

### Critical Conditions and Key Topics – Vascular Surgery

Vascular Surgery manages a large number of individual conditions as described in the syllabus. Assessment of a trainee's ability to manage these is through the supervision level decisions made when assessing the shared CiPs. Vascular Surgery also has a list of critical conditions and key topics which are felt to be of significant importance for patient safety and to demonstrate a safe breadth of practice. These critical conditions will be assessed individually by means of the Case Based Assessment (CBD) and Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX) which will both provide formative feedback to the trainee and feed into the summative assessment of the AES.

To ensure that trainees have the necessary skills in the critical conditions, by certification (the end of phase 3) there should be documented evidence in the portfolio of performance at the level of a day-one consultant by means of the CBD or CEX as appropriate (at level 4: *Appropriate for certification*. See CBD/CEX forms for the full list of levels).

The critical conditions are:

- 1) Acute Limb Ischaemia
- 2) Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms
- 3) Fulminant Diabetic Foot Sepsis
- 4) Femoral false aneurysms

The key topics are:

- Assessment, resuscitation and management of patients with acutely ischaemic legs.
- Recognition of critical ischaemia and claudication in patients with peripheral vascular disease and knowledge of treatment option including angioplasty, stent and bypass techniques.
- Diagnosis and treatment of patients with acute upper limb ischaemia.
- Recognise and know the principles of treatment of patients with ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysms.
- Diagnosis and management, including operative management of abdominal and peripheral aortic aneurysms. Have knowledge of both open and endovascular repair of aortic aneurysms.
- Ability to diagnose and manage patients with femoral false aneurysms, and the application of this to plan management of all false aneurysms.
- Recognition and management of severe vascular infections, involving native vessels and synthetic grafts
- Recognition and management of patients presenting with diabetic foot tissue loss/ Infection and sepsis.
- Safely assess the multiply injured patient (ATLS course or equivalent)
- Identify and manage traumatic and iatrogenic vascular injuries
- Diagnosis and management of carotid artery disease including knowledge of when to use endovascular techniques.
- A basic knowledge of vascular access techniques and the treatment of arterio-venous

malformations.

- Have knowledge of the techniques involved in renovascular surgical intervention.
- Recognition and management of patients with vasospastic and arteritic conditions of their upper and lower limbs.
- Have knowledge of both open and endovenous treatments for varicose veins and treat patients with varicose veins from start to finish
- Diagnosis and treatment of patients with lymphoedema.
- Have knowledge of the diagnosis and management of thoracic outlet syndrome.
- Know how to manage patients with hyperhidrosis
- Ability to assess published evidence in relational to clinical practice and ability to teach others