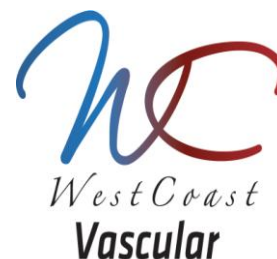


## MEDIA RELEASE



29<sup>th</sup> March 2011

### Vascular Surgeon to screen a 'silent killer'

Dr Kishore Sieunarine, Vascular and Endovascular surgeon, is facilitating an Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm screening clinic for people over the age of 60 at **no out of pocket expense**. The clinic will be held on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am onwards in the Visiting Specialist Rooms, Busselton District Hospital.

'Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm, also known as a AAA, are often called the 'silent killer' as there are no symptoms or warning signs' said Dr Sieunarine.

A AAA is a swelling of the main blood vessel in the abdomen that is at risk of bursting when the size exceeds 4cm.

Abdominal Aneurysms affect approximately 1 in 20 Australians. Those most at risk are males, people aged over 60, smokers, those with high blood pressure and a family history of aneurysms.

If untreated 1 in 3 aneurysms will rupture, causing death in more than 82% of ruptured cases.

'The clinics are to ensure people have a scan for abdominal aortic aneurysm every three years, early detection and monitoring are the best preventative methods'.

'Many people are unaware of how dangerous an aneurysm is and whether they are at risk' said Dr Kishore Sieunarine.

People are urged to be scanned as it is a non-invasive and effective method of discovering and monitoring abdominal aneurysms.

Abdominal aneurysms are operable and can be carried out under regional anaesthetic with a 3-4 day hospital stay. This is called an endovascular repair with a stent graft.

Endovascular repair is a low risk procedure rather than the traditional open repair. However it requires lifelong surveillance.

A specialist sonographer will be scanning patients on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April to detect abdominal aneurysms. Dr Sieunarine will be available on site to provide information and advice.

Screening will take place between 8.30am – 5.00pm in Room 22, Visiting Specialist Rooms located at the Busselton District Hospital, Mill street, Busselton. Screening is simple and only takes around 10 minutes.

Appointments are preferred for screening, and can be made by telephoning WestCoast Vascular on **(08) 9386 9855**.

**-ENDS -**

### For more information call

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