



SESSION 290

Vasculitis - A Common Rare Disease

Vasculitis as a group of diseases are surprisingly prevalent. We think of vasculitic diseases as rare but this is partly due to the way such diseases are classified. If you are a GP with a large practice, you likely have a handful of vasculitis patients even though you might not know it. As vasculitides are systemic diseases, their symptoms tend to be highly variable and they often take much longer to diagnose than other diseases. As a GP, particularly in the rural setting, you will be required to make the diagnosis most of the time. This talk outlines the major types of vasculitides, a simple path to diagnosis, how to treat them and when to refer.

1. Background information on vasculitis - ie history and classification of vasculitides.
2. Common presentations of vasculitides.
3. How to diagnose vasculitis.
4. How to begin treatment and when to refer.