

Vascular Study Group of Greater New York

November 15, 2023

New York, NY

Objectives:

- Use the VQI regional reports to establish quality improvement goals for the vascular patients (outcomes) and for their center (process).
- Interpret and compare each centers' VQI results to regional and national benchmarked data.
- Learn, through group discussion the VQI regional results to improve the quality of vascular health care by monitoring measurable performance indicators, SVS PSO evidence-based research, and outcomes.
- Identify high performing regional vascular centers to discuss variations in care and clinical practice patterns to improve outcomes and prompt quality improvement recommendations for vascular care patients. Sharing of best practices/pathways of care.

Meeting Highlights/Action Items:

(See regional slide deck for detailed data)

On site attendance: (see attendance sheet)

Remote attendance: (download from Zoom)

PSO Representative attending Meeting: Caroline Morgan, Director of Clinical Operations

I. Presentations:

- a. Welcome and Introductions:
 - i. New Associate Medical Director-Welcome Igor Laskowski, MD
 - ii. New Center-Welcome Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital
- b. VVSG Regional Data Review- Michael Stoner, MD, Regional Medical Director
- c. VQI National Updates- Caroline Morgan, Director of Clinical Operations, SVS PSO
 - i. Total VQI Centers now at 1,022 Centers
 - ii. Over 1 million total procedures captured in VQI
 1. Largest volume registries being PVI and CEA
 - iii. VQI @ VAM recordings and slides available by logging into the VQI @ VAM Planner <https://2023svsvam.eventscribe.net/>
 - iv. New VQI Website: vqi.org
 - v. VQI Updates:
 1. Smoking Cessation launched as a new NQI June 2023 w/ variables added to all Arterial Registries – Early Q3 2023
 2. Help Text Enhancement Tool – May 2023

3. Interactive plots for the Biannual Center and Regional Level Reports
4. Retirement of most COVID Variables
5. Retirement of >500 Opioid variables
6. Collection of Exercise Program variables in Lower Extremity Registries
7. In Development:
 - Open Aorta Registry
 - Infrainguinal/Suprainguinal Registry Follow-up reports
 - Continued efforts for harmonization across registries
 - Enhanced reporting measure for biannual reports
 - EPIC integration into VQI. *Looking for Center volunteers*
- d. Council Updates-Caroline Morgan
 - i. AQC Update
 - ii. VQC Update
 - iii. RAC Updates
 - iv. GC Update

II. General Discussion and Questions

- a. Final CMS Determination-Effective October 11, 2023
 - i. Expanding coverage to individuals previously only eligible for coverage in clinical trials
 - ii. Expanding coverage to standard surgical risk individuals by removing the limitation of coverage to only high surgical risk individuals
 - iii. Removing facility approval requirement
 - iv. Adding formal shared decision-making with the individual prior to furnishing CAS
 - v. Allowing MAC discretion for all other coverage of PTA of the carotid artery concurrent with stenting not otherwise addressed in NCD 20.7.
- b. Health System Contracting-Anne Parker, FIVOS, Registry Business Development
- c. University of Rochester 30D Readmissions Pilot
- d. ACS Vascular Verification Program-interest in collaborating with other centers to attain ACS Verification.
- e. **REMINDER-Spring 2024 Regional Report CUT Date for CY2024: 2/1/2024**-Please have all procedural data entered by 1/31/2024.

III. Action Items (including QI projects):

- a. Stacey Esposito to work with SVS PSO to facilitate physician access to Carotid Snapshots Reporting.
- b. Begin quarterly data manager calls to share best practices and other QI ideas.
- c. Send survey/polling questions from meeting to Regional Group.

- i. What is the status of the SCS/SVS certification at your site?
- ii. Should the VSGGNY form a work group of sites working on pursuing ACS Vascular Verification to share materials and process?
- iii. In the Regional report, should we un-blind centers like we did for the EVAR sac diameter reporting?

IV. Nominations (AQC, VQC, RAC, Medical Director):

Call for Nominations for AQC in Spring 2024

V. Next Meeting:

- a. Discuss financials with Jim Wadzinski, SVS PSO Executive Director
- b. Meeting date/time: Chicago VQI@VAM, exact time/date/location TBD

