

Comment

For more than half a century, the Department of Vascular Surgery and Angiology of the Centre for Postgraduate Medical Education in Warsaw was one of the leading vascular units in education and therapy of vascular diseases in Poland. A number of pioneering operations, such as abdominal aortic aneurysms or treatment of renovascular diseases were performed here for the first time in Poland.

In Noninvasive Vascular Diagnostic Laboratory prof. J. Wesołowski and ing. A. Wycech implemented first ultrasound diagnostic methods in Poland. Many of famous polish surgeons as prof. Dryjski, prof. Rykowski, prof. Noszczyk introduced new methods of treatment of vascular diseases.

We are trying to continue this excellent tradition. During the last two decades, diagnosis and therapy of vascular diseases has gone through own progress. Vascular surgery became an independent discipline as a part of Vascular Medicine. It was possible thanks to development of new less invasive methods of diagnosis, progress in understanding of pathophysiology and introducing new tools for endovascular treatment of vascular diseases. In articles published in this issue we are presenting some vascular topics based on international recommendations and personal experience.

We can offer multiple therapeutic solutions even for high risk patients with multiple exclusion criterias for vascular surgery. Endovascular treatment of aortic, iliac and popliteal aneurysms presented in two papers of this issue, remains a leading problem.

Similarly, endovascular treatment of the femoral artery occlusion is currently changing with the development of new stents, drug eluting balloons and other therapeutic methods. Clinical interpretation of the results of ultrasound examination in carotid and peripheral vascular diseases are presented in two original papers. That can be useful for decision making surgeons. Current problems in venous acute and advanced disorders in presented in two other papers.

It is impossible to present all current problems provided in our daily practice, but I am sure that some overview on vascular problems could be useful not only for vascular surgeons and angiologist, but also for our colleagues from medical and surgical departments.

Prof. Walerian Staszkiwicz, MD, PhD