

## "The Symptoms-Varices-Pathophysiology classification of Pelvic Venous Disorders"

Meissner MH, et al. 2021



### Highlights:

1. New definitions for symptoms and signs
2. Development of a discriminative classification instrument for PeVD

### Background

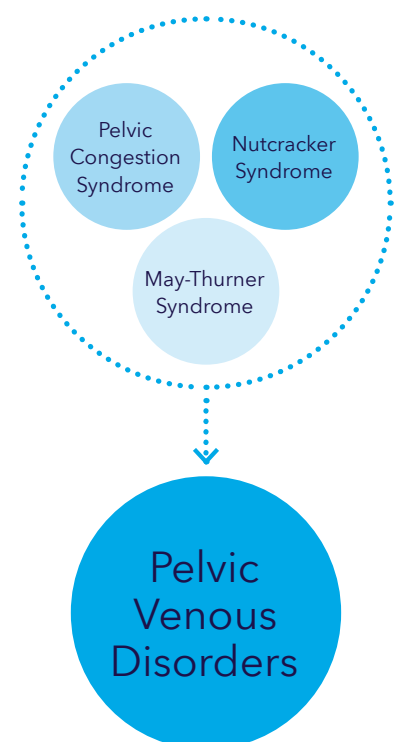
- The importance of Pelvic Venous Disorders (PeVD) has become increasingly recognized over the past decade.
- Progress in the field has been limited by the lack of a valid and reliable classification instrument, leading to diagnostic errors and suboptimal treatment outcomes – as well as to a difficult interpretation of the literature.
- From a research perspective, appropriate patient classification is important in ensuring homogenous patient populations for the development of disease-specific outcome instruments and clinical trials.

### Study objective

To develop a discriminative classification instrument for PeVD.

### Materials and methods

- An International Working Group on PeVD has been convened in Chicago, Illinois, on July 27, 2018. International societies representing the broad spectrum of specialties involved in PeVD patients' care were invited to participate.
- A discriminative instrument - which included key components of the disease that are stable and have a limited number of options and clear definitions - has been used to classify patients.
- This instrument, the Symptoms-Varices-Pathophysiology ("SVP") classification for PeVD, was created to define the diverse patient populations with PeVD, to develop disease-specific outcome measures and to identify homogenous patient populations for clinical trials. Misleading historical nomenclature, such as the May-Thurner, Pelvic Congestion, and Nutcracker syndromes, were all designed as PeVD.



## Results

- New definitions for symptoms and signs.
- Historic syndromes will be now designated according the new nomenclature.

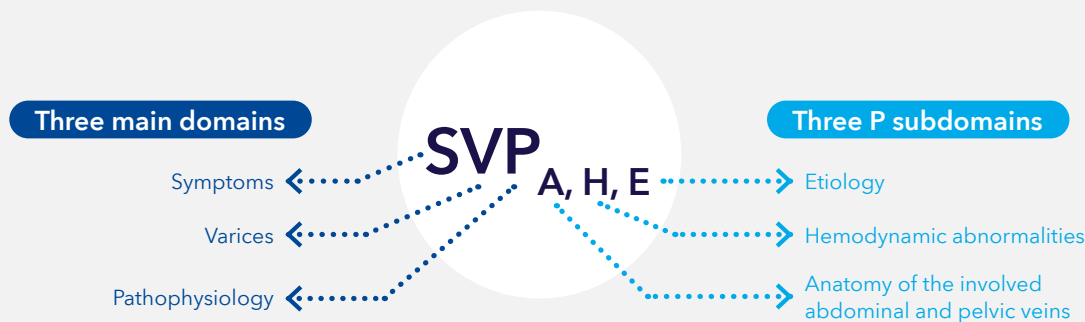
### Historical Classification:

- **Chronic pelvic pain** due to bilateral primary ovarian vein reflux
- Dilated, **refluxing left ovarian vein**
- Associated with **multiple pelvic varicosities**
- **Right ovarian vein reflux** is also present
- **No obstruction** of the left renal or common iliac veins
- **No internal iliac reflux**

### SVP Classification:

**S<sub>2</sub>V<sub>2</sub>P<sub>BGV,R,NT</sub>**

- The new patient's Pelvic Venous Disorders classification is designated as SVP<sub>A,H,E</sub> where:
  - S (symptoms), V (varices) and P (pathophysiology) identify the three main domains.
  - A (anatomy of the involved abdominal and pelvic veins), H (associated hemodynamic abnormalities) and E (underlying etiology) correspond to the three P subdomains.



- Smart phone applications to assist in classification are available on the American Vein and Lymphatic Society (AVLS) website (<https://myavls.org/svp>).

## Conclusions

The Symptoms-Varices-Pathophysiology instrument will facilitate clinical communication, allow treatment to be more precisely directed, and facilitate the development of patient-reported outcome measures and clinical trials.

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### Reference

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