Expected Endovascular Program Experience

- Satisfied: 79%
- Not satisfied: 17%
- Mixed opinion: 6%
Satisfaction with Present or Expected Open Surgical Program Experience

- Satisfied: 81%
- Not satisfied: 16%
- Mixed opinion: 1%
Most of My Intervention Skills Learned From:

- Vascular Surgeon 84%
- Interventional Radiologist 9%
- Cardiologist 1%
- Other 5%
Vascular Lab Experience at My Fellowship Program

- Excellent: 36%
- Satisfied: 28%
- Needs some improvement: 30%
- Needs much improvement: 6%
Do You Perform the Noninvasive Tests?

Yes  

No  

36 %  

62 %
Comfort In Managing a Vascular Lab At The End Of Fellowship

- Comfortable: 47%
- Uncomfortable: 37%
- Unsure: 14%
Program Didactics

- Excellent: 20%
- Satisfactory: 64%
- Need some improvement: 11%
- Need much improvement: 4%
Distribution of SCUT Cases (thrombectomy, filter, AV access) vs. Cases That I Can Learn From:

• Excellent 42 %
• Satisfactory 45 %
• Need some improvement 10 %
• Need vast improvement 3 %
Vascular Fellows Should Be Offered The Following Training Paradigm

• 5 years of GS + 2 VS 40%
• 4 years of GS + 2 years of VS 8%
• 3 years of GS + 3 years of VS 45%
• 2 years of GS + 3 years of VS 6%
• 1 years of GS + 4 years of VS 4%
Expectations For Future Manpower In Vascular Surgery

• Available manpower will < future demand 1%

• Available manpower will = future demand 17%

• Future demand will > available manpower 72%
Interest In Joining An Association For Vascular Surgical Trainees

- Interested 76 %
- Not Interested 10 %
- Unsure 13 %
Issues That Should Be Addressed By This Association

- Future job market 67%
- Endovascular training during fellowship 56%
- Program reduction to 3 years general and 3 years vascular surgery 22%
- Increased focus for the vascular fellow at the national meetings 49%
- Representation for the vascular fellows on the national councils 37%
Finding The Type Of Job That I Want As A Vascular Surgeon Has Been:

- Easy 46%
- Moderately difficult 46%
- Very difficult 4%
Vascular Surgery Privileges Should Be Restricted To:

- BC/BE 71%
- GS and VS 13%
- Cardiac and VS 8%
- ≥ 75 major vascular operations annually 25%
- No restrictions 1%
- Other 1%
Major Threats To The Future Of Vascular Surgery

- Lack of independent board of vascular surgery 74 %
- Too many board certified vascular surgeons 1 %
- Competition from cardiac surgeons 20 %
- Competition from general surgeons 4 %
- Competition from radiologists 30 %
- Competition from cardiologists 82 %
Trends over 9 years

• 2004 primarily Vascular Surgeons as primary source of endovascular training: 77%
• 2010-2012: 95%
• No other statistically different changes from year to year.
Issues of concern

• Selected sample
• Need to focus on Vascular Lab training
• APDVS + SVU as a solution