The 2019 CIRCULATE! event honored Mississippi native and patient advocate, Gertrude Campbell, with the first Ronald J. Stoney Vascular Hero Award. The award, sponsored by the Binkley Foundation, recognized Mrs. Campbell for her advocacy work surrounding patient and physician education on PAD screening and prevention. As a part of the Vascular Hero panel at CIRCULATE!, Mrs. Campbell, who lost both of her legs to critical limb ischemia, emphasized the need for a different approach to PAD screening and care to prevent disease advancement and amputations, especially in at-risk and marginalized populations. In January, she traveled to Washington D.C. and testified before Congress to advocate for further awareness and research to reach the eventual goal of curing PAD.

Her work – both within her community and beyond – demonstrates the incredible impact and value of patient input and activism. In addition, her strength and courage in the face of adversity to improve the lives of others truly capture the spirit of what it means to be a vascular hero.
Peripheral artery disease (PAD) affects hundreds of millions of people around the world, causing disability, functional decline, limb loss and death. Yet, we understand relatively little about how the disease or the treatments we offer affect patients in their everyday lives.

In 2018, Vascular Cures created the PROM-PAD Working Group to advance the conversation around developing and capturing direct patient-reported outcome measures (PROMs) in PAD. Ultimately, consensus recommendations (to be published early next year) will help the PAD research and care community better measure clinical effectiveness and value, and design treatments that are truly impactful.

The multi-disciplinary group is comprised of clinical experts, scientists, governmental and industry stakeholders, as well as several patients with PAD who provided powerful input. Led by co-chairs Dr. Manesh R. Patel and Dr. Michael S. Conte, the January kick-off meeting focused on understanding the key issues and various perspectives to inform how best to approach recommendations to the PAD community. In addition to driving consensus, the team will be generating ideas for pilot projects that translate these recommendations into tangible activities which advance the field. Vascular Cures intends to catalyze and implement these solutions in a feasible, meaningful, and scientifically sound fashion in the upcoming years to continue to improve the lives of the millions of people affected by PAD.

Vascular Cures is catalyzing breakthrough collaborations because of our unique position as a trusted nonprofit innovator without proprietary interests. We bring together stakeholders across vascular health for shared brainstorming and projects to accelerate results. We are honored to be working with leaders at the following institutions and organizations as part of the PROM-PAD Working Group:

**PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS**
- Boston University
- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- Dupuytrens University Hospital, France
- FDA, Center for Devices & Radiological Health
- FDA, Center for Drug Evaluation & Research
- Harvard University
- Keck School of Medicine
- Mayo Clinic
- Mount Sinai Health System
- National Heart Lung and Blood Institute
- Northwestern University
- University of California, San Francisco
- University of Colorado
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Missouri, Kansas City
- Washington University in St. Louis

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Vascular Cures Welcomes Margaret Wong to Board of Directors

Vascular Cures enthusiastically welcomed Margaret Wong as its newest board member in May. She is the Director of Managed Markets Marketing at Gilead Sciences, Inc. and holds an MBA from Carnegie Mellon University, Graduate Certification in Applied HEOR from Thomas Jefferson University, and a M.S. and B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from UC Berkeley. She brings extensive experience and a passion for translating technology innovation into value propositions that drive market access, strategic pricing and brand planning.

Dr. Andrea Obi Named 22nd Wylie Scholar

The Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS) Foundation and Vascular Cures announced Dr. Andrea Obi, University of Michigan, as the 2019 Wylie Scholar. Dr. Obi’s clinical interests include vascular surgery, aneurysmal and occlusive diseases of the arterial system and the surgical management of superficial venous disease. The 3-year, $150,000 grant will support her work on the “Impact of bone marrow progenitor cells epigenetic memory on venous thrombus formation and resolution,” which seeks to better understand how blood clots in our veins form and resolve, the root cause of life-threatening conditions known as Deep Vein Thrombosis and Pulmonary Embolism.

Vascular Cures is the only nonprofit organization exclusively representing the millions of patients with Vascular Diseases outside of the heart. Our mission is to advance patient-centered research, catalyze breakthrough collaborations and empower people in their vascular health journey.

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Thank you to everyone who made Circulate! 2019 a success!