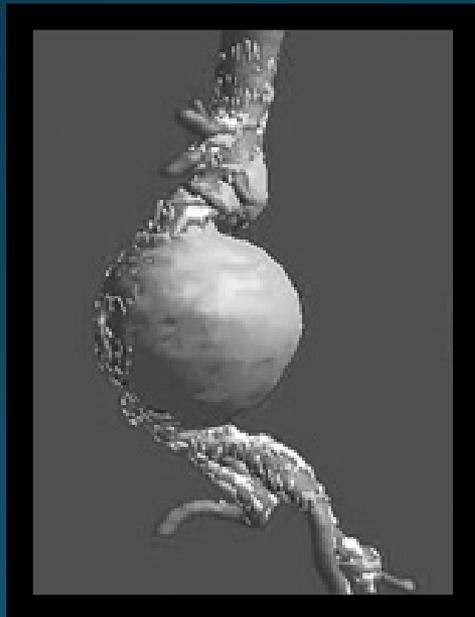


# Open vs. Endovascular AAA repair: Factors in Clinical Decision Making

Virendra I. Patel, MD MPH  
Associate Professor of Surgery

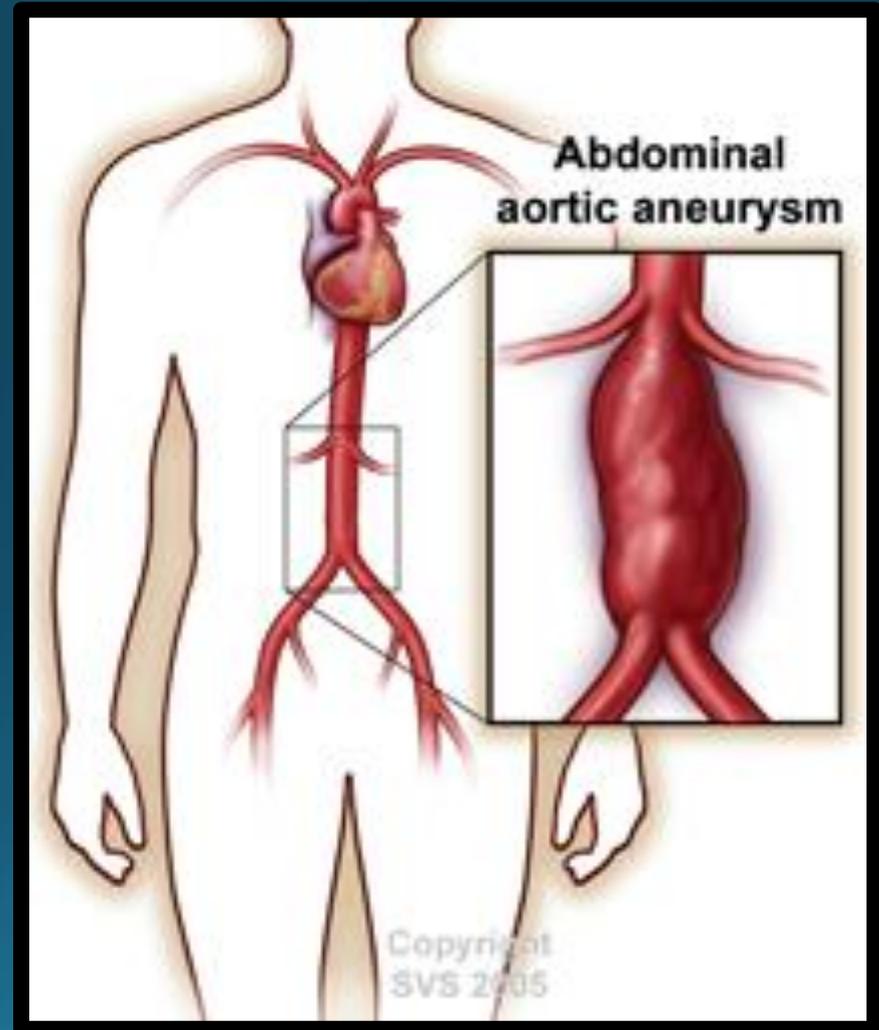
Vascular Surgery and  
Endovascular Interventions



# Disclosures



- None



# SVS Guidelines



## The Society for Vascular Surgery practice guidelines on the care of patients with an abdominal aortic aneurysm



Elliot L. Chaikof, MD, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Ronald L. Dalman, MD,<sup>b</sup> Mark K. Eskandari, MD,<sup>c</sup> Benjamin M. Jackson, MD,<sup>d</sup> W. Anthony Lee, MD,<sup>e</sup> M. Ashraf Mansour, MD,<sup>f</sup> Tara M. Mastracci, MD,<sup>g</sup> Matthew Mell, MD,<sup>b</sup> M. Hassan Murad, MD, MPH,<sup>h</sup> Louis L. Nguyen, MD, MBA, MPH,<sup>i</sup> Gustavo S. Oderich, MD,<sup>j</sup> Madhukar S. Patel, MD, MBA, ScM,<sup>a,k</sup> Marc L. Schermerhorn, MD, MPH,<sup>a</sup> and Benjamin W. Starnes, MD,<sup>l</sup>  
*Boston, Mass; Palo Alto, Calif; Chicago, Ill; Philadelphia, Pa; Boca Raton, Fla; Grand Rapids, Mich; London, United Kingdom; Rochester, Minn; and Seattle, Wash*

- Symptoms: Asymptomatic -> Rupture

- Size:

- Rate of growth:

- Size consensus:

**>1cm/yr.**

**5.5 cm men**

**5 cm women**

**>4 cm select**



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*J Vasc Surg* 2018;67:2-77

# Treatment Options

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- Traditional open surgical repair
- Endovascular stent graft repair



# Regional Open Repair Results



## Contemporary outcomes of open complex abdominal aortic aneurysm repair

Sarah E. Deery, MD,<sup>a</sup> Robert T. Lancaster, MD, MPH,<sup>a</sup> Donald T. Baril, MD,<sup>b</sup> Jeffrey E. Indes, MD,<sup>c</sup> Daniel J. Bertges, MD,<sup>d</sup> Mark F. Conrad, MD, MMSc,<sup>a</sup> Richard P. Cambria, MD,<sup>a</sup> and Virendra I. Patel, MD, MPH,<sup>a</sup> *Boston, Mass; Pittsburgh, Pa; New Haven, Conn; and Burlington, Vt*

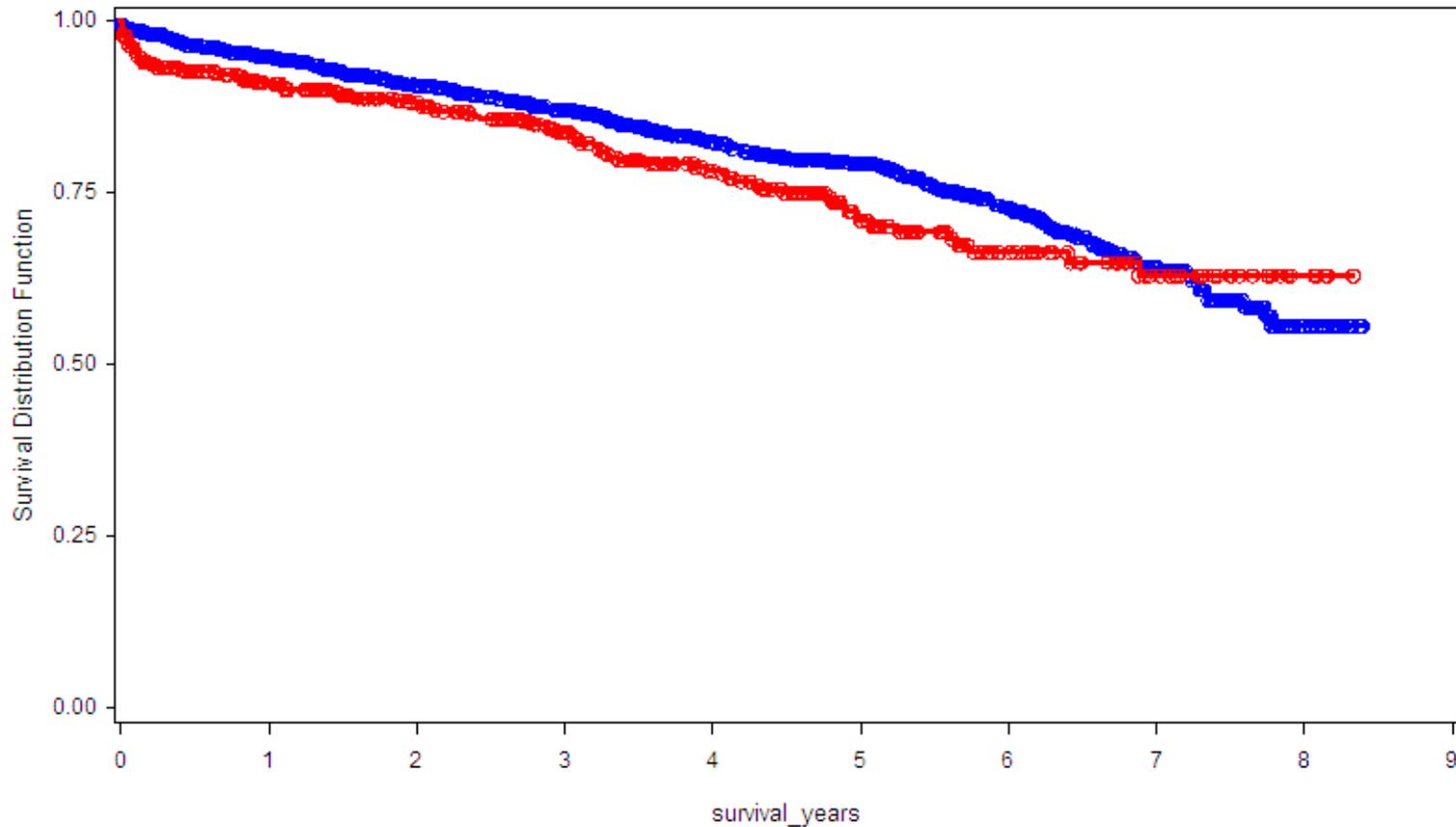
- **VSGNE regional quality initiative (2003-2011)**
  - 14 Hospitals / 79 Surgeons
    - Mean = 3.9±1.6/yr.



# Outcomes



Long-term Survival for AAA Repair, (0=Infrarenal, 1=Complex) N=1539



# Historic Operative Mortality

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1 - 2% in referral-based reports

5 - 7% in population-based series



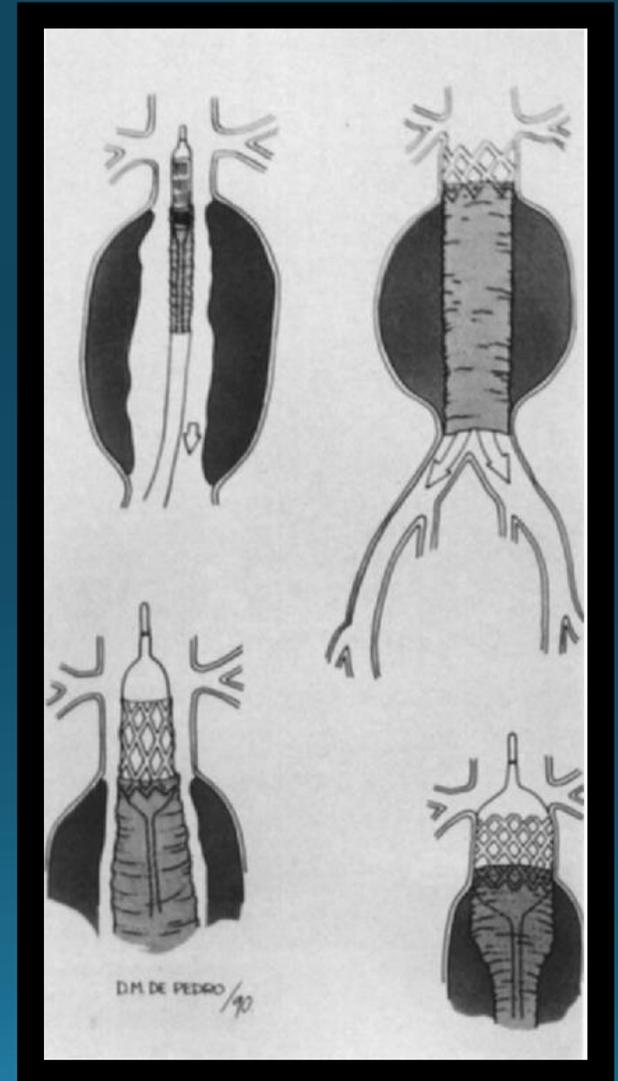
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# Endovascular Repair - EVAR



In the early 1990s, Volodos in the Ukraine and Parodi, Palmaz, and Barone in Argentina introduced a less invasive endovascular method for AAA repair





# Level I EVAR Results

Comparison of endovascular aneurysm repair with open repair in patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms: a randomized controlled trial (1) 2010

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

- Significant reduction in operative morbidity and mortality
- Early benefits with trade-off for routine long term follow up

**Straight forward procedure**

R. M. Greenhalgh<sup>1</sup>, on behalf of the EVAR-1, DREAM, OVER and ACE Trialists

<sup>1</sup>Vascular Surgery Research Group, Imperial College London, London, and <sup>2</sup>Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, <sup>3</sup>Department of Surgery, VU Medical Centre, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, <sup>4</sup>Department of Medicine, VA Medical Centre, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, and <sup>5</sup>Vascular Institute of Paris East, Hôpital Privé Paul d'Egine, Champigny, Université, Paris-Est Créteil, Créteil, France

Correspondence to: Professor R. M. Greenhalgh, Vascular Surgery Research Group, Imperial College London, London W6 8RP, UK (e-mail: r.greenhalgh@imperial.ac.uk)



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# EVAR - Trends

Decrease in total aneurysm-related deaths in the era of endovascular aneurysm repair

Kristi  
Ami

	2001	2003	2006
Open	61%	48%	28%
EVAR	39%	52%	72%

-51

Ag

ope

aneurysm in the United States, 2001-2006

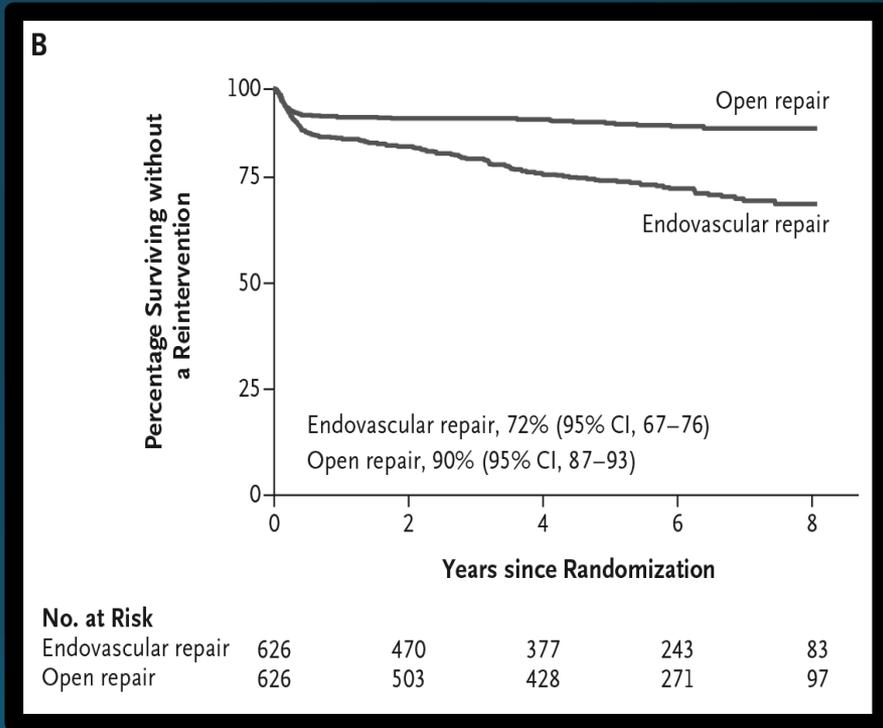
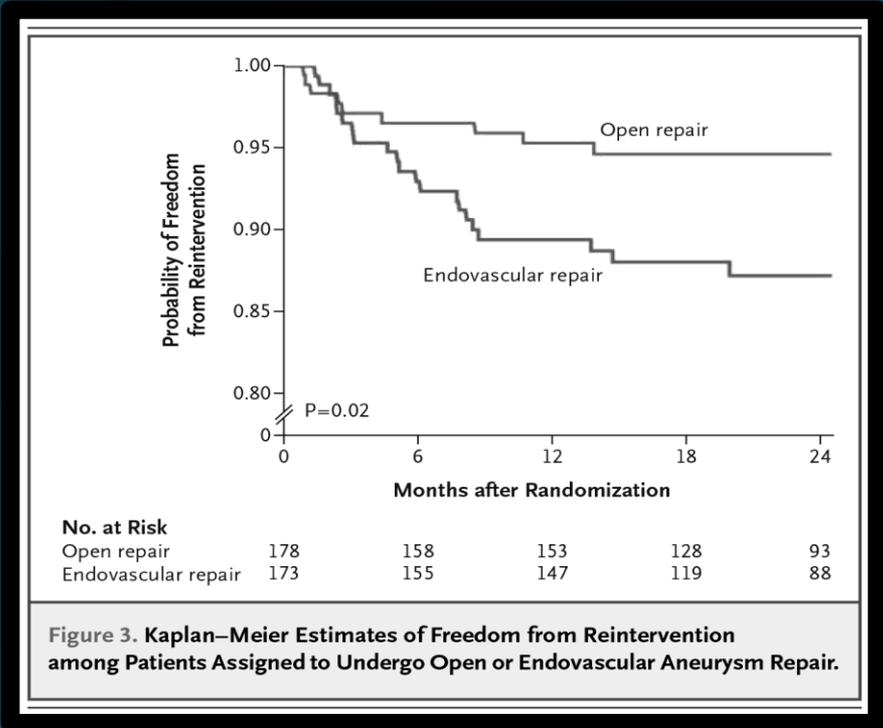
Margaret L. Schwarze, MD,<sup>a</sup> Yang Shen, BA,<sup>b</sup> Joshua Hemmerich, PhD,<sup>c</sup> and William Dale, MD, PhD,<sup>c</sup> *Madison, Wis; and Chicago, Ill*

*J Vasc Surg* 2009;50:722-9





# EVAR – Intermediate Failures



## DREAM Trial

13% ~ 2yrs.

NEJM 2005;352:2398-405

## EVAR I Trial

~40% ~ 8yrs.

NEJM 2010



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# Late Failures



## Endovascular versus open repair of abdominal aortic aneurysm in 15-years' follow-up of the UK endovascular aneurysm repair

### Aneurysm-related mortality

All patients	56/626 (9%)	1.1	45/626 (7%)	0.9	1.24 (0.84-1.83)	1.31 (0.86-1.99)	0.21
0-6 months	14/626 (2%)	4.6	30/626 (5%)	10.0	0.46 (0.24-0.87)	0.47 (0.23-0.93)	0.031
>6 months to 4 years	12/599 (2%)	0.6	8/581(1%)	0.4	1.48 (0.60-3.62)	1.46 (0.56-3.83)	0.44
>4-8 years	14/474 (3%)	0.9	4/464 (1%)	0.2	3.46 (1.14-10.52)	3.11 (0.99-9.72)	0.05
>8 years	16/339 (5%)	1.3	3/333 (1%)	0.2	5.50 (1.60-18.89)	5.82 (1.64-20.65)	0.0064

Prof Roger M Greenhalgh,  
Vascular Surgery Research Group,  
Imperial College London,  
London W6 8RP, UK  
r.greenhalgh@imperial.ac.uk  
See Online for appendix

for aneurysm-related mortality,  $p=0.031$ ), but beyond 8 years of follow-up open-repair had a significantly lower mortality (adjusted HR 1.25, 95% CI 1.00-1.56,  $p=0.048$  for total mortality; and 5.82, 1.64-20.65,  $p=0.0064$  for aneurysm-related mortality). The increased aneurysm-related mortality in the EVAR group after 8 years was mainly attributable to secondary aneurysm sac rupture (13 deaths [7%] in EVAR vs two [1%] in open repair), with increased cancer mortality also observed in the EVAR group.

Interpretation EVAR has an early survival benefit but an inferior late survival compared with open repair, which needs to be addressed by lifelong surveillance of EVAR and re-intervention if necessary.





# Late Failures - Medicare



## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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C

### ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Long-Term Outcomes of Aortic Aneurysm Repair in the Medicare Population

Marc L. Scheraga, M.D.,  
McCallum, M.D.,  
N Engl J Med

M.D., John C.

### Follow up 2008 NEJM cohort

- 80,000 Propensity matched patients
- 2001-2004
- Long-term survival analyses



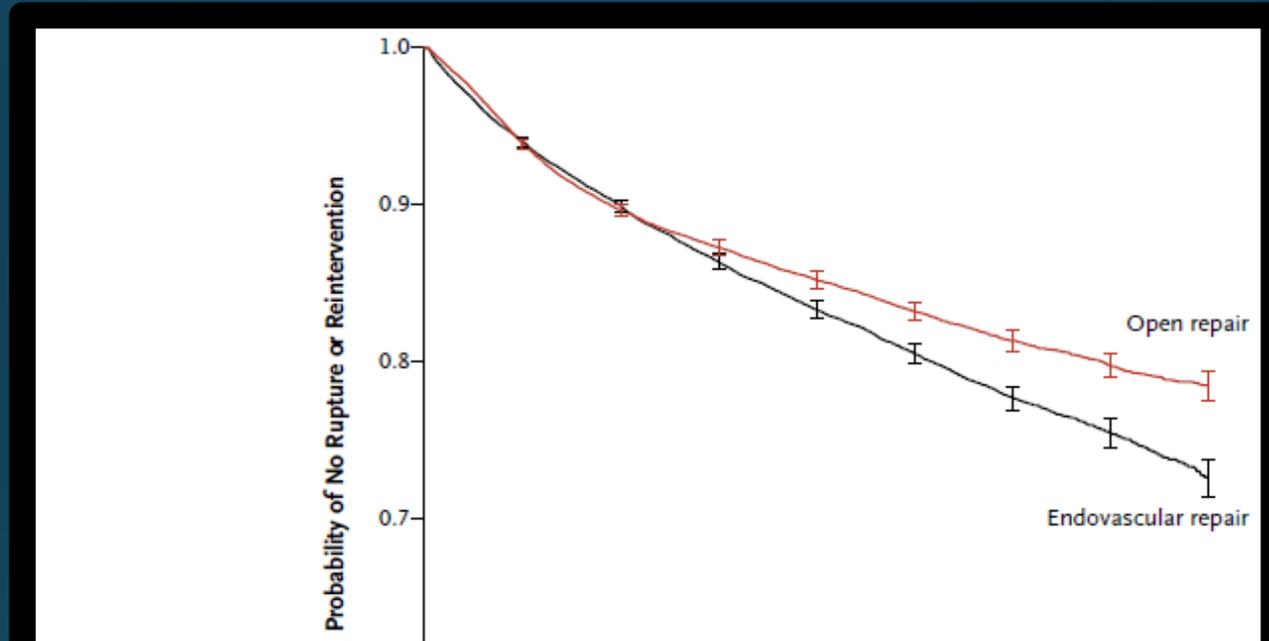
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NEJM 2015; 373:328 - 338



# Late Failures - Medicare



**Rupture risk increases over time  
in patients treated with EVAR**



# FDA Warning Letter



## Endovascular Graft Systems: Letter to Health Care Providers - Type III Endoleaks Associated with Use – 9/28/2017

• Report any of the following to MedWatch, the FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program Online Voluntary Reporting Form:

- early or late device-related adverse events—including Type IIIa and IIIb endoleaks—associated with the use of endovascular graft systems in EVAR;
- device-related adverse events that occur as a result of a secondary intervention to treat Type III endoleaks.

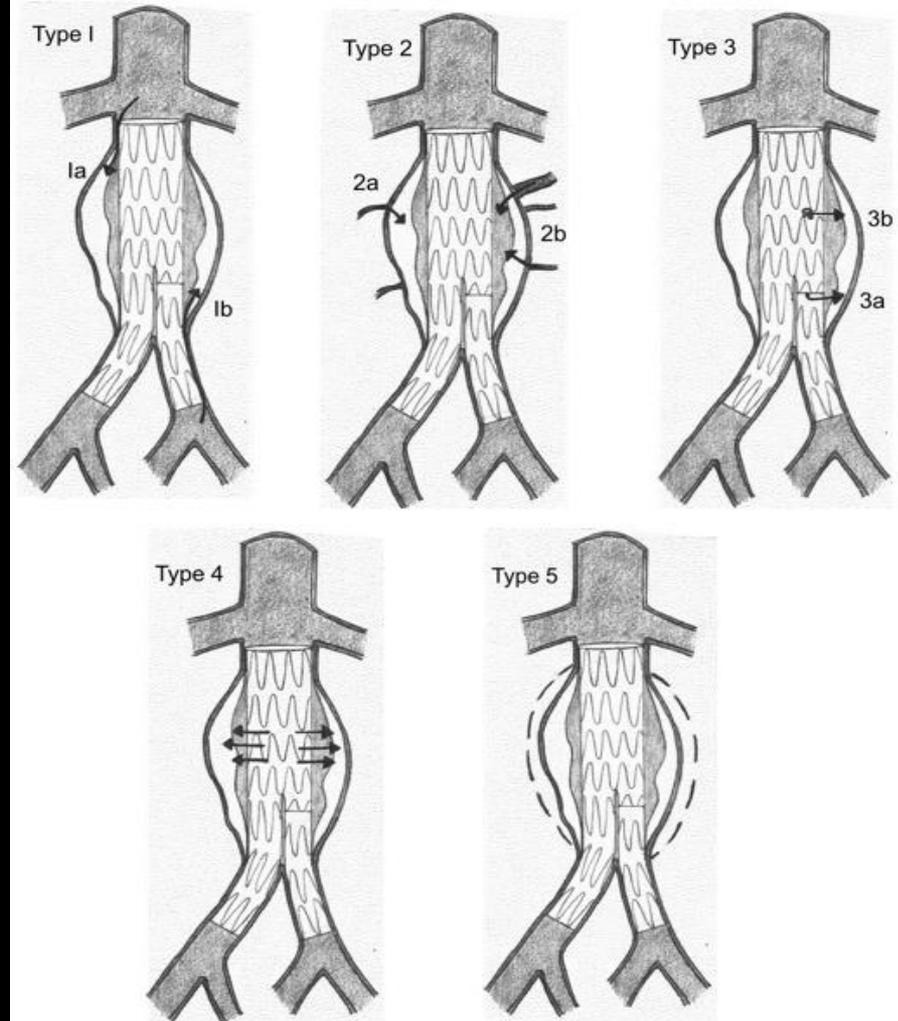




# Causes of Failures

## Endoleaks

- Type I and III need repair
- Type II most common - ?benign?

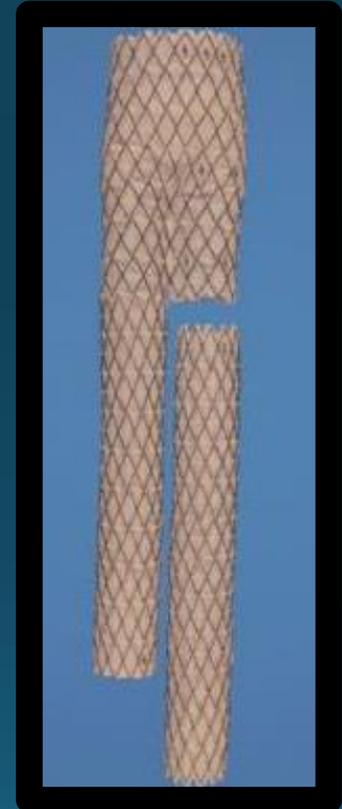
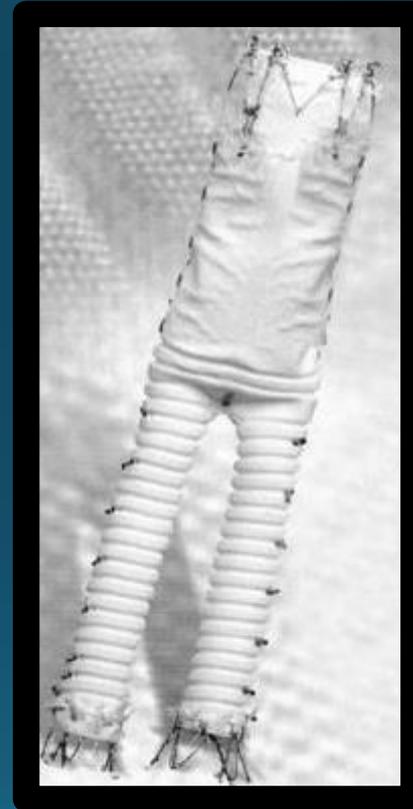


# Causes of Failures



## Component problems

- Separation
- Fabric porosity
- Material failure



# EVAR - Anatomic Requirements



- **Proximal neck angulation  $> 60^\circ$** 
  - 70% complication rate
- **Optimal neck length**
  - Ideal  $> 1.5\text{cm}$  (longer better)
- **Neck quality**
  - No thrombus
  - Eccentric calcium
  - Normal aorta

**Strict IFU requirements for each device**

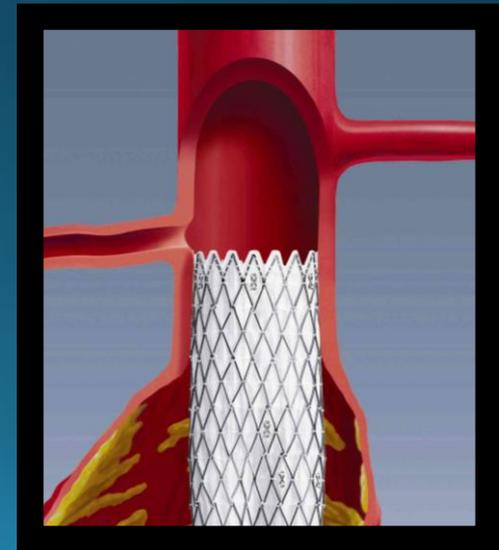


# Causes of Failures



## Neck Failure

- Neck degeneration
  - Outward remodeling
  - Large diameter grafts likely treating diseased vessel
- Device migration / disruption





# IFU Violations

## Vascular Medicine

### Predictors of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Sac Enlargement After Endovascular Repair

Andres Schanzer, MD; Roy K...  
Mohammad H.

**Background**—The majority of inf...  
with endovascular methods. Bas...  
patient selection for endovascu...  
compliance with anatomic guide...  
post-EVAR AAA sac enlargeme...

**Methods and Results**—Patients with pre-EVAR and at least 1 post-EVAR computed tomography scan were identified from the M2S, Inc. imaging database (1999 to 2008). Preoperative baseline aortoiliac anatomic characteristics were reviewed for each patient. Data relating to the specific AAA endovascular device implanted were not available. Therefore,

conservative published anatomic...  
outcome was post-EVAR AAA sac...  
had a maximum AAA diameter...  
Only 42% of patients had anatomy...  
most liberal definition of device...  
independent predictors of AAA sac...  
neck angle >60°, and common

... was low and post-EVAR aneurysm...  
sac enlargement was high, raising concern for long-term risk of aneurysm rupture. (*Circulation*. 2011;123:2848-2855.)

**Key Words:** abdominal aortic aneurysm ■ endovascular procedures ■ graft

**Of 10,228 EVAR Patients, Only 42% Met 15mm Infrarenal Neck Length Criteria**

**Short Infrarenal Neck Length is an Independent Predictor of Type IA Endoleak**





# Diverse Morphologies

Characteristics  
A Critical

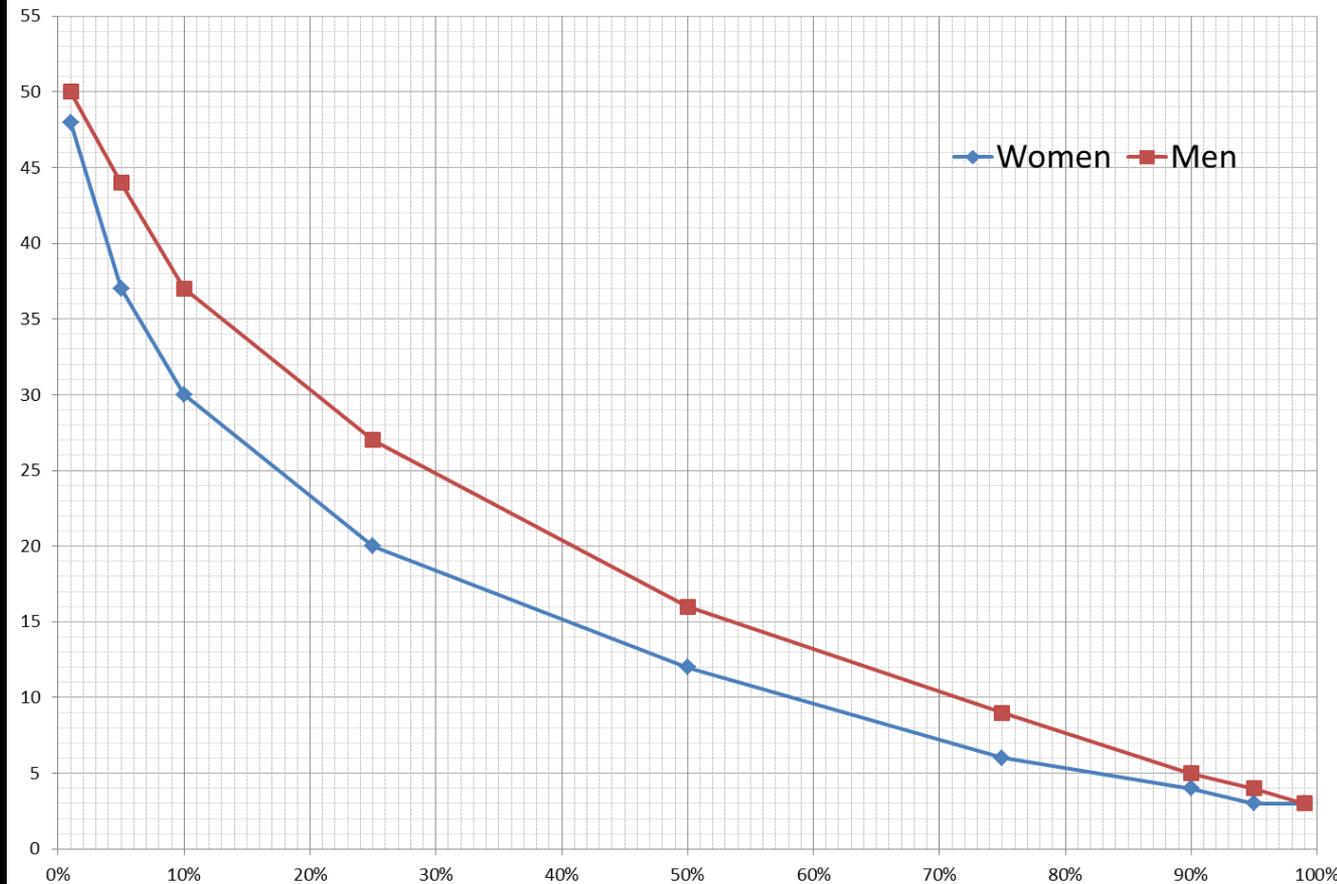


percentage  
neck length

95	99
44	50

Median  
Men  
Women

15mm  
%



# Clinical Decision Making



- **Given failure (ARM) of EVAR**, how should we decide on how best to treat patients → **OPEN vs. EVAR?**



# Decision making - Etiology



- **Degenerative (>90%)**
- **Inflammatory – endo**
- **Dissection – likely open**
- **Traumatic – endo**
- **Congenital / connective – open**
- **Mycotic / Infectious – open**



# Decision Making - Anatomy



- **Endoleak risk:**
  - Increases with patent lumbar pairs
  - IMA patency
  - ? Anti-coagulation
  
- **Ideal neck anatomy:**
  - Longer better
  - Avoid angulation
  - Larger diameter = abnormal aorta



# Decision Making - Survival



- Young patients with prolonged life expectancy are more likely to suffer ARM with EVAR
- ESRD poor survival
- Age >80 lower survival
- Advanced cardiac / pulmonary disease



# ACE Trial



A randomized controlled trial of endovascular aneurysm repair versus open surgery for

- **Prospective Randomized**
- **High volume centers**
- **Low and moderate risk patients**
- **316 patients --> 3 yrs. follow up**
- **Open repair as safe as EVAR at 30 days**
- **3 yr. results favor Open repair**



# Decision Making - Risks

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- Risk stratification tools should be used to guide clinical decision making



# Eslami NSQIP



Description of a risk pre  
postoperative mortality  
aneurysm repair

Mohammad H. Eslami, MD, MPH, Dr

- **NSQIP 2005-20**
- **1(76% EVAR /**
- **18917 procedu**
- **All elective pro**
- **Mortality 1.7%**

- **Age > 70**
- **Female gender**
- **Functional dependence**
- **COPD**
- **MI**
- **Vascular disease**
- **Weight loss**
- **Creatinine >1.5, >2.0**
- **Hct > 30**





# Model

Variables	Points
<b>Treatment</b>	
OAR	5
EVAR	0
<b>Age</b>	
Age: ≥70 years	4
Age <70 years	0
<b>Sex</b>	
Female	2
Male	0
<b>Functionally independent</b>	
No (dependent patient)	4
Yes	0
<b>Comorbidities</b>	
COPD	2
Myocardial disease	1
Peripheral vascular disease	1
<b>Weight loss</b>	
Yes	5
No	0
<b>Laboratory values</b>	
<b>Cr, mg/dL</b>	
<1.5	0
≥1.5-2	2
≥2	3
<b>HCT, mg/dL</b>	
≥30	0
<30	4
<b>ASA classification</b>	
Mild	0
Severe	1
Life-threatening/moribund	4

ASA, American Society of Anesthesiology; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; Cr, creatinine; EVAR, endovascular abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) repair; HCT, hematocrit; OAR, open AAA repair.

Sum of points	POD probability, %	Proportion of subjects with points	Sensitivity	Specificity
0	0.25	1.4	0.0000	0.9999
1	0.31	6.7	0.0000	0.9999
2	0.38	5.4	0.0000	0.9998
3	0.48	3.4	0.0036	0.9993
4	0.59	4.6	0.0036	0.9987
5	0.74	12.3	0.0109	0.9983
6	0.92	13.3	0.0182	0.9975
7	1.14	10.6	0.0364	0.9957
8	1.41	8.8	0.0618	0.9927
9	1.75	6.6	0.0800	0.9889
10	2.17	6.7	0.1273	0.9811
11	2.68	4.8	0.1818	0.9705
12	3.31	4.6	0.2509	0.9534
13	4.09	3.4	0.3164	0.9309
14	5.04	2.3	0.4036	0.8979
15	6.19	1.8	0.4764	0.8522
16	7.59	1.1	0.5455	0.8041
17	9.27	0.8	0.6291	0.7370
18	11.28	0.4	0.7091	0.6708
19	13.66	0.3	0.7782	0.5827
20	16.44	0.2	0.8473	0.4758
21	19.66	0.1	0.8982	0.3412
22	23.34	<0.1	0.9527	0.2174
23	27.48	0.1	0.9636	0.1710

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ybin, P



# VSGNE / VQI Model



From the New England Society for Vascular Surgery

External validation of Vascular Study Group of New England risk predictive model of mortality after elective abdominal aorta aneurysm repair in the Vascular Quality Initiative and comparison against established models



- **VSGNE 2003 – 2012**

**4431 pts. / 1.4% mortality**

- **VQI 2010 – 2015**

**16989 / 0.9% mortality**



# VSGNE / VQI Model



<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Points</i>
Treatment	0
EVAR	0
OAR (infrarenal)	0
OAR (suprarenal)	0
Aneurysm size, mm	
<65	0
≥ 65	1
Age, years	
≤75	2
>75	3
Gender	
Male	4
Female	5
Comorbidities	
Myocardial disease	6
Cerebrovascular disease	7
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	8
Laboratory value	
Creatinine, mg/dL	
<1.5	9
1.5 to <2	10
≥2	11

<i>Points</i>	<i>Probability of mortality, %</i>	<i>Proposed risk designation</i>
0	0.12	Low-risk group
1	0.20	
2	0.34	Medium-risk group
3	0.59	
4	1.00	
5	1.71	High-risk group
6	2.91	
7	4.90	
8	8.14	
9	13.2%	Prohibitive high-risk group
10	20.75	
11	31.05	
12	43.63	
13	57.10	
14	69.59	

*EVAR*, Endovascular aneurysm repair; *OAR*, open aneurysm repair.



# Final thoughts

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- **We are over treating with EVAR**
- Risk stratification tools should be used to guide clinical decision making



# Final Thoughts



- **Low / Moderate risk patients - considered open repair at high volume centers**
  - Especially true for young patients given long term ARM with EVAR
- **EVAR patients have increased long term risk:**
  - Careful monitoring of patients is essential





tct 2018



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[www.columbiasurgery.org/aortic](http://www.columbiasurgery.org/aortic)

Thank You!!