Journal of
VASCULAR SOCIETIES
GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

J.Vasc.Soc.G.B.Irel. 2026;ONLINE AHEAD OF PUBLICATION
http://doi.org/10.54522/jvsgbi.2026.255

www.jvsgbi.com

NEWS

Updates from the Vascular Societies

JVSGBI is owned by the Vascular Society for Great Britain and Ireland (VSGBI), for all affiliated societies and the wider vascular community. Here's the latest news from some of the societies.

British Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in limb Absence Rehabilitation (BACPAR)

www.bacpar.org
@BACPAR_official

BACPAR continues to work closely with the Vascular Society with close research and at the 2026 VS ASM in Liverpool, where BACPAR will contribute its conference programme for the fifth consecutive year. We are pleased to share several new resources designed to support evidence-based clinical practice. The latest additions to the BACPAR Toolbox include outcome measures for lower limb amputees who do not use a prosthesis, along with easy-to-follow clinical summaries and instructional videos demonstrating functional tests. We're also delighted to support, through a BACPAR research bursary, a UK-wide survey mapping physiotherapy and rehabilitation pathways after major lower-limb amputation. Building on the pathway mapping undertaken through the HAMLET trial, the project will draw on BACPAR's national networks to explore differences in rehabilitation provision, access to prosthetic services, multidisciplinary working and transitions between services. We hope the findings will highlight inequalities, showcase good practice and help shape future services and research.

It has also been wonderful to see BACPAR members representing our community and sharing their work across the wider profession. Members presented at the CSP Conference, where we were especially pleased to see our long-standing colleague Mary Jane Cole recognised for her outstanding contribution to the profession. Looking further ahead, members are preparing to contribute to the ISPO World Congress in Thailand in 2027, another exciting opportunity to share knowledge, strengthen international connections and champion the role of physiotherapy in amputee rehabilitation.

British Society of Endovascular Therapy (BSET)

www.bset.co.uk
@BSETnews

The British Society of Endovascular Therapy (BSET) promotes scientific research, education and training in endovascular treatment and procedures for the advancement of health and public benefit. The Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and holds an annual meeting at which trainees present the latest endovascular research.

2026 marked the 20th anniversary of the society and a yearbook documenting our history was produced for the occasion, alongside a short film featuring interviews with past presidents, council and attendees.

In March 2026 we held our Spring Training course attended by 26 resident doctors, a mix of vascular and interventional radiology trainees. This 2-day course covered aortic, peripheral, venous and access intervention utilising simulation and teaching from our expert faculty.

The BSET Annual Meeting was held at Tortworth Court on 25th June 2026 over 2 days. The meeting attracted around 190 delegates from vascular surgery, interventional radiology and industry, with a large proportion of trainees. Highlights of this year's meeting were talks by;

- Gloria Salazar, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Radiology, University of North Carolina, USA
- Ramesh Tripathi, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Queensland
- Sabine Wipper, Director of the Department of Vascular Surgery, University Hospital, Innsbruck, Austria
- Lorenzo Patrone, Consultant Interventional Radiologist, San Giovanni Di Dio Hospital, Florence, Italy
- Vikram Puttaswamy, Vascular, Endovascular and Renal Transplant Surgeon, Royal North Shore Hospital, Sydney, Australia
- Aung Oo, Consultant Cardiac Surgeon, Barts Health, London
- Rob Jones, Consultant Interventional Radiologist, University Hospital Birmingham

A peripheral and an aortic prize were awarded to the best judged presentations in each session. A series of lively debates were held in the BSET tradition, with topics such as "Laughter is the best medicine – there is no benefit from endovascular treatment of infra inguinal lower limb ischaemia" fiercely debated by the presidents of BSET and VSGBI amongst others. A joint Rouleaux Club and BSIRT session tackled shared training issues and equality and diversity.

In addition, on the day preceding the Annual Meeting, we held the annual National Vascular Training Day. This is open to IR and VS trainees and involves case-based discussion, simulation training and

masterclass lectures. 36 delegates took part in this course.

Last year, two pump priming grants for research (£10,000 each) were awarded to Sarah Sillito, Freeman Hospital, Newcastle, for her work on Beetroot in CLTI and to Arsalan Wafi, Guy's & St Thomas' Hospital, for research into Restenosis Risk Through Integrated IVUS-Based Computational Flow. These doctors presented their initial results at the ASM. A further two grants were awarded in 2026 to support research start-up projects - one to Holly Watson, Vascular Scientist, and to Tom Lyons, ST6 Vascular Trainee.

BSET continue to support fellowships both in the UK and abroad. Two Travel Fellowships (£7,500) were offered to Justinas Silickas and Tamer El-Sayed. The training fellowship (£40,000) was awarded to John Houghton who will undertake this in Newcastle Freeman Hospital. We look forward to the reports of these fellowships at our Annual Meeting in 2027.

Future Events include:

- BSET Endovascular Training Course, 4th - 5th March 2027, Tortworth Court Hotel, Gloucestershire
- BSET Annual Meeting: 24th-25th June 2027 (National Vascular Training Day, 23rd June), Tortworth Court Hotel, Gloucestershire

Further details can be found at www.bset.co.uk

James McCaslin, BSET President

British Society of Interventional Radiology (BSIR)

www.bsir.org
@BSIR_News

As I come to the end of my first year as President of the British Society of Interventional Radiology, I am pleased to reflect on a year of continued progress, strong engagement and momentum for the Society and the wider interventional radiology community.

It has been a privilege to take on the Presidency following the launch of BSIR's long-term strategy, and my focus this year has been on translating that strategic direction into visible activity: particularly in IR's research capacity and in widening engagement with members and partners, and continuing to advocate for the value of IR across the NHS.

BSIR's educational programme has remained a particular strength. Our established meetings and courses, including the Annual Scientific Meeting, IOUK, Paeds IR UK, and the Basic and Advanced Skills Courses, have continued to attract excellent faculty, strong industry support and enthusiastic delegate participation. Alongside these, newer initiatives have helped us reach different parts of the IR community, including the Registrar Online Study Day and the National Lecture Programme delivered in partnership with the Imaging Academies and the Royal College of Radiologists.

The success of VITALS, the Vascular Innovation and Technology Advanced Learning Symposium, has also been an important development in the last two years. Its launch demonstrated the energy within the Vascular Special Interest Committee and the appetite for focused, high-quality education in vascular IR. Building on that success, BSIR will be launching an Advanced Vascular IR Fellowship in 2027.

This year has also seen continued progress in audit, quality and national collaboration. BSIR remains a proud supporter of the National Vascular Registry and continues to encourage participation from members. The NVR Fellowship has provided a valuable link between BSIR, the Vascular Society and the Royal College of Surgeons, while also strengthening the Society's insight into audit, quality improvement and trainee engagement.

We have also continued to support the IR GIRFT programme wherever possible. Its ongoing visits and anticipated reporting will provide an important opportunity to highlight the contribution of IR services, identify variation, and support the case for sustainable investment in teams, infrastructure and access for patients.

Patient information and public-facing communication have remained high priorities. BSIR has continued to build on the information that it provides to patients, whilst working with the RCR to develop policy calls for influencing key stakeholders within NHS and governmental infrastructure.

None of this work would be possible without the commitment of BSIR's Society Committees, Special Interest Committees, professional partners, industry supporters and the wider membership. I am grateful to everyone who has contributed time, expertise and enthusiasm over the past year. In the coming year, we are looking forward to building the new BSIR Anaesthesia Special Interest Committee and exploring important collaborations between IR and our anaesthetist colleagues.

Looking ahead, my priority is to ensure that BSIR continues to be a strong, inclusive and credible voice for interventional radiology: championing education, supporting evidence and quality, promoting collaboration, and advocating for the services our patients need. My first year as President has reinforced my belief in the strength of this community, and I look forward to building on that progress in the year ahead.

Dr Raghu Lakshminarayan, President

The Vascular Society for Great Britain and Ireland

www.vascularsociety.org.uk
@VSGBI

Annual Scientific Meeting 2026

We travel to Liverpool this year for our ASM in what our Society's 60th Anniversary year. The theme, "*60 Years a Society. 14 Years a Speciality. Where do we go from here?*" promises to provide an insightful and varied programme of talks. This year we are excited to be joined by the Vascular Anaesthesia Society for the first time with both a joint symposium and parallel sessions.

Once again there are several courses running on the Tuesday prior to the ASM, with ASPIRE Trauma/EVAR/Vascular access as well as the second cohort of the mentorship programme which was launched last year. There is also the popular Ultrasound for Vascular Surgery practice course, which at the time of writing still has a few spaces.

Wednesday starts with four parallel abstract sessions running until Lunchtime. The afternoon begins with the arrival of the circulation foundation charity baton at the ASM. Many of you and your teams will have helped move this around the nations between our units. Keith Jones' President's session will look at the delivery of vascular surgery both in the UK and Europe, the status of our networks and likely evolution following GIRFT visits. Marcus Brooks' Vice President's session will take a closer look at the impact of sub-specialisation on UK vascular surgery.

The Circulation Foundation session will be another highlight, focusing on how patients and carers can help to re-evaluate success in vascular surgery. The session will start with a viewing of "Not just a walk in the park: living with peripheral artery disease and hidden cardiovascular risk" This short video was launched at a very successful event with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for vascular diseases at the houses of parliament in September.

Professor Rob Sayers will deliver the Kinmonth Lecture on Thursday. The other invited lectures are given by Ross Davenport (BJS lecture) and Becky Sandford (Edinburgh College Lecture).

We look forward to seeing many members at the ASM this year alongside their professional colleagues attending the VASGBI, SVN, CSVS and BACPAR programmes.

Other News

It has been an interesting year with the abolition of NHS England, bringing core function into the direct control of the department of health. This transition has led to a degree of uncertainty navigating an evolving landscape although the society has continued to advocate strongly for vascular disease and service provision. Much work went into the Modern Service Framework submission, which was highly regarded.

The society will continue to work with the Clinical reference Group, National Clinical Advisor and APPG to highlight the importance of vascular disease within the cardiovascular framework.

GIRFT visits are complete and the report is awaited, although some insights will be shared at the ASM by Rachel Bell. The GIRFT varicose vein pathway has now been published and provides a best practice pathway for varicose vein management. The Society was pleased to co-badge this pragmatic document with a view to providing more equitable access to venous treatment across the UK.

The NVR state of the nation report will be published shortly, the theme of which is the variation in practice across networks. This is an opportunity to incorporate good practice into our networks and will also feed into POVS 2027 which will be a major workstream over the coming months.

New appointments

The ASM also marks the time when we announce the election results for the President (2028-29) and three new council members. Andy Garnham also starts his term as Chair of the Professional Standards Committee following the ASM. I would like to thank Professor Chris Imray, who steps down from this role, for all his hard work and support.

Marco Baroni
Honorary Secretary, Vascular Society
secretary@vascularsociety.org.uk