

UIP NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 2024



STRONGER TOGETHER

UIP promotion of MULTI-SPECIALTY PROPER SYNERGY



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This newsletter cover picture is dedicated to the International Union of Phlebology (UIP) vision of promoting proper vein-lymphatic care among the different specialties, including the ones in which too often vein and lymphatic related issues are forgotten: for example, OBGyn for pelvic venous disorders, Rehab for thrombosis and General Medicine. UIP is currently creating agreements with different specialties large organizations to reinforce the synergy in phlebo-lymphology advocacy in all medical branches.







BEGINNING OF THE YEAR: PRESIDENT MESSAGE



On behalf of all the International Union of Phlebology (UIP), I'd like to wish all the colleagues and related staff and patients a pleasant and pro-active 2024.

In this sense, the Executive Committee read the comments left in the newly created portal "UIPro 2024" (https://www.uip-phlebology.org/uipro2024) with great interest and appreciation. We noticed fundamental wishes are in the context of inter-society networking, institutional engagement and underserved areas reach-out. All these aspects are clearly marked in the UIP 2024 agenda thanks for example to the first UIP release of **Memorandum Of Understanding** among the same UIP and different specialties organizations, thanks to the creation of dedicated working groups and thanks to the inter-societies initiatives developed during both the world congress and the digital actions along the year. Please do not hesitate to add other wishes in the related webpage so to let us know how the UIP can serve your needs at best.

From the scientific side, the beginning of 2024 coincides with the starting of the "4 pillars" scientific project, leading to the creation of 4 documents of appropriateness in vein-lymphatic care.

Meanwhile, the preparation of the 2025 World Congress in Buenos Aires moves forward perfectly, calling all the UIP members to report what they would like to experience during the same event, following the line "We all are Buenos Aires UIP 2025".

Many other activities and services are ongoing for which I'd like to personally invite not only the member Societies representatives but also whoever interested in vein-lymphatic care to join the **monthly open zoom** UIP has now set every 24 of the month: an opportunity for all to report **visions**, **projects** and even eventual productive criticism.

Deeply thanking all the ones dedicating volunteer time and effort for phlebo-lymphology advancement, starting from the **UIP Executive Committee**, best wishes for a meaningful 2024.



UIP 2022-2025 Executive Committee

Jan 7, 2024

Sergio Gianesini, MD PhD FACS

m. gnssrg@unife.it t. +393498012304

UIP 2023-2027 President

HONOUR BOX: Prof. Gordon Guyatt

On behalf of all the International Union of Phlebology, I'd like to deeply thank prof. Guyatt for having provided this honorary contribution.

His figure perfectly sum up that mission of Phlebology & Lymphology Science and Clinical Practice elevation that I look forward for the UIP to accomplishing together with all our Community.

Prof. Gordon Guyatt is a Distinguished Professor of the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence and Impact and Medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. He's an Internal Medicine specialist who has been devoting his professional life to the search of proper methodology in evidence-based science. Indeed, he's recognized as the first professional to have used the "evidence-based" terminology, as per his 1991 publication (Guyatt GH. Evidence-Based Medicine [editorial]. ACP Journal Club 1991:A-16. (Annals of Internal Medicine; vol. 114, suppl. 2).

Among his many personal awards, the Einstein Foundation Award (International Prize for pioneering work promoting quality in medical research leading to better patient care), a Honorary PhD at the University of Helsinki Faculty of Medicine, the inclusion in the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and a fellowship of the Royal Society of Canada.

Prof. Guyatt has been serving as Methodologist for the World Health Organization with a particular focus on Guidelines development. Indeed, he is one of the co-founders of the GRADE GROUP, whose recommendation system is used all over the world.

As per the teaching of another giant of our field, prof. Caprini, the biggest the professional figure is, the most approachable and available she/he should become. Not by coincidence then, both prof. Caprini and Guyatt represent not only a top professional but also humane quality example to follow.

Once again, deeply thanking prof. Guyatt for his niceness and professional contribution, I wish all of us, together with the related patients, a highly scientific, moral and appropriate vein-lymphatic clinical practice.

> Sergio Gianesini UIP 2023-2027 president

Evidence-based medicine: a call to action

by Prof. Gordon Guyatt

In medical school and the first years of residency training, I lived in a clinical world in which physiological rationale, tradition, and the pronouncements of those who had established themselves as experts dominated clinical practice. Clinician relationships with patients were parental: we knew the correct course of action, and informed patients of what they should, or what we would do to them.

In the latter years of my clinical training I came under the influence of a charismatic and visionary clinician-scientist, David Sackett, who conceptualized a fundamentally different approach to clinical practice. Epistemology has to do with how we judge what is true versus not true, and Dave's vision constituted nothing less than a new epistemology for medical practice. In

this new vision, tradition, physiological reasoning, and expert opinion lost their preeminence, and in their place came a new hierarchy of evidence that required wellconducted, large randomized trials to confidently establish treatment benefits and harms, and the acknowledgment of the uncertainty that existed when such RCTs were unavailable.

Many of us exposed to Dave's vision found this new epistemology irresistibly compelling, sufficiently so that when we applied it on the wards and outpatient clinics, the experience was of a new way of practicing medicine. It was so fundamentally different that it required a label that would announce a new foundation for clinical practice, and when I became the



HONOUR BOX: Prof. Gordon Guyatt

residency director of our McMaster internal medicine residency program in 1990, I recruited new residents interested in being educated in what we labelled as "evidence-based medicine".

We were not modest in presenting this new approach to practice, announcing in the JAMA article that introduced EBM to the wider world "A new approach to teaching the practice of medicine". JAMA provided the forum for teaching clinicians the fundamentals of the new approach, a series of what became over 30 articles, the "Users Guides to the Medical Literature" that, within a decade, became the core curriculum for EBM as a new pillar of both undergraduate and postgraduate medical education.

The subsequent 30 years have seen major changes in the initial vision. First, the hierarchy of evidence has become far more nuanced and sophisticated. In the GRADE approach that now provides the underpinning for most trustworthy systematic reviews and practice guidelines, randomized trials still begin as high quality evidence, but can be rated down for risk of bias, imprecision, inconsistency and indirectness. Observational studies begin as low certainty evidence, but can be rated up for large or very large treatment effects.

Initially, when I started as Internal Medicine Residency Director at McMaster, the goal was to teach residents to independently evaluate original articles. It became evident that this was not realistic and the EBM focus became on providing clinicians with pre-processed evidence in the form of systematic reviews and, increasingly, trustworthy practice guidelines. A major focus of EBM over the last 20 years has therefore been establishing scientific standards for what makes guidelines trustworthy.

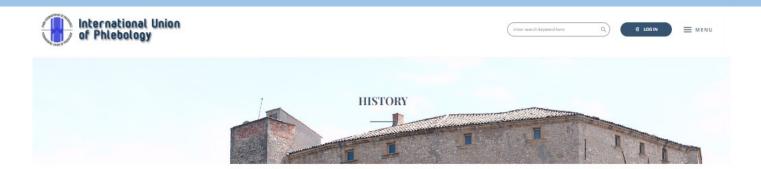


A revelation that occurred during the first decade of EBM and has since been central is that evidence itself is never sufficient to guide clinical decisions, it is always evidence in the context of patient values and preferences. EBM has identified that the clinicians' job is to understand benefits, harms, and burdens of treatment, the certainty of the evidence, and work with patients in shared decision-making to ensure that decisions reflect their underlying values and preferences.

Compelling challenges remain for EBM. We must do a better job of helping clinicians understand evidence summaries and provide them with sophisticated tools to aid their shared decision-making with patients. We must ensure that guideline panels on which clinicians rely uniformly adopt and implement procedures that ensure trustworthy recommendations. Finally, as a frontier that so far is in its infancy, we must focus on the general public, starting in early education, to inculcate standards of the scientific assessment of health claims.

HISTORY

THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHLEBOLOGY



THE HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHLEBOLOGY / L'UNION INTERNATIONALE DE PHLÉBOLOGIE



LEARN ABOUT UIP HISTORY VISITING

https://www.uip-phlebology.org/history



This portrait of the UIP Presidents was commissioned and unveiled during the Inaugural Award Ceremony of the UIP in Melbourne, Australia in February, 2018. It now resides in the UIP office.

UIP MONTH 24



an OPEN TO EVERYONE zoom @ 10 am NYC time - 4 pm Rome time - 10 pm Bangkok time to hear YOUR vision, YOUR ideas, YOUR needs and to remember that

UIP starts with «U»



for YOUR topic reservation please write to president@uipmail.org

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88913605824?pwd=QklhcDVPd01nQ3YvbTk5WUlMMFNaQT09 Passcode: 916415

Meeting ID: 889 1360 5824



Everybody is invited to join the **UIP Month 24 call:** an open zoom providing the opportunity to deliver YOUR vision, ideas, needs and eventual productive criticism for the best vein-lymphatic global advancement.

Pre-submitted topics for discussion will have precedence in the hour dedicated to this initiative: in case, feel free to send yours at president@uipmail.org.

The initiative is on the 24 of each month, at 10 am NYC – 4 pm Rome – 10 pm Bangkok time,

In honor of the March 24, 1959 creation of the UIP. The zoom link is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88913605824?pwd=QklhcDVPd01nQ3YvbTk5WUIMMFNaQT09

Meeting ID: 889 1360 5824

Passcode: 916415

SPEAKER'S CORNER

JAPANESE PHLEBOLOGY in the UIP WORLD

I am very honored to be given this wonderful opportunity to contribute to the Speaker's Corner. I am a vascular surgeon and belong to the Department of Vascular Surgery, Nishinokyo Hospital in Nara, Japan. I would like to take this chance to introduce the current state of medical care in Japan and my activities in the UIP and the Japanese Society of Phlebology.

Japan has one of the highest average life expectancies in the world. The medical system that has made this possible is highly regarded internationally. Japan is also ranked 11th out of 195 countries in the world in terms of the quality and accessibility of healthcare. 1) However, there are some problems such as a chronic shortage of doctors, long working hours of doctors, and lack of time off. In recent years, there has been a trend in Japan to promote labor law reforms, and the working environment has been improving. As the environment surrounding the medical field in Japan is drastically changing, we physicians are faced with the problem of how to protect the health of the people and how to pass on our experience and knowledge to the next generation of medical professionals.

The Japanese Society of Phlebology has a long history, having been established in 1981. After that, the 9th World Congress of the International Union of Phlebology was held in Kyoto, Japan in 1986. In addition to the activities of the Japanese Society of Phlebology, I founded Japan Venous TALK (https://k-ips.jp/) as a forum for young Japanese phlebologists.

The purpose of this group is "education and international exchange of young Japanese physicians in the field of phlebology", with the following three specific activities in mind:

- Interaction among domestic experts and the next generation of phlebologists.
- Free discussion between the next generation of phlebologists and medical staffs who are interested in phlebology.
- Interaction with overseas healthcare professionals online.

We hold the annual Japan Venous TALK meeting on the first Saturday of April every year as an event of UIP's Vein Week, and several Korean doctors are scheduled to visit Japan for the annual meeting on April 6, 2024, in Nara City. This event will hold a variety of programs of great interest to participants, such as a lecture by a popular Japanese YouTuber.

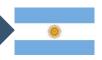
In the EWG of UIP, to which I belong, we have planned a project called "Day in the Life of a Phlebologist". Its goal is to discover new physicians interested in phlebology by focusing on the working environment of the experts and making a short movie about their exciting daily lives. In the future, we wish to plan a collaborative event between EWG and Japan Venous TALK. We hope these activities will contribute to the field of phlebology.

Takahiro Imai Head of the Department of Vascular Surgery, Nishinokyo Hospital in Nara, Japan



UIP SOCIETIES: Past, Present & Future

ARGENTINIAN COLLEGE OF VENOUS & LYMPHATIC SURGERY SHORT HISTORICAL REVIEW SINCE ITS FOUNDATION

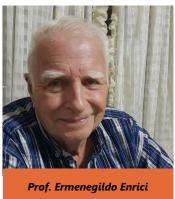


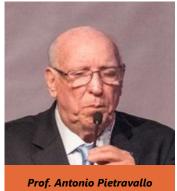
In 1992 a group of prominent phlebology surgeons took the initiative of founding the **Argentinian College for Venous and Lymphatic Surgery**, which goals were the study and scientific widespread of Phlebology and Lymphology along the Argentinian Republic, in a continuous medical education plan, to encourage research and teaching activity, promote discussion on strict scientific basis, maintain national and international relationships with recognized institutions of the specialty and stimulate ethical values in its members.

In August 1992 within the frame of the "Symposium on Ultrasound in Phlebopathy and arteriopathy" the first Board of Directors was set up and its president was Dr. Ermenegildo Enrici and its Vice-president Dr. Antonio Pietravallo. In July 1997 the College statute was registered, approved by the National Ministry of Justice and Security, during Dr. Hector Caldevilla's presidency. Since that moment the Argentinian College for Venous and Lymphatic Surgery has organized nineteen International Congresses on Phlebology and Lymphology with a huge audience of colleagues from Argentina and from neighboring countries and with the attendance of prominent specialists from different parts of the world

Its presidents have been the most important Argentinian specialists in Phlebology and Lymphology:

- **Ermenegildo Enrici** (1992 1994)†
- **Antonio Pietravallo** (1994 1996)
- Hector Caldevilla (1996 1998)
- **Raúl Lacour** (1998 2000)†
- Víctor Geller (2000 2002)
- Cristóbal Papendieck (2002 2004)
- Alberto Deluchi Levene (2004 2006)
- **Guillermo Buero** (2006-2008)
- **Hugo Martínez** (2008 2010)
- Ángel Guzmán (2010 2012)
- Oscar Bottini (2012 2014)
- Marcelo Dándolo (2014 2016)
- Mabel Bussati (2016 2018)
- Oscar Regalado (2018 2020)
- José Alberto Ovelar (currrent President)





The Argentinian College of Venous and Lymphatic Surgery looks after the integration of all the phlebologists from every part of the country and abroad and the coordinated activities with other national and international scientific societies.

UIP Societies: Past, Present & Future

ARGENTINIAN COLLEGE OF VENOUS & LYMPHATIC SURGERY SHORT HISTORICAL REVIEW SINCE ITS FOUNDATION

National Lymphedema Day was born within the Argentinian College of Venous and Lymphatic Surgery in 2006. From that date to the present, it is celebrated every **November** 11, carrying out activities aimed especially at the population affected by this pathology, their families and caregivers, as well as the entire medical community. A teaching and assistance task that the CACVyL carries out every year commemorating the signing of the founding act in 2006 and celebrating that the project of the "National Lymphedema Day in Argentina" already has half a sanction from the Honorable Chamber of Senators of the **Nation**

During the long period of the Pandemic, the Argentinian College has organized and participated in more than 30 virtual scientific activities that connected the most prestigious specialists from around the world and made possible a true exchange at a time when faceto-face meetings were not an option.

Courses, Conferences, Open Talks to the Community, Webinars and the great Buenos Aires 2021 Congress have been held, which was a sample of the possibilities that technology can currently offer. And always, since its beginnings as a scientific society, the College has organized excellent **periodic** scientific meetings, thus achieving the objective of permanent professional updating and growth.





The College members are more than 180 at the moment and this number permanently increases. The institution offers scientific publications, a web page for discussions of cases, links with other societies, on-line courses and many other options for the best development and growth of Phlebology and Lymphology.



From 3rd to 5th October 2024 the College will hold its XX National and International Congress of Phlebology and Lymphology at the Marriott Hotel in the City of Buenos Aires. This event will involve, as it is already a tradition, the active participation of: multiple national and international societies, national and foreign Universities together with the significant support of important national and international specialized companies. And it will be a unique opportunity to explore the latest trends and advances in the specialty. An exciting Congress where medical excellence will meet innovation.

We are waiting for you all to share knowledge, experiences and to advance together in the field of Venous and Lymphatic Surgery!

PHLEBOLOGY ABSTRACTS

New publications in Phlebology OnlineFirst Articles

www.journals.sagepub.com



Microsclerotherapy

Authors: Matthew Tan, Evgeny Shaydakov, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Interventional treatment for acute iliofemoral deep venous thrombosis

Authors: Matthew Tan, Suresh Vedantham, Sriram Narayanan, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Compression therapy in the management of varicose veins

Authors: Matthew Tan, Tomasz Urbanek, Eberhard Rabe, Sergio Gianesini, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Management of bleeding varicose veins

Authors: Matthew Tan, Bruce Campbell, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Management of isolated distal deep venous thrombosis

Authors: Matthew Tan, Fedor Lurie, Dong-Ik Kim, Thomas Wakefield, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Management of the patient with the swollen lower limb

Authors: Matthew Tan, Marc Vuylsteke, John Blebea, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H **Davies**



Truncal ablation: Techniques

Authors: Matthew Tan, Hernan Bauza Moreno, Sarah Thomis. Victor Canata, Sergio Gianesini, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



Sclerotherapy: Indications and safety volumes

Authors: Matthew Tan, Hernan Bauza Moreno, Beate Bechter-Hugl, Sergio Gianesini, David Connor, Kurosh Parsi, Alun H Davies



UIP 2025: BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Post COVID UIP events Vision

The pandemic (COVID-19) has caused an unprecedented crisis at all levels, with education and health being the most affected.

This health emergency led to the closure of faceto-face activities in educational institutions in more than 190 countries, in order to reduce the spread of the virus and mitigate the pandemic. According to May 2020 data from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), more than 1.2 billion students at all levels of education around the world stopped attending classes. Of these, more than 160 million were students in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In the health sector, healthcare institutions had to adapt: -with an increase of emergency, admission and Intensive Care Unit COVID areas, scheduled consultations and surgeries were cancelled, reducing training in medical practice, and increasing theoretical contents as shown in this meta-analysis in which 61 articles of educational innovation and impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on medical and surgical education (Dedeilia et al. 2020) were included. "Innovative solutions" such as teleconferencing and webinars, Online learning, Social Media, Virtual consultations - telemedicine, Simulation and virtual reality, remote learning in anatomy, and knowledge and skills assessment. in a population of medical students, residents and fellows were obtained.

Teleconferencing had been introduced as a useful means of continuing education long before the COVID pandemic, however, it was not until the COVID-19 pandemic that videoconferencing became the cardinal means of didactics and medical education, applications such as Google Hangouts, Skype, Zoom, GoToMeeting, WebX and other multimedia virtual meetings, especially Zoom which has grown from 10,000,000 clients to 300,000,000 just 3 months into the pandemic.

These allowed for case discussions, athenaeums, updating of guidelines and recommendations, and virtual congresses.

Vascular specialists, Phlebologists, Lymphologists, Dermatologists, Gynecologists, Hematologists, participated in interdisciplinary activities, which increased with virtuality. Leaders with worldwide experience provided our young professionals with free access to an avalanche of theoretical contents.

In the last two years, the return to normality brought with it a growing interest in face-toface events, while maintaining virtuality. These hybrid events and congresses allowed programs of higher scientific quality, with an increase in the number of invited professors as lecturers. Inter-societal meetings and scientific bridges between continents were developed.

However, this has stimulated universities and societies to develop a greater number of scientific meetings with overlapping content and dates, which is the new challenge to overcome. We must be aware that the world has become more interconnected than ever before and that repetitive contents may discourage attendees.

Developing synergism between different events may be the key to the future. The XII Inter-University Congress and the XX Pan-**American Congress of Phlebology and** Lymphology Flebopanam 2024 brought areas and dates closer together, developing different topics. The UIP as a facilitating agent of a global agenda could be the key to avoid overlapping events, suggesting ideas and offering options while maintaining the freedom of decision of the organizing entity.



UIP 2025: BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Post COVID UIP events Vision

In preparation to the **UIP World Congress**, we succeeded in building a solid synergy among the different regional Societies, all united by the common mission of welcoming the Phlebology & Lymphology World

The next **UIP Buenos Aires 2025 World Congress** will be unprecedented in this aspect, since different Latin American societies will participate in organizing and developing the event jointly with UIP through its Executive Committee.

It will undoubtedly be an extremely participative and inclusive meeting in which we will work intensively on all the aspects to affirm that "**We are all Buenos Aires 2025**".

Oscar Bottini Chair of UIP Congresses and Events Committee

References:

Dedeilia A, Sotiropoulos MG, Hanrahan JG, Janga D, Dedeilias P, Sideris M. Medical and Surgical Education Challenges and Innovations in the COVID-19 Era: A Systematic Review. In Vivo. 2020 Jun;34 (3 Suppl):1603-1611. doi: 10.21873/invivo.11950.



UPCOMING EVENTS

One of the main UIP visions is to promote productive relationships among societies. With this vision, we report both events with UIP auspices and events without, so to inform everyone about possible educational activities. The hope is also to offer a tool useful for the colleagues organizing future meetings, so to avoid overlapping among events. For more information about events visit:

http://www.uip-phlebology.org/events

If you would like your event to appear in the UIP Newsletter, contact us at communications@uipmail.org

EVENTS CALENDAR

MAY 2024

18th Romanian Congress of Phlebology

9-11 MAY 2024 TIMISOARA, ROMANIA

SEPTEMBER 2024

World of Phlebology in Prague

18-21 SEPTEMBER 2024 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

NOVEMBER 2024

AFLIPBA IV PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

15-17 NOVEMBER 2024 CARILO, BUENOS AIRES, AREGENTINA



www.uip-phlebology.org



UIP SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP: Benefits

Did you know that as a member of UIP Society you can have access to different benefits?

- Access to Phlebology, The Journal of venous disease (Free access for Tier 2 and 3)*
- Access to **UIP Education Modules** (Free access for Tier 2 and 3)*
- Access to latest news, UIP Newsletter
- Access to **UIP Discussion Forums**



*Tier: refers to the category of membership. If unsure about the classification of your country, please check on our website.

Accessing the Member Portal

- 1. Contact your society and ask them to add your name to the members of the UIP website.
- 2. The society uploads a membership list through their society confirming your username and page (Instructional Videos available online).
 - 3. You will receive an email password.

Phlebology

The Journal of venous disease Accessing *Phlebology* journal



Let your society know if you require Phlebology access*.

*fees apply for Tier 1 countries

UIP Education Modules

Accessing the UIP Education Modules



- 1. Go to the **Online Education** page.
- 2. Click "Enrol Now".
- 3. Complete the forms with the information requested.

UIP Discussion Forums

Accessing the UIP Discussion Forums



- 1. Log in the UIP website with your username and password.
- 2. Access the Discussion Forum through the member portal.

UIP ANNOUCEMENTS

INVITATION FOR NEWSLETTER CONTENT UIP SPEAKER CORNER

The UIP is delighted to offer all its members to report a comment in future editions of the UIP newsletter. Topics can be related to evidence based science, phlebolymphology advancement, problem solving in clinical practice. If you are interested in submitting a comment, send a 300 word summary to:

communications@uipmail.org

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The UIP welcomes sponsorship for its newsletter from Industry. If you are interested in placing and advertisement or sponsoring the UIP newsletter, please contact us at:

execdirector@uipmail.org

ABOUT US

The UIP Newsletter has been produced and distributed from Sydney, Australia, with the contribution of the members of the UIP.

The UIP Newsletter Editor is Gabriela Sfarcich from Argentina.

Advertising opportunities are available, and contributions and enquiries are welcome!

SOCIAL MEDIA



Keep in touch!



Follow our social media accounts and make sure you will be notified of updates, deadlines and important news!



