

# Venous Update

**P**ulmonary embolism represents one of the most common clinical problems and is associated with a spectrum of clinical manifestations from mild chest pain to shortness breath, severe respiratory failure, or in very severe cases, right heart failure and death.

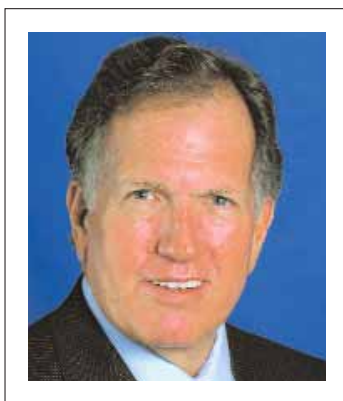
In this issue of *Endovascular Today*, Peter A. Soukas, MD, Kwame Amankwah, MD, MSc, FACS, and Anthony Venbrux, MD, share their opinions on what the best options are for treating pulmonary embolism. Their roundtable discussion provides valuable insight on this often fatal consequence in DVT patients. Next, Erin H. Murphy, MD; Charles M. Davis

III, BS; and Frank R. Arko, MD, present the case of a 16-year-old female who developed DVT while taking oral contraceptives. They cite oral contraceptive therapy as a possible risk factor for DVT in patients with May-Thurner syndrome.

Steve Elias, MD, FACS, FACPh, and Neil M. Khilnani, MD, provide a summary of the challenges in treating disease of the small saphenous vein. The authors detail the intricacies of this anatomy, as well as the available treatment options. Dan Janse, an industry expert in DVT therapy, was recently diagnosed with a DVT. He describes the experience from an educated patient's perspective, including some frustrating elements of the treatments.

Direct endovascular imaging techniques continue to evolve, and our Imaging & Diagnostics article this month takes a look at a potential new

modality for peripheral applications—optical coherence tomography, authored by J. Jacob Mancuso, MD; Kiran Cheruku, MD; Nate J. Kemp, PhD; Thomas Milner, PhD; Christopher Banas; Fermin Tio, MD; and Marc D. Feldman, MD. The authors cite this as a promising imaging modality, sharing some of their methods and results. We have also included a Challenging Case by Emad Kandil, MD; Ahmed Sawas, MD; Presley Swann, MD; Gary Gwertzman, MD; and Jonathan Deitch, MD, who use minimally invasive rheolytic thrombectomy for the dissociation and removal of a carotid thrombus and review the available literature on this subject.



In our Techniques department, Elena Y. Rakhlin, MD, Ronald Fairman, MD, Jeffrey P. Carpenter, MD, Grace J. Wang, MD, Benjamin M. Jackson, MD, and Edward Y. Woo, MD, present three patient cases that reveal positive outcomes when combined carotid procedures were used to treat atherosclerotic plaques.

Our issue closes with a thought-provoking interview with Kieran Murphy, MD, who gives his take on the endovascular technology gap between the US and the rest of the world, and discusses some of his reasons for moving to Canada and how he will continue to work there as an interventional neuroradiologist.

We hope you find this issue of *Endovascular Today* valuable to your practice, and we thank you for your continued support. ■

Barry T. Katzen, MD, Chief Medical Editor