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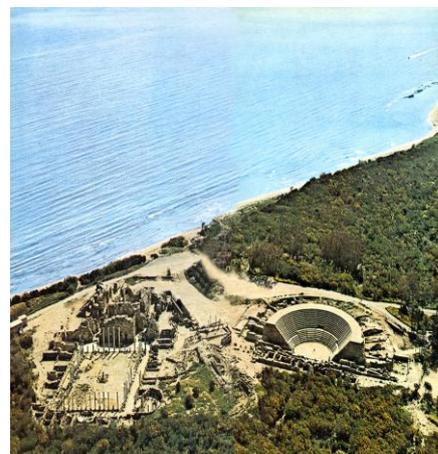
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**Fig 1. Panoramic view of the
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**NEWS IN ANGIOLOGY AND
VASCULAR SURGERY IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN REGION**

The 17th Mediterranean Congress of Angiology and Vascular Surgery took place in conjunction with the 17th European Congress of the International Union of Angiology in the HILTON ParK Hotel, Lefkosia, Cyprus, from the 24th to the 28th of April 2007. **Cyprus**, the legendary birthplace of **Aphrodite**, is an island situated in the north-eastern basin of the Mediterranean sea, at the crossroads of Europe, Africa and Asia. The legend of the birth of Aphrodite, emerging through the sea waves, can be compared to the geological birth of Cyprus, in the sense that the island rose from the sea 92 million years ago. This sun-drenched island has been at the crossroads of world events for centuries. 10.000 years of history and culture have left Cyprus a heritage rich in historical and artistic treasures, Byzantine monasteries, ruins of Greek and Roman monuments and Venetian castles. **Nicosia** or **Lefkosia** is an administrative, political, educational, commercial and industrial centre, the capital of Cyprus. Lefkosia is the last divided capital in Europe as a result of the Turkish invasion in 1974. The heart of the city is enclosed by walls built by the Venetians in the 16th century. Cyprus is well known for its warm **hospitality**. The island's cousin offers a rich variety of local **meze** dishes, as well as **traditional music** and **dancing**. Meze, meaning "little bites", is a real feast to enjoy at a leisurely pace. It consists of a number of savoury dips, crusty village bread and an array of seasonal dishes. The perfect accompanying drink is local wine and the toast made is "stin igia sou" meaning "to your good health"!

The **Scientific program** was

outstanding. It composed of 17 Round Tables, 17 Lectures and 120 oral Presentations and Posters. The sequence of events was as follows:

Wednesday (25/4/07)

The scientific program started with **two** important **Round Tables** concerning the "New International guidelines for the prevention and treatment of venous thromboembolism" R. Hull presented the "Problem and the need for education". Then A. Nicolaidis talked about the "New IUA guidelines", and J. Fareed about "Cancer and venous thromboembolism". In Part II, J. Fareed talked about "Anticoagulation and pharmacological options in the management of VTE", E. Kalodiki



Fig 2: The choir of Kyrenia Refugees Association "Adouloti Kerinia" singing at the Opening Ceremony

about "The role of low molecular weight heparins in the management of VTE", J. Walenga about "The heparin induced thrombocytopenia", and W. Haque about "Thrombolysis in the management of VTE and PE". Finally, A. Halaris did the invited discussion. The **scientific program** continued with three **opening lectures**: N. Angelides looked into "The ever changing face of

Vascular Surgery”, J.Fernandes gave “**The Balas Lecture**” and finally, J. Jacobson talked about “Microsurgery, a personal Reminiscence”.



Fig 3: The Minister of Labour and Social Insurance Dr A. Vasiliou during the opening ceremony presents an honorary plaque and a statue of Aphrodite to Prof Balas.

Then, the **Opening Ceremony** took place in a packed main auditorium.



Fig 4: The Minister of Health declares open the pharmaceutical exhibition.

Thursday (26/4/07)

The Scientific Program of the **main auditorium** started with **two lectures**: J. Walenga tried to answer the question: “Are low molecular weight heparin different?” while A. Nicolaidis talked about “Novel biomarkers of cardiovascular disease”

These two lectures followed by the **Round table** “What is new in Angiology-Part I”. N. Kipshidze talked about “Innovations in Vascular Surgery- drug eluting grafts: Results from experimental and clinical studies”. Then P. Gloviczki talked about “Popliteal artery aneurysms: open or endovascular management?” and L. Norgren about “Microdialysis- evaluation of metabolic consequences of vascular interventions”. Finally, P. Poredos presented “The erectile dysfunction: a window to the heart” and J. Panneton “The impact of subintimal angioplasty in the management of critical limb ischaemia”. The **Round Table** “What is new in Angiology-Part II” followed immediately after the interval.



Fig 5: N. Nicolaidis, J. Jacobson and S. Novo during the Opening Ceremony

P. Bergeron presented “Surgical and endovascular techniques to treat arch pathology” and B. B. Lee “The long term outcome of endovascular and surgical management of suprahepatic vena cava occlusive disease: primary Budd Chiari syndrome”. Then, P. Kalman tried to answer the question “Intervention for mesenteric occlusive disease: open vs. endovascular”. Finally, Sir P. Bell gave an analysis on “Vascular Surgery-Completion of the

circle”



Fig 6: The colourful poster of the 17th EUROCHAP and 17th MLAVS Congress in the main auditorium. On the panel are N. Angelides, Ch. Elisseos and the representative of the Cyprus Telecommunication Authority, which was the main sponsor of the Congress.

In the **second auditorium** two **Round Tables** took place: The first one was about “Education”. M. Cairols analysed “Endovascular training for the vascular specialist” and Ch. Liapis “The surgical training for the vascular specialist” Then, F. Benedetti-Valentini talked about “Assessment of competence of the vascular trainee” and J.



Fig 7: J. Fernandes, President of IUA during one of the sessions.

Fernandes tried to answer the question “How much training should

provide for the vascular specialist?” Finally P. Carpentier talked about “Patients education: a new challenge for vascular medicine”

The next **Round Table** dealt with “The vulnerable atherosclerotic plaque”. N. Kipshidze analysed “The treatment of the vulnerable plaque”, N. Nicolaides “The screening for cardiovascular risk”, P. Poredos “The markers of preclinical atherosclerosis”, S. Novo “The role of markers for early atherosclerosis in primary and secondary prevention” and finally, G. Biasi dealt with “Carotid plaque the emerging predictor of stroke”. The morning program closed with a **Lecture** by L. Norgren on “The role of Task II”



Fig 8: The main auditorium during one of the sessions

The afternoon sessions started in the main Auditorium with a **Round Table** on “Abdominal aortic aneurysms-Part I”. G. Deriu presented “The endovascular treatment of AAA: suprarenal and infrarenal fixation”. Ch. Liapis “The endovascular treatment of AAA: when and why?”; C. Clonaris presented “The challenges of endovascular treatment of AAA’s” and finally, M. Cairols analysed the “Endovascular techniques for solving the late complications of EVAR”. After the interval, there was another **Round Table** on “AAA-Part II”:

G. Biasi presented “The embolism in endografts”. J. Panneton “The aortic primary and graft infections”; G. Kaoutzianis presented “The



Fig 9: The main auditorium

surgical and medical treatment of dissecting aortic aneurysms: When and why?” P. Bell analysed “The endovascular treatment of ruptured AAA” and finally, P. Gloviczki “The current indications for open and endovascular treatment of aortic aneurysms at Mayo Clinic”.



Fig 10: The second auditorium

In the second auditorium, there was another **Round Table** on “Venous and lymphatics-Part I”. B. B. Lee presented “The changing concept of venous malformation management” and E. Hussein gave an analysis of “The Mediterranean study on venous insufficiency”. Then, C. Cambisi

presented “Dysplasias of the thoracic duct and related syndromes” and P. Antignani “The role of scores in the evaluation of CVD”. Finally, E. Kalodiki analysed “The sequential pneumatic compression device” giving an account on “Haemodynamic and clinical studies on venous ulcers”. After the interval there was another **Round Table** on “Renal artery stenosis”. A. Pierides presented “The pathophysiology of the problem”. A. Polydorou “The renal angioplasty: whether a myth or reality?” and finally C. Klonaris “The percutaneous renal revascularization in solitary functioning kidney”



Fig 11: N. Angelides, President of MLAVS and President of the Congress

Thursday’s scientific program closed with a Keynote Lecture by D. Clement on “What about cardiovascular disease in women?”

Friday (27/4/07)

The Scientific Program started with a keynote Lecture delivered by P. Bergeron on “Endovascular Treatment of thoracic aortic dissections”. This was followed by four **Round Tables**, two in the main and another two in the second auditorium. One was on “Carotid artery disease”. A. Nicolaidis

presented “The stable and unstable atherosclerotic plaques: their detection and significance”. Then G. Biasi analysed “The status for indications for treatment of patients with carotid artery disease”. Finally, Sir Peter Bell gave an account on “Treatment options for patients with carotid artery disease: which one and why”.

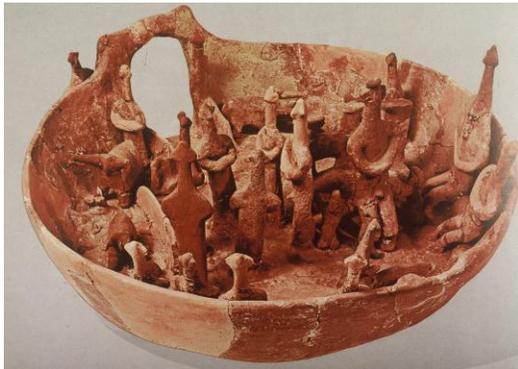


Fig 12: A typical Neolithic finding showing the way of living in Cyprus as a community.

A life demonstration followed by connecting the main auditorium with the endovascular laboratory of the new Nicosia General Hospital. A



Fig 13: The medieval church of St Sofia in the occupied part of Lefkosia

repair of severe carotid artery stenosis

was performed. In between, a **lecture** was given: “How to harmonize objective and unbiased clinical validation of new drugs” by R. Hull.



Fig 14: A well preserved ancient Mosaic in Cyprus.

In the second auditorium there was a **Round Table** on “Peripheral arterial disease”. D. Clement presented “The

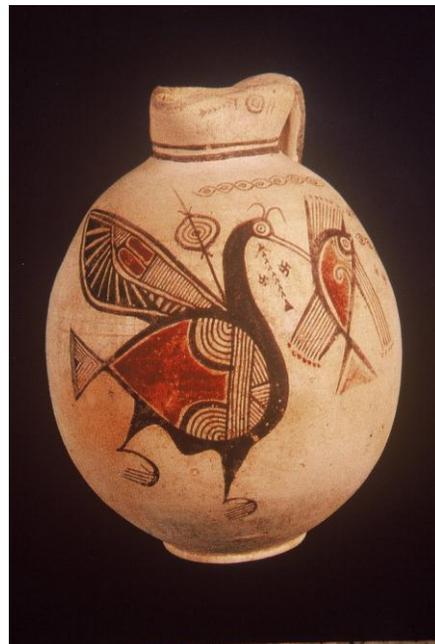


Fig 17: Typical archaeological findings (2000 years B.C.)

control of hypertension in PAD patients,

S. Novo “The subclinical peripheral atherosclerosis as marker influencing the outcome of the patients”. P. Carpentier dealt with “The hidden face of Raynaud’s phenomenon and scleroderma” and P. Poredos “The secondary prevention of PAD” . After the break, there was another **Round Table** on “Peripheral arterial disease-Part II”. Sir P. Bell analysed “subintimal angioplasty”. J. Fernandes talked about “The new horizons for the treatment of critical limb ischaemia”. P. Kalman on “Aortoiliac occlusive disease: which lesion should be ballooned, stented or operated?” K. Roztocil on “Intermittent claudication the actual strategy of treatment” and finally G. Andreozzi “The physical training in the treatment of PAD”.



Fig 15: Restored Neolithic village in Cheroikia, Cyprus

continued with another **Lecture** under the title “Do effects of preventive measures depend on location of the atherosclerotic process?” presented by P. Poredos. The morning sessions came to an end with the delivery of **Strano’s Lecture** by S. Novo on “Multifocal atherosclerosis influencing the outcome of patients with acute and chronic coronary artery disease”.



FIG 16: Moufflon is an animal characteristic of Cyprus

The afternoon sessions started with a **keynote lecture**, delivered by N. Kipshidze, on “Cell therapy for cardiovascular disease”. Four **Round Tables** followed.. The first one, in the main auditorium, dealt with “carotid disease-Part II”. D. Mickailides talked about “Best medical treatment of carotid artery disease. M. Henry presented “Angioplasty of carotid artery and stenting under protection”. P. Bergeron “The long term results of carotid stenting” and A. Polydorou “The management of concomitant coronary and carotid artery disease”. Finally, P. Kalman presented “Interventions on carotid artery: open vs. endovascular”. A second **life demonstration** followed in the main auditorium, with the endovascular repair of a difficult AAA. In the same place a **Consensus Meeting** took place on “The development of generic low molecular weight heparins”, in order to see if there are any guidelines on this matter. In the second auditorium a **Round Table** on “Miscellaneous” took place. J Vilaverde presented “The economic consequences of cardiovascular Disease”. P. Gloviczki “The results and pitfalls of endovenous thermal ablation

of saphenous veins". Finally, R Simkin presented "Combined surgery with endoluminal laser in varicose veins" and "Transdermal laser in the treatment of telangiectasias"

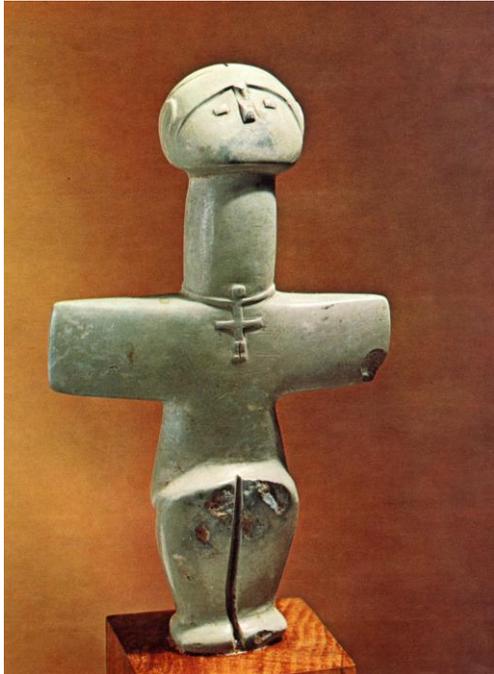


Fig 16: a cross-like Neolithic formation found in Cyprus.

The next **Round Table** was on "Venous and lymphatics-Part II". C. Elisseos analysed "Pathophysiology of chronic venous disease". And K. Roztocill the reappearance of varicose veins after surgery", trying to see "whether this is predictable". The afternoon sessions ended with a **Keynote Lecture** delivered by A. Halliday on "The ACST trials"

Saturday (28/4/07)

The last day of the scientific program was devoted to several lectures and a Round Table on "Cardiometabolic risk factors management" A. Nicolaides presented "ultrasonic

arterial wall features and the metabolic syndrome". D. Mickailides talked about "The medical treatment of metabolic disorders" and L. van Gaal about "The management of intra-abdominal obesity". The **Lectures** were delivered by J. Fareed "New anticoagulant and antithrombotic drugs" and C. Cambisi "The modern surgical management of peripheral lymphoedema.(with a DVD presentation).



Fig. 17: The seafront of Larnaka

Next MLAVS Meetings:

During the Executive MLAVS Meeting In Nicosia, it was decided the **18th MLAVS Congress** will take place in **Cairo** in January 2008, in conjunction with the **3d AFROCHAP**. This Meeting will be organised by Prof. E. Hussein.

The **19th MLAVS Congress** will be organised by Prof. S. Novo and P. Antignani in **Palermo Sicily**, in 2009. Finally, the **20th MLAVS Congress** will take place in **Slovenia** in 2010, organised by Prof. P. Poredos.

This Edition of MEDLET has been compiled by the President of MLAVS Prof. N. Angelides. (ISSN No 1450-2062)

