



THE SOCIETY FOR
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Matthew Gawel has completed this personal reflection on **02/10/2024**

Paper: Winter 2022/23 CPD questions

Personal Reflection:

Description of the learning

A review of these papers provided invites into diagnosis and management of AVFs and vTOS.

Evaluation

Both papers highlighted the diagnostic criteria and the effectiveness of intervention. The first emphasised sensitivity and precision of Duplex in diagnosis of stenoses. The second showed potency rates for stenting in vTOS management. On reflection with prior knowledge, there are inconsistencies in diagnostic imaging assessment, and a need for standardised criteria and research into long term outcomes.

Analysis

The first paper expressed challenges in defining stenotic disease and implied the need for experienced professionals in Duplex Ultrasound for interpretation and accuracy. The second supported the use of deep venous stenting alongside surgical decompression in vTOS. Outcomes included good patency rates and symptomatic relief. The importance of surveillance was also mentioned in both papers. These areas are in need of further research to optimise our diagnosis, monitoring, and patient outcomes.

Conclusion

There is value in surveillance of AVFs and deep venous stents using Duplex Ultrasound. However, techniques are not standardised and are operator dependent.

Action Plan

1. Continue development of AVF and venous stenting Duplex ultrasound technique
2. Ensure operator standardisation across the department, with regular auditing and comparison to other imaging modalities.
3. Ensure departmental surveillance frequency is regular to monitor for complications and results are flagged promptly.