New! *Hot Topics from the SVS*

**MACRA Resources**

- **All SVS / VQI Resources for Members** Your SVS-approved, one-stop guide to MIPS, MACRA and QPP. Start here!
- **Quality Improvement and Reporting: A Survival Guide for Your Practice**
  - The SVS Community Practice Committee, Clinical and Comparative Effectiveness Research Committee and the Quality and Performance Measures Committee developed this breakfast session to provide practical tips and tools for quality improvement at the 2016 Vascular Annual Meeting.
- **MACRA Checklist: Steps You Can Take Now To Prepare**
  - The American Medical Association (AMA) offers an overview of ways your practice can prepare for the upcoming implementation of MACRA.
    - Included in the AMA resources is a Payment Model Evaluator to help you find the best alternative payment model for your practice.
- **MIPS/MACRA Webinar**
- **MIPS/MACRA Presentation Slides**
  - M2S and the SVS PSO, in conjunction with the SVS, ran a webinar in July 2017 to review the latest information on MIPS/MACRA. The presenters were Jill Rathburn (Galileo Consulting) and Drs. Patrick Ryan and Taylor Smith representing the SVS Quality and Performance Measurement Committee.

**Practice Management**

- **FEVAR reimbursement tools.** Fenestrated Endovascular Aortic Aneurysm Repair has significant reimbursement issues across the United States and has had these issues for several years. The templates
below explain the issues and help members write to their insurance carriers in an attempt at reimbursement.

- FEVAR Carrier Pricing Recommendations [.doc] Be sure to fill in your own information where text is highlighted.
- FEVAR Carrier Pricing Recommendations [PDF]
- FEVAR Planning Letter [.doc] Be sure to fill in your own information where text is highlighted.

- Choosing Wisely (AMA STEPS Forward)
  
  The AMA STEPS Forward Practice Support program offers a module on applying Choosing Wisely to your practice. This resource includes FAQs and tools to implement in your practice.

- Different approaches can combat negative online review (Vascular Specialist)
  
  Physicians share their experiences involving negative online reviews and different strategies for handling these situations in this Vascular Specialist article.

- Tips for using EMRs effectively (Vascular Specialist)
  
  Tips are offered to improve EMR efficiency and enhance patient relationships in your service.

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**Toolkits**

- Branding Your Practice
- Branding Your Practice to Referring Physicians

**SVS Practice Memos**

- **Building Effective Partnerships Between Vascular Surgeons and Podiatrists in the Effective Management of Diabetic Foot Ulcers**
  
  A collaborative effort between the Young Physicians Programs of the American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) and the Young Surgeons Committee of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS), this memo is intended to aid podiatrists and vascular surgeons in the early years of their respective careers, especially those involved in the care of patients with DFUs. During these formative years, learning how to successfully establish an inter-professional partnership is crucial in order to provide the best possible care to this important patient population.

- **Practice Mergers: Key Business Questions and Decisions**
  
  Adoption of medical records technology is supported by incentive payments to physicians and hospitals for meaningful use of electronic health records for Medicare and Medicaid patients. This document provides a directory of useful online resources and key definitions.

- **Marketing Your Practice Series, Part 1: Defining Your Competitive Edge**
  
  Effectively market a practice. It is critically important to defining the competitive edge when beginning a practice, moving to a new location, or encountering new competition in an established practice.

- **Marketing Your Practice Series, Part 2: How to Introduce Yourself to a New Community**
  
  As a fellowship or integrated residency trained vascular surgeon, your skills in the surgical and
nonsurgical treatment of arterial, venous, and lymphatic disorders provide a valuable resource to the community. Referring physicians in your community need to understand that by sending a patient to you, the patient will receive the very best in vascular care, including evaluation, risk modification, endovascular treatment or open surgery, and follow-up.

- **Negotiating a Compensation Plan**
  - Learn how to design a compensation plan, pros and cons of various incentives, financial drivers in formulas, and recent trends in compensation formulas in private practices and hospital employed vascular surgeons, as well as a few negotiation tips.

- **PA and NP Integration in a Vascular Practice**
  - This practice memo is intended to be a primer in aiding vascular surgeons, especially those in solo practice or just beginning their vascular surgery career, who are contemplating and/or in the process of integrating a physician assistant or nurse practitioner into their vascular surgery practices.

- **How to Start a Vascular Lab**
  - Start a vascular lab. The combination of practical experience, knowledge of vascular disease, and knowledge of non-invasive vascular testing makes the vascular surgeon uniquely qualified to interpret vascular laboratory testing.