President's Message

Dear colleagues,

I trust that some warm weather has come to your part of the country and that you are planning some well-deserved time away from work to spend with family and friends. Plans are well underway for the CSVS annual meeting in Kelowna, BC and Dr. Heather Gill and the Program Committee are putting together an impressive academic program. Alison Halliday, our invited guest speaker, has been selected as the 2019 Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Harry S. Morton Lectureship in Surgery Visiting Professor. She is Professor of Vascular Surgery at the University of Oxford in the UK, Past President of the European Society for Vascular Society and also sits on the European Society for Cardiology (ESC) Council on Stroke.

Professor Halliday was the principal investigator in the Asymptomatic Carotid Surgery Trial (ACST-2), one of the world's largest clinical surgery trials, involving thousands of patients from 30 countries. The group reported that prophylactic surgery removing tight carotid artery narrowing (carotid endarterectomy) prevents future fatal and disabling strokes for at least 10 years. This finding has changed worldwide surgical and stroke practice (Lancet 2004, 2010). The CSVS annual scientific meeting aims to provide exceptional learning experiences and having Professor Halliday be a part of the 2019 program will provide our membership with access to important research in the vascular surgery field.

The abstracts have been reviewed and letters have been distributed to those whose papers have been selected for presentation. The quality of the submissions this year was excellent and the reviewers had a very tough job selecting papers for presentation.

Your Executive continues to work on your behalf to promote the interests of Vascular Surgery in Canada. The Education Committee has developed an online technical skills coaching program that satisfies members' needs for strategies to improve their technical performance and also provides an opportunity to accumulate category 3 credits. The program will rely heavily on self reflection prompted by readings structured around the book SKILL, by Dr. Christopher Ahmad (Lead Player Publishing, 2015). You can find more information, including instructions on how to access SKILL, within this Newsletter and on the CSVS website.

I would encourage anyone who has not yet renewed their membership to do so ASAP and to consider attending our Annual Meeting in the beautiful Okanagan.

I wish all of you a very pleasant summer and I look forward to seeing you in Kelowna in September.

April Boyd, MD, PhD, FRCSC
President, CSVS

Mot de la présidente de la SCCV

Chers collègues,

J'espère que vous jouissez de températures chaudes dans votre coin de pays et que vous planifiez un congé bien mérité afin de passer du temps avec votre famille et vos amis. La planification de l'Assemblée annuelle de la SCCV à Kelowna, en Colombie-Britannique, est bien avancée. La Dre

La professeure Halliday était la chercheuse principale de l’essai ACST-2 (Asymptomatic Carotid Surgery Trial), l’un des plus importants essais cliniques au monde en chirurgie, qui portait sur des milliers de patients de 30 pays. Le groupe a conclu que qu’une chirurgie prophylactique visant à corriger le rétrécissement de l’artère carotidienne (endartériectomie carotidienne) prévient les AVC mortels et invalidants futurs pendant au moins 10 ans. Ce résultat a modifié la pratique chirurgicale et lié à l’AVC de par le monde (Lancet 2004, 2010). L’Assemblée scientifique annuelle de la SCCV ayant pour but d’offrir des expériences d’apprentissage exceptionnelles, la participation de la professeure Halliday au programme de 2019 assurera à nos membres l’accès à d’importantes recherches dans le domaine de la chirurgie vasculaire.

Les résumés de recherche ont été étudiés et des lettres ont été acheminées aux personnes dont le résumé a été retenu aux fins de présentation. L’excellente qualité des soumissions de cette année a compliqué la tâche des réviseurs chargés de choisir les résumés qui seront présentés.

Votre Comité directeur continue de travailler en votre nom à la promotion des intérêts de la chirurgie vasculaire au Canada. Le Comité de la formation a élaboré un programme en ligne d’encadrement des compétences techniques qui répond aux besoins, pour nos membres, de stratégies destinées à améliorer leur performance chirurgicale, et qui permet également d’accumuler des crédits de catégorie 3. Le programme reposera en grande partie sur l’autoréflexion stimulée par des lectures puisées du livre \textit{SKILL}, du Dr Christopher Ahmad (Lead Player Publishing, 2015). Vous trouverez un complément d’information, notamment des instructions à savoir comment accéder à \textit{SKILL}, dans ce bulletin et sur le site Web de la SCCV.

J’encourage tout membre qui n’a pas encore renouvelé son adhésion à le faire aussitôt que possible et à songer à participer à notre Assemblée annuelle dans la magnifique vallée de l’Okanagan.

J’ai hâte de vous voir à Kelowna en septembre et d’ici là, je vous souhaite un bel été.

April Boyd, MD, PhD, FRCSC
Présidente, SCCV

\textbf{2019 Annual Meeting on Vascular Surgery}

Please visit the CSVS \textit{website} for updates on the 2019 program and to access links to accommodations and online meeting registration which is now open. You will also find airline travel discounts offered by Air Canada and WestJet. Register now and take advantage of early bird rates!

\textbf{National Student Research Awards}

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2019 CSVS National Student Research Awards!

\textit{Emily Nham} - University of Ottawa
\textit{Krista Dunn} - Dalhousie University
\textit{Ben Li} - University of Toronto
\textit{Therese Massri} - McGill University
Opportunity to Participate in the Vascular Low-Frequency Disease Consortium

The CSVS is now connected with Peter Lawrence’s VLFDC. They are seeking interested centers to contribute cases to their current project on leiomyosarcoma of the inferior vena cava. Interested parties can contact Luc Dubois: Luc.Dubois@lhsc.on.ca for a formal invitation letter to join the consortium for this current project. Centers who contribute cases and participate in manuscript preparation will be credited as co-authors of the project (limit two authors per center).

Luc Dubois
VLFDC Steering Committee Member

Vascular Research Group update

The CSVS Vascular Surgery Research group’s EVAR explant study was presented in the poster competition at VAM 2019; the manuscript is in preparation and the results will also be presented at the CSVS meeting in the fall. The second research project on Juxtarenal short neck EVAR patients is beginning shortly, enrollment packages containing everything needed to start enrolling patients will be available within the next month. Any interested centers can contact Luc Dubois: Luc.Dubois@lhsc.on.ca. A Research Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, September 14th at the CSVS annual meeting in Kelowna.

Education Committee update

Introducing the new CSVS SKILLS section - The CSVS has identified a need on the part of members to participate in CME activities that provide category 3 (self-assessment) credits as well as practical, clinically oriented CME activities (CSVS 2018 CME survey). Vascular Surgery is a highly technical specialty involving open surgical and endovascular procedures. Practicing surgeons may have more limited opportunities for feedback on their technical performance and the practicalities of establishing one-on-one surgical coaching/mentoring relationships are challenging. The present effort is to establish an online technical skills coaching program that satisfies members’ needs for strategies to improve their technical performance and also provides an opportunity to accumulate category 3 credits. The program will rely heavily on self-reflection prompted by readings structured around the book SKILL, by Dr. Christopher Ahmad (Lead Player Publishing, 2015).

Objectives:

1. Provide an online, self-assessment (Category 3) program to the CSVS membership
2. Review strategies for members to improve their technical skills
3. Promote a dialogue amongst members on technical skills development and mentoring for the purpose of improving instruction/feedback to their trainees
4. Direct program participants to engage in self-reflection as an essential skill in self-assessment

Key themes: As outlined in Dr. Ahmad’s book SKILL, key themes and concepts include:
Written content: Written content will include a chapter by chapter summary of the book ‘SKILL’ by Christopher Ahmad written by a vascular surgeon (Dr. George Oreopoulos, CSVS education committee chair) with attached questions or comments to prompt self-reflection by participants (3 self-reflection questions per chapter). Each chapter commentary will be accompanied by three written questions based on the corresponding chapter in the SKILL book. The questions prompt participants to reflect on the chapter content. Participants in the CSVS SKILL SAP will be required to submit answers to chapter questions in writing to the CSVS SKILL SAP administrator, to be evaluated for content. For every 3 chapters of written submitted responses, participants will be granted 1 category 3 CME credit.

Evaluation of participant chapter question answers:

- Answers must address questions directly and demonstrate an understanding of the chapter material
- Participants must describe the relevance of the summarized material to the participant’s personal surgical practice/experience
- Participants may describe how they intend to incorporate or have incorporated the described strategies into their practice
- Answers are assessed by the CSVS SKILL SAP administrator (a member of the CSVS education committee)
- Participants are not expected to complete all chapters, or to respond to chapters in any particular order and will receive credit for the chapters that they do complete and submit (3 chapters / 1 category 3 credit)
- Answers will be submitted on the CSVS SKILL SAP answer sheet found on the CSVS website, within each chapter summary

Location of CSVS SKILL SAP: The content of this program will be located on the members' only section of the CSVS website.

Cost of CSVS SKILL SAP: Available at no cost to CSVS members.

Evaluation of the program: In order to receive category 3 credits, members are required to complete an evaluation of the program prior to being emailed a letter confirming the number of category 3 credits earned. One evaluation form from each member will be required annually (Survey Monkey format)

Feedback to participating members: Members will be sent a letter annually summarizing the total number of earned category 3 credits (1 credit per 3 chapters) as assigned by the CSVS SKILL SAP program administrator

GET STARTED!

1. Log in to the CSVS SKILL SAP Chapter Summaries and Questions page with the email associated with your membership and your password.
2. Open the Chapter section. Read the summary and self-reflection questions.
3. Download the self-reflection template for that chapter and fill in your answers. Save the file.
4. Using the link on the page, submit your chapter answers online. (You will be asked to upload your answers in this step).
5. If you forgot your password, you can reset your password using this link.

**CSVS 2019 Membership Dues/Cotisations SCCV 2019**

A reminder that membership dues payments can be made quickly and securely with the online option that appears on your invoice. Dues may also be paid by mail with a cheque or by calling the CSVS office with a credit card. Thank you to everyone that has renewed for 2019!

**Royal College CBD updates**

Click on the links below for information on Competence by Design (CBD)
- CBD Implementation
- CBD Milestones

**CSVS Cycling Gear**

We have limited numbers of CSVS branded cycling gear items left in our inventory. Get them before they are gone!

- **Bib shorts:** 2 medium pro/1 medium elite/1 large elite
- **Jerseys:** 2 medium
- **Tech Tees:** 2 medium
- **Leg warmers:** 1 large
- **Knee warmers:** 1 large
- **Singlet:** 2 medium/1 small
- **Vest:** 1 medium/1 small

Contact the CSVS office to place an order. Remaining items will be available for purchase at the CSVS Annual Meeting in Kelowna, BC.

**Upcoming Events**

Click here to view upcoming educational events.

**Job Opportunities**

Click here to view career opportunities.