**Mid-America Vascular Study Group**

Wednesday September 6, 2023

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM CST

Renaissance Hotel | Minneapolis, MN

Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Highlights/Action Items

(See regional slide deck for detailed data)

On site attendance: Betsy Wymer, Trissa Babrowski

Remote attendance: Ashley Vavra, Karen Sullivan, Wendy Rockey, Jacquelyn Medina, Gary Mangold, Dana Watts, Cynthia Bik, Cheyenne Shikles, Saeeda Lakhani, Pamela Hinckley, Angela Hill, Jamie Holley, Trisha Mock, Julie Mertz, Sarah Lear, Jennifer Miller, LeighAnn Persondek, Jan Pleuler-Fritsch, Connie Gewirtz, Dan Griffin, Heather Parrish, Trish Wallace, Denise Gibbens, Ann Higgins, Michelle Classen, Abhishek Singh, Stehanie Shanklin, Kathleen Adcock, Jason Cook, Ashli Melon, Juliann Barry, Andy Hoel, Jenny Koch, Muzammil Aziz, Corrine Benacka, Amy Pajula, Yao Streng, Brianna Martinek, Kathleen Adcock, Laura Haney, Brianna Martinek, Sherry Ragusa, Jamie Holley, Alexa Cohen, Jen Miller, Elena Schechter, Caryn Havenridge, Kelly Pashia, Heather Parrish, Dinatu Einathan, Karen Hynes, Matt Shane, Colette Thompson,

PSO Representative Attending Meeting: Betsy Wymer

1. Welcome: Ashley Vavra, MD
   1. Goal of meetings to support meaningful change to ensure delivery of high quality, high value care
   2. Participation is Key
   3. Two New Centers: Ascension Mercy Hospital in Aurora and Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas
2. Important Notes:
   1. Results based on data entered as of 7.31.23
   2. Regions must have at least 3 centers with included cases for regional results to be displayed in tables and line charts
   3. For risk-adjusted reports, regions must have at least 3 centers with at least 10 cases with complete data per center for regional results to be displayed in bar charts. Therefore, it’s possible for a region’s results to be displayed in tables and line charts, but not in bar charts.
   4. In all graphics, a p-value <.05 is considered statistically significant
3. Regional Data Review: Ashley Vavra, MD
   1. Procedure Volume – Mid-America Region sits 9th across VQI for highest volume
   2. Long-Term Follow-up –
      1. Our region has improved significantly in the past few years, now slightly above the national VQI percentage. Great work!
   3. Updates to Spring 2023 Regional Quality Report
      1. Smoking Cessation Report added – for all arterial modules
      2. Mid-America region on par with national rates of smoking cessation. Wide variation by center. A few centers have a 50% cessation rate, interested to hear details on the success of these centers.
   4. Module Review
      1. Carotid (TFEM includes radial approach)
         1. TFEM ASymp– performing well. Outliers not consistent with low volume centers
         2. TFEM Symp – higher than national rates – historically trends up and down, will continue to monitor
         3. TCAR – performing well, 3 outliers
         4. CEA ASymp
            1. Stroke/Death – performing better than expected
            2. LOS > 1day – continues to be higher than national average, 4 outlier centers. These were low volume centers
         5. CEA Symp
            1. Stroke/Death – on par with national
            2. LOS >1 day – improved and on par with national
      2. EVAR
         1. LOS/Sac Diameter Reporting/AAA Diameter Guideline– performing well
      3. TEVAR
         1. Sac Diameter Reporting – Slightly lower than national data, has shown improvement in the last few years
      4. OAAA
         1. Mortality – consistently lower rates than national – low volumes for everyone
         2. SVS Cell-Saver Guideline – better than the national benchmark
         3. SVS Iliac inflow Guideline – slightly below the national average
      5. PVI
         1. Claud: ABI/Toe Pressure –slightly above national benchmark
      6. HDA: 3 centers with > 10 cases
         1. Primary AVF vs. Graft: Region doing very well at 86.9% -
         2. Ultrasound Vein Mapping: lower than national benchmark 62.8% - opportunity for improvement or could be documentation issue
         3. Postop Complications: 1% - below national benchmark
      7. INFRA
         1. Major Complications: higher than national average the past 3 years and continues to climb
         2. 3 Patients had both an amputation and graft occlusion
      8. SUPRA
         1. Rates higher for major complication 9.8% vs 7.3% nationally
   5. Opportunities for Improvement
      1. Infra/Suprainguinal Bypass – need to dig into data, possibly RAC project, discuss with high performing centers
4. Presentation: Unveiling Mortality Trends – 10-year analysis of Major Lower Limb Amputations (See attached powerpoint) Dr. Trissa Babrowski, University of Chicago
   1. 1 year mortality rate high
   2. Skyrocket rates in mortality in 2020
      1. 77% increase in 1 year and 26.8% in 30-day mortality
   3. Conclusions
      1. 30-day mortality
         1. Increased Risk: Age, D/C P2Y12 antagonist, Post-op EKG or MI
         2. Protective Effect: NH African American, D/C Aspirin, LTF Statin, Non-metro area
      2. 1-year mortality
         1. Increased Risk: Age, Other race, Hypertension, CHF, D/C Statin
         2. Protective Effect: D/C Beta-blocker, Non-metro area
   4. Implications
      1. Need to investigate effect of COVID-19 on LEA mortality
      2. Possible predictors: HTN, CHF, medical management, surgical outcomes, non-metro area
5. Presentation: Gender Disparities in Pre-Operative Management for PAD, and Influence on Post-Operative Outcomes (See attached powerpoint) Dr. Trissa Babrowski, University of Chicago
   1. Women medically undermanaged for PAD compared to men
      1. Patients with more cardiovascular history are more likely to receive aspirin, antiplatelets, and statins.
      2. Aspirin is a form of antiplatelet therapy.
      3. Women may have specific characteristics that affect prescribing practices.
6. National VQI Update: Betsy Wymer
   1. 1,021 Centers | 1,121,484 total procedures captured, as of 8/1/23
   2. New VQI website - be sure to use member only sign-in (different than Pathways)
      1. Includes updates from FDA
   3. Readmission Study
      1. To join pilot, contact Stacey Esposito at [Stacey\_Esposito@URMC.Rochester.edu](mailto:Stacey_Esposito@URMC.Rochester.edu)
   4. In Development:
      1. OAAA
      2. Infra/Supra inguinal follow-up reports
      3. Epic Integration (looking for volunteers)
   5. Cardiac Risk Index
      1. Available in a mobile friendly format
   6. Physician Snapshot – Carotid Treatment
      1. Compare key outcomes against all VQI cases
      2. Secured-viewable only by you via your VQI Pathways password
   7. General RAC Submission Guidelines
      1. Active Pathways Account
      2. Center Registry Subscription
      3. Regional RAC approval required for all regional proposals
7. Quality Improvement Updates: Betsy Wymer
   1. Smoking Cessation – National Quality Initiative
   2. Charters – send charters to Betsy
   3. Participation Awards – weighted change for QI Project (25%)
   4. SVS PSO Quality Fellowship In Training (FIT) Program started. Contact Betsy Wymer if interested in becoming a FIT mentor
   5. Vascular-VP – email [vascular@facs.org](mailto:vascular@facs.org) for information
8. Updates (AQC, VQC, RAC, Medical Director):
   1. AQC – Trissa Babrowski, MD
      1. Re-engagement of registry committees
         1. New reporting measures and review of variables
      2. Review and discussion of proposed registry revisions
         1. LE/VMC SET variables to align w/ guidelines.
         2. Pilot ERAS Variables
   2. VQC – Khalil Qato MD
      1. Re-engagement of registry committees
      2. Active review of venous stent to decrease registry burden.
      3. Discussion on how to increase venous registry presence.
      4. Next Meeting (VEITH) Nov 12-17, 2023
   3. RAC –Kamal Gupta, MD
      1. Revies 20-30 abstracts each cycle
      2. Arterial RAC – approved data sets available through “Share a File” for 30 days
      3. Venous RAC – vacant position
9. Governing Council Update: Ashley Vavra, MD
   1. Adam Beck, new Chair and Grace Wang, new Vice Chair
10. Next Meeting:
    1. Spring, 2024 in conjunction with the National VQI Meeting in Chicago, IL