



2018 VAM Highlights

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Come to VAM and Explore Boston

This year, the Vascular Annual Meeting returns to Boston, a vibrant city unrivaled in its contributions to American history and culture, not to mention its countless dining and entertainment options for attendees looking to cut loose and explore.

During the day, attendees are guaranteed cutting-edge vascular research and innovative educational sessions. After-hours, Boston serves as a great home base for all things amusement-oriented, offering plenty of opportunities to take in a show, visit museums or take a walk through one of the city's historically rich neighborhoods along the Freedom Trail.

For those with an ear for music, U2 and Dave Matthews Band concerts are scheduled during the nights of VAM and the Boston Red Sox will be playing home games at Fenway Park from June 22-24. Add that to the loads of museums, summer events and award-winning restaurants, and you have yourself plenty of options to build the perfect vacation itinerary for the whole family. To plan your trip and explore possible options, be sure to visit the Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau website.

You Asked and We Listened – VAM is Growing for the Better

There are exciting updates on the horizon for VAM 2018, all based on attendee feedback from previous years. As a priority during his first year as SVS Program Chair, Matt Eagleton, MD enlisted faculty, leadership, committees, and VAM partners to help SVS gain insight into attendee preferences.

Most importantly, SVS conducted extensive focus group and surveys of VAM attendees. Hundreds of in person interviews and survey data spanning all practice backgrounds and interests helped the planning committees identify key themes and potential areas of growth and innovation. The results helped to identify fresh new ideas and optimizations for the upcoming Vascular Annual Meeting.

- Broad programming, with sessions of interest to all surgeons, regardless of practice setting
- Customized programming with education organized by audience, area of interest and practice background
- New formats and topics to encourage more networking and one-on-one interactions
- Opportunities for audiences in small groups to engage with presenters
- Sessions that build on the science with insights into the translational for every-day practice settings
- Programming spread throughout all four days, to reduce session overlap
- Emphasis of the vascular team throughout
- A detailed website (Meeting Planner) that provides a detailed agenda of the meeting, allowing attendees to customize their VAM experience. Look for the planner under the “Detailed Program Agenda” tab of the VAM website.
- And many more, including a robust app that will help you navigate the meeting onsite.

Home of the Vascular Team – Partners in Patient Care

The theme of this year’s VAM is “Home of the Vascular Team – Partners in Patient Care.” This year will feature the exceptional practice-based and research-based abstract sessions as in previous VAMs as well as postgraduate courses, concurrent sessions, breakfast sessions, workshops, and new small-group interactive educational sessions from Wednesday through Saturday where you are guaranteed to learn new skills and brush up on existing ones. This year, there’s sure to be something for everyone, regardless of practice type, specialization, career stage or home country. Be sure to invite your nurses, PAs and techs to this year’s meeting.

Members said they wanted education for all members of the team. New sessions catering to members of the vascular team will bring everyone together under one roof, for equal benefit. The Society for Vascular Nursing will host its two-day program during VAM this year, and the new SVS Vascular PA Section will be hosting a half-day of sessions and events. Young surgeons will benefit from attending the full-day abstract session curated by VESS. Residents and students can attend the program built for them, including the Residency Fair and, for those in the Scholarship Program, mock interviews and the popular simulation program.

Featured on Friday afternoon, “Team Forum: Improving Metrics in Clinical Practice,” will focus on an area relevant to the entire vascular team: surgeons, nurses and physician assistants.

Here are some of the reasons to attend this year’s VAM, scheduled for June 20-23:

More sessions

The 2018 Vascular Annual Meeting will feature expanded programming starting Wednesday, June 20. If you usually come on Thursdays, be sure to arrive a day earlier to attend the workshop and postgraduate sessions. Workshop topics include FEVAR, dissection, AVM management, venous ultrasound, TCAR, hemodialysis decolor, Type 2 endoleaks, crossing tibial CTO, and pedal access. Workshops tickets (\$100 each) are limited to 15 people per session and there are only 9 sessions planned, so plan to register early for these events.

Introducing two new program formats: Tips and Tricks and Ask the Expert

Each day a session on "Tips and Tricks" and one on "Ask the Expert" will be included with VAM registration, but space is limited. "Tips and Tricks" will feature experts leading discussions with attendees on TOS, open venous reconstruction, EVAR graft explantation and eversion carotid endarterectomy. Attendees to the "Ask the Expert" sessions will discuss cases in coding, aortic, hemodialysis, and PAD. Individuals wanting to attend the "Ask the Expert" session will be encouraged to submit cases for faculty prior to the meeting. Check back for more details.

We want you to stay through Saturday

Saturday programming has been extended and expanded, with a rich collection of abstract and educational sessions. In addition to the morning breakfast sessions, participate in another "Ask the Expert" and "Tips and Tricks" sessions. You will want to "camp out" in the main session room to hear Hazim Safi speak at the John Homans Lecture and Kenneth Ouriel present at the Roy Greenberg Distinguished Lecture.

Following a scientific session of abstracts and the member business meeting, choose between the "How I Do It" video session, or a program of "late-breaking" submissions. Follow up with the Poster Championship Round or Beyond the Journal of Vascular Surgery: "Top Ten" Papers Relevant to Vascular Surgery to complete your VAM experience.

Postgraduate courses free with registration for all SVS members

The general registration fee includes Wednesday's excellent postgraduate courses, a cost savings of \$300 for SVS members. Non-members are required to pay the postgraduate course registration fee. Self-assessment credit will be available to all physician attendees. Any attendee registering for only the postgraduate courses will be required to pay a registration fee.

New and Improved Itinerary Planner

Review the full program well ahead of the meeting and design your own VAM! The Meeting Planner is an online website that will provide a wealth of information about the sessions offered at the upcoming VAM. Read about "off the beaten path" stories in the web site's 'Spotlight' section. Filter sessions by course type, target audience, and areas of interest to find those that meet your interests. Learn more about a session by perusing its session summary, faculty, and presentation titles. Build your personalized VAM experience online. The planner is a "one-stop-shop" for all your VAM needs!

Use the VAM App to Navigate the Meeting Onsite

Download the VAM app and easily navigate the onsite meeting. The schedule you created through the online meeting planner will be automatically synched with the meeting app on your phone or handheld device. The Schedule-at-a-Glance lists all of the sessions taking place at a given time, giving you a simplified overview of the meeting by time and date. Use the app during VAM to find the education you want to attend, the events where you will connect with colleagues, the social media feeds that keep you informed throughout the event and the activities taking place in the exhibit hall.

VAM On-Demand Available at a Discount to Meeting Attendees

Take the SVS meeting home with you! For those sessions you couldn't make or presentations you'd like to see again, the VAM On-Demand site lets you re-run the VAM at your convenience. VAM On-Demand will offer recordings of hundreds of individual educational presentations for the low price of \$99. This purchase price for VAM On-Demand is available the time of meeting registration up until the last day of the meeting and will provide purchasers will receive free online access to all the recorded session content for one year, including available audio, video presentations and PowerPoint files. After the meeting, the price increases to \$199 for meeting attendees. Non-attendees can purchase one-year access to the VAM content for \$499.

Curated Sessions for Community-Practice and Young Surgeon Attendees

Once again this year, the SVS Community Practice Committee and the SVS Young Surgeons Committee will curate the program's offerings to further help private practice and/or young surgeon attendees with recommended sessions/abstracts of interest to these audiences. Use the filter in the Online Meeting Planner to easily identify these sessions/abstracts.

SVS Wellness Task Force

The Vascular Surgery Wellness Task Force is excited to announce a dedicated session at VAM 2018 entitled: "Promoting Physician Well-Being: Achieving the Quadruple Aim." This session will address the hidden costs of medicine and describe the widening gap between societal expectations and professional reality. It will reveal how invention, research, evolving technology, and the explosion of new medical knowledge along with work-related factors (work process inefficiencies, excessive workloads, organizational climate factors, value incongruence and deterioration in autonomy) and a national climate of quality outcomes public reporting have set the stage for physician/resident loss of empathy, alienation, depression, burnout, addiction and substance abuse and tragic physician suicide.

The session panelists will discuss national data on burn-out prevalence as it relates to physician gender, race and ethnicity, bias and specialty. The speakers will also describe and discuss published strategies and interventions that may be effective in reducing provider burnout including preventive strategies like "individual focused" interventions--designed as protective factors needed to build individual provider resilience, as well as "structural or organizational" interventions including physician wellness programs currently utilized to mitigate physician burnout. Finally, the Task Force intends to identify better SVS member needs in an effort to ground future supportive efforts; look forward to survey and focus group opportunities throughout the meeting to share your voice!

SVS Member Business Lunch will be held on Saturday

The SVS Member Business Lunch will retain its Saturday time slot. The member luncheon features the election of officers as well as the presentation of the SVS and Foundation Awards.

Expanded International Events Highlight Wednesday

A new session has been added to Wednesday's international program: The International Poster Competition. It will be held 5 - 6 p.m., and will precede the International Reception. The fast talk session featuring international abstract presenters is scheduled from 12:30 - 2:45 p.m. followed by the International Forum from 3 - 6 p.m. The day will conclude with the International Guest Reception at 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.

RPVI Exam Review Course: Ultrasound Physics and Vascular

Test Interpretation – Physician Vascular Interpretation Examination Review

The RPVI exam review course will be held 1:30 - 5 p.m. Saturday. The course will offer self-assessment credit to all registered attendees. An additional registration fee is required.

VQI @ VAM -- VQI's Third Annual Meeting

The Vascular Quality Initiative will hold its third Annual Meeting on Wednesday and Thursday morning, June 20 and 21. VQI @ VAM will be held over one and one-half days, inclusive of concurrent session programming, to provide additional educational opportunities spanning the breadth of the VQI registries. Based on last year's success, we will once again be hosting a poster session and networking reception, which will take place the evening of Wednesday, June 20, to further enhance educational and networking opportunities. The VQI @ VAM will continue to focus on providing practical information, in the form of case studies and best practices, to help VQI members utilize their registry data to initiate Quality Improvement projects, to drive better patient outcomes. Registration is required for this event and a separate registration fee of \$250 will apply.

SVN Annual Meeting

SVS is proud to announce the arrival of the Society for Vascular Nursing to VAM. SVN will be hosting its annual conference on Wednesday and Thursday, June 20-21. SVN and SVS have shared city sites in the past, but this year for the first time, planning members have worked in a collegial manner to develop outstanding programs for all our members. **BONUS:** your SVN meeting registration will cover you for SVN and VAM!

This is a great opportunity to not only meet, learn and share with our fellow vascular nursing members, but to attend all or part of a four-day vascular surgery event that is jam-packed with plenaries, exhibits, learning sessions and networking events. SVN poster presenters will also participate in Thursday's Poster Session in the Exhibit Hall.

More information about the SVN program can be found here .

Inaugural Physicians Assistants Section

VAM will host the inaugural meeting of the newly created Physicians' Assistant Section on Thursday afternoon, June 21. This half day course is geared specifically to PAs working in the vascular setting and will feature abstracts and invited sessions. PA Section poster presenters will also participate in Thursday evening's Interactive Poster Session. Physician Assistants approved for membership will be eligible to register as an Allied Health Professional member at the rate of \$607. The registration category will automatically be assigned during the registration process. More information about SVS Affiliate membership and the PA Section can be found here.

Fellow/Resident/Student Programming

The fellow/resident/student educational and networking program will be held on Wednesday, June 20 through Saturday, June 23. The overarching goal of the program is to allow fellows, residents and students to explore their interest in vascular surgery. The program provides an excellent opportunity for learners of all levels (first-year medical students to senior level surgical residents to vascular surgery trainees) to meet other learners with similar interests and importantly provides students and residents with the opportunity to meet members and leaders of the vascular surgical community.

New Exhibit Hall Hours

The VAM exhibit hall continues to be the place to be! Plan to spend time in the exhibit hall to learn first-hand from our industry partners about what are the latest and greatest devices, products and services available to all vascular healthcare professionals. This year's exhibit hours have been shortened to two days but the hours each day have been expanded. Exhibit hall hours are **Thursday, June 21, 10am - 6:30pm**, and **Friday, June 22, 9:30am - 5:30pm**. In addition to the opening reception on Thursday evening, a closing Networking Reception will be featured on Friday evening. Box lunches and coffee breaks are scheduled Thursday and Friday. Industry participation in the VAM exhibits underwrites a significant portion of VAM, thereby allowing us to keep registration fees at a much lower rate than other industry meetings. Please support our industry partners.

Visit the SVS Booth in the Exhibit Hall

Have a membership question? Need to donate to the Foundation or PAC? Want to see a VESAP4 demo? All your SVS needs can be met in one place – the SVS booth in the exhibit hall. SVS staff professionals will be on hand during exhibit hours to answer all your questions and receive your contributions.

Everyone Loves a Scavenger Hunt

This year's VAM will feature a Scavenger Hunt over the two days. Participation is free to all professional attendees through the meeting App. Use the app to scan participating sponsor's QR codes. A multiple-choice question will appear and you will be awarded points for each correct response. The three attendees with the most points will win fabulous prizes. Participating companies include:

- American College of Radiology, Vascular Row Table #2
- BD, Booth #615
- Terumo Aortic, Booth #608
- BTG, Booth #407
- Medtronic, Booth #223
- Society for Vascular Surgery, Booth #1015

Vascular Live

Don't miss these new and innovative sessions scheduled each day during the coffee breaks and lunch hour in the exhibit hall. Last year's sessions were presented to standing room-only crowds! The latest products and developments related to vascular surgery will be presented by industry in a theater-in-the round setting. A final schedule will be available online as well as the on-site program and VAM mobile app.

Industry-sponsored Breakfast Symposia Sessions

On Thursday, June 21, industry will be sponsoring breakfast sessions. Relevant and cutting-edge topics will be presented by world-renowned vascular surgeons. (Please note: industry breakfast sessions are not accredited for CME credit.) Registration is encouraged.

Interactive Poster Session

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Published on Society for Vascular Surgery (<https://vascular.org>)

Over 120 abstracts will be presented at a poster session during the opening reception from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. on Thursday in the exhibit hall. Authors will be available for questions.

Yes, we encourage texting!

Attendees will be able to text questions to the moderator during even more VAM sessions this year, including the postgraduate courses, breakfast and plenary sessions.

Maintenance of Certification: More self-assessment credit than ever before

Attendees can earn self-assessment credits toward Part 2 of the American Board of Surgery (ABS) Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program, in addition to traditional CME. Self-assessment credit will be offered for postgraduate courses, Friday and Saturday's breakfast sessions, seven plenary sessions and the RPVI Exam Review Course. Once again, a link to the CME site will be included in the meeting's Mobile App, making it ever so convenient for you to track/claim your credits.

It's not all work and no play!

There are many networking events scheduled throughout the meeting including the opening and closing networking receptions, exhibit hall lunches and alumni receptions. A list of scheduled alumni receptions will be posted online, as well as the mobile app and on-site program.