

Dear partners and friends,

Following the 4 successful World Congresses on Vascular Access, WoCoVA is proud to announce the 5th World Congress to be held in Copenhagen, June 20 - 22, 2018, highlighting global vascular access issues, technology advances, evidence-based practices. This will be a great opportunity to network with professionals from around the world.

This unique multidisciplinary and multi-professional event with attendees from more than 50 countries, will cover all aspects of vascular access: indications for the choice of the device, insertion techniques, tip location methods and prevention and management of all vascular access device (VAD) related complications, e.g. infection, thrombosis, occlusion, etc.

Topics on safety, cost effectiveness, care excellence and efficiency in vascular access, as well as the demand for globally shared guidelines for the clinical practice will be part of the WoCoVA scientific program.

Scientific and educational sessions hosted by the most important international experts will offer an exceptional occasion for updating knowledge in this specialty, sharing experiences and learning about future trends in the area of vascular access devices.

We are happy to host the WoCoVA 2018 congress in Tivoli Hotel & Congress Center in the exciting city of Copenhagen, Denmark. Copenhagen is ranked as one of the world's most popular convention cities, due to its easy accessibility, high levels of efficiency and low crime rate, among other factors. The city is located in the heart of a major knowledge centre and, in recent years, its range of hotels and meetings venues has grown exponentially.

We look forward welcoming you to Copenhagen!

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"Patients First"

A preview of the scientific program of WoCoVA 2018 ...

The theme of the conference will be "Patients first", quite an appropriate topic if we consider that the commitment of the WoCoVA Foundation is to improve the quality of care of the patients requiring a vascular access all over the world.

All the most important aspects of vascular access will be discussed, from the socio- economics problems to the organizational challenges, from basic research to everyday clinical practice.

We plan to structure the topics into five main headings: prevention, education, innovations, worldwide network, guidelines and consensus.

Education

Education and training play a pivotal role in ensuring the appropriate quality of care: the risks of catheter-related complications can be avoided only if each health operator who chooses inserts and/or maintain a device is appropriately trained in these tasks.

All the major issues that still represent an obstacle in the education of physicians and nurses in the culture of venous access devices will be discussed.

Different educational strategies will be presented, addressing all the most relevant and controversial aspects regarding the content and the structure of the training courses, the evaluation of the proficiency, and the tactics for training the trainers.

As regards the latter, a specific course for trainers will be organized by the PICC Academy Network (the fifth edition since the beginning of this project) will be hosted by the conference.

Do you want to be a certified trainer? Please register to the PAN !



Prevention

As it gets clearer everyday that our clinical goal must be the disappearance or at least the minimization of all possible risks related to venous access devices (so called 'targeting zero'), different strategies will be discussed – in different sessions – for the effective improvement of the patient's safety:

- an algorithm for choosing the most appropriate venous access device in terms of safety and clinical performance, in different clinical settings and in different categories of patients;
- evaluation of the most cost-effective strategies for avoiding insertion related complications, by the abolition of puncture-related injuries and of malposition;
- definition of a 'bundle' for reducing the risk of catheter-related thrombosis;
- discussion of the evidence based strategies for preventing catheter-related infections;
- presentation of the current recommendations for zeroing the incidence of lumen occlusion;
- how to avoid the risk of catheter dislodgment.

Targeting zero is not out of reach any more!

Innovations

The world of venous access is continuously enriched by new technologies aiming to improve the quality of care: devices that are designed for a completely safe insertion (optimizing vein selection, venipuncture, tip navigation and tip location) as well as devices meant to reduce the incidence of infection, thrombosis, lumen occlusion and catheter dislodgement.

All these new technologies – as well as new methods and new protocols – will be presented by the most important key opinion leaders in the scientific sessions of the conference and in specific satellite symposia and satellite workshops organized by our sponsors.

All novelties will be presented and discussed critically, in the effort of giving to the attendees a sneak preview of the future of venous access!

World Wide Network

While WoCoVA can rely on representatives from more than 50 countries and all of them are enthusiastic and motivated to improve the quality of care in their own nation, still there are huge and deep differences among the policies of indication, insertion and maintenance of venous access devices all over the world.

One of the institutional goals of WoCoVA is to facilitate National Societies and clinicians and industry partners in communication and the worldwide exchange of experiences, to improve and spread the culture of venous access devices in every part of the world, special attention will be given to aspects such as sharing common guidelines and policies, defining the need for certification of competence in the field of vascular access, facilitating international multicenter studies and discussing the different legal or ethical implications of venous access devices in different part of the world. No occasion is more adequate than the biennial conference for meeting these goals...

Guidelines and consensus

Last but not least, as the patient's safety is related to the standardization of care and to the adherence to evidence based practical recommendations, we will have a special section dedicated to the many interesting evidence-based documents (guidelines, consensus, position papers) that have been released in the last two years.

Many of these documents will be discussed with the vascular access societies and with committees who have develop them. In this regard, special sessions will be reserved to the most relevant national societies, which will present their projects, their activities and their achievements.

Is this too much? No.

We will have **MUCH, MUCH MORE...**!

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

Scientific sessions with top level speakers, organized by well known companies on vascular access products and procedures.

ORAL AND POSTER ABSTRACT PRESENTATIONS

Abstracts can be submitted on the various topics and will be presented as part of the scientific sessions.