

SSA STRATEGY 2024-2028

Angiology is a leading force in advancing vascular health and care within Switzerland.

VISION

Our vision encompasses the pursuit of excellence in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and research of vascular health and diseases, while fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, research, innovation, and education.

We aspire to be a trusted resource for healthcare professionals, patients, and the community, dedicated to improving outcomes and quality of life for individuals affected by vascular conditions.

MISSION

Main mission is to reduce the burden of vascular diseases!

Promoting Excellence in Vascular Care: Develop and disseminate evidence-based guidelines and best practices to enhance quality and delivery of vascular care, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration among healthcare professionals to optimize patient outcomes.

Educating and Empowering Professionals and Patients: Provide comprehensive educational programs and resources to healthcare professionals to enhance their knowledge and skills in vascular medicine, while also raising awareness among patients and the public about vascular diseases, prevention strategies, and available treatment options to empower informed decision-making and promote vascular health.

Advancing Research and Innovation: Support and promote research initiatives aimed at advancing the understanding of vascular diseases, developing innovative diagnostic and treatment modalities, and improving patient outcomes and quality of life through continuous scientific advancement.

Swiss Society for Angiology: The SSA promotes the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of vascular diseases through research, education, and practice. We focus on continuous professional development and interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure excellent patient care. Our goal is to set standards and raise awareness of vascular health. Together, we shape the future of angiology and improve the health of the population.

VALUES

Integrity
Responsibility
Culture
Authenticity

Transparency
Expertise
Reliability
Loyalty

Teamwork
Consensus
Collaboration
Competency

4 STRATEGIC AXES

Focus on Patient care: Adapting and strengthening the vascular Diagnostic and Treatment Portfolio for the Future

Strategic Axes	Strategic Approach
Cardiovascular prevention	Expansion of Areas of Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Concept for primary and secondary prevention coordinated by angiologists including Swiss guidelines/position papers in collaboration with the general physicians and/or Swissprevent considering a digital tool and including the rehab program Angiofit.
Venous diseases	Certificates of Competence: SGUM/ETA/Phlebology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensuring representation of angiology on the ETA Board – Informing new specialists about the certificates of competence – Improving communication to explain the necessity of these certifications
Arterial diseases	Position angiology in interventional angiology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Initiative for education and training in endovascular treatment: Congresses and exam – Create a Grant for Interventional Education and define the criteria
Lymphatic diseases	Alignment of the SSA in the field of the lymphatic system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Participation to international guidelines (ESVM 2025) – Participation to guidelines of the German-Speaking Lymphology Association (GLA) – Establish an Educational Program in Swiss Clinics providing lymphatics management for young trainees to increase awareness
Rare vascular diseases	Contribute to the development of the Swiss VASC-RN network
Patient Education Material	Harmonization and Strengthening of Patient Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Collect, Further Develop, and Publish Existing Patient Information Materials as Downloads

Focus on Education: Strengthen and Develop Focus on Post-graduate Education and Continuing Training

Strategic Axes	Strategic Approach
Young angiologists	Offer more educational opportunities to the next generation <p>Ensuring representation of angiology on the ETA Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Continue the annual Angiology refresher Course for exam attendees and senior residents – Develop opportunities for interventional angiology training (superficial and deep venous, and arterial) considering a PTA grant – Further development of ultrasound courses by the Vascular Section of the SGUM.
Established angiologists	Develop continuing education programs for specialist physicians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Develop and offer new training formats such as webinars, angiology day on specific topics. – Communicate training programs and national and international congresses through the website.
Teachers	Supporting the teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promoting the "Teach the Teacher" Courses by SIWF Initiative for education in peripheral interventional angiology (PTA): PTA-Exam, Congresses and PTA exam – Try to get Pilot-Association for Teach-the-Teacher-Programs with SIWF
EPA	Supporting the new competence-based medical education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Implement EPA for the specialty curriculum in angiology and subsequently for the competency program in interventional angiology

Focus on Research and innovation: Strengthen and develop initiatives to enhance research and innovation in the field of angiology.

Strategic Axes	Strategic Approach
Guidelines and recommendations	Promote Continuous Improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established an SSA-Guideline/consensus papers Commission Conduct a comprehensive review of existing guidelines, literature and research to gather the most current and relevant evidence and publish them commented on the website
Registers and data	Develop a robust and comprehensive national data framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a Survey: Send an inquiry to all Swiss angiologists to identify existing registries and understand how the data has been utilized and provide an overview of the nationwide database Create a national register for intervention
SSA research prize	Annual Angiology Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSA grants the Angiology Award. Every year, this award recognizes outstanding scientific work by young Swiss angiologists

Focus on SSA as a Society: Strengthen and develop initiatives to ensure the SSA remains the leading society for Swiss vascular medicine.

Strategic Axes	Strategic Approach
Positioning	Certificate of competence in phlebology, SGUM Sonography Coordination with SGUM/SGP for automatic acquisition of the certificates of competence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install representatives of SSA in various boards: p.ex. phlebology title board
Networking	ETA certificate of competence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish collaboration to harmonize the requirements of the ETA certificate of competence Install representatives of SSA ETA board (phlebology title board)
Organization	Strengthening the Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct early and strategic succession planning within the committee. Regularly review and adapt as needed mode of board organization Gather participation and involvement to further unity of the society Enhance communication within the board and the trainings centers, increase collaboration among them and establish dedicated meetings
Tariffs	Strengthening and Developing Angiology Tariffs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work together with interdisciplinary boards as SGUM Tariff Resort Work on fair reimbursement Control correct application of tariffs
Long term perspective	Securing the Association for the Future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure financing and coordinated budget planning. Ensure and strengthening of network Periodic review and further develop fundamentals such as strategy and statutes.