

Mahmood Razavi, MD

Interventional Radiology

Please share your professional background and how it led you to your current practice at St. Joseph Hospital.

After doing an Interventional Radiology fellowship at Stanford I was on the UCLA faculty, then after a year went back to Stanford to be on its faculty from 1995 to 2005. I came here in late 2005 for an interesting opportunity: marrying the best of academics and private practice with Vascular and Interventional Specialists of Orange County, Inc (VISOC). After interviewing here it was clear that VISOC and the hospital Administration shared my vision of building a center of excellence in vascular care.

We've achieved a lot in the last five years. It's been a challenging and rewarding experience, and St. Joseph Hospital is definitely becoming a destination center for the treatment of peripheral vascular disease. Clinicians from elsewhere, and many who are close to home, understand the capabilities of our program as compared to any other center throughout the country.



This is where new therapies come. Just yesterday, I received a call from Pfizer about a new drug they are interested in having us investigate.

Although a fair amount of my time is spent on routine interventional cases, I'm managing patients with a broad spectrum of vascular conditions. I'm excited about doing more image-guided therapies for our cancer patients. In addition, I'm very active in recruiting patients to clinical studies that offer care-changing treatments which would not otherwise be available, such as NIH-sponsored trials for patients with DVT, claudication, carotid disease, etc. For example, we have the second highest enrollment in the country in the ATTRACT trial (Acute Venous Thrombosis: Thrombus Removal with Adjunctive Catheter-Directed Thrombolysis).

Explain the work you've begun with chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency (CCSVI) and Multiple Sclerosis (MS).

Based on preliminary studies from Italy, there is a correlation between CCSVI and

the magnitude of certain symptoms in patients with MS. Many ongoing studies currently investigate various aspects of this finding. Improvement in symptoms has been reported in patients with MS and CCSVI undergoing angioplasty. SJHVC is initiating a program to actively recruit patients with MS and CCSVI to add to the scientific data on the subject

Tell us about your professional affiliations.

I have many professional responsibilities. Among them are: Editor-in-Chief of *Techniques in Vascular and Interventional Radiology*; editorial board member for the *Journal of Endovascular Therapy*, *Vascular Interventional Radiology* and *Endovascular Today*; and reviewer for multiple other publications, including *Circulation*. I also serve on the American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular Radiology and Intervention, and chair the scientific program for the Society of Interventional Radiology.

What do you enjoy outside of your work?

I love going to my 16-year-old son's basketball games and my 14-year-old daughter's volleyball games. When I'm not writing and editing I enjoy martial arts and cycling.



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