

2017 ANNUAL REPORT





Message from the SVS Foundation Chair

Dr. Ron Fairman
Chair, SVS Foundation

SVS FOUNDATION MISSION

To optimize the vascular health and well-being of patients and the public through support of research that leads to discovery of knowledge and innovative strategies, as well as education and programs, to prevent and treat circulatory disease.

SVS FOUNDATION VISION

Vascular surgeons will lead in the discovery and delivery of the highest quality and most accessible health care to reduce the complications of circulatory disease.

Dear Friends:

It has been a big and consequential year for the SVS Foundation, and another equally important one beckons. Under the leadership of past Chair Dr. Bruce A. Perler, we expanded our mission to add an emphasis on disease prevention and patient education, in addition to funding basic and clinical science research grants.

This year we are working on a number of new initiatives with a focus on our SVS members in community practice.

These are important additions, made after careful study and consideration. Our aim was simple: to maintain our core commitment to research but widen our reach to include supporting programs that address the vascular health and well-being of patients, and to enact programs that enable our members and other vascular specialists to optimize the delivery of high-quality patient care.

Through these additions, we create a true “bench-to-bedside” arc that emphasizes that the work we do in research ultimately impacts our patients.

This expansion also permits the Foundation to address emerging issues in vascular health, wellness, and prevention. It reflects our key strategies to build deeper collaborative relationships with other philanthropic and public service organizations whose missions align with our own and who share our goals for optimizing the public’s vascular health.

Just as importantly, with the advent of this expanded vision and mission, the SVS Foundation touches every single SVS member, linking us all in common cause.

Please be a part of the “new” SVS Foundation. Be part of increasing awareness of vascular disease, and be part of solutions. Please contribute today at vsweb.org/GiveSVSFoundation.

Yours truly,

Dr. Ron Fairman
Chair, SVS Foundation

Our Core Mission Grows

The next year will bring about exciting new opportunities for the SVS Foundation. Over the past year, the Foundation Board of Directors has broadened the mission to include disease prevention, patient education and public awareness of circulatory disorders.

The Foundation's core mission – to fund crucial vascular research that improves patient health – remains the same. As we have for many years, we will continue to support young surgeon-scientists through research awards and scholarships.

The new emphasis on prevention and awareness is consistent with the Foundation's strategy of building deeper, collaborative relationships with other organizations who share our goals for maximizing public health.

The expanded goal is also consistent with those of most other disease foundations – the emphasis on disease research dovetails neatly with disease awareness and prevention. This may result in additional patient education materials, videos, screenings and other chances to raise awareness of circulatory system health and disease.

The Foundation will be seeking funding to support these programs from new sources, such as private and corporate foundations and organizations outside of the National Institutes of Health.

Meanwhile, our commitment to vascular research and grant giving is as strong as ever. We will continue to be the premier organization supporting vascular research. SVS Foundation grants offer a robust, fourfold-plus return on investment, with vascular scientists who have been awarded K grants typically receiving millions more in subsequent NIH and VA funding. We are exploring adding grants for our members in community practice in the near future.

This expanded mission comes at a crucial time for our organization; we are growing, becoming a stronger voice for vascular health, and we are committing staff and financial resources to our success.

Please help us grow and meet our goals.
vsweb.org/GiveSVSFoundation.

Where Expanded Mission Donations Go

When you contribute to the SVS Foundation, you nurture ideas and innovations that impact the future of our specialty and our patients.





Dr. Michael C. Dalsing
Director's Circle Donor

FROM LAB WORK TO LARGESS

Dr. Dalsing explains why he gives to SVS Foundation

Many SVS members might think of Dr. Michael C. Dalsing as a guru of government relations and Medicare reimbursements.

But Dr. Dalsing started his career as a researcher. "I did basic science research in dogs, trying to make a venous valve that would translate to human use," he recalled.

Basic science research took a back seat to the efforts needed to build a thriving practice and academic division in later years, and the quest for a functional synthetic venous valve remained a dream. And the lab grew. Dr. Dalsing notes, "We've grown from a secretary and me to up to nine staff doctors, seven vascular surgery residents/fellows and a plethora of secretarial, laboratory and vascular technology colleagues."

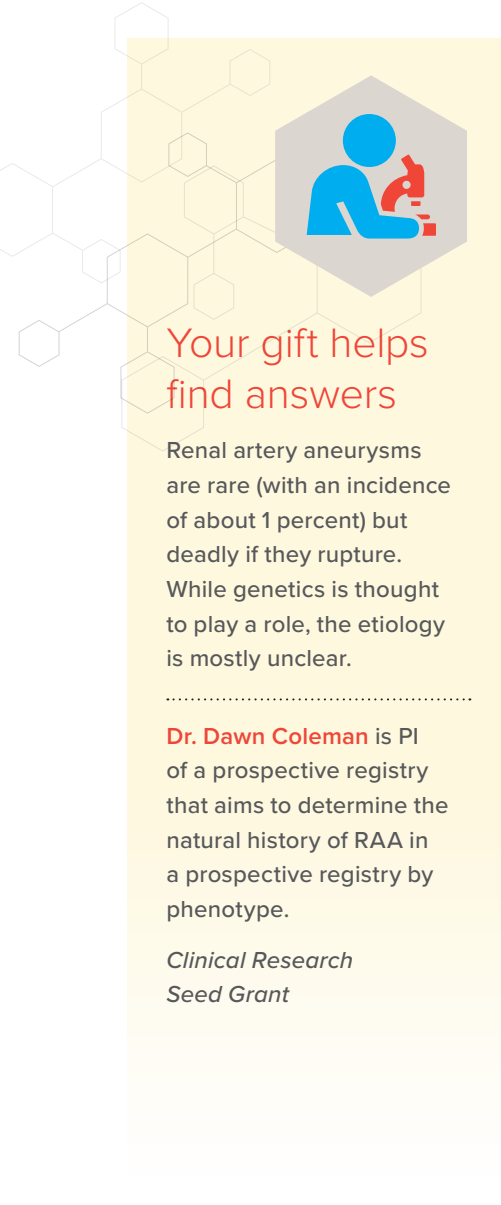
But research, and the breakthroughs to which it can lead, remain an important focus for Dr. Dalsing. To help those seeking discoveries and innovations in vascular disease, he remains a consistent and generous donor to the SVS Foundation as a member of the Director's Circle.

"I think it's important to donate because contributions allow the SVS to maintain its position as a leader in vascular care," he said. "If you want to be a leader in the field, you must do the research, be it basic science or clinical research. And researchers can't do their work if they don't have the funds."

An equally important reason is to support the younger generation.

"We have a lot of younger members who are very bright, who are interested in research and often have a unique perspective on challenging problems," he said. "We need to be supporting them when they're still somewhat new. This is the time to help them get started, to help them find a niche where they can be leaders in pushing the field forward. It benefits the patients, the specialty and the researchers."

Perhaps, someday one of them will create a venous valve.



Your gift helps find answers

Renal artery aneurysms are rare (with an incidence of about 1 percent) but deadly if they rupture. While genetics is thought to play a role, the etiology is mostly unclear.

.....

Dr. Dawn Coleman is PI of a prospective registry that aims to determine the natural history of RAA in a prospective registry by phenotype.

Clinical Research Seed Grant

Giving to the SVS Foundation

Our diverse family of supporters enables the SVS Foundation to fulfill its core mission to support the next generation of surgeon-scientists as well as our expanded mission to support education, patient awareness and disease prevention.

It's easy to be part of this vital effort that ultimately improves patient care. Please find the giving option that suits your financial plans.

Gifts of Cash – Immediate Giving

Donate via check or credit card; or contribute to the Foundation while paying dues online.

You can opt to give a certain amount monthly, quarterly or annually or make a one-time contribution.

Checks should be made out to the SVS Foundation and mailed to:
35312 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL 60678-1353.

Gifts of Stock

Gifts of stock often provide greater tax benefits than other monetary gifts because appreciated stock is not recognized as a capital gain. All gifts of stock are tax-deductible.

Tribute Gifts

Gifts to the SVS Foundation may be made in tribute to a colleague, friend and/or loved one. The Foundation immediately thanks the donor and informs the honoree.

IRA Charitable Rollover

If you are 70½ or older you can have a big impact on your Society, while also lowering taxes on your IRA withdrawals.

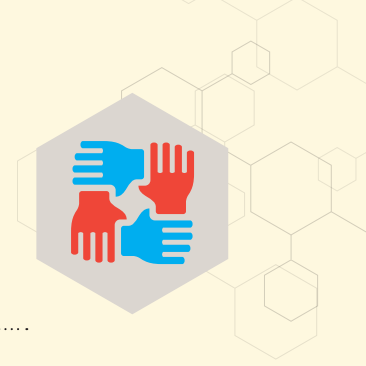
Be sure to talk to your financial advisor on how to make this gift from your IRA to the SVS Foundation.

Your gift improves our specialty

Reducing endoleaks can prevent readmissions and complications.

.....
Dr. Zachary L.C. Whaley uses pre-op anatomy to find indicators for postop endoleaks

Student Research Fellowship Award



Other Thoughtful Planned Gifts

- Wills/Revocable Trust
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Life Insurance
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Charitable Gift Annuities

When making a gift through estate planning, special recognition will be given by the Foundation. This type of giving helps the donor maximize the personal benefits of their charitable giving and makes extraordinary gifts possible.


You can view benefits and details of different planned giving methods when giving through your estate, at www.vsweb.org/PlannedGiving.

Industry Support

A percentage of the Foundation support comes from corporate gifts and grants. The Foundation invites industry to partner on education, research and patient awareness efforts.

NOTE: When making donations online, be sure to visit vascular.org/my-account to make sure your contact information is up-to-date. We want to be sure to recognize your gift!

Call **312-334-2339** for more information. Donors may also contact Sally Benson, CFRE, Foundation Development Manager, at sbenson@vascularsociety.org.



Harnessing
vascular
biology to
rescue CVI
sufferers



Dr. Ulka Sachdev
Associate Professor,
University of Pittsburgh
Medical Center

Despite affecting 25 million Americans including two to six million with ulcer disease, chronic venous insufficiency is relatively understudied compared to other vascular diseases. Yet for patients with venous leg ulcers, their condition is debilitating, painful and embarrassing.

Dr. Ulka Sachdev is studying the condition, hoping her “bench-side research” will develop “bedside” solutions. She received a five-year, National Institutes of Health K08 and SVS Foundation grants in 2012 and an SVS Foundation Clinical Research Seed Grant in 2017.

“What they are going through is quite difficult,” she said. “Their ulcers are very difficult to manage. They are large, open, painful, and wet. Patients’ daily routines are negatively affected by their wounds. It’s really sad.”

Since she regularly treats CVI patients, Dr. Sachdev wondered why some patients have benign venous insufficiency that ulcerate and why some ulcers recur.

“If we could determine at an earlier stage how to mitigate the risk of new ulceration or recurrence, I think it would be worth it,” she said.

In her previous, K08-supported research via her SVS Foundation Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award, she hypothesized that wound healing during ischemia is promoted by inflammatory proteins released by damaged tissue. Her two 2012 grants enabled her to study this, and to pay for the necessary reagents, antibodies and technician staff time. She found that certain proteins known as danger signals can be released by damaged tissue and promote regenerative effects.

“My hypothesis is that specific danger signals can be manipulated, ideally with an oral drug,” Dr. Sachdev said. “If it works, this could be a mechanism that allows a dying muscle cell to say, ‘Hey, I need help.’ This might mean that someone who cannot get a bypass or a stent might not have to face amputation.”

This year Dr. Sachdev received a one-year SVS Foundation Clinical Research Seed Grant to study patterns of inflammation in chronic venous insufficiency.

As with her previous Foundation grant, the additional funds will allow her to pay for statistician / technical time.

The goal of her studies is to determine whether patients with benign varicose veins and those with ulcerations express inflammatory mediators that predict their response to treatment. And later, perhaps, effective treatments will be found that change these patients’ lives.

2017 SVS Foundation Award Winners

Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (K08)

Co-sponsored by the American College of Surgeons

Karen Woo, MD

University of California, Los Angeles

PROJECT: *Outcomes of Dialysis Vascular Access in the Elderly*

Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award

Mohamed Zayed, MD, PhD

Washington University School of Medicine in Saint Louis

PROJECT: *The Role of Phospholipogenesis in Diabetic Peripheral Arterial Disease*

E.J. Wylie Traveling Fellowship

Christopher Abularrage, MD

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Resident Research Award

Andrew Kimball, MD

University of Michigan

PROJECT: *Impaired SETDB2 Regulation in Diabetic Wound Macrophages Prevents Transition from Inflammation to Proliferation and Delays Wound Healing*

Clinical Research Seed Grant

Dawn Coleman, MD

University of Michigan

PROJECT: *The Natural History and Genetics of Renal Artery Aneurysm Through a Prospective Multiinstitutional Registry*

Ulka Sachdev, MD

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

PROJECT: *Dynamic Inflammatory Networks in Chronic Venous Insufficiency*

Research Career Development Travel Award

Misty Humphries, MD

University of California (Davis) Health System

Jeffrey J. Siracuse, MD

Boston Medical Center

Mohamed Zayed, MD, PhD

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Wylie Scholar Award

Co-sponsored by Vascular Cures

Sean English, MD

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

PROJECT: *The Role of IL-6 in the Treatment of AAA Development and Prevention of Associated Rupture*

Student Research Fellowship Award

Kshitij Anil Desai

Washington University in Saint Louis School of Medicine

PROJECT: *The Diabetic Lipid Microenvironment – Identifying Novel Expression Patterns in Peripheral Artery Disease Progression*

SPONSOR: Mohamed Zayed, MD

Will Hausman

University of Nebraska Medical Center

PROJECT: *Characterizing Peripheral T Regulatory Cell Activity in AAA and Control Patients*

SPONSOR: B. Timothy Baxer, MD

Nicolai Henry

Emory University School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Discovering the Role of D-flow and Exercise on the Arterial Remodeling of Femoral Arteries*

SPONSOR: Luke Brewster, MD

Sujin Lee

Emory University School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Peripheral Calcium Score for Evaluation of Peripheral Arterial Disease*

SPONSOR: Shipra Arya, MD

Camilo Martinez

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

PROJECT: *Ensuring Quality in the Quality Initiative: Comparing VQI-Medicare Linked Data to Chart Review for Carotid Surgery*

SPONSOR: Philip Goodney, MD

Graham McClure

McMaster University

PROJECT: *Predictors of Surgical Site Infection After Saphenous Vein Harvest – A CORONARY Trial Substudy*

SPONSOR: John Harlock, MD

Joel Ramirez

University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

PROJECT TITLE: *Development and Validation of Novel Biomarkers to Predict Cardiovascular Events in a Veteran Cohort*

SPONSOR: Marlene Grenon, MD

Thomas Sorrentino

University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Biochemical and PET/MRI-based Evaluation of Inflammation Resolution after Peripheral Vascular Intervention*

SPONSOR: Michael Conte, MD

Katharine Wolf

Yale University School of Medicine

PROJECT: *The Role of TGF-beta in Arteriovenous Fistula Maturation and its Implications for Sex-specific Patient Outcomes*

SPONSOR: Alan Dardik, MD, PhD

Venus Kit Sze Wu

University of Washington

PROJECT: *Emergency Department Visits and Hospital Readmissions*

SPONSOR: Sherene Shalhub, MD

Kelly Wun

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Modulation of Neointimal Hyperplasia by Microbe-Derived Propionate*

SPONSOR: Karen Ho, MD

Vascular Research Initiatives Conference Trainee Travel Scholarship

Spencer Barnhill, BS

Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Interleukin 2 Promotes Proliferation and Migration in Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells*

Jonathan S. Cudnik, MD

University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine

PROJECT: *Sub-Endothelial Matrix Targeted Liposomal Nanoparticles for Vascular Therapeutics*

Benjamin Jacobs, MD

University of Michigan

PROJECT: *IL-17 Amplifies Thrombosis in a Mouse Model of DVT*

Noel M. Phan, BS

University of Minnesota Medical School/ Research year at University of Wisconsin-Madison

PROJECT: *Receptor Interacting Kinase 1 Contributes to Pathogenesis Of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm By Causing Smooth Muscle Cell Necroptosis As Well As Inflammation*

2017
SVS Foundation
Fiscal Year
Highlights

96

Percent of donations go directly to support awards

3% for administration

1% for fundraising

10

Percent of all Active and Senior Category members made donations to the Foundation

41

Percent of Foundation income contributed by individuals & departments

25% External Society & Foundation contributions

33% from corporate support

\$6,414,900*

Total liabilities and equity

*Includes cash, investments and value of pledges for future support

100

Percent of SVS Foundation Board members who are contributors

SVS Foundation Corporate Contributors



Medtronic

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to our
Contributors

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Jewish Federation of St. Louis

Florida Vascular Society

Society of Clinical Vascular Surgery

SVS Foundation Establishes the Clowes Lecture

A highlight of the SVS Foundation year was the establishment of the Alexander W. Clowes Distinguished Lecture, as well as a fund for donations to support the lecture in perpetuity.

Dr. William Sessa, PhD, presented the inaugural address during the Vascular Research Initiatives Conference in May. The lecture, to be presented yearly at VRIC, honors the life and legacy of the late Alexander W. Clowes, MD, a renowned surgeon-scientist who died in July 2015.

A former member of the Board of Directors of the SVS Lifeline Foundation (now the SVS Foundation), he played a critical role in two initiatives that have had a longstanding impact on vascular research – VRIC and the K08 Career Development Award Program.

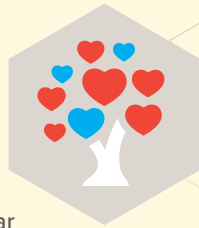
The lectureship seeks to continue Dr. Clowes' considerable legacy. "He felt one could expand his impact not just through his individual work but also through the work his trainees did after they left his lab. And his influence would be transmitted through several generations of trainees," said Dr. Larry Kraiss, who trained with Dr. Clowes.

"He was a great mentor to a great many people and was very committed to supporting young surgeon-scientists," said Dr. Michael Conte. His own relationship with Dr. Clowes began at VRIC and developed into a close one, both scientifically and personally.

Dr. Clowes' lasting impact on both surgeons stems from the Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award (K08), funded by the SVS Foundation, the American College of Surgeons and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. Dr. Clowes was instrumental in establishing the program and having the NIH involved, they said.



Your gift inspires
young scientists
in perpetuity



Each year, an esteemed vascular biologist or vascular surgeon-scientist who exemplifies the qualities of Dr. Clowes will present the Alexander W. Clowes Distinguished Lecture. In 2017 the first Clowes lecture was by William C. Sessa on “New Insights into Arteriogenesis and Blood Flow Control.”

“That’s a pretty good legacy for vascular surgery,” said Dr. Conte.

With other leaders, these scientists now ask their fellow surgeons and researchers to remember Dr. Clowes in a more substantive way, by contributing to fund this named lecture in perpetuity.

“If we are going to maintain a presence in vascular biology it’s going to be because we remember his accomplishments, his legacy and his determination to succeed in both surgery and science,” said Dr. Kraiss.

“This isn’t just to pay homage. It is so we can still inspire today’s young scientists to follow his path.”

To contribute to the Alexander W. Clowes Distinguished Lecture, donate online at vsweb.org/ClowesLecture, or send checks, made payable to the SVS Foundation and with “Clowes Fund” in the memo line, to: SVS Foundation, 35312 Eagle Way, Chicago, IL, 60678-1353.

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*Honors Distinguished
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Director's Circle
(\$25,000-\$49,999)

President's Circle
(\$50,000-\$99,999)

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Founder's Circle
(\$500,000+)

These contributors are leaders who best understand our specialty's critical need for innovative researchers and the need to provide patient education for prevention of circulatory disease.

† Indicates deceased

*If you note any omissions or corrections, please contact Sally Benson at sbenson@vascularsociety.org or 312-334-2339.

Early contributions to the Lifeline Foundation or the American Vascular Association® may not be reflected.

The Foundation's Legacy Program honors those who have contributed a total of \$10,000 or more to the SVS Foundation during their lifetime. They are remembered in perpetuity for their commitment to the specialty.

The exceptional support from members of the Legacy program has made it possible for the SVS Foundation to award grants to ensure researchers have the resources they need to start and continue their research careers. Equally important, these contributors know vascular patients are the primary beneficiaries of the high-quality research conducted by vascular surgeons.

The SVS Foundation needs more Legacy donors to help fulfill the new, expanded mission of the SVS Foundation (see page 3). This mission is vital for our specialty and for patients.

If you would like to be a part of this vital mission and become a Legacy donor, please call 312-334-2339 or email sbenson@vascularsociety.org.

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(any amount)

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diabetes-caused
vascular disease

Diabetes complications cost the US around \$200 billion a year, with one third of that related to peripheral wounds.

- Resident Research Award winner Dr. Andrew Kimball examines the blood chemistry of delayed wound healing
- Dr. Mohamed Zayed researches lipid production in the peripheral arteries and its impact on the diabetic disease process.

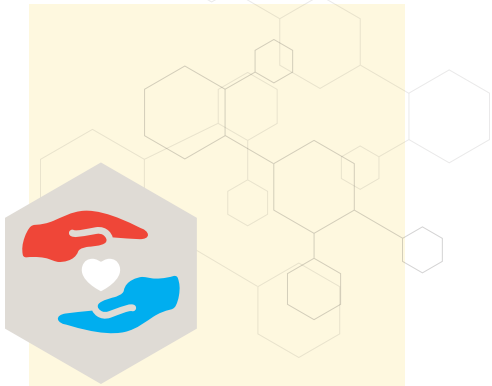
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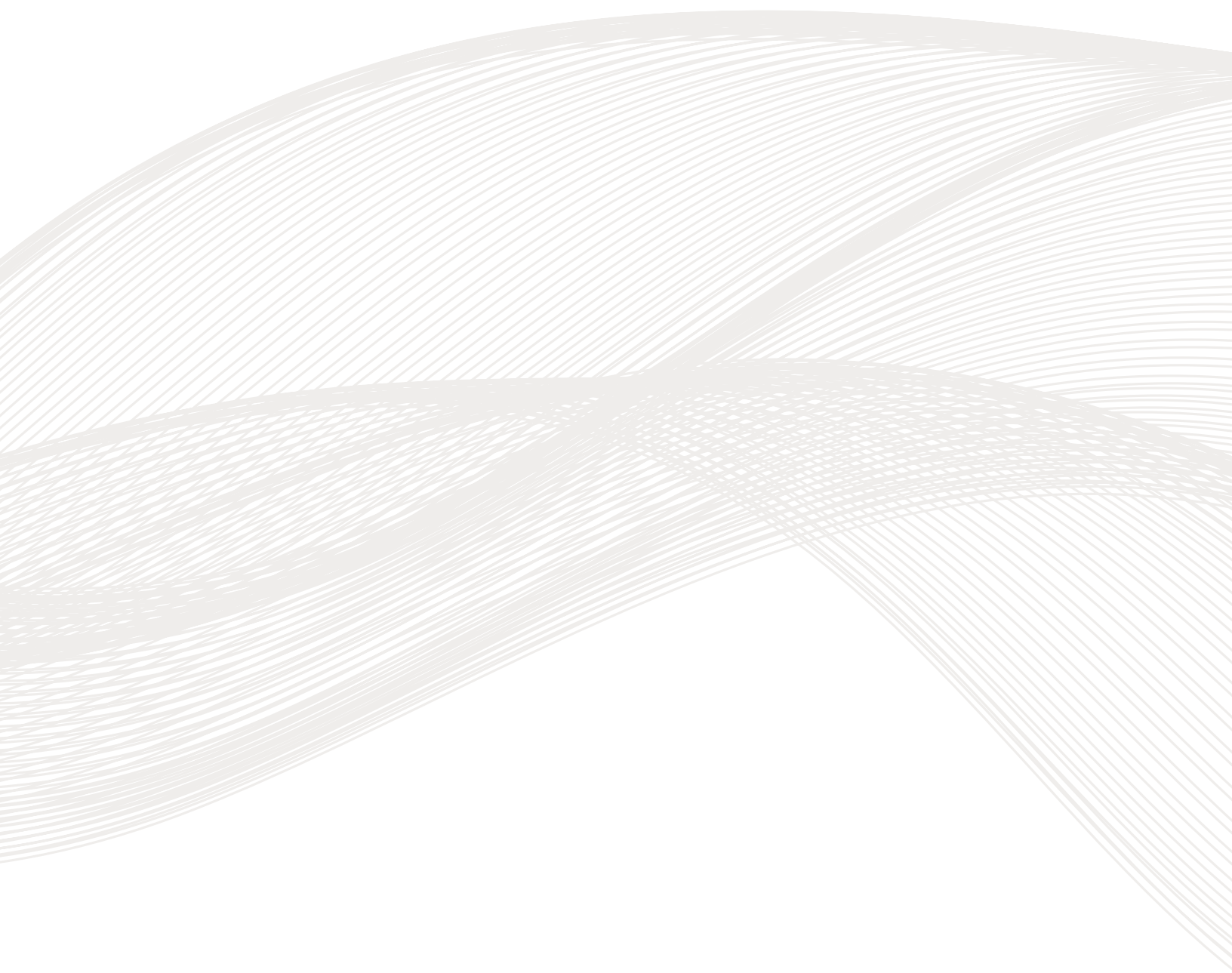
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