

# 2025 VASSA | Interactive Vascular Course

11-13 July 2025 — The Wanderers Club, Ilovo, Johannesburg, South Africa

## PROGRAMME

DAY 1 - Friday, 11 July 2025 | VENUE: Ballroom (Ground Floor)

08:30 - 08:40 **Welcome by** Dr Pradeep Mistry

**SESSION 1: Scientific Research | CHAIRPERSONS:** Prof Martin Veller / Prof Nicos Labropoulos

08:40 - 09:00 **Developing a Good Research Question** | Prof Deidre Kruger (*Pre-recorded Presentation*)

09:00 - 09:25 **Understanding Statistics for Clinical Medicine – Avoiding Common Pitfalls in Statistics** | Dr Petra Gaylard

09:25 - 09:35 **Incorporating Misinterpretation of P Values in Clinical Medicine** | Prof Nicos Labropoulos

09:35 - 10:05 **DISCUSSION Vascular Papers - Reading, Writing, Appraisal of a Scientific Paper**  
- Dr Ismail Cassimjee, Prof Martin Veller, Prof Nicos Labropoulos, Prof Jay Pillai, Prof Athanasios Giannoukas

10:05 - 10:50 **Formulating a Research Topic**  
- Prof Martin Veller / Prof Nicos Labropoulos

**TEA / COFFEE BREAK | VENUE:** Foyer Area

**SESSION 2: Radiation, Contrast, Imaging | CHAIRPERSON:** Prof Jay Pillai

10:50 - 11:00 **Radiation Protective Strategies** | Fellow: Dr Shaheev Parthab

11:00 - 11:10 **Safety Profile and Careful use of Contrast Mediums** | Fellow: Dr Anele Mthethwa

11:10 - 11:30 **Basic Concepts in Ultrasound** | Prof Nicos Labropoulos

11:30 - 12:00 **LIVE IMAGING INTRODUCTION** | Prof Nicos Labropoulos

— Hands on Ultrasound Stations —

**LUNCH**

**SESSION 3: Cerebrovascular Disease | CHAIRPERSON:** Dr Ismail Cassimjee

13:45 - 14:00 **Pros and Cons for Decision Making with Carotid Intervention?** | Dr Ismail Cassimjee

14:00 - 14:10 **Clinical Case - How to Avoid Pitfalls During CEA** | Dr Pradeep Mistry

14:10 - 14:20 **Management of Asymptomatic Carotid Stenosis** | Prof Martin Veller

14:20 - 14:30 **The Current State of Carotid Stenting** | Prof Athanasios Giannoukas

14:30 - 15:00 **LIVE IMAGING AND DISCUSSION** | Prof Nicos Labropoulos

**BREAK**

**SESSION 4: WORKSHOPS | CO-ORDINATORS:** Dr Pradeep Mistry and Prof Nicos Labropoulos

**Station**  
**Bard Medical SA**

**Hands on Rotarex Workshop:**  
- Dr Mbokeleng Sikhosana and Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez

**Station**  
**Prime Surgical**

**EVAR Sizing and Planning with Endosize and Treo device deployment:**  
- Dr Jakkie Odendaal and Prof Athanasios Giannoukas

**Station**  
**Baroque Medical**

**Deployment + Tips and tricks of successful Supera Stent implantation**  
**Prostyle closure device safe and effective use**  
- Dr Ismail Cassimjee and Dr Sabatta Tsotetsi

**Station**  
**Merit Medical**

**Advancing Renal Care: An overview of Merit Medical Renal Therapies**  
- Dr Taalib Monareng and Dr Siphumelele Ngema

**Station**  
**Boston Scientific**

**MODERN ENDOVASCULAR INTERVENTIONS | Arterial:** The synergy of atherectomy & DET  
**MASTERING THROMBOEMBOLISM | Venous:** Effective clot management techniques  
- Prof Asha Malan and Dr Muhammad Zafar Khan

**Station**  
**Vertice**

**Itravascular Lithotripsy | Shockwave:**

- Dr Athar Arain and Prof Bala Pillay

**Station**  
**Marcus Medical**

**Fen-Tastic Simulator:**  
- Dr James Tunnicliffe

**Station**  
**Babcock Healthcare**

**Thoracic Aorta and Arch focusing of preservation of the left Subclavian artery with The Gore TBE**  
- Dr Martin Forlee

**Station**  
**Innovative Medical Supplies**

**ASAHI Guidewires** | Educational Total Occlusion Simulation System (ETOSS):  
- Dr Ian Grant and Dr George Manangadze

**Station**  
**Medtronic**

**Endovenous** (Radiofrequency Ablation in Chronic Venous insufficiency)  
**Deep Venous Stent** (Abre)  
- Prof Dimitrios Kontothanassis and Dr Marcial Fallas

**Station**  
**Vascumed**

**Crossing & Reentry in Chronic Occlusions** | BeBack (Bentley)  
**Lesion Preparation and Atherectomy** | ByCross (Plus Medica)  
**Surgical Bypass with Biologic Grafts** | Artergraft (LeMaitre)  
- Prof Bhakifa Dube and Prof Jay Pillai

**Station**  
**Phillips**

**ULTRASOUND | Venous:**  
- Dr Vasileios Saleptsis and Prof Talib Abdool-Carrim

**Station**  
**Terumo**

**Radial Access - Ultrasound guided access and closure:**  
- Dr Legae Mogase and Dr Cecil Pule

**Station**  
**Siemens**

**ULTRASOUND | Arterial:**  
- Ms Belinda Stevens and Dr Dirk le Roux

**Station**  
**Cardaxes**

**The use of IVUS in aortic dissection**  
**The use of IVUS in ilio-popliteal arteries**  
- Dr Anthony Sander

**Station**  
**Axim**

**ULTRASOUND | Carotid:**  
- Ms Greta Tunnicliffe and Prof Martin Veller

**MCQ's**

**DINNER** Hosted by Investec | **VENUE:** The Grillhouse Restaurant - Rosebank

DAY 2 - Saturday, 12 July 2025 | VENUE: Ballroom (Ground Floor)

**SESSION 5: Aorto-iliac Disease | CHAIRPERSON:** Dr Jakkie Odendaal

07:30 - 07:40 **Patient Selection and Planning of Intervention** | Prof Athanasios Giannoukas

07:40 - 07:50 **Clinical Case - CERAB** | Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez

07:50 - 08:00 **Clinical Case** | Fellow: Dr Jason Smuts - **Moderator:** Prof Bhakifa Dube

08:00 - 08:15 **Perioperative Evaluation and Risk Stratification for Major Non Cardiac Vascular Surgery** | Dr Ismail Cassimjee

08:15 - 08:25 **Clinical Cases Shockwave** - *Supported by Vertice* | Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez

08:25 - 08:55 **LIVE IMAGING AND DISCUSSION** | Prof Nicos Labropoulos

**TEA / COFFEE BREAK | VENUE:** Foyer Area

SESSION 6: Chronic Venous Disease   CHAIRPERSON: Dr Martin Forlee			
09:10 - 09:20	Patterns of Reflux and Treatment Plan   Prof Dimitrios Kontothanassis		
09:20 - 09:30	Varicose Veins and Deep Vein Disease   Dr Marcial Fallas		
09:30 - 09:37	Which Thermal Techniques to Use (When and Why?)   Prof Dimitrios Kontothanassis		
09:37 - 09:44	Pelvic Reflux and Obstruction: Management Techniques   Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez		
09:44 - 09:54	Clinical Case - Saphenous Reflux   Dr Vasileios Saleptsis		
09:54 - 10:04	Management of Chronic Venous Obstruction   Dr Marcial Fallas		
10:04 - 10:14	Clinical Case - Pelvic Vein Reflux   Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez		
10:14 - 10:44	LIVE IMAGING AND DISCUSSION   Prof Nicos Labropoulos		
SESSION 7: Thoracic Aorta   CHAIRPERSON: Prof Asha Malan			
10:44 - 10:56	Update on Controversies on Thoracic Dissection   Fellow: Dr Nazmie Kariem - Moderator / Comments: Dr James Tunnicliffe		
10:56 - 11:06	Clinical Case - Thaoracic Aneurysm   Fellow: Dr Mohammed Yusuf Docrat - Moderator: Dr Siphumelele Ngema		
11:06 - 11:16	Clinical Case - Acute Dissection   Fellow: Dr Matheus Masaku - Moderator: Dr Jakkie Odendaal		
11:16 - 11:26	Clinical Case - Chronic Type B Dissection   Fellow: Dr Wikus Mulder - Moderator / Comments: Prof Asha Malan		
11:26 - 11:36	DISCUSSION		
11:36 - 12:16	— Hands on Ultrasound with Assessment —		LUNCH
SESSION 8: Abdominal Aorta   CHAIRPERSON: Dr James Tunnicliffe			
12:16 - 12:26	EVAR / FEVAR Planning - Supported by Marcus Medical   Prof Asha Malan		
12:26 - 12:36	EVAR/ FEVAR Case: Managing Type IA Endoleaks   Prof Athanasios Giannoukas		
12:36 - 12:46	Aneurysms in People Living with HIV   Fellow: Dr Serge Kapenda Tshisola		
12:46 - 12:56	Clinical Case - EVAR with Endoleak type II (When and How to Treat)   Dr James Tunnicliffe		
12:56 - 13:06	The Role of Physician Modified Endografts   Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez		
13:06 - 13:16	DEBATE - EVAR is the1st Choice Treatment for rAAA   For the Motion - Fellow: Dr Sherwyn Morrison Against the Motion - Fellow: Dr Marguerite Barnard		
13:16 - 13:46	LIVE IMAGING AND DISCUSSION - EVAR / FEVAR Surveillance   Prof Nicos Labropoulos		
13:46 - 14:06	Imagination and Innovation in Cardiovascular Medicine   Prof Nicos Labropoulos		
SESSION 9: Supported by Innovate Solutions			
14:06 - 14:26	Building Generational Wealth   Mr Matthew Lee, Innovate Alternative Assets & Solutions (South Africa)		
14:26 - 14:41	TEA / COFFEE BREAK   VENUE: Foyer Area		
14:41 - 17:11	SESSION 10: WORKSHOPS   CO-ORDINATORS: Dr Pradeep Mistry and Prof Nicos Labropoulos		
Station Bard Medical SA	Hands on Rotarex Workshop: - Dr Mbokeleng Sikhosana and Dr Muhammad Zafar Khan	Station Prime Surgical	EVAR Sizing and Planning with Endosize and Treo device deployment: - Dr Thomas Rangaka and Dr Paing Myint
Station Baroque Medical	Deployment + Tips and tricks of successful Supera Stent implantation Prostyle closure device safe and effective use - Dr Ismail Cassimjee and Dr Cecil Pule	Station Merit Medical	Advancing Renal Care: An overview of Merit Medical Renal Therapies - Dr Siphumelele Ngema and Dr Martin Forlee
Station Boston Scientific	MODERN ENDOVASCULAR INTERVENTIONS   Arterial: The synergy of atherectomy & DET MASTERING THROMBOEMBOLISM   Venous: Effective clot management techniques - Prof Asha Malan and Prof Bala Pillay	Station Vertice	Itravascular Lithotripsy   Shockwave: - Dr Athar Arain and Dr Jakkie Odendaal
Station Marcus Medical	Fen-Tastic Simulator: - Dr James Tunnicliffe and Prof Athanasios Giannoukas	Station Babcock Healthcare	Thoracic Aorta and Arch focusing of preservation of the left Subclavian artery with The Gore TBE - Dr George Mnangadze and Dr Sam Letsoara
Station Innovative Medical Supplies	ASAHI Guidewires   Educational Total Occlusion Simulation System (ETOSS): - Dr Ian Grant and Prof Talib Abdool-Carrim	Station Medtronic	Endovenous (Radiofrequency Ablation in Chronic Venous insufficiency) Deep Venous Stent (Abre) - Prof Dimitrios Kontothanassis and Dr Marcial Fallas
Station Vascumed	Crossing & Reentry in Chronic Occlusions   BeBack (Bentley) Lesion Preparation and Atherectomy   ByCross (Plus Medica) Surgical Bypass with Biologic Grafts   Artegraft (LeMaitre) - Prof Bhekifa Dube and Dr Sabatta Tsotetsi	Station Phillips	ULTRASOUND   Venous: - Dr Ignacio Escotto Sanchez and Dr Vasileios Saleptsis
Station Terumo	Radial Access - Ultrasound guided access and closure: - Dr Taalib Monareng	Station Siemens	ULTRASOUND   Arterial: - Ms Greta Tunnicliffe and Dr Dirk le Roux
Station Cardaxes	The use of IVUS in aortic dissection The use of IVUS in ilio-popliteal arteries - Dr Anthony Sander	Station Axim	ULTRASOUND   Carotid: - Ms Belinda Stevens and Prof Martin Veller
17:00 - 22:00	DINNER Hosted by Innovate Solutions   VENUE: The Wanderers Club - Vista Room		
DAY 3 - Sunday, 13 July 2025   VENUE: Ballroom (Ground Floor)			
SESSION 11: Venous   CHAIRPERSON: Prof Bhekifa Dube			
07:30 - 07:42	Pharmacomechanical Thrombolysis: Indications, Results and How to Avoid Complications   Dr Marcial Fallas		
07:42 - 07:49	The Role of Compression for Patients with Venous Thrombosis   Dr Vasileios Saleptsis		
07:49 - 07:59	The Evidence for Different Modalities for Management of PE - Supported by Boston Scientific   Prof Asha Malan		
07:59 - 08:06	Understand DVT Management through Clinical Cases   Dr Marcial Fallas		
08:06 - 08:16	Clinical Case - Iliofemororal DVT   Fellow: Dr Wikus Mulder - Moderator: Prof Asha Malan		
08:16 - 08:26	Clinical Case - Superficial Vein Thrombosis   Fellow: Dr Shaheev Parthab		
08:26 - 08:36	Management Strategies for Post Thrombotic Disease (when and how)   Dr Martin Forlee		
08:36 - 09:06	LIVE IMAGING AND DISCUSSION   Prof Nicos Labropoulos		

SESSION 12: Dialysis Access (Supported by DISA Life Sciences)   CHAIRPERSON: Dr Dirk le Roux		
09:06 - 09:16	Challenges in Dialysis Access through Clinical Cases - Autogenous Access Aneurysms   Fellow: Dr Hemal Gopee Moderator: Dr Taalib Monareng	
09:16 - 09:26	Challenges in Dialysis Access through Clinical Cases - Central Vein Occlusion   Fellow: Dr Tsenolo Kgopane Moderator: Dr Siphumelele Ngema	
09:26 - 09:36	Challenges in Dialysis Access through Clinical Cases - Non Maturation of Arm Access   Fellow: Dr Musawenkosi Nyembe Moderator: Dr Sabatta Tsotetsi	
09:36 - 09:46	Challenges in Dialysis Access through Clinical Cases - Steal   Fellow: Dr Anele Mthethwa Moderator: Prof Bhekifa Dube	
09:46 - 09:56	DISCUSSION	
09:56 - 10:26	MCQ's	
10:26 - 11:06	— Final Hands on Ultrasound with Assessment —	TEA / COFFEE BREAK   VENUE: Foyer Area
SESSION 13   CHAIRPERSON: Dr Dirk le Roux		
11:06 - 11:16	12-Month Efficacy Results of the WRAPSODY® Cell-Impermeable Endoprosthesis - Supported by Merit Medical   Prof Nicos Labropoulos	
SESSION 14: Peripheral Arterial Disease   CHAIRPERSON: Dr Sabatta Tsotetsi		
11:16 - 11:28	The Current Evidence on SFA Interventions for CLTI   Fellow: Dr Marguerite Barnard	
11:28 - 11:38	Clinical Case - SFA / POP   Fellow: Dr Serge KapendaTshisola	
11:38 - 11:48	Guidewires selection for different lesions Supported by Innovative Medical Supplies   Dr Ian Grant	
11:48 - 11:58	Clinical Case - SFA Intervention   Dr Vasileios Saleptsis	
11:58 - 12:28	Live Imaging - Lower Limb Arterial   Prof Nicos Labropoulos	
12:28 - 12:48	DEBATE - Lifestyle Limiting Claudication should be Managed with BMT   For the Motion - Fellow: Dr Shaheev Parthab Against the Motion - Fellow: Dr Nazmie Kariem	
SESSION 15: Vascular Mix   CHAIRPERSON: Dr Mbokeleng Sikhosana		
12:48 - 12:58	Case Presentation - Popliteal Entrapment   Dr Sam Letsoara	
12:58 - 13:08	Case Presentation - Cystic Adventitial Disease   Fellow: Dr Hemal Gopee Moderator: Dr Dirk le Roux	
13:08 - 13:18	Case Presentation - Thoracic Outlet Syndrome   Fellow: Dr Sherwyn Morrison Moderator: Dr Mbokeleng Sikhosana	
13:18 - 13:28	Case Presentation - Cyclist Artery Entrapment   Fellow: Dr Zuko Boozi Moderator: Dr Pradeep Mistry	
13:28 - 13:38	CLOSING REMARKS   Dr Pradeep Mistry	LUNCH
13:38 - 13:53	Faculty Discussion	