



ISSVD COMMITTEES

On behalf of the leadership of our Society, I am pleased to share with you the enclosed list of our 20 active committees and their current members. These individuals generously dedicate their time, energy, and expertise in support of our shared mission—and we thank them sincerely for their service.

Committee work remains one of the most effective ways to create meaningful and lasting change within our organization and across the broader field. Whether advancing research, shaping educational initiatives, or contributing to the development of terminology and best practices, our committees play a critical role in driving scientific progress and promoting collaboration across disciplines.

Committee appointments are made shortly after each World Congress and run on a two-year cycle. If you are not currently involved, we encourage you to consider participating when the next selection cycle opens in July 2026. Your voice and contributions are vital as we continue working together to shape the future of our field.



TERMINOLOGY COMMITTEE- (Standing Committee)

Chair: Mario Preti

The committee shall consist of five (5) members, including a chairperson. This committee is officially referred to as the Parent Committee on Terminology. Furthermore, each member shall serve as the chairperson of a Sub-Committee, provided they are a Fellow of the ISSVD

Debra Heller

Mario Preti

Amanda Selk

Colleen Stockdale

Pedro Vieira Baptista

Subcommittee: Definition of Sign in LS, Severity Scale

Chair: Amanda Selk

Members:

Heidi Bentley

Carmine Carriero

Kristine Kraus

Melissa Mausker

Mary Gail Mercurio

Virgínia Monteiro

Sydney Rivera

Maria Carmen Rodriguez

Michal Sheinis

Isabel do Val

Kathryn Welch

Subcommittee: VIN Classification

Co-Chair: Mario Preti

Co-Chair: Debra Heller

Members:

Jill Allbritton

Laurel Berry

Federica Bevilacqua

Tania Day

Simona Maria Fragomeni

Claudia Marchitelli

Carlos Parra-Herran

Eleonora Preti

James Scurry

Long Sui

Subcommittee: Vulvodynia: Diagnostic Criteria and Descriptors

Co-Chair: Colleen Stockdale
Co-Chair: Pedro Vieira-Baptista

Members:

Micheline Moyal Barracco

Facundo Gomez Cherey

Niccolò Gallio

Andrew Goldstein

Yara Lucia Mendes Furtado de Melo

Pablo Lázaro Ochaita

Gianluigi Radici

Natalie Saunders

Koray Gorkem Sacinti

Katie Shvartsman

Samar Shoeir



PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

This committee will consist of living Past Presidents of the Society. The chairperson of this committee shall be the immediate Past President, who remains on the Board of Directors and will act as a liaison. The Presidents' Council will make recommendations as deemed appropriate for the continued growth and development of the Society. It may also initiate proposed changes in the bylaws or may be requested to propose changes suggested by the President or the Board of Directors.

Dr. Marilynne McKay

Dr. Jose' Martinez de Oliveira

Dr. Libby Edwards

Dr. Allan B. MacLean

Dr. Micheline Moyal-Barracco

Dr. Jacob Bornstein

Dr. Hope Haefner

Dr. Claudia Marchitelli

Dr. Mario Preti

Dr. Colleen K. Stockdale

Dr. Tanja Bohl (Chair)



PROGRAM COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The Program Committee shall be composed of the Secretary-General (Chairperson), the President, and the President-Elect. It is responsible for planning, organizing, and overseeing the scientific content of conferences, symposiums, or other academic and research-oriented events.

Proposed abstracts for presentation shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the Committee no less than 120 days before a regular meeting.

Chair-Secretary General: Aruna Venkatesan

President: Debra Heller

President Elect: Pedro Baptista



NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The Executive Director will issue a call for **candidates for the Nominating Committee** four months prior to their expected election.

The Board of Directors will post the names of those under consideration for election to the **Nomination Committee** on the ISSVD website and invite comments at least two months before the election.

The Nominating Committee is made up of the following 5 Fellows:

- A Past President will serve as chair
- President Elect-Pedro Baptista
- Board Member
- Two active fellows-from the membership

Considerations:

- Nominations are open to all Fellows.
- Self-Nominations are allowed.
- To determine the two active fellows from the membership: Vote will be held including all those who were nominated to be voted on by the fellows.
- The two with the most votes will be chosen.
- The current board will elect one board member.
- The President's council will elect the Past President.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The membership committee is made up of a chair and volunteer committee members. It is responsible for overseeing all aspects related to membership recruitment, retention, engagement, and satisfaction. In 2024-2026, this will include Global Outreach.

Co-Chair: Amy Stenson

Co-Chair: Cheryl Kinney

Members:

Tolu Adedipe

Jill Allbritton

Carla Carpenter

Julia Griffin

Takahiro Hanamoto

Katherine Hild-Mosley

Yara Lucia Mendes Furtado de Melo

Ho Choon Moy

Oksana Nehrych

Marcie Oliveira



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The Personnel Committee shall consist of the Secretary General (as Chair), Treasurer, President and Past President.

Chair, Secretary General: Aruna Venkatesan

Treasurer: Mitchell Berger

President: Debra Heller

Past President: Tanja Bohl



ETHICS COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The Secretary General is the chair of the ethics committee. The members are Treasurer, President and Executive Director.

The ethics committee is responsible for overseeing the ethical standards and practices within the organization, ensuring that the organization and its members adhere to a defined set of moral and ethical principles.

Chair, Secretary General: Aruna Venkatesan

Treasurer: Mitchell Berger

President: Debra Heller

Executive Director, Debbie Roepe



FINANCE COMMITTEE (Standing Committee)

The Finance Committee is composed of the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, President, President-Elect, and Secretary-General. The Treasurer serves as the Chair of the Finance Committee. The Treasurer, in consultation with the Secretary-General and Executive Director, may appoint one or two additional members to the Committee. If possible, a member of the Finance Committee should have a financial or business background, though this person does not need to be a physician or ISSVD member.

Chari, Treasurer: Mitchell Berger

Assistant Treasurer: Anne Sammarco

President: Debra Heller

President Elect: Pedro Baptista

Secretary General: Aruna Venkatesan

Executive Director, Debbie Roepe



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Standing Committee) Officers

(Not to be confused with the old Executive Council which is now called the Board of Directors)

The executive committee is made up of:

President -Debra Heller

President-Elect- Pedro Baptista

Treasurer - Mitchell Berger

Secretary-General - Aruna Venkatesan



CARE FOR ALL COMMITTEE

Chair: Shola Vaughn

Subcommittee: Skin of Color

Increase membership from sub-Saharan Africa by 20%

Co-Chair: Shola Vaughn

Members:

Shehla Admani

Qudus Lawal

Subcommittee: LGBTQ

The CFAW Committee proposes a series of patient focus groups investigating obstacles and objections to using vulvovaginal estrogen in transgender men.

Co-Chair: Phillip Ribbink

Members:

Carol Cohen

Ana Katherine Goncalves

Subcommittee: Menopausal

A position paper entitled “Assessment of Vulvovaginal Disease in Postmenopausal Women, Recommendations of the ISSVD” modeled after the management of atrophy paper (PMID: 34169794).

Chair: Juliana Alfonso Mathiles

Members:

Svitrigaile Grinc

Lucía Treviño Rangel

Enkhee Sodnomdorj

Laura Wang

Subcommittee: Pediatrics

Partner with LGBTQ Subcommittee

investigate obstacles and objections to using vulvovaginal estrogen in transgender adolescents.

Chair: Carol Cohen



DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Increase funding to support ISSVD's mission and programs by developing a comprehensive fundraising strategy. The Development Committee will focus on building relationships with donors, expanding funding sources, and creating innovative giving opportunities to ensure sustainable financial growth and enhance ISSVD's impact.

Chair: Annemarie Dixe

Members: Amaris Geisler



DIFFICULT PATHOLOGY COMMITTEE

1. Vulva SCC DOI study of interobserver variation between traditional and alternative methods.
2. Vulva pathology for the non-pathologist
3. Vulva LSIL. Publish a series and again make some recommendations to the ISSVD full membership.
4. Publish an update of VAM.

Co-Chair: James Scurry

Co-Chair: Jill Allbritton

Members:

Margaret Maria Cocks

Tania Day

Niccolo' Gallio

Rob Page

Carlos E. Perra-Herran

Eleonora Petra

Mario Preti

Stephanie Skala

Kathryn Welch



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Co-Chair: Melissa Mauskar, MD, USA

Co-Chair: Katerina Shvartsman, USA

1. Spread awareness of the online vulvar assessment that is already on our website. Think of ways to incorporate this into current curriculums at Derm and GYN programs
2. Create an opportunity for lively discussion and to stay up to date on topics related to vulvar health. Goal will have equal representation of derm and gyn topics. Micheline will discuss implementation with her sub-committee.
3. Expand and maintain the image gallery, adding procedures, radiographs, and relevant materials for our members
4. Have a new member information guide ready by Nova Scotia in 2026!

Subcommittee: Online Education/Competency

Chair: Micheline Moyal-Barracco

Arucha Ekeowa-Anderson

Analia Mariel Blanco

Carrie Sopata

Yara Lucia Mendes Furtado de Melo

Margaret Whitney

Irina Smirnova,

Shailaja Anipindi

Eleonora Preti

Ewa Bazak-Radomarski

Audrey Fotouhi

Amy Lorraine Stenson

Takahiro Hanamoto

Long Sui

Laura Wang

Aparna Vyas

Rita Pichardo

Orla Conlon

Mary Gail Mercurio

Subcommittee: Image Gallery

Co-Chair: Dawn Kopel, MD, USA

Co-Chair: Hope Haefner, MD, USA

Caroline Oliveira

Vivek Nama

Sarah Shaffer

Alexis White

Ekene Ezenwa

A. Mary Guo



EMERGING THERAPIES COMMITTEE

The ISSVD Emerging Therapies Committee is committed to the continuous identification, critical appraisal, and synthesis of high-quality evidence on novel therapeutic approaches and technological innovations in the field of vulvovaginal health. The committee's scope encompasses systematic horizon scanning, research, cost-effectiveness and health technology assessments, and the integration of digital health and artificial intelligence. The committee will develop and disseminate position statements, consensus reports, guidelines, and educational resources to support evidence-based practice, guide clinical decisions, and advance the ISSVD's mission of global leadership in women's health.

Objectives:

1. Conduct ongoing surveillance and critical review of emerging pharmacological treatments and device-based interventions for vulvovaginal conditions.
2. Evaluate the translational feasibility, safety, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness of innovative therapeutic modalities, including regenerative approaches and energy-based technologies.
3. Monitor novel therapies and conduct health outcomes research to inform evidence-based recommendations and identify gaps in clinical practice.
4. Assess the role and impact of digital health tools and artificial intelligence in improving diagnostic accuracy, treatment personalization, and patient engagement.
5. Develop, update, and disseminate position statements, consensus reports, and clinical guidelines consistent with ISSVD standards.
6. Produce peer-reviewed publications and educational materials to enhance awareness and adoption of emerging therapies among clinicians and patient communities.

Deliverables:

- Quarterly activity reports to the ISSVD Board detailing evidence updates, emerging trends, and priority topics.
- Annual evidence review of manuscripts for publication under ISSVD authorship.
- Position statements and cost-effectiveness briefs on high-priority therapies.
- Educational materials for clinicians and patients highlighting state-of-the-art treatment options and technological advances.

Expected Impact:

By maintaining a forward-looking and methodologically rigorous approach, the Emerging Therapies Committee will ensure that the ISSVD remains at the forefront of scientific innovation and clinical excellence in vulvovaginal disease management.

Chair: Koray Gorkem Sacinti

Members:

To be updated soon



RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The goal of this committee is to:

- 1) Establish seed grants for research proposals
- 2) Consider organizing research summit(s) with other stakeholder societies to identify promising new treatments for under researched vulvovaginal disorders including
 - a. Pudendal neuralgia
 - b. DIV
 - c. Neuroproliferative vestibulodynia (Resineferatoxin, photoablation)
- 3) Consider ratifying the NVA/TL/ISSWSH/GCRF vulvodynia research summit findings.
- 4) Identify industry contacts willing to fund studies in vulvovaginal disorders including botulinum toxin (Abbvie, Evolus), lasers (Fotona), JAK inhibitors (LEO), mast cells inhibitors/stabilizers (Celldex).

Co-Chair: Andrew Goldstein

Co-Chair: Margaret Cocks

Members:

Megan Falsetta

Ana Katherine Gonçalves

Yaseen Awad-Igbaria

Chailee Moss

Giang Nguyen

Koray Gorkem Sacinti



RESIDENT AND STUDENT COMMITTEE

The goal of this committee is to:

1. Empower students and residents to fully utilize ISSVD membership benefits by fostering awareness, providing resources, and creating opportunities that support their professional growth.
2. Through targeted outreach, mentorship programs, and engagement initiatives, the committee aims to cultivate a foundation for their career advancement, instilling a lasting commitment to ISSVD's mission, values, and goals.

Co-Chair: Amy Stenson

Co-Chair: Niccolo Gallio

Members:

Mitch Linder

Julia Griffin

Mary Guo

Resident/Student members

Carlotta Caia

Aleksei Dingel



SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Goal is to promote the work of ISSVD and its members/fellows

Aim for at least 3 ideas in spreadsheet/month

Chair: Amanda Selk

Members:

Carla Carpenter

Cheryl Kinney

Suzanne Weber

Yara Furtado

Francesco de Seta

Oksana Nehrych



VAGINITIS AND MICROBIOME COMMITTEE

Co-Chair: Pedro Vieira Baptista

Co-Chair: Colleen Stockdale

Members:

Corey Babb

Federica Bevilacqua

Facundo Gomez Cherey

Susana Cristina Aidé Viviani Fialho

Niccolò Gallio

Ana Katherine Gonçalves

Svitrigaile Grinceviciene

Risa Lonnee Hoffmann

Graham A King

Maria Kyrgiou

Anna Levine

Mitch Linder

Tracey Maurer

Werner Mendling

Vivek Nama

Caroline Oliveira

Jacques Ravel

Bina Cohen Sacher

Koray Gorkem Sacinti

Francesco de Seta

Carrie Sopata

Long Sui

Alexander Swidsinski

Hans Verstraelen

Isabel do Val



VULVAR AWARENESS DAY COMMITTEE

Promote HPV awareness during 2025 by having an HPV forum, patient interviews and article reviews on social media.

For 2026: tentative topic Menopause with same activities.

Chair: Jill Allbritton

Members:

Tolu Adedipe

Yara Lucia Mendes Furtado de Melo

Irina Smirnova

Rita Pichardo

Viktoriia Dunaievskia

Anna Levine

Aparna Vyas



VULVAR DISEASE IMPACT -BENIGN AND NEOPLASTIC DISORDERS COMMITTEE

The goal of this committee is to: To improve patient outcomes by enhancing the understanding, diagnosis, and management of benign and neoplastic vulvar disorders through multidisciplinary collaboration, research, education, and the development of best practice guidelines.

Co- Chair: Isabel do Val

Co-Chair: Susana Cristina Aidé Viviani Fialho

Members:

Federica Bevilacqua

Ariadna Caussade

Facundo Gomez Cherey

Ana Katherine Gonçalves

Svitrigaile Grinceviciene

Pia Halonen

Anna Daniela Iacobone

Caroline Oliveira

Nancy Phillips

Sydney Rivera