



## Dear VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL friends,

"Faster, more dynamic and more innovative" is the motto of our time. The rapid technical developments and the associated complex structures and needs don't stop at vascular surgeons. In addition, all levels are affected – the education of our surgeons in training as well as the ongoing training of our colleagues.

In the past the education of vascular surgeons was more patient-orientated, less technology-orientated (due to fewer innovations, which needed less supervision) and less bureaucratic. Today's surgeons not only need to learn new techniques but also have to be familiar with materials, – for instance EVAR. When it comes to interventions, it is important to know about sheaths, wires, radiation protection as well as the proper handling of materials. The challenge here is that such interventions – practice and radiation control – can't be done at the same time. Simulation - training is the perfect method to teach surgeons in training in the open as well as interventional surgery. VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL courses include practical training as well as product training, dealing with the question which product is suitable for which patient and how to handle this product. VI courses not only aim at the improvement of fine motor skills and at the learning of new techniques, but additionally they also teach how to work in teams – a skill that is equally important.

At the recent **Dreiländertagung** in Linz, Austria, training on simulators, product training and product variety were central programme topics, which were especially appreciated by surgeons in training. More and more people in charge of training realise that simulation training is the only possibility to get young surgeons in training more experienced in open as well as endovascular techniques. Along with the routine, work processes improve and become safer as well. At the same time fine motor skills with routine also allow more room to think, which results in better complication management.

It would be counterproductive and misunderstood to reduce the education of surgeons to simulation training. Practical and simulation training must go hand in hand – simulation training can be a good preparation for the practical training or serve as a supplement to practical training. A model can't cover everything, as for instance real tissue or complications.

My personal wish for the future is to teach surgeons in training on simulators on a regular basis, both in open as well as interventional surgery. At the same time it is important to understand that even surgeons with a couple of years' experience have to be trained (not to be taught) from time to time. After all, it's similar to football – being at the top means one has to continue training to stay there in the future as well.

**In this regard, I am especially pleased that the Dreiländertagung gave a first impetus to a more future orientated education of surgeons in all three countries – Austria, Germany and Switzerland.**

Yours



**Dr. med. Christian Senekowitsch**  
Congress Secretary Dreiländertagung Linz 2013  
Department of Vascular Surgery Wilhelminenspital Vienna

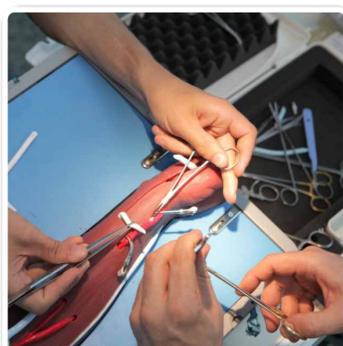
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## NEWS



### First VI Access hands-on course on the new arm model

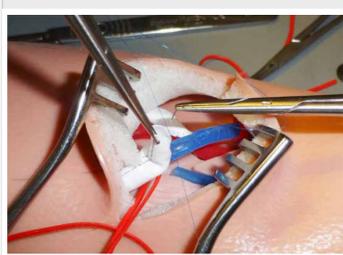
New course location:  
Kurhaus at Lake Sarnen

Supported by VAS the new course will take place from November 8-9, 2013 at the Kurhaus at Lake Sarnen in Switzerland.

The modular arm model serves to reach a high standard of surgery of hemodialysis accesses. Common arteriovenous fistulae and prosthesis shunts as well as hybrid processes can be practised.

Registration is still possible!

[Learn more](#)



## REVIEW

### Dreiländertagung 2013 Linz, Austria

The training pavilion at the Dreiländertagung of the Austrian Society of Vascular Surgery (ÖGG), the German Society of Vascular Surgery (DGG) and the Swiss Society for Vascular Surgery (SGG) was well-attended during the four days the convention took place at the Design Center Linz: VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL held various basic and advanced training courses based on four modules (aortic, carotid and shunt surgery). The focus of the international convention was on the rapid changes of vascular surgery and the growing need to perform open as well as endovascular surgery. VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL courses impressed not only the course participants but the managing board of the ÖGG as well: VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL training courses will also take place at the upcoming ÖGG meeting 2014 in Graz. Another highlight was the shunt-symposium, where shunt surgery was performed on the newly developed VI pulsatile arm-model.

[Learn more](#)

### VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL in Los Angeles

Initiated and organised by Peter Lawrence, MD, head of surgery UCLA and director of the Gonda Vascular Center, an intensive VI one-day training course focusing on aortic, carotid and shunt surgery was recently held in Los Angeles for an exclusive group of 20 UCLA students and surgeons in training. The course, supported by MAQUET / Atrium, was very well received: one of the participants will even do his four weeks rotation course at the Wilhelminenspital Vienna.

[Learn more](#)



## PREVIEW



### Course programme 2013 – 2014

Find [here](#) an overview of all courses or [f](#)

**November 4-5, 2013**

### New basic course for focusing vessel sonography Lucerne

The practical ultrasound course will take place in Lucerne from November 4-5, 2013. The course includes technical basics (physical-technical basics of ultrasound, basics of duplex sonography of the veins and arteries ) as well as practical exercises (liver, aorta, lower leg).

[Learn more](#)

**January 13, 2014**

### Practical anatomy on cadavers Zurich

The 1-day course includes the exposition of the popliteal artery, of the tibiofibular trunk and the three arteries of the lower leg. The course participants can realistically practise the cut-down to all lower limb arteries on specially prepared human cadaver legs (stained blood vessels). No formaldehyde used. Attendance limited to 14 participants. Highly recommended for trainees having some experience in lower limb revascularisation.

[Learn more](#)

**January 19, 2014**

### Pontresina basic course

The "vascular surgical school – Pontresina" offers the possibility to learn and train all vascular basic techniques at its three-day basic course. The course also includes theory sessions and is especially designed for surgeons in training of all surgical fields.

[Learn more](#)

**January 22, 2014**

### Pontresina Vascular Masterclass

The basic and masterclass workshops provide excellent hands-on experience on pulsatile realistic models (to perform open straight forward and complex aortic repair, endovascular aortic reconstruction, carotid endarterectomy and distal bypass surgery) and virtual simulators (for carotid, iliac and renal interventions).

[Learn more](#)

**VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL thanks all its industry partners for their commitment and support which enable VI to fulfill its mission to offer high quality training for vascular surgeons serving the patient's needs!**

## INFORMATION & CONTACT

**VASCULAR INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**  
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**SUPPORTING SOCIETIES**  
Swiss Society for Vascular Surgery (SGG)  
European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)  
Division of Vascular Surgery of UEMS

**CME-CREDITS**  
CME, EVCME points /credits will be provided

### REGISTRATION COURSES

Online registration: [www.vascular-international.org](http://www.vascular-international.org)  
You can easily pay per PayPal, Mastercard, Visa, American Express. In case of technical problems while registering please contact [admin@vascular-international.org](mailto:admin@vascular-international.org)

For course-descriptions, more details go to [www.vascular-international.org](http://www.vascular-international.org) or [info@vascular-international.org](mailto:info@vascular-international.org)

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