PVD Preparing for Scientific Sessions 2012

The PVD Council is actively preparing for Scientific Sessions 2012. It will host its follow-in-training workshop, which will include career development programming for trainees and young investigators in vascular medicine. The Council will also award the second annual Coffman Young Investigator Award for the best research abstract presented by a young investigator.

Commitment to Junior Members

The PVD Council remains committed to promoting the careers of its junior members. Two research awards for junior investigators have been established by the Peripheral Vascular Disease Council. At the spring joint PVD/ATVB meeting, Nyan Huang received the first Robert W. Hobson junior investigator award for her research presentation, titled “Collagen Topographical Patterned Modulates Endothelial Cell Morphology, Gene Expression and Function.”

Save the date for the 2013 joint PVD-ATVB Council meeting. The date is scheduled for May 1-3 near Orlando, Fla.

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The PVD Council has been developing scientific statements relevant to the field of vascular diseases. Publication of a scientific statement on ankle brachial index measurement is anticipated in 2012. A scientific statement on critical limb ischemia was recently launched, and plans for scientific statements on venous disease are in progress.

The PVD Council is also advocating for the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute K12 training programs for clinician investigators in vascular medicine. Since 2006, seven K12 training programs in the U.S. have received funding to train five to six clinician investigators per program. This critical mass of former trainees has successfully applied for R01 and K23 funding from the NHLBI. Other graduates have successfully applied for AHA funding. However, funding for these programs is scheduled to end in 2013. The Council advocates these programs to improve therapeutic, survival and quality of life for the large and growing number of patients with peripheral vascular diseases.

Visit my.americanheart.org/pdscouncil for more about PVD Council activities. I look forward to continuing to work with you to advance science and the PVD Council’s mission.

Scientific Statements

Several PVD Council working groups are developing scientific statements that summarize clinically topical issues related to peripheral vascular diseases. A scientific statement on measurement of the ankle brachial index is anticipated for publication in 2012. A new scientific statement on critical limb ischemia is under way, and the Council is working on new scientific statements pertaining to venous diseases. We encourage your participation in developing new scientific statements.

Message From the Chair

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PVD and ATVB Councils Hold Third Annual Joint Meeting

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PVD Council Works With PAD Coalition

The PVD Council continues to work closely with the PAD Coalition, an alliance of more than 80 medical groups working to improve the health and care of patients with PAD. The coalition (padcoalition.org) and its parent organization — the Vascular Disease Foundation (vdf.org) — offer a variety of free online resources for clinicians and patients. Access a PAD slide library for professional and consumer talks, the PAD Exercise Training Toolkit to develop walking programs, the new Interactive Workbook on PAD for patient education, and much more.

In 2012, the coalition will focus on a critical limb ischemia initiative consisting of awareness, education, advocacy and other science-based activities to improve the care of critical limb ischemia patients. The coalition will also lead advocacy efforts to increase access to evidence-based PAD diagnostic and treatment strategies. The coalition’s annual meeting will be held Sept. 21-22 in Tysons Corner, Va., during PAD Awareness Month. We look forward to continuing to work with you to advance science and the PVD Council’s mission.

PVD Membership Subcommittee

Our peripheral vascular disease membership subcommittee has identified candidates for FAHA status. At the 2012 PVD/ATVB joint meeting, three new FAHAs in the PVD Council were recognized: Sue Dowal, PhD, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Naser Almadi, PhD, UCLA; and Mark R. Neffes, MD, University of Colorado, Denver. Contact Heather Gornik, membership subcommittee chairperson, if you are interested in applying for FAHA status.