



UNIVERSITATEA DE MEDICINĂ ȘI FARMACIE
VICTOR BABES DIN TIMIȘOARA

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European Independent Foundation
In Angiology/Vascular Medicine
Education, Research, Prevention

VAS-International Consortium

**AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
VICTOR BABES UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY, DIVISION OF
VASCULAR SURGERY AND
VAS EUROPEAN INDEPENDENT FOUNDATION
IN ANGIOLOGY/VASCULAR MEDICINE
(VAS-International Consortium)**

The VAS European Independent Foundation in Angiology/Vascular Medicine located in Milan (Italy) (hereinafter referred to as VAS) and Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery (hereinafter referred to as Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy) located in Timisoara enter into an Agreement of Cooperation to establish a program of exchange and collaboration in areas of interest and benefit to both institutions.

I.

The purpose of the cooperation between VAS and Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery are as follows:

- To promote interest in the teaching and research activities of the respective institutions; and
- Development of International independent training and research in Vascular Surgery

II.

To achieve these goals, VAS and Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery will, insofar as the means of each allow:

- Promote institutional exchanges by inviting faculty and staff of the partner institution to participate in a variety of teaching and/or research activities and professional development;
- Develop or participate in Courses, training, joint educational material and dissemination of educational and research projects in the field of Vascular Surgery.
- Carry out joint research and applications for the EU/International research projects
- Carry out joint continuing education programs; and
- In particular, Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery collaborates and participates with its teachers and with its Centers to the development of vascular surgery.
- Organize and participate in symposia, conferences, short courses and meetings on research and teaching issues;
- Exchange information pertaining to developments in teaching student development and research at each institution;
- Participate in the VAS International Buerger Working Group (represented inside the VAS Advisory Board)

- Take part in the definition of a suggested Educational Program
- Collaborate in the collection of data and the dissemination of informative and educational material
- Collaborate in research activities, transferring data, pictures, angiography of patients totally anonymized to VAS for common research and educational aims.
Every scientific publication will report names of all the participants as well as of their Institution.
- Collaborate in VAS International Biobank for Buerger Patients or/and on other Vascular diseases, following the specific rules for quality (sample, storage, projects). VAS Biobank is a Network of local Biobank or Institutions with proper storage facilities for samples.
All samples taken locally for VAS biobank are part of the VAS research project and cannot be used without a common decision taken for common research projects and common publications.
All samples have to be connected (anonymized, by barcode or number) to clinical data, following the common agreed questionnaire.
All the questionnaires have also to be anonymized as requested by privacy policy.
Informed consent (drafted text available by VAS) has to be signed by the patient and stored in the local center.
- Other forms of collaboration will be subject to reciprocal agreements.

III.

Each institution shall designate a coordinator to oversee and facilitate the implementation of this Agreement. Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery will have the right to its own representative on the VAS International Buerger Working Group.

The Center joining the VAS-International Buerger Working Group, can become a VAS Referee Center of Excellence for Buerger's Disease.

The coordinators, at the respective universities/hospitals, shall have the following responsibilities:

- To promote collaboration for research and education;
- To act as principal contacts for individual and group activities and to plan and coordinate all join VAS activities within their institutions;
- To distribute information to each institution
- To periodically review and evaluate past activities and to work out new ideas for future cooperative agreements.

IV.

This general Agreement of Cooperation shall be identified as the parent document of any Program Agreement executed between the parties. Further agreements concerning any program shall

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provide details concerning the specific commitments made by each party and shall not become effective until they have been reduced to writing, executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties.

V.

The Agreement anticipates no exchange of monies between the parties, unless otherwise provided for in the specific Program Agreement. Further, neither party guarantees specific funding for the scope of the activities under this Agreement. The scope of activities under this Agreement shall be determined by financial assistance as may be obtained by either institution from external sources.

VI.

All travel and living expenses, including room, board and other locally necessary expenses, will be the responsibility of the individual faculty investigator/clinician or, if external funding is available, his or her home institution. The host institution will endeavour to assist professional staff engaged in teaching or research to find local living facilities.

VII.

Upon approval by each institution, this Agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years unless terminated earlier by either institution. Such termination by one institution shall be effected by giving the other institution at least ninety (90) days advance written notice of its intention to terminate. Termination shall be without penalty. If this Agreement is terminated, neither VAS nor UL (UL MF) shall be liable to the other for any monetary or other losses that may result. This agreement will be automatically renewed, after the stipulated expiry date, unless cancelled by either party.

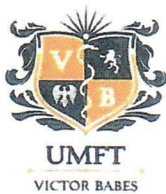
VIII.

The activities will be coordinated for VAS Board by Prof Bahar Fazeli and Prof Mariella Catalano and for the Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Division of Vascular Surgery by Prof. Dr. Mihai Ionac, with registered office at Division of Vascular Surgery, Pius Brânzeu Research Center, Regiment 13 Calarasi Street No. 12, Timișoara, România.

VIII.

Each institution shall respect legislation regarding intellectual properties and binding data protection laws.

Done in three (3) originals initialled and executed originals, each Party acknowledging having received one original.



Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara, Romania

VAS-European Independent Foundation in Angiology/Vascular Medicine