

# SoCal VOICe Fall Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2019

Host – UC Irvine

City Tower

Orange, CA

10AM – 4PM

- **Welcome and Introductions: Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, MD**
- **Regional Data Review: Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, MD**

Dashboard – See slide deck

## Comments:

- Percentage of F/U 9-21 months
    - Region lags behind VQI rate (52% vs 68%)
    - Registry data longitudinal and procedure based. PVI outcomes vs patient outcomes (multiple procedures same limb) difficult to discern
    - LTFU resource intensive
    - Workflow: Can FU registry entries be initiated on cases with incomplete procedures details?
  - Discharge medications (AP+Statin)
    - Region 84% VQI 83%
  - HD Access: Primary AVF vs Graft < 3 centers
    - Module under revision, recommend marketing to Nephrology groups for increased participation
  - CAS Stroke or Death in Hospital: Region 1.3%, VQI 1.5%
  - CEA Stroke or Death in Hospital: Region 0.4% VQI 0.8%
  - CEA LOS>1 Day: Region 21%, VQI 22%
  - EVAR LOS>2 days: Region 10%, VQI 12%
  - EVAR Sac diameter reporting LTFU: Region 44% VQI 57%
  - IVCF < 3 regional centers
  - LE Amputation, rate post op comps: <3 regional centers
    - Module may be good ROI. No reports due to low participation
  - PVI Claudicants with pre procedure ABI
    - Region 83% VQI 77%
  - Elective EVAR meeting SVS AAA diameter guideline Region 77% VQI 72%
- Excellent discussions throughout. One issue arose with the questions of multiple PVI interventions and determining reinterventions. Discussions with data managers reveals that new interventions at different locations will generate entirely new entries and therefore not be “reintervention.”
  - Answers to questions raised at last meeting – HD registry major revision just released; future reports will separate TCAR from trans-femoral CAS, “appropriateness for AAA repair will exclude patients with any iliac aneurysms; AQC has decided not to have a module for isolated femoral endarterectomy; TOS has been turned down by AQC as a separate module).
  - **Regional Study Updates: Gregory Magee, MD (see slide deck)**
    - Presented ongoing projects in VQI with SoCal investigators. Encouraged research ideas from the VOICe data. Discussed ways to generate interest and leverage SoCal data to develop a “VOICe” identity. Ideas of targeting the joint spring meeting with the Southern California Vascular Surgery Society with projects from the SoCal VOICe.

- **Regional Drill-Down: Ankur Chandra, MD (see slide deck)**
  - Looked at long-term follow up. The region appears to be less than 50%. Questions of capture – are patients being seen but not recorded? Are patients not being seen? We discussed ways of leveraging the EMR. Discussed with data managers the barriers. Parsed out issues/opportunities to improve follow-up by reinforcing the importance in the initial consultation; day of case/intra-op/speaking with families; post-procedure prior to discharge and in the clinic. Should we develop a “best practices guideline”?

- **“How to QI”: Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, MD (see slide deck)**
- **National VQI Update: Cheryl Jackson, RN, SVS PSO (see slide deck)**

**SVS PSO Staffing Update:**

Kristopher Huffman has been hired as the new Director of Analytics

Dan Neal will continue as a part-time employee of the PSO

**Positioned filled for Clinical Operations Associate**

Caroline Morgan, BSN has been hired as the new Clinical Operations Associate

Caroline will:

assist with data audits, responding to clinical questions and updating and maintaining the registries

be the lead interface with regional data managers

attend regional and national meetings

Caroline comes from NCDR, where she was in charge of their ICD, Afib Ablation and PVI registries

Caroline started on September 30th

**SVS PSO will be hiring an Associate Medical Director**

An RFA will be issued by the end of August and the position will be filled by March 2020

Position will report to the PSO’s Medical Director, Dr. Jens Eldrup-Jorgensen

The initial focus will be to assist the SVS PSO Medical Director and SVS PSO staff, with guidance and oversight its clinical operations.

There will be a specific emphasis placed on attaining a deep understanding of the construct of the variables in each SVS VQI registry and then assisting with the development and maintenance of the registries and associated reporting and analytics.

**VQI@VAM Highlights: See slide deck**

**Participation Awards: 2019**

Scoring

LTFU (40%)

Regional Meeting attendance (30%)

QI Project (20%)

Registry subscriptions (10%)

Participation Committee is in the process of reviewing criteria for 2020 awards

3 Star recipients received certificates at the Spring Regional and National Meeting

View pictures on your region’s website at [www.vqi.org](http://www.vqi.org)

For general inquiries about the Participation Awards, please contact Cheryl Jackson at

CJACKSON@SVSPSO.ORG or Jim Wadzinski at JWADZINSKI@SVSPSO.ORG.

Submit Project Charters and supporting documentation for presentations and posters to

QI@SVSPSO.ORG or cjackson@svspso.org.

Visit the VQI Members Only Website for webinars and presentations on VQI Quality Improvement Projects. [www.vqi.org](http://www.vqi.org)

## **2019 Reports:**

Quarter 1:

Spring Regional Reports,

QI Update: EVAR LTFU Imaging Update/Risk Calculator

Performance Awards

Quarter 2:

QI Initiative Updates – DC meds and EVAR LTFU imaging

Center and System Dashboards

Quarter 3:

Fall Regional Reports

QI Initiative Updates – DC meds and EVAR LTFU imaging

Center and System Dashboards

Quarter 4:

QI Initiative Updates – DC meds and EVAR LTFU imaging

## **Registry Updates:**

Hemodialysis Access: In development and will be released in Q3 2019

Vascular Medicine Registry: Specifications finalized, to be released in Q4 2019

Varicose Vein: Specifications finalized, to be released in Q4 2019

Venous Stent Registry: Specifications finalized, to be released in Q4 2019

## **M2S Updates and Technology Updates**

- Implement GUDID integration for PVI balloons and atherectomy (on PVI comprehensive form). Released on 5/22/2019
- Add Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) as an optional patient identifier. Released on 6/5/2019
- Across-registry change on Patient Details page. Released on 6/5/2019
- Allow Follow-up links to display for all procedures even when an exclusion rule is met

Exclusion rules include:

Carotid Artery Stent registry: If all arteries treated are Technical Failure then the procedure is excluded.

Endo AAA Repair: If converted to Open, then a follow-up EVAR form is not required.

PVI registry: If all arteries treated are Technical Failure or Unable to Treat then the procedure is excluded.

Thoracic and Complex EVAR: If the 'Aortic Device Implanted = No' then treat the procedure as Technical Failure, or if converted to Open do not require a follow-up on the TEVAR form.

Universal: If death is recorded on an index procedure, no follow-up is required for that procedure. This procedure will be excluded.

- PVI Revision - update PVI Closure Device Type Right/Left. Released on 6/26/2019
- Across-registry revision - retire Healthcare Insurance Claims Number (HICN) variable. Released on 7/24/2019  
HICN field was retired on:  
Carotid Endarterectomy  
Hemodialysis Access  
IVC Filter  
Infra-inguinal Bypass

Supra-inguinal Bypass  
Lower Extremity Amputation  
Open AAA Repair  
TEVAR

- **Other Development Projects to be released in 2019**

Hemodialysis Access registry revision  
TEVAR registry revision for Cook Dissection PAS project  
New Venous Stent registry  
Varicose Vein registry major revision  
New Vascular Medicine registry  
INFRA & SUPRA revisions - groin incision variables

### **Registry Projects**

These projects are conducted within the SVS PSO and only non-identifiable data (removal of patient, center and physician information) will be provided to Medtronic/Bard or the FDA. Only standard of care practice is being evaluated. For such PSO activities, patient informed consent and Institutional Review Board review are not required. Sites must follow their institutional guidelines

### **PATHWAYS Support**

2018 Claims Validation

The support team will be notifying sites selected to participate in the 2018 claims validation process in Q3.

### **Upcoming Analytics Webinars**

BASIC ANALYTICS - Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 2 p.m. EST

ADVANCED ANALYTICS - Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 2 p.m. EST

If you wish to register, and have not received a registration link, please contact [pathwaysupport@m2s.com](mailto:pathwaysupport@m2s.com).

Both webinars will be recorded and posted to the Resources in PATHWAYS along with the associated Q&A.

### **Data Manager Update: Karen Heaney, RN**

#### **Research Advisory Council: Ankur Chandra, MD**

Change in RAC Policies!

Policy on RAC Requests Related to Industry Studies

Policy on Device Identification for approved RAC Requests

Conflict of Interest Policies Revised based on these new Policies

All posted on the VQI Web Site

### **National Research Process**

Proposal Submissions

December 2019

Call for Proposals: October 8, 2019

Due Date: November 18, 2019

Meeting: December 9, 2019

Notification Sent: December 10, 2019

### **February 2020**

Call for Proposals: December 10, 2019

Due Date: January 20, 2020

Meeting: February 10, 2020  
Notification Sent: February 11, 2020

No Restriction of data release based on similar projects; collaboration is encouraged  
Only 1 refresh of data within 24 months of initial approval  
Industry related projects need to collaborate with the steering committee/s (i.e. TCAR)  
Review policy and industry charters on the web  
Device Identification Policy: review on the web before submitting proposal  
National Research Process  
Check Approved Project List  
<https://www.vqi.org/data-analysis/rac-approved-project-search/>

To submit a proposal to be considered for the National RAC, please follow the link below:  
<http://abstracts123.com/svs1/meetinglogin>

**Arterial Quality Council: Ankur Chandra, MD**

Opioid Workgroup is formed and charged with putting forth recommendations on how the VQI can be used to track, monitor and benchmark opioid utilization.  
Continued refinement to Global Unique Device Identification Database (GUDID) integration in PVI, with planned expansion to other registries.  
Initiating Future Registry Updates  
Harmonizing Demographics and Meds across all registries  
Updating Infra/Supra Registries  
Updating OAAA  
Provided Education and Clarification on recording “Other Devices” and IDEs

**Venous Quality Council: Isabella Kuo, MD**

Council and Committee Transition  
Dr. Almeida is in his last year as Chair of VQC  
Succession needed for VV Registry committee chair  
Potential for Formation of a separate RAC for Venous  
Continued Interest from United Healthcare on collaborating on Appropriateness for Ablations. Could eliminate the need for pre-authorizations.

**Governing Council: Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, MD**

GC meeting at VAM  
Vote on new Executive Committee Member - Dr. Yazan Duwayri, Emory University  
Presentation on Potential New Cost Project – Expanding upon the EVAR Cost Pilot Project  
Need for New RAC Policies  
Revised Data Use Agreements  
Non-VQI members cannot have access to VQI BDS  
How to handle center id in Regional Data Sets

**Presentations:**

- “Drilling down on EVAR LTFU” – Ankur Chandra, MD – Scripps
- ‘Ruptured AAA, EVAR and Anesthesia Type’ – William Duong – UCI
- “How to QI” – Ahmed Abou-Zamzam, MD – Loma Linda

**Meeting Evaluation:**

**Next meeting:** In conjunction with Spring 2020 SCVSS

May 1, 2020

Coronado Island Resort & Spa

San Diego, CA