



**- VASCULAR -  
INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND EDUCATION  
- EUROPEAN ORGANISATION -**

Dr C.C.Leibbrandt  
Secretary General  
U.E.M.S.  
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c.c. Dr H.S.L.M. Tjen

6 September, 2000

Your N°: 200859

Dear Dr Leibbrandt,

Thank you for your informative letter of 28<sup>th</sup> August and for having put VAS on the agenda at the U.E.M.S. Management Council meeting of 29-30 September 2000. We would like to be able to collaborate with U.E.M.S. to establish a subsection for Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine and as you suggested take part in the work of the EACCME.

VAS -Vascular- Independent Research and Education -European Organisation- expresses the organised collaboration in Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine Centres on themes of formation and research. It also has strong connections with groups in other continents and also with specialists belonging to disciplines close to Medical Angiology as VAS consultants.

The basic elements of VAS are:

- Collaboration among Centres operating in the Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine field.
- Research and monitoring quality at all levels.
- Independence in training, research and every form of activity and organisation and freedom from all economical interests.
- Non-invasive cultural and organisational support to developing Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine Centres, allowing them to obtain qualifications necessary to participate in VAS' activities and to become at the same time a reference point for other Centres.
- Collect existing energies and competence favouring every form of collaboration with qualified experts in disciplines close to Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine or indispensable for the realisation of specific training projects

Regarding the other points which I hope to clarify if VAS significantly represents the wish and commitment of representative colleagues in Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine: VAS is present and has National Representatives in nearly all European Countries.

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**European Nations Represented**

Austria  
Belgium  
Czech Republic  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Italy  
Netherlands  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
U.K.  
Yugoslavia

Besides the participation of Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine Centres in VAS and its activities the number of members in the different countries depends upon the amount of Centres working on Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine. In fact, the majority of Centres are localised in France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

VAS has also obtained the recognition of the principle European Vascular Scientific Societies and other approval has been recently requested.

**Sustaining/Supporting Societies**

International Union of Angiology  
Belgian Angiology Society  
Collège des Enseignants de Médecine Vasculaire  
German Angiology Society  
Italian Society for Angiology and Vascular Medicine  
Romanian Society of Angiology and Vascular Surgery

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Argentinian Society of Vascular Medicine  
Chinese Hypertension League

In the case our proposal is accepted we would define the people deputed to work for VAS by voting

Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine as you correctly say is recognised in Austria, Germany and Switzerland as sub-specialty in analogy with other specialities according to National regulations.

In France, recently a professorship in Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine has been defined and in Italy more than one University together has asked for the recognition of Medical Angiology/Vascular Medicine as a speciality/sub-speciality.

Please let me know if there is other clarification we should provide. I would like to repeat our wish to create this sub-section of Internal Medicine. Our interest is to better qualify the angiology field and improve training to obtain better recognition for a discipline with ever increasing human and social weight.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Mariella Catalano  
VAS Scientific Coordinator  
Director Research Center on Vascular Diseases-Angiology Unit  
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