Acute and chronic venous outflow obstructions – a global burden

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Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a potentially devastating condition and may cause permanent disability with significant morbidity and even mortality. Inadequate restoration of venous blood flow causes a persistent outflow obstruction with hemodynamic effects, inducing valve incompetence of the deep veins and subsequent valve failure of the saphenous veins of the affected lower extremity. Approximately 60% of patients with DVT recover without further symptoms. However, 40% will have some degree of post-thrombotic syndrome and 5–10% will develop severe post-thrombotic syndrome (PTS). PTS is the most common complication; it reduces quality of life and increases DVT-related costs.

During the last years, evidence emerged for recanalization treatment of acute and chronic venous outflow obstruction to prevent PTS. Many questions still remain for new technologies, including modern dedicated venous stents and thrombectomy devices.

Given the evolving evidence for deep venous recanalization in acute and chronic venous outflow obstruction, this VASA special issue, compiled by world-wide renowned and recognized authors, adds further dissemination of knowledge to this field. High-level studies, illuminating new recanalization technologies for acute and chronic venous outflow obstructions, including studies especially for novel dedicated venous stents, thrombectomy devices and recanalization techniques as well as systematic literature reviews on available epidemiologic data for PTS and literature reviews on available data for treatment of acute and chronic venous outflow obstructions are included in this special issue.

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