

## ***Fausto Passariello (Napoli) : The What-MD Classification for venous interventions.***

on behalf of the WHAT-MD Group

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### Introduction

The idea of using a synthetic representation for the description of venous therapeutic choices was proposed on February 2010 on Vasculab.

The version 5 release 1 was presented in the UIP Congress of Prague, 2011.

In analogy to CEAP or other Score Methods, the classification has a short name: W-HAT-MD, (the classification of Dr. WHAT) which takes its name from the sequence of items:

Letter	Description
W	Where
H	How
vessel	
A	Agent
T	Trunk
-	
MD	Method Details

### Composition rules

The V letter for Venous is a constant inserted to detail the venous system.

Add a hyphen between W and H and another between T and MD.

Add a comma, inside one letter in order to avoid ambiguity, when required. A comma separates items in the same description level.

Add a "+" sign to link several interventions together

Use parentheses and the order of symbols for combined features.

## Discussion

Being the classification as wide as we can require, the be upgraded with new symbols.

Undoubtedly there will be an initial difficulty in adopting these acronyms. So let us explain a practical issue.

Many people use a fixed technique. Generally, they choose a procedure maybe once and behave accordingly.

In a PC program you can set your ordinary default choices. These choices will be reported automatically, they will be not a problem for you, but will clearly set the difference with the treatments of others.

## Example

Two phlebologists perform sclerotherapy with the same agent and the same volume, but have different adverse effects. This fact could be unexplainable, until you note the different length of their catheters, which means also a different dead space and so a different effective volume.

Using the electronically compiled WHAT-MD classification you specify this automatically and the difference between the two procedures becomes.

The WHAT-MD proposal is a cooperative work. Comments are freely welcome and the List of Contributors will be accordingly extended in next releases.

## Reference

Passariello F, Hogue R, Goldman MP, Lee BB, Morrison N, Caggiati A, Sica M. On behalf of the WHAT-MD Group:

The WHAT-MD classification for the venous interventions. The pre-release preliminary version 4. Acta Phlebologica 2011; 12:21-5.