

Vascular medicine in the COVID-19: The experience of Vanderbilt



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Abstract (Limit 600 words)

In December 2019, a series of pneumonia cases of unknown cause emerged in Wuhan, Hubei, China.¹ Analyses of lower respiratory tract samples identified the culprit as a novel coronavirus subsequently named severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV2).¹ SARS-CoV2 and its associated respiratory illness, coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19), then spread internationally leading to the declaration of a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.² It quickly became clear that vascular disease is a major source of morbidity and mortality for patients with COVID-19. Postmortem analysis of the lung tissue from patients with COVID-19 revealed extensive small vessel endothelial injury, thrombosis, and microangiopathy.³ Early data also suggest COVID-19 increases risk for both venous and arterial thromboembolism.^{4, 5} In Italy, one of the countries hardest hit by the pandemic, reduced physical activity and fear of seeking medical care may have contributed to later presentations and worse outcomes for patients with peripheral artery disease (PAD).⁶ Therefore, it is critical that vascular clinicians remain engaged in both inpatient and outpatient care during the

Biography (Limit 600 words)

Alexandra Michelson is a medical doctor by profession and works with one of the private hospitals in USA. She holds a vascular medicine degree in Applied Epidemiology and Diseases Control at the School of Public Health, University of Ghana. Daniel has 2 years of public practice and 3 years of private practices as a medical doctor. She has also been involved in outbreak investigations of infectious diseases in Ghana. She has presented an abstract on money handling practices among food vendors in the University of Carolina in USA.

About University (Limit 200 words)

The Emory University School of Medicine is the graduate medical

school of Emory University and a component of Emory's Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center. Before it was established as the Emory School of Medicine in 1915, the school first began as the Atlanta Medical College.



Founded in 1854 by a group of physicians led by Dr. John G. Westmoreland, the college began during unfavorable financial conditions along with competition of three other medical schools opening in the state, driving up competition for students. Despite these challenges, the Atlanta Medical College continued operation until August 1861 when classes were suspended due to the Civil War.

Importance of Research (Limit 200 words)

Although social distancing is necessary to mitigate spread of the virus among both patients and providers, this presents significant challenges to the provision of high-quality care. As vascular medicine providers, we rely on the nuances of the physical examination to evaluate, diagnose, and manage our patient population. Palpating peripheral pulses, auscultating bruits, and inspecting lower extremities for pigmentation changes and ulcers are essential components of our clinical practice.

References (Limit 15-20)

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