



Vascular Society of New Jersey
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MONTHLY REPORT September 2007

As we go to print with this month's newsletter, the (long-awaited) PIP fee schedule regulations have just been released – and are being reviewed for its impact on vascular surgeons. If you are interested in receiving a copy, please email blynch@blynchassociates.com and we will forward them to you for review. In the meantime, stay tuned!!!!

From the President

Jonathan Levison, MD

September is Vascular Awareness Month. All of those with associated vascular laboratories are encouraged to hold a free screening event in September to raise awareness of vascular disease in our communities. In addition to the public service provided to the general public, these events can also be designed to help promote our specialty to our referring physicians. There still exists a significant gap favoring referrals made to other specialists performing endovascular interventions (i.e. interventionalists and cardiologists) versus vascular surgeons!

Our academic calendar will kick-off on Friday, September 28th with the Non-invasive Vascular Symposium at the Parsippany Hilton. This year's conference will feature for the first time a companion symposium for those in nursing and allied health care fields. The venue will provide an interactive environment to discuss the rapidly evolving trends in vascular surgery. Please make every effort to attend!

VASCULAR SOCIETY OF NEW JERSEY

ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, November 1, 2007

6:30

The Manor
West Orange, New Jersey

Cocktails and Dinner

\$85 for VSNJ members

New Location

*\$100 for guests
Residents and Fellows in Training Complimentary*

Keynote Address

“Legal Issues in Hemodialysis Access Surgery”

Larry Scher, MD

*Professor of Clinical Surgery
Montefiore Medical Center
Albert Einstein College of Medicine*

Sign up NOW!

The **Sixth Noninvasive Vascular Laboratory Symposium** will be held Friday, September 28, 2007 at The Parsippany Hilton. This event will be co-sponsored by VSNJ and Overlook Hospital and members will, again, be entitled to a \$50 fee reduction.

This year, a companion symposium, **Perspectives in Vascular Nursing 2007** will run concurrently at the same location. We encourage you to alert those colleagues in the nursing profession to this unique opportunity.

For more information contact VSNJ at 609-392-7553.

From the MSNJ President

Richard Scott, MD

This fall, the first installment of the MSNJ Distinguished Lecture Series will take place at the MSNJ Conference Center. **Dr. Fred Jacobs**, Commissioner, Department of Health & Human Services, **Steven Goldman**, Commissioner, Department of Banking & Insurance, and United States Attorney **Chris Christie**, District of New Jersey will all speak on topics pertaining to physicians and patients. These forums are free to all MSNJ and VSNJ members. MSNJ members can also take advantage of a number of exclusive benefits including a prepaid legal services program performed by the legal team at WolfBlock, a member-only AP Health Plan administered by QualCare, 15% off of Brooks Brothers clothing and much more. For more information, contact 609.896.1766.

The Case for Lawsuit Reform in New Jersey

VSNJ has been invited to participate in the New Jersey Lawsuit Reform Alliance (NJLRA), a new statewide, bipartisan group of individuals, businesses and organizations that believes a balanced civil justice system is critical to ensuring fair and open courts, maintaining and attracting jobs, and fostering economic growth in New Jersey. NJLRA advocates for legal reform in the legislature and in the courts, and is New Jersey's only organization dedicated exclusively to improving the state's civil justice system.

Our state's laws and courts are making it hard for companies to do business in New Jersey. Employers are increasingly defending themselves from lawsuits filed by residents of other states, which discourages businesses from locating in New Jersey and gives our own residents less access to our courts. The American Tort Reform Association recently listed New Jersey as one of the top destinations for litigation tourism. In fact, some personal injury law firms are inviting out-of-state lawyers to file lawsuits in New Jersey with the selling point that it's easier to win their case in our state.

NJLRA was created to provide a voice for New Jersey employers and citizens who are concerned about the impact of lawsuit abuse on our state and economy. We are working to educate elected officials and the public about the extent of the problem and the need for

action. We want New Jersey to have a civil justice system that treats all parties fairly and that does not encourage lawsuit abuse.

The Declining Business Climate

- Between 2000 and 2005, New Jersey lost over 117,000 high paying service and manufacturing jobs, replacing them with lower-paying service-sector jobs.
- A 2006 Rutgers report recommended "a thorough examination of the business cost structures of the state and of appropriate changes to promote investment, risk taking and job creation." The same report concluded that "The public policy imperative to focus on economic competitiveness [in New Jersey] has never been greater."

An Overly Accommodating Court System

- An estimated 90% of pharmaceutical mass tort cases in New Jersey are filed by non-residents, a fact that is indicative of trends across many NJ industries.
- As other states reform and improve their own civil justice systems, New Jersey's civil justice system, by comparison, is becoming less fair and more prone to litigation tourism.

How to Get Involved

Associations, Companies and Individuals may join NJLRA to improve New Jersey's civil justice system, ensure fairness in our courts and end abusive lawsuits. Company and business organization contributions will help us to further our mission to promote lawsuit reform. For more information, contact Bev Lynch at blynch@blynchassociates.com.

Coming up in 2007/2008...

Friday	September 28	Non-Invasive Vascular Conference Parsippany Hilton
Thursday 6:30 pm	November 1	Fall Dinner/Membership Meeting The Manor, West Orange (NOTE: New Location!)
2008 Wednesday	March 12	Annual Scientific Meeting Nanina's in the Park, Belleville, NJ (NOTE: New Location!)

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