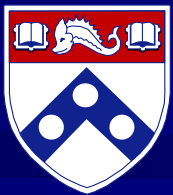


Cardiothoracic Surgery Collaborative Clinical Research Opportunities

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PENN Surgery

Scientific Gaps and Opportunities

- A randomized prospective study of surgical bypass Vs. endovascular repair of popliteal artery aneurysms.
- A randomized prospective study of surgical bypass Vs. endovascular management for critical limb ischemia.
- A comparative study of carotid endarterectomy Vs. carotid stenting prior to CABG in patients with severe carotid stenosis, symptomatic or otherwise.

Scientific Gaps and Opportunities

- Current best management of asymptomatic carotid stenosis: aspirin/plavix/statin medical therapy Vs. carotid intervention.
- Comparative study of branched aortic endografting Vs open repair for aortic aneurysms involving the visceral segment.
- A randomized study to define the optimal approach for the residual type B dissection following open Type A dissection repair: “frozen elephant stent” Vs no stent and watchful waiting.

Scientific Gaps and Opportunities

- Ideal endovascular management of infrapopliteal occlusive disease: Drug coated balloons Vs. standard PTA.
- Given the poor long term survival following EVAR and TEVAR (reported mortality rates as high as 40% for EVAR at 4 years and 20% for TEVAR at 1 year), we need to identify variables and methods to predict poor survival following aortic endovascular procedures.
- Prediction models for aortic rupture and dissection

Current Priority

- Defining new strategies for stroke prevention (> 8%) during TAVI (transcatheter aortic valve implantation) as well as other aortic arch endovascular interventions for aneurysmal disease.