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Invited Review

Is there a place for a (Virtual) European Network and reference centers on Pelvic Venous Disease (PeVD)? Thinktank?

Marald Wikkeling[1], Suat Doganci[2]

[1]Heelkunde Friesland, MCL and Hospital Nij Smellinghe, Department of Vascular Surgery, Friesland, The Netherlands
[2]Vein Vascular Clinics, Ankara, Türkiye

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Abstract

The creation of a virtual European network and reference centers, targeted at Pelvic venous disease, holds promising potential for the medical and research communities. Nevertheless, effective implementation of the initiative necessitates prudent planning, funding, and support. The establishment of such networks and reference centers requires certain considerations. We will elaborate on these considerations and are there best practices? The development from reference centers into (virtual) networks and even thinktanks is a precarious process of which is making its way from infancy to adulthood.

Keywords: Pelvic venous disease, European network, thinktank

INTRODUCTION

Considerations

The establishment of a virtual European network and reference centers [1,2] focused on Pelvic venous disease is certainly a potential avenue to explore, and it could serve valuable purposes in the medical and research communities. However, such an initiative would likely require careful planning, funding, and support to be successful. Here are some considerations for the creation of a network and reference centers [3-6].

1. Need and Justification: It's essential to establish a clear need for such a network and reference centers. Pelvic Venous Disease is a medical condition that can be challenging to diagnose and manage, so demonstrating the need for specialized centers is important.

2. Awareness and Education: A network of reference centers can help raise awareness about Pelvic Venous Disease, both among medical professionals and the public. Educational resources, webinars, and information dissemination can help ensure early diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

3.1. Research and Education: These centers could serve as hubs for research and education. They can facilitate collaboration among European medical professionals, researchers, and specialists, fostering the exchange of knowledge and advancements in the field.

3.2. Research and Data Collection: Establishing a network can facilitate collaboration among researchers, doctors, and healthcare institutions. This collaboration can lead to more comprehensive data collection, which is essential for understanding the condition, its prevalence, and the effectiveness of different treatment approaches.

4. Clinical Expertise: Reference centers can serve as hubs of clinical expertise, where medical professionals specializing in Pelvic Venous Disease can provide the best care and advice to patients. It can be a place for second opinions and complex case management.

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Corresponding Author: Marald Wikkeling, Heelkunde Friesland, MCL and Hospital Nij Smellinghe, Department of Vascular Surgery, Friesland, The Netherlands
Email: owikkeling@heelkundefriesland.nl

4.1. Telemedicine and Virtual Networks: A virtual network can be a cost-effective way to connect specialists, researchers, and healthcare providers across Europe. Telemedicine can be used for consultations, knowledge sharing, and educational purposes.

4.2. International Collaboration: Consider the potential for collaboration with other international organizations or centers focused on similar issues. Collaborative efforts can lead to greater research opportunities and shared expertise.

4.3. Treatment Standardization: By connecting healthcare providers across Europe, you can work toward standardizing the diagnosis and treatment protocols for Pelvic Congestion Syndrome. This can improve the quality of care and reduce variations in practices.

4.4. Regulation and Accreditation: Depending on the services offered, there may be a need for regulatory oversight and accreditation to ensure high standards of care and research integrity.

4.5. Funding and Sustainability: The establishment and maintenance of such centers will require funding. Exploring sources of funding, both public and private, is crucial for long-term sustainability.

5. Patient Care: Specialized centers can also provide high-quality care for patients suffering from Pelvic Venous Disease. They can offer comprehensive diagnostic services, treatment options, and support for patients.

6. Patient Support and Advocacy: Such a network can also support patients and their advocacy groups. It can be a platform for patients to share their experiences, get guidance, and advocate for better awareness and care.

7. Research and Innovation: Think tanks within the network can focus on research, innovation, and emerging treatment options. They can drive research projects, clinical trials, and support the development of new techniques or technologies for diagnosing and treating Pelvic Venous Disease.

8. Funding and Policy Advocacy: Networks and think tanks can also play a role in advocating for funding, policies, and guidelines that support PeVD research, awareness, and treatment.

9. Legal and Ethical Considerations: Be mindful of legal and ethical considerations, including patient privacy, informed consent, and data management.

10. Think Tank and Expert Advisory Panel: Establishing a think tank or expert advisory panel can help guide the development and ongoing activities of the network and reference centers. This panel can consist of experts in the field, healthcare professionals, researchers, and patient advocates.

CONCLUSION

The success of such a network and think tank will depend on collaboration, funding, and support from medical professionals, patient groups, and healthcare institutions. It's essential to involve experts in the field and gather stakeholders who are passionate about advancing the understanding and treatment of Pelvic Venous Disease in Europe.

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