



Editorial

Norman Goldstein MD
Editor, Hawaii Medical Journal

Pacific Vascular Symposium on Venous Disease - Part II

In this issue, we continue the excellent Symposium on Vascular Disease sponsored by the Straub Foundation.

Our readers have commented favorably about the published discussions at the end of the formal papers. For many years, various specialty journals published post-paper discussions, but for some reason this has been discontinued. The Symposium co-Chairmen, Bo Eklof and Bob Kistner, had the foresight to have these recorded and transcribed.

Just in case you missed the manuscripts on Air Travel - Related Acute Thromboembolism, every Hawaii physician should read these papers - pages 153-168. These include Hawaii, London, Vienna, Sydney and Chicago "views." With our *middle of the Pacific location*, and our phenomenal air traffic to and through our airports, these papers are a "must read."

Established in 1983, the Straub Foundation is a unique community resource dedicated to improving the health of Hawaii's people through research and education. An independent 501(c)(3) public charity, the Foundation is directed by a volunteer Board representing medicine, business, education, and the general community. The Foundation works closely with community-wide physicians and health professionals to conduct medical research and organize educational programs.

A more fitting name for the Foundation would be The Straub Research and Education Foundation, since it has two main goals, research and education.

Research – The Foundation's research program highlights clinical research and pharmaceutical trials; the majority of projects involve patients in studies and investigations to provide better, more effective ways of managing health care needs, not necessarily "managed care."

Education – Attracting guest faculty who are specialists in their field as the vascular authorities, the Foundation's educational activities focus on delivering information on new research and improved practices and advances in the prevention and management of medical problems of interest to Hawaii. Each year, the Foundation assesses the community health care needs and organizes several programs to promote community awareness and healthier living.

As an independent public charity serving the community, Straub Foundation relies on individuals, corporations, trusts and foundations to support its programs. All gifts are tax-deductible; every dollar of every charitable contribution stays here in Hawaii to benefit the community.

The Hawaii Medical Journal is pleased to help the Straub Foundation in their efforts to promote medical education in Hawaii by publishing the Proceedings of this very important Symposium. The third and final part will appear next month.



Guest Editorial

Robert L. Kistner MD
Bo Eklof MD, PhD
Co-Chairmen, The Third Pacific Vascular Symposium

The Third Pacific Vascular Symposium on Venous Disease took place at Mauna Lani Bay Hotel on the Big Island of Hawaii on November 2-6, 1999. The faculty included more than 40 of the leaders in phlebology, representing 5 continents. The general theme was to contrast aggressive treatment of acute and chronic venous disease with a more conservative approach.

The first day featured a workshop on venous interventions with practical demonstrations of percutaneous interventions for acute and chronic venous disease. The second day focused on treatment and outcomes of DVT of the three segments of the leg followed by a session on air travel-related DVT. The third and fourth days were devoted to the controversy on management of venous ulcers. The last day of the symposium featured a workshop on treatment of varicose veins and spider veins with practical demonstrations of duplex guided sclerotherapy, lasers and new surgical developments.

We were excited when Norman Goldstein, the Editor for the Hawaii Medical Journal, warmly embraced the idea to publish the proceedings of this very lively meeting. In this issue the short papers and heated discussions from the third and fourth days are presented. Current understanding of the pathophysiology of the venous ulcer is discussed with different modalities to change its progressive course. The diagnostic process for patients with venous ulcer is described in detail starting in the office (level 1), continuing in the non-invasive vascular lab (level 2) and in some cases, proceeding to interventional radiology (level 3). Venous outcomes assessment in chronic venous disease is discussed. In the session on Quo Vadis, some of the faculty are considering the future directions of management of chronic venous disease.

Enjoy this exciting issue of the Hawaii Medical Journal.

Robert L. Kistner, MD
Co-Chairman

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