

The Challenging Cases Issue



We've all been there; a difficult case that doesn't quite fit into the ordered world of randomized trials or multi-specialty consensus statements. And yet, we need to make a decision and act. This is when the Art of Medicine comes into play—a combination of knowledge, experience, skill, and perspective that is unique to each physician. How each of us develops and matures our own medical art is a bit of a mystery, as this is not a defined part of the medical school curriculum. I've always thought that observing other practitioners as they solve problems and interact with patients is one of the best ways to improve one's own practice. In this issue of challenging cases, you get to do this for a wide variety of interesting problems.

There is something for almost everyone in this issue—arterial and venous disease, big and small blood vessels, benign and malignant diseases, head to leg. A superb multidisciplinary group of moderators—Adnan H. Siddiqui, MD; Kunal Vakharia, MD; Mark Farber, MD; Grace J. Wang, MD; Paul J. Rochon, MD; Kari J. Nelson, MD; Sarah B. White, MD; Ido Weinberg, MD; Robert Schainfeld, DO; Ehrin J. Armstrong, MD; Tony S. Das, MD; and Ronald S. Winokur, MD—have brought in 32 equally impressive panelists to discuss 10 challenging cases. The topics include stroke, aortic dissection, endovascular aneurysm repair, visceral aneurysm, uterine fibroid embolization, locally advanced hepatoma, ilio caval acute deep vein thrombosis, infrainguinal occlusive disease distal to aortoiliac bypass, critical limb ischemia in recurrent aortofemoral limb failure, and varicose veins due to pelvic vein insufficiency. The experts share their insights, techniques, and perspectives on how to best manage these cases, none of which has a single “right” answer. Even if you don't treat all of the patients included in this issue, you will probably learn something by reading how the panelists and moderators navigate each of these situations.

This issue of *Endovascular Today* would not have been possible without the hard work and enthusiasm of the moderators and panelists—kudos to all of you! The rock-solid staff at *Endovascular Today* deserves equal thanks. You, the reader, have a great team on your side that is truly dedicated to advancing this field by bringing you quality information in a timely manner. Check out these cases, and whether you agree or disagree, you will improve your Art. ■

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