



THE SOCIETY FOR
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Michelle Cooper has completed this personal reflection on **06/11/2019**

Paper: Autumn 2019 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

Description of the learning:

Questions based on two papers; 1. Management of radiation induced carotid stenosis in head and neck cancer. 2. Vertebrobasilar artery calcification: prevalence and risk factors in the general population.

Evaluation and analysis:

1. Radiotherapy in patients with head and neck squamous cell carcinoma is a significant risk factor in developing carotid artery stenosis and cerebrovascular events. Screening may be useful in these patients to identify significant carotid stenoses, although further research into this is needed.
2. Vertebrobasilar artery calcification is present in over 20% of the population (population based study). Traditional cardiovascular risk factors are associated with VBAC, with similar patterns for men and women.

Conclusion and action plan:

1. Screening may be useful in these patients to identify significant carotid stenoses, although further research into this is needed. This study has given me an awareness of the potential for radiotherapy to cause carotid artery disease.
2. Traditional cardiovascular risk factors are associated with VBAC, with similar patterns for men and women.