



## **VASGBI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

### **Membership**

At the time of writing, the Vascular Anaesthesia Society of Great Britain & Ireland's membership stands at 497 members. We propose to continue the annual subscription at £25 which is collected by Direct Debit. Membership remains healthy and is now a true reflection of members after a switch to Direct Debit 2 years ago. We are of course keen to see the membership expand and would be especially delighted to welcome members from the Republic of Ireland, so please encourage colleagues who you know from there to join up.

### **Committee update**

Current committee

Dr Ronelle Mouton (Chair); Dr Paul Warman (Hon secretary); Dr Gary Matthews (Hon Treasurer); Dr Dan Taylor (Chair elect and Chair of Research & Audit Committee); Dr Vanessa Fludder (Chair of Education and Training Committee); Dr Manik Chandra (Link Person scheme); Dr Elizabeth Perrit (Trade); Dr Grant Harris (Trainee representative; Social media); Dr Rajiv Malhotra; Dr Maria Safar and Dr Tim Wood.

Dr Ronelle Mouton, Dr Manik Chandra, Dr Vanessa Fludder and Dr Elizabeth Perrit, were all re-elected to a further term on the committee. Dr Richard Armstrong from Bristol was elected to the VASGBI committee as the second trainee representative. There will be an election for one of the 2 trainee representatives every year, so we would encourage trainee colleagues to apply (even if unsuccessful at the first attempt).

Ronelle Mouton has come to the end of her term as Chair of the committee. She has demonstrated calm and effective leadership and has done a huge amount of work for VASGBI over the last 3 years and I hope you will join us in thanking Ronelle for her tireless efforts on behalf of the committee. Dan Taylor was elected unanimously to succeed Ronelle and will take up the position of Chair on the committee at the end of this year's ASM.

In 2023 there will be at least 1 Committee position up for election as well as a trainee representative. It is important that the Committee continues to attract new members, so please consider putting yourself forward for nomination. All matters related to elections will be emailed to members and announced on the website. Please also demonstrate your commitment to the work of VASGBI committee by taking time to vote for candidates in the elections.

Following changes to the National Clinical Excellence Awards this year, the VASGBI no longer has any direct nomination/citation role but would be keen to support colleagues, however we can, in applying for these awards.

The work of the Committee is supported by our Administration and Events Manager, Jane Heppenstall, who has been with VASGBI since the Society was founded. She is a hugely important part of VASGBI and we rely heavily on Jane to keep us on track and are very grateful for her experience and willingness to always be of help.

### **Education and Training Committee**

Members of the sub-committee: Dr Vanessa Fludder (Chair); Dr Paul Warman; Dr Kate Nickel; Dr Joanna White; Dr Grant Harris (trainee representative)

The number of abstracts submitted for presentation at the ASM in Belfast was similar to last year, though somewhat lower than in previous years. The assumption is that trainees have had reduced time for QIP and research activity during Covid times and that although business as usual has largely resumed, the lead time for project completion means that the reduced number of abstracts reflects reduced activity 18 months to 2 years ago.

A programme for a biennial Trainee Symposium has been developed and speakers for 2023 confirmed. The programme will be advertised at the ASM. The symposium will be free to attend for VASGBI trainee members and will be virtual to enable as many trainees to attend as possible. Trainees who are not VASGBI members will be charged a nominal fee of £25. The programme contains core knowledge for trainees who are studying for FRCA and for trainees undertaking a vascular ATM. There will be at least one topic per year which is more topical and/or more specialist.

The committee have been discussing the possibility of a trainee forum at each ASM, a special session just for trainees.

The committee have been working with a trainee in the east of England to finalise an e-learning resource covering the whole curriculum related to training in vascular anaesthesia.

### **Research and Audit Committee**

Members of the sub-committee: Dr Dan Taylor (Chair); Dr Elisa Dedola; Dr Alag Raajkumar; Dr Katie Ayyash; Dr Simon Howell; Dr Adam Pichel; Dr Ronelle Mouton and Dr Richard Armstrong (trainee representative)

#### *Grants*

The Society supports research in vascular anaesthesia. A joint VASGBI/ACTACC *Research Grant* to the value of £70,000 was advertised in 2022. The VASGBI Trainee Research Development grants continue to be a great success and 11 grants have been awarded since 2016 to foster trainee research in vascular anaesthesia and perioperative care. One grant was awarded in 2022. Congratulations to the successful applicants: Dr Young from the Lothian region, for a project using machine learning to examine cpex data.

Further VASGBI Trainee Project grants will be awarded in the future and they will again be advertised on the VASGBI and NIAA websites. VASGBI is represented on the NIAA Research Council and Grants Committee. We are looking forward to continuing our collaboration with the NIAA and work together to improve the experience and outcomes for patients undergoing vascular surgery.

### *Surveys*

VASGBI would occasionally support the conduct of important surveys up to a limit of two per year. If you consider running a survey through VASGBI, please follow the survey guidelines published on the website - <https://vasgbi.com/research-audit/vasgbi-survey-guidelines/>

VASGBI collaborates with The Vascular Society and continue to work with the National Vascular Registry (NVR) to amend the data fields to make them more suitable for vascular anaesthesia related audit and research. The Research & Audit Committee also continue to publish an annual NVR report for vascular anaesthetists, which we hope members find useful. We wish to encourage you all to actively engage with the NVR. <https://vasgbi.com/research-audit/nvr-summary-for-anaesthetists/>

The Research & Audit Committee represents VASGBI at the Vascular Society's Audit & Quality Improvement Committee meetings and VASGBI is involved as a stakeholder in various collaborative projects.

### **Other collaborations**

VASGBI also collaborates closely with the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCOA) and are involved in the Centre for Perioperative Care (CPOC), the new Training Curriculum; Consultants CPD framework; the Quality Improvement booklet; the National Institute for Academic Anaesthesia and *NAP 7*.

The data collection phase of the 7th National Audit Project (NAP7), examining perioperative cardiac arrest, has been completed. VASGBI is pleased to be a stakeholder and we look forward to presenting a special report on cardiac arrest in vascular anaesthesia to members in 2023.

### **VASGBI Linkperson Scheme**

Dr Manik Chandra is the lead for the scheme that was introduced in 2019. The scheme aims to maintain links by enhancing communication and collaboration between VASGBI members throughout the UK, Ireland and internationally. We currently have 65 centres (62 UK; 3 international) with a Linkperson assigned. There was recent international collaboration to provide advice about type IV AAA repair for a centre embarking on such cases. This showed how useful the scheme can be and we hope to grow the accessibility further. Please check the directory to see if your Trust is represented and if anyone is interested in becoming a Linkperson, please contact Jane at [jane.heppenstall@vasgbi.com](mailto:jane.heppenstall@vasgbi.com).

### **Financial report**

Despite a gentle return to full engagement with face-to-face conference attendance, finances remain healthy for this mutual association. VASGBI current assets remain approximately £110,000. We are still in an uncertain phase regarding finances and fee structures; we remain fortunate to have a financial reserve that mitigates this

uncertainty. Grant allocation will be reviewed annually based upon our financial position. We anticipate that we will learn significantly of the trajectory of the future, through our Belfast experience.

I have included again for comparison our lowest recorded assets £63,000 (2010) and highest recorded assets £167,000 (2015).

Thank you to all members who have transferred to the direct debit membership payments.

### **VASGBI website**

The VASGBI website provides a wealth of information on everything related to vascular anaesthesia and the activities of the Society. There are up to date educational and training resources, guidelines, quality improvement projects and much more.

<https://vasgbi.com>

Follow us on twitter @vasgbi

### **Patients**

Patients are at the centre of the existence of VASGBI. Please refer patients to the patient information leaflet "Your Anaesthetic for Vascular Surgery" which VASGBI co-authored in conjunction with the Royal College of Anaesthetists (<https://www.rcoa.ac.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2020-08/14-VascularSurgery2020web.pdf>)

### **VASGBI Annual Scientific Meeting 2023**

The next Annual Scientific Meeting will be in Brighton on the 11th & 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023, and we look forward to seeing many of you there in person. VASGBI is looking forward to working with Dr Vanessa Fludder and her team from Brighton on the scientific programme for 2023 and we are, as always, relying on feedback from delegates to inform the topics and chosen lectures.

We are proud of the significant cross-specialty collaboration that is reflected in recent and forthcoming conference programmes, with joint sessions that include surgeons, interventional radiologists, cardiologists, and allied health professionals.

Thank you to all members for your continuous support, participation and feedback.

We look forward to hopefully seeing many of you in Brighton in 2023.

Yours sincerely  
VASGBI Committee 2022