

# Applying To An Integrated Vascular Surgery Residency



**Panelists:** Elizabeth Miranda, MD, MPH (PGY-5 at University of Southern California) and Alaska Pendleton, MD (PGY-5 at Massachusetts General Hospital)

## 1. Training

- i. 5 year residency: includes general surgery rotations in early PGY years followed by focus in vascular surgery
- ii. Focuses on medical management, endovascular care, and open surgical procedures of vascular patients
- iii. Many programs require or offer 1-2 research years

## 2. How To Approach Your Residency Application & Interviews

- a. Sub-Is
  - i. Not necessary but can help you learn more about specific programs and what it is like to live in that region
  - ii. Small vascular community (programs talk to each other) so can help/hurt
  - iii. Try to be fully committed and work your best for those 4 weeks!
- b. You are interviewing them as much as they are interviewing you!
- c. If interested in research make sure you do what makes you happy/passionate in interviews
  - i. Ask faculty at medical schools to join in research or writing book chapters
- d. Make it known you are interested in global surgery and see how they respond (be prepared to be asked how to integrate vascular and global surgery)
  - i. Resource intensive in HICs but still a need in LMICs, think of it on a larger scale (risk factor modification, wound care, proper amputations, vascular trauma training, dialysis resources, etc.)

## 3. Choosing A Residency Program

- a. Open to extra research years or earning other degrees (ex. MPH)? How is research funded?
- b. Ratio of open to endovascular cases, caseload, number of attendings, dedicated teaching/education time?
- c. Strength of general surgery program?
  - i. You spend a lot of time with the general surgery team on rotations and general surgery has historically been very involved in global surgery

## 4. Seeking Mentorship

- a. Not many vascular surgeons are specifically involved in global surgery YET so don't be afraid to seek out mentorship elsewhere at the institution (ex. general surgery or emergency medicine)

## 5. Resources

- a. List of vascular surgeons involved in global surgery
  - i. Dr. Girma Tefera, University of Wisconsin, strong partnership in Ethiopia
  - ii. Dr. Alan Dardik, Yale, book "Vascular Surgery: A Global Perspective"
- b. Program in Global Surgery and Social Change, Harvard