



# Impact of work status and age when choosing mode of AAA repair

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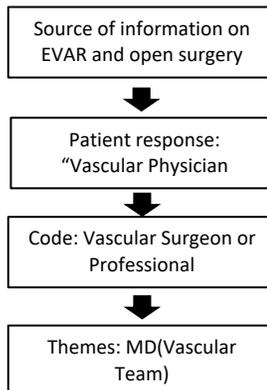
## Introduction

The Preferences for Open versus endovascular repair of abdominal aortic aneurysm ( PROVE-AAA) trial was a randomized trial assessing different methods to inform veterans regarding their choices for aneurysm repair.

Optimal AAA repair requires a shared decision-making process to achieve high alignment of patient goals, medical outcomes, and general satisfaction. As part of the prove AAA study, this presentation seeks to further to assess preference based a subject's age and work status ***as part of a larger goal to identify factors and information sources*** that influenced each patient's preference between OSR and EVAR

## Methods

- **PROVE-AAA:** 235 veterans from 23 VA
- **Qualitative analysis Method:**
- Answers were transcribed and imported into an excel document
- Iterative review ( coding, thematic generation)
- Data generation and analysis
- Age and work status analysis



## Results

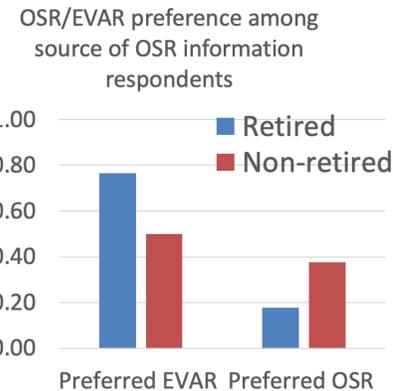
Your main source of information regarding Open Surgery?

**Total Responses: 42**

Themes	Code Count
MD (Vascular team)	35 (16)
Non-MD Medical Staff	9
Personal research/experience	6
Non-medical experience/advice	2
Non-VA Hospital	4
VA	4
Wants more Information	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>68</b>

- The most common source of information was from their MD/vascular team
- Almost half of themes indicated a source outside of this group.
- We saw similar results for the responses to the source of EVAR information.

- 81% of retired veterans were over 70
- 58% of not retired (working, unemployed, and disabled) veterans were over 70
- p=.003
- 76% of retired veterans preferred EVAR (18 % preferring open repair)
- Non retired population: 50% preferred EVAR and 38% preferred open.



## Conclusion

- PROVE AAA subjects: retired, received information from outside sources, and prefer EVAR
- However, non-retired veterans were more likely to prefer OSR than retired veterans
- We postulate: Younger, non-retired subjects value the durability and reduced need for follow-up of OSR over EVAR

## Impact and relevance

- The qualitative approach of this study enables us to determine key themes that influence veteran choice in treatment of their AAA.
- In this study, we gain better insight into the themes underlying AAA repair preference in the VA patient population

## LIMITATIONS

- This study is limited by the limited sample size and the self-reporting nature of the questionnaire.
- The unequal and limited sample sizes between retired and non-retired groups, precludes further statistical analysis.
- The self-reporting nature of the questionnaire increases the risk of inaccuracy and sampling and response bias.