



NEWSLETTER

2026/3

Dear colleagues,

The BSVS Board launched our newsletter concept in 2024 to keep our members better informed. We hope you find it useful and enjoyable to read. For confidentiality and practical reasons, you will find further information via the respective links attached to each topic. These links remain active on our website, bsvs.info.

Our society continues to grow, and we recently welcomed our 385th member.

The milestone of establishing our own surgical identity, namely the recognition of Vascular Surgery as a Level II specialty, was achieved as of 1 July 2026. The future training of our trainees will consist of three years of truncus surgery, followed by three years of specialised training in vascular surgery during their 4th, 5th and 6th years, culminating in a Vascular Manama and a UEMS examination. Now that the amendment to the decision of the MB dated 23 May 2024 has been published in the Belgisch Staatsblad / Moniteur (09/07/2026), young colleagues who obtained recognition as a general surgeon after 30 June 2023 can now also apply for recognition as a Level II vascular surgeon through the recognition committee.

If you have obtained the Certificate of Special Competence in Vascular Surgery and/or the attestation confirming that you have passed the UEMS examination, please make sure to include these documents in your application. Please make sure to submit your application before 1 July 2027!



Join the BSVS & BYF WhatsApp Community

Stay in the loop with Belgian Young Flowmasters! This is your direct line to everything relevant for young vascular surgeons in Belgium:

- New workshop announcements
- Last-minute spots that open up
- Key regulatory updates affecting your practice
- Relevant news & (in the future) possibly discount codes

This is not a group chat, only the BYF board can post, so your phone won't be buzzing with back-and-forth messages. You'll just get the occasional, highly relevant update, straight to the point. And if you still prefer silence, you can simply mute the group while staying subscribed.

Scan the QR code to join & feel free to add your colleagues too!

Collegium: Latest Update from the Recognition Committee

Level II

[More info...](#)

The BSVS Board strongly encourages all members to obtain their Level II certification as soon as possible. The deadline for applications during the current transition period is 30 June 2029.

We would like to remind you that this second professional title is supplementary to the former and current title of General Surgeon, identified by the RIZIV/INAMI number ending in 140. The recognition committees have now been established at regional level. The Dutch-speaking commission has already recognised more than 80 colleagues at Level II. The French-speaking commission will start its recognition process very soon.

Composition of the Recognition Committees

Flanders

Following publication in the Belgisch Staatsblad / Moniteur on 8 June 2026, the Flemish commission consists of eight active members and eight experts: Erik Debing (VUB) – vice-chair, Joke Durnez (UA), Nathalie Moreels (UGent), Sarah Thomis (KU Leuven), Koen Deloose, Inge Fourneau – chair, Koen Keirse and Wouter Lansink.

The members represent the universities and/or the professional society and are appointed for a term of six years. The eight experts are colleagues from the four surgical disciplines who oversee the quality and continuity between the common trunk and the specific advanced training. They are: Paul Deleyn, Frederik Berrevoet, Marian Vanhoeij, Paul Willemsen, Marijke De Cat, Thierry Chapelle, Sam Van Slycke and Sophie Depuydt.

Wallonia

Awaiting publication, the French-speaking commission consists of twelve effective and supplementary members: Grégory Callebaut (HIS-IZZ) – chair, Arnaud Kerzmann (ULiège) – vice-chair, Janine Quaniers (Citadelle), Jean-Philippe De Wilde (ULB), Maxime Elens (UCLouvain), Jâd Abi-Khalil (CHU), César Vazquez Rodriguez (CHR), Evelyne Boesmans (CHU), Arnaud Colle (St. Luc), Philippe Arend (Epicura), Laurence Pirard (CHR) and David Horn (Chirec).

Trainees

Our trainees have until 30 June 2027 to transfer their training pathway to the specific Level II training programme in Vascular Surgery. They will be guided through this process by their university.

[More info](#)

Internship supervisor/internship centers

The BSVS strongly advises all vascular centres with two or more staff members who have obtained Level II recognition to apply for recognition as a training centre. This recognition is granted by the federal authorities, and the application links have been available since 1 August.

NL: <https://www.health.belgium.be/nl/tools/erkenning-stagemeester-stagedienst-arts-specialist-tandarts-huisarts>

FR: <https://www.health.belgium.be/fr/outils/agrement-maitre-stage-service-stage-medecin-specialiste-dentiste-medecin-generaliste>

If you aspire to a position as a training supervisor or within a training service, it is important to have yourself and your colleagues accredited as vascular surgeons as soon as possible. After all, the number of trainees you may supervise is equal to the number of Level II-recognised vascular surgeons in your department minus one, and this number must be determined at the time of submitting the application.

Please be aware that, from now on, Level II training in Vascular Surgery must be part of a complete training plan supervised by a coordinating university training supervisor. We have been informed that, for the time being, submitting an official application for recognition as a training centre is sufficient for the centre to be included in a trainee's training plan as of 1 October.

Final recognition of the different centres and training supervisors will take more time. At present, there are still no officially recognised Vascular Surgery trainers. The High Council is currently working on the recognition process, which is being treated as a priority. However, we would like to point out that this process may still take some time to complete. In the meantime, the Recognition Committee will approve training plans retroactively as of 1 October, provided that the trainers concerned are subsequently formally recognised by the High Council.

The Recognition Committees function in collaboration with the BSVS Board and will replace our Collegium as of 2027. During the transition period, it will still be possible to apply for the BSVS Certificate of Special Competence in Vascular Surgery. The deadlines for submission to the Collegium are 1 October 2026 and 1 February 2027.

The board highlights all new information concerning level II on our website on a weekly basis.

[More info](#)



Governmental Issues

Our government is significantly reducing healthcare budgets in the coming years as part of its cost-saving measures. Our ongoing reimbursement applications have not yet received approval. The professional unions are preparing an appeal against the “Kaderwet I en II / Loi de cadre”, with a deadline of 31 December 2026. The BSVS Board is closely monitoring this process.

[More info](#)

FANC/AFCN



The BSVS Board collaborates with the FANC to optimise proof of radioprotection for our members and to provide all vascular centres with a uniform informed consent form and a standardised procedure for the detection of skin lesions. Specific dosimetry studies related to Vascular Surgery will start in 2027. Please remember that, for your individual certification, two hours of radioprotection training per year remain mandatory. We therefore encourage you to attend our radioprotection training sessions organised during the General Assembly and/or JEF.

[More info](#)

Memberships

VBS/FMS

All members will soon receive an invitation to start or renew their VBS/FMS membership, at an annual fee of €240. Since this year, the FMS/VBS has changed its membership administration to Odoo, and all members will receive an invitation to pay their annual membership fee. The Board **strongly encourages** you to pay your annual contribution to the FMS, as this will strengthen our position towards the government and within the FMS. It will also enable us to establish Vascular Surgery and the BSVS as a distinct entity alongside General Surgery within the FMS organisation. A combined membership is not possible.

[More info](#)

ESVS

The ESVS offers a discount of 30% for all BSVS members. Please use this offered discount for your renewal or first membership.

[More info](#)

Both memberships are yearly and must be paid in January.

Acta Chirurgica Belgica

Acta Chirurgica Belgica remains the only Belgian surgical journal and has a widely respected reputation and strong impact, with approximately 400 manuscripts submitted each year. The BSVS Board has revised and expanded the Vascular Editorial Board to ten members. Our main goal is to increase the number of vascular publications and to support our younger members by guiding them in the submission of scientific work resulting from their training and presented during working group activities. This further emphasises the scientific character of our professional society. Our younger colleagues, defined as full members up to and including the age of 40 (BYF), will receive a complimentary subscription as of 1 January 2027, generously provided by the BSVS Board in collaboration with Acta Chirurgica Belgica. All other members may subscribe to the journal by contacting info@bsvs.info. The annual subscription fee is €52. The journal became an online-only publication in 2025. However, printed copies remain available upon request and will be produced on a print-on-demand basis.

Membership Tips & Facts

- * Membership fees must be paid via the **Mollie account** on our website. Direct debits and manual transfers are no longer accepted. Payment is quick and easy by following the steps online. We kindly ask you to use a regular bank card (preferably Bancontact) instead of Mastercard or VISA, as international card payments incur an additional €5 fee for our society.
- * Your **membership** starts immediately after payment and is **valid for 365 days counted from the day your account was created**. You will receive a confirmation email right away, and you can track your payments and remaining membership time via the “My membership” section in your account.
- * Before your membership expires, you will receive a **reminder** to renew. After expiration, you will receive two additional reminders.
- * You can renew your membership at any time. If you renew **before the expiration date**, the **remaining days will be added** to your new 365-day period. If payment is received **after this period**, the **months of delay will be deducted from the membership term**.
- * Members who do not renew for a long time may have their account closed. If a new account has to be created later, six months of membership will be deducted to cover the

administrative costs.

* **Tax certificates are no longer given** and the receipt you receive immediately after paying via our website is a valid proof for the tax authorities.

Attendance and Accreditation : REMINDER



We would like to remind everyone of the importance of following the registration and accreditation procedures for our events. To ensure smooth organisation and proper administration, the following rules will apply strictly to all future events:

- * Registration and attendance: Participants who register for an event are expected to attend or cancel their registration in a timely manner. *No-shows who fail to cancel their registration in advance result in unnecessary costs, as places and catering are reserved based on the number of registered participants. We therefore kindly ask everyone to inform us as soon as possible if they are unable to attend.*
- * Advance registration is mandatory: *Only participants who have registered in advance will be admitted and included on the official attendance list.* No exceptions will be made. Consequently, they will not be eligible to receive accreditation points.
- * ID card and accreditation: Bringing and scanning your ID card is mandatory for accreditation purposes. *Participants who do not have their ID card with them, or whose ID card cannot be scanned, cannot have their attendance validated and will therefore not receive accreditation points.* No exceptions will be made in this regard either.

We kindly ask everyone to strictly follow these procedures for all future events. This will allow us to ensure a fair and efficient registration process, avoid unnecessary costs and guarantee the correct processing of accreditation.

Accreditation

JEF 24-25/09/2026



The second edition of the Journées endovasculaires francophones (JEF) at C.H.U. Liege was a great success with over eight challenging live cases for 100 plus attendees.

The third edition is scheduled at CHIREC BXL 07-08/10/2027.

SAVE THE DATES

REMINDER:

- Register before the registration deadline and cancel in time if you cannot attend.
- No late registrations will be accepted, and accreditation points will only be awarded to participants who registered on time.
- On-site check-in will be via eID.

- * 15/10/2026 : Najaarsevent Werkgroep Klassieke Vaatheelkunde: "De rol van de vaatchirurg in conflictsituaties vandaag en morgen!" - Living Tomorrow Vilvoorde
- * 17/10/2026 : Foam Sclerotherapy and Ultrasound-Guided Foam Sclerotherapy - WG Phlebology - La Citadelle
- * 12/11/2026 : IVascular@BSVS - "When INNOVATION challenges EXPERIENCE" - Living Tomorrow Vilvoorde
- * 26/11/2026 : Najaarsevent Werkgroep Endovasculaire Heelkunde: "Is CAS klaar voor de eerste keuze?" - Salons Waerboom, Groot Bijgaarden
- * 03-05/12/2026 : Paris Vascular Insights Course (PVI), Paris (France)
--> Belgian BSVS night@PVI, organised in Vins des Pyrénées, 25 rue de Beautreillis, 75004 Paris, Thursday 03/12 at 8 pm - first come first registered base!
- * 14/01/2027 : Nieuwjaarsreceptie Werkgroep Endovasculaire Heelkunde - TBD
- * 17-18/02/2027 : Abbott@BSVS : roundtable session - Bioresorbable scaffolding following DCB
- * 20/03/2027 : Annual General Assembly BSVS - Living Tomorrow Vilvoorde

We have started with regularly organised Webinars on hot topics, to provide all members enough possibilities for education and accreditation.

* 19/10/2026 : Renzan relaunch webinar - Terumo

* 09/12/2026 : "Optimal amputation care" - VIGO

* 17/12/2026 : Shockwave

12/11/2026 : IVascular@BSVS : "When INNOVATION challenges EXPERIENCE"



ONLINE REGISTRATION



Accreditation via the BSVS

Join us at
Living Tomorrow

Webinar commercial Partner

More info

Monday, October 19, 2026

WEBINAR FemPop stenting

Renzan
Peripheral Stent System

Next gen, interwoven & repositionable



Registration



BYF



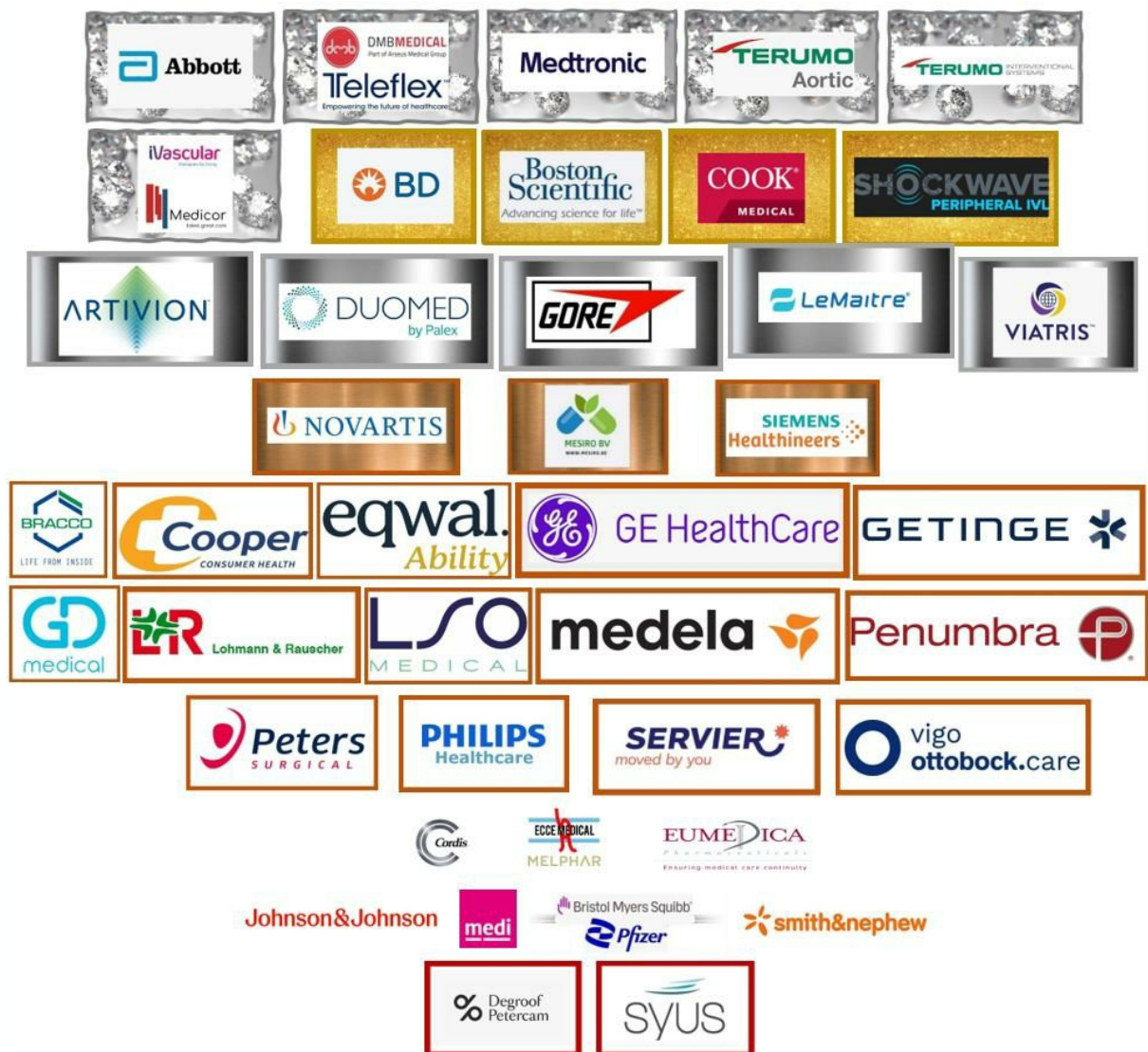
During the year multiple workshops are being organised by the Workgroup BYF. These can be found on our website.

More info

details will follow on BSVS.info + events or socials
(Instagram, Whatsapp NewsChannel, LinkedIn)
iVascular Endovascular Beginners
Workshop - Barcelona
Carotid Stenting Workshop
BD Rotarex Workshop
Terumo Embolisation Workshop @ ORSI
BYF Evening session(s)
Advanced Vascular Cadaver Course
Belgian Surgical Week - Vascular Forum

More info

SPONSORS



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