



October 10, 2014

The Honorable Phil Gingrey, MD
442 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gene Green
2470 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Gingrey and Green:

On behalf of the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS), a professional medical society composed of over 4,800 specialty-trained vascular surgeons and other medical professionals who are dedicated to the prevention and cure of vascular diseases, I am writing in support of H.R. 3742, the Antibiotics Development to Advance Patient Treatment Act of 2013 (ADAPT). This important legislation would provide incentives for investments and innovation that would accelerate patient access to new antibiotic medications for the treatment of serious, life-threatening infections.

SVS is particularly supportive of streamlining the process by which the Food and Drug Administration informs physicians and medical researchers on the most up-to-date information on antibiotics. Also, we support expanding and strengthening the Centers for Disease Control's monitoring of bacterial resistance and the use of antibiotics to treat serious and life-threatening infections.

Some vascular surgery patients receive prophylactic antibiotics as part of their perioperative care. There are presently three perioperative care quality measures regarding timing, selection and discontinuation of prophylactic antibiotics that vascular surgeons have been reporting on for several years in order to receive Physician Quality Reporting System incentive payments. Antibiotics are also used to treat diabetic vascular disease. It is critical that surgeons receive the most up-to-date information on which to base their decisions on the appropriate use and dosage of antibiotics. We also appreciate that this legislation does not restrict the practice of medicine nor seek to restrain physician clinical decision-making.

We appreciate your introduction of this legislation and look forward to working with you to advance it. If you need additional information, please contact Pamela Phillips, Director of the SVS Washington Office at pPhillips@vascularsociety.org or 202-787-1220.

Sincerely,

Peter F. Lawrence, MD
President
Society for Vascular Surgery