Vascular Surgery (CAD)
Carotid Artery Disease
Mini-Elective
Spring 2015

Course Dates: February 6, 13, 20, 27
Fridays, 1:00-2:00 PM

Maximum Students: 8

Class Year: MS1 and MS2

Course Director: Ulka Sachdev, MD
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Contact Information: Kathy Haupt, Medical Student Coordinator
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Description:
There are three one-hour sessions and one half-day operating room observa-
tion in this elective course. There will be a required reading assignment (10-
15 pages) before each session. In the first session, there will be a general in-
troduction into the problem of CAD. This lecture will discuss the pathogenesis
of CAD, the findings on history and physical examination, the variations in
CAD, and the morbidity and mortality associated with the disease and surgical
correction. The second session will present the diagnostic tools used to diag-
nose CAD and characterize it including ultrasound, CT scan, MR, and angi-
ography. The student will have the opportunity to visit the non-invasive vas-
cular laboratory to see a diagnostic ultrasound performed. In the third session
a debate will take place between the students arguing the use of carotid
endarterectomy vs. carotid artery stenting.

The final session will be an opportunity for students to go into an operating
room to view a carotid endarterectomy. The scheduling of this will not neces-
sarily follow the day and time of the previous three weeks. Operating cases
need to be adjusted for various reasons. These cases will also take place at
the VA or Shadyside Hospital. It may be necessary to schedule this part of the
experience on a subsequent day agreeable to the surgeon and students’
schedules. Arrangements for this observation will not be scheduled until the
week prior when operative cases are known.

Objectives:
• To understand the pathogenesis of CAD.
• To identify patients at increased risk for CAD.
• To learn the use of the common diagnostic tools to determine if CAD is
  present.
• To appreciate when to surgically correct CAD.
• To comprehend the difference in risks and benefits between open endarter-
  ectomy and endovascular stenting of CAD.
• To observe an angiogram, endarterectomy, and stent placement.
Requirements:
Complete pre-session reading and participate actively in all sessions

Pre-Requisites:
None

COURSE OUTLINE:
VASCULAR SURGERY (CAD) Carotid Artery Disease

Session I – Friday, 2/6/15
1:00pm (room to be determined)
(faculty to be determined)
Introduction to Carotid Artery Disease (CAD)

READING ASSIGNMENT:
Vascular Surgery by Robert B. Rutherford, M.D.
Carotid Artery Disease:  Pgs 1423-1424; 1426; 1436

Session II – Friday, 2/13/15
1:00pm Shadyside Hospital Vascular Laboratory
(faculty to be determined)
CAD: Diagnostic Tools

Reading Assignment in Rutherford:  Pgs 1412-1414

Session III – Friday, 2/20/15
1:00pm (room to be determined)
(faculty to be determined)
Debate:  Carotid Endarterectomy (CEA) vs. Carotid Artery Stenting (CAS)

Reading Assignment:  Current Literature

Session IV: - TBD
VAMC or Shadyside Hospital Operating Room
Observe an open carotid endarterectomy