

Massimo Mark Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Current Position

Vascular and Endovascular Surgeon

Professional Location

University Vascular Care, LLC
205 Valley Rd, suite 203
Wayne, NJ 07470

Telephone Numbers/Email Address:

c 201-846-5126
w 973-686-0700
f 973-686-0701
mnapolitano@universityspinecenter.com
massimo10759@gmail.com

Hospital Appointments

Affiliate Staff
Department of Vascular Surgery
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
January 2024-Present

Attending Physician
Department of Vascular Surgery
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
July 1994-January 2024

Attending Physician
Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC Mountainside Hospital
June 2012- August 2017

Attending Physician
Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC at Pascack Valley Hospital
July 2013-January 2024 (LOA)

Attending Physician
Department of Surgery
St. Joseph University Medical Center
February 2023-Present

Interim Chair Department of Vascular Surgery
Hackensack University Medical Center
February 2021- January 2024

Chair Quality and Patient Safety Committee
HackensackMeridian Health System
June 2019- January 2024

Interim Chair Department of Surgery
Hackensack University Medical Center
August 2019- May 2021

Vice Chair Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2016-July 2019

Co-Chair Medical Council Committee
HackensackMeridian Health System
September 2016-June 2019

Chair Patient Safety and Quality Committee
HackensackUMC Board of Governors
November 2016-July 2017

Acting Clinical Co-Chair Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
May 30th 2012-August 28th, 2014

Surgeon Champion NSQIP Program
HackensackUMC
June 2012-August 2019

Chief Division of Vascular Surgery, Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
July 2006-May 2021

Director of Vascular Services
Department of Surgery
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
April 2011- March 2021

Site Director Vascular Surgery Residency HUMC
University of Medicine and Dentistry New Jersey (UMDNJ)
Hackensack University Medical Center (HUMC)
January 2005-June 21012

Member at Large Medical Board
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2004-December 2005

Secretary and Treasurer Medical Staff
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2006-December 2006

Vice President Medical Staff
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2007-December 2007

President Elect Medical Staff
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2008-December 2008

President Medical Staff
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2009-December 2009

Chairman Medical Executive Committee
HackensackUMC, Hackensack, NJ
January 2010-December 2011

Affiliate Staff Member
Hackensack University Medical Center
Hackensack, NJ
February 2024-Present

Hospital Committees

HackensackUMC

Chair Quality and Patient Safety Committee Board of Governors

September 2016-December 2017

Rules and Regulations

Patient Safety

Case Review

Blood Management

Operating Room Committee

Strategic Planning

Advisory Board Heart and Vascular Hospital

HackensackMeridian Health System Committees

Chair Quality and Patient Safety Committee

HackensackMeridian Health Board of Trustees

August 2019-January 2024

Chair Policy Committee of the Medical Council Committee

Hackensack Meridian Health

June 2022-January 2024

Co-Chair Medical Council Committee HackensackMeridian Health

September 2016-August 2019

Ex-officio Member Hackensack Meridian Health Network Board of Trustees

September 2016-August 2019

Member Hackensack Meridian Health Physician Quality Leadership

September 2017-January 2024

Member Hackensack Meridian Health Safety Event Classification

September 2016-January 2024

Member Hackensack Meridian Health Transformation of Care Committee

January 2018-January 2024

Member Hackensack Meridian Health Service Titration Workgroup

September 2021-January 2024

National Committees

Member of the Society for Vascular Surgery Membership
Committee July 2019-June 2023

Member of the Society for Vascular Surgery Membership
Committee June 2024-Present

Member of the Society for Vascular Surgery Quality
Improvement Committee June 2024-Present

Professional

President

Bergen Surgical Specialists
Hackensack, NJ August 2003-December 2021

North Jersey Surgical Specialists
83 Summit Ave., Hackensack, NJ
(201) 646-0010 July 1994-July 2003

Academic Appointments

Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery
Rutgers Medical School, New Brunswick, NJ
December 2012-Present

Associate Professor of Surgery
Hackensack Meridian Health School of Medicine
May 2023-Present

Education

Undergraduate

1973-1978 St Giuseppe-DeMerode College. Rome, Italy
Degree: High School Diploma

Graduate

1978-1984 Catholic University of the Sacred Heart. Rome, Italy
Medical Degree

Post Graduate Training

Italy

Vascular Surgery Residency October 1984-July 1989

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

Agostino Gemelli University Hospital, Rome, Italy

Department Head: Prof. Aureliano Puglioni

Research September 1984-June 1986

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

Agostino Gemelli University Hospital, Rome, Italy

Research Fellow, Vascular Surgery.

USA

Internship September 1986-June 1987

University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ- UMDNJ

Hackensack Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ

Department of General Surgery

Residency July 1987-June 1989

Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, NJ

Department of General Surgery

July 1989-June 1991

Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI

Department of General Surgery

Chief Resident July 1991-June 1992

Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI

Department of General Surgery

Fellowship

Research Fellow	July 1992-June 1993
Clinical Fellow	July 1993-June 1994

Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI
Department of General Surgery
Division of Vascular Surgery
Division Head: Calvin B. Ernst, MD

Accreditation

New Jersey Medical License	#MA59895
New York State Medical License	#282887-1

Controlled Substance Registration Certificate (DEA)	#BN2139853
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American Board of Surgery	#38160	March 1993
Recertification		October 2002
Recertification		December 2012

Certificate of Added Qualification In Vascular Surgery	#048837	October 1995
Recertification for Vascular Surgery Board		November 2004 October 2014
Registered Vascular Technologist (RVT)		December 1995

FMGEMS and ECFMG	#394-864-3	July 1985
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FLEX part I and II	#591007907	June 1988
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Italian Board of Medicine		November 1984
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Awards Received

St. Joseph- DeMerode College, Rome, Italy
Valedictorian June 1978

University of the Sacred Heart, School of Medicine
Rome, Italy
Graduate Cum Laude June 1984

Monmouth Medical Center, Long Branch, NJ
Charles L. Zukakaus Award
“Meticulous Precision in Surgery”
June 1988

Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI
House Officer Award
“Teaching Excellence in Student Medical Education”
Academic Year 1990-1991
1991-1992
1992-1993
1993-1994

University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ (UMDNJ), Newark, NJ
Attending Teaching Award
“For Excellence in Teaching”
Presented by the Surgical Residents
Academic Year 1994-1995
1998-1999
2000-2001
2003-2004
2006-2007

Nominated for "Golden Apple Award" Rutgers New Jersey Medical
School 2015

Professional Membership

Member of the Society for Vascular Surgery	2013-Present
Member of the Membership Committee of the Society for Vascular Surgery	2020-2023
Vascular Society of New Jersey	2000-Present
Fellow of the American College of Surgeons	1998-Present
Bergen County Medical Society	1995-Present
Bergen County Medical Society Liaison To Hackensack University Medical Center	1998-2002
Delegate Bergen County Medical Society	1997-2002
American Medical Association	1989-Present
Italian Medical Association	1984-Present

Grant Support:

- A. Principal Investigator
 - a. Archemix Corporation "A study of the effect of ARC1779 injection on cerebral microembolism in patients undergoing carotid endarterectomy."
\$13,614/per patient 04/2009- 2010
 - b. CVRx. Rheos Pivotal Trial. \$16,282 per patient. 03/2007-present
 - c. Fox Hollow "Proof – FHT-P-06-003 Plaque removal versus open bypass surgery for critical limb ischemia. \$7308 per patient. 02/2007
 - d. CREST2. March 2016-2024
 - e. CVRx BeatHF 2018-2020
- B. Co-Investigator
 - d. NIH/Univ. of Toledo. "Coral" \$7385 per patient 08/2008
 - e. Amarex LLC. "MDS001 Boss: Evaluation of sodium bicarbonate to reduce contrast-induced nephropathy in subjects with advanced chronic kidney who are undergoing angiography." \$3469 per patient. 07/2009
 - f. Baxter. "FSVH Baxter: Clinical Evaluation of Efficacy and safety of fibrin sealant VH S/D 500 s-apr for hemostasis in subjects undergoing vascular surgery. \$5354 per patient 07/2009
 - g. King Pharmaceuticals. "Mosaic" \$4302 per patient. 12/2008
 - h. Vascular Solutions. "Control" - \$2098 per patient. 5/2008

- i. Octapharma AG. "Octaplex: Lex-205 A phase III randomized, open-label, efficacy and safety study of Octaplex and fresh frozen plasma in patients under vitamin k antagonist therapy with the need for urgent surgery or invasive procedures." \$12,208 per patient. 03/2008
- j. Ekos Corporation – "Ekos 704". \$1449-\$2205 per patient. 03/2008
- k. Fox Hollow/EV3. "Replica: RNA Expression profiling of lesions from in vivo carotid atherectomies: a carotid plaque observational study." \$898 per patient 01/2008
- l. Boston Scientific. "Sonoma: The Nexstent carotid stent system: A post market approval evaluation study in conjunction with the Boston Scientific filterwire EZ embolic protection system." \$1825 per patient. 07/2007
- m. Cordis Corporation. "Sapphire Registry: Stenting and angioplasty with protection in patients at high risk for endarterectomy." \$1200 per patient. 07/2007-present.
- n. Fox Hollow. "Carotid Tissue." \$630 per patient 02/2007
- o. Abbot Vascular. "Exact: Emboshield and Xact Post approval carotid stent trial using the Emboshield barewire rapid exchange embolic protection system and Xact rapid exchange carotid stent system." \$1600 per patient. 03/2006
- p. CVRx BeAT HF March 2016-2020

Financial Disclosure

Proctor for CVRx Rheos Baroreceptor stimulator.

Proctor for CVRx Batwire Clinical trial

Clinical Consultant for NuVasive (San Diego, CA)

Presentations

3rd Annual HackensackUMC Heart and Vascular Symposium
Hackensack, NJ. November 2013.

"Advanced Treatment of Venous Thromboembolic Disease".

Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS

Eastern Vascular Society Annual Meeting, September 2013

"Adjunctive Use of Thoracic Stent Cuffs to Treat Infrarenal Aortic Necks too large for Standard EVAR".

Michael J. Wilderman, MD, Gregory T. Simonian, MD, Michael Curi, MD, David O'Connor, MD, **Massimo M. Napolitano, MD.**

Eastern Vascular Society Annual Meeting, September 2013
“Use of Drug Eluting Coronary Stents for Infrageniculate Lesions in High Risk Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia; Intermediate Follow-Up Demonstrates Favorable Outcome”.
Michael J. Wilderman, MD, Gregory T. Simonian, MD, David O’Connor, MD, **Massimo M. Napolitano, MD.**

SCVS Annual Meeting, March 2012
“Drug Eluding Stents for Below Knee Revascularization in High Risk Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia”.
Sharvil U. Sheth, MD, Gregory T. Simonian, MD, **Massimo M. Napolitano, MD**, Michael J. Wilderman, MD.

PVSS Winter Meeting 2012
“Treatment Algorithm and Results for Complex Endovascular Repair of Juxtarenal, Suprarenal and Thoracoabdominal Aortic Aneurysms”.
Michael J. Wilderman, MD, Gregory T. Simonian, MD, **Massimo M. Napolitano, MD.**

New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Surgeons
Annual Meeting, December 2012
“You Are My Doctor...Longitudinal Care in Vascular Surgery”
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS

Eastern Vascular Society Annual Meeting, September 2011
“Urgent/Emergent Endovascular Repair of Juxta-Renal, Suprarenal and Thoracoabdominal Aortic Aneurysms in Patients Unfit for Open Repair”.
Joe Huang, MD, Gregory T. Simonian, MD, **Massimo M. Napolitano, MD**, Michael J. Wilderman, MD.

Society for Vascular Ultrasound (SVU), April 2011
North/South Jersey Vascular Associations Joint Spring Meeting
Englewood Hospital, Englewood, NJ
“New Vascular Access Devices”
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
3rd Annual Meeting. March 20-21, 2006
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
“Physiology of the Peripheral Vascular System”

“The Vascular Exam and Types of Vascular Testing”
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
3rd Annual Meeting, March 21, 2006
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
Live Case Presentation
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
2nd Annual Meeting, November 12-13, 2004
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
“Physiology of the Peripheral Vascular System”
“The Vascular Exam and Types of Vascular Testing”
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
2nd Annual Meeting, November 13, 2004
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
Live Case Presentation
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
1st Annual Meeting, November 7-8, 2003
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
“Physiology of the Peripheral Vascular System”
“The Vascular Exam and Types of Vascular Testing”
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Endovascular Symposium for Nurses and Technologists
1st Annual Meeting, November 8, 2003
Hackensack University Medical Center, Hackensack, NJ
Live Case Presentation
Massimo M. Napolitano, MD, FACS, RVT

Dossa C., Shepard A., **Napolitano M.**, Reddy D., Jones C., Elliot J., Smith R.,
and Ernst CB: “Acute Aortic Occlusion. A 40 Year Experience.” Presented at the
Annual Meeting of the Western Surgical Society. Seattle, WA. November 14-17,
1993.

Marino IR, DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A, Manzoni C, Pintus C, DeFrancisci G, Callisti C and Perrelli L: "Orthotopic Hemihepatic Transplantation. Experimental Study for Pediatric Liver Transplantation." Presented at the 22nd Meeting of the Italian Pediatric Surgery Association. Sorrento, Italy. October 28-31, 1986.

DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A, DeFrancisci G and Marino IR: "Arterial Revascularization in Orthotopic Liver Transplantation." Presented at the III Giornate Internazionali di Chirurgia. Progressi in Chirurgia. Bologna, Italy. December 1986.

Marino IR, DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A and Gualtieri E: "Importance of Arterial Perfusion for Organ Preservation in Orthotopic Liver Transplantation." Presented at the III Giornate Internazionali di Chirurgia. Progressi in Chirurgia. Bologna, Italy. December 1986.

Marino IR, DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A and DeFrancisci G: "Orthotopic Liver Transplantation: Comparative Study of Different Methods for Prevention of Reperfusion Syndrome." Presented at the III Giornate Internazionali di Chirurgia. Progressi in Chirurgia. Bologna, Italy. December, 1986

DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A, DeFrancisci G and Marino IR: "Use of Human Fibrin Glue in Orthotopic Liver Transplantation." Presented at the III Giornate Internazionali di Chirurgia. Progressi in Chirurgia. Bologna, Italy. December 1986.

Marino IR, DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DeRaffaele E, DePietro C, Bevilaqua P, Frena A and Gualtieri E: "Anticoagulation Therapy During Venovenous Extracorporeal Circulation in Orthotopic Liver Transplantation." Presented at the III Giornate Internazionali di Chirurgia. Progressi in Chirurgia. Bologna, Italy. December 1986.

Additional Professional Activities

High Reliability Organization Trainer HackensackUMC	October 2017
Cook “Zenith” Device Certification Hackensack, NJ	March 2005
Guidant “Ancure” Device Certification Course Philadelphia, PA	March 2001
Medtronic “AneuRx” Device Certification Hackensack, NJ	March 2004
Microsurgery Course Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI	January-March 1989

Personal Information

Born October 7th, 1959 in Rome, Italy
Citizenship: USA & Italy

Languages

English and Italian

Extracurricular Activities

Professional Freelance Photographer
Member of the "Iron Butt Association" - Endurance motorcycle rider

Publications

1. Marino IR, Esquivel CO, DeLuca G, Santini E, Celli S, **Napolitano M**, DePietro C, Frena A, Bevilaqua P, Cavicchioni C: "Orthotopic Liver Transplantation of Liver Grafts Previously Resected "In Situ". *Transplantation Procedures* 20(Suppl):578-87, 1988.
2. Marino IR, DeLuca G, Santini E, Cavicchioni C, Bevilaqua P, Celli S, DeRaffaele E, DeFrancisci C, DePietro C, Frena A, Gualtieri E, **Napolitano M**, Callisti A and Perrelli L: "Evaluation of Different Techniques of Arterial Revascularization in Liver Transplantation." *Acta Chirurgica Mediterranea*, January 1987.
3. DiGiovanni V, Colli R, DeCosmo G, **Napolitano M** and Ferrante A: "Graft Replacement of the Suprarenal Inferior Vena Cava. An Experimental Model." *Chirurgia e Patologia Sperimentale*. Vol.32, Number 2, April 1984.
4. Wilderman M, Simonian G, O'Connor D, **Napolitano M**. "Use of Drug Eluting Coronary Stents for Infrageniculate Lesions in High-Risk Patients with Critical Limb Ischemia May Rival Open Surgical Bypass: Intermediate Follow-Up Demonstrates Favorable Outcomes" *J Vasc Surg* 2013; 58(4): 1157.
5. Davis J, **Napolitano M**, Simonian G, Wilderman M, Ratnathicam A, O'Connor D. "Resolution of Unilateral Blindness Following Complete Embolization of ECA for Debilitating AVM." *Ann Vasc Surg* 2016; 34: 8.
6. Wilderman MJ, Simonian GT, and **Napolitano M**. "Treatment Algorithm and Results for Complex Endovascular Repair of Juxtarenal, Suprarenal and Thoracoabdominal Aneurysms". accepted *Ann Surg*
6. Cook KM, **Napolitano M**, Padberg FT. Anti-Factor Xa Assay – A Changing Standard for Venous Thrombophylaxis. Invited Commentary. [published online July 6, 2016] *JAMA Surg*
7. Walsh K, O'Connor DJ, Wilderman MJ, Ratnathicam A, Simonian G, **Napolitano M**. "Balloon Angioplasty for Symptomatic Inferior Vena Cava Aneurysm." *Journal of Vascular Surgery* 2018, accepted.
8. O'Connor DJ, Stanton N, Wilderman M, Ratnathicam A, Cook K, Simonian G, **Napolitano M**. "Use of Orbital Atherectomy for Severe Iliac Artery Occlusive Disease in Patients Undergoing Endovascular AAA Repair". Submitted to *Journal of Vascular Surgery*
9. Faustino EV, Shabanova V, Pinto MG, Li S, Trakas E, Mikasa M, Gertz S, Polikoff LA, **Napolitano M**, Brudnicki AR, Tala JA, Silva CT. - for the "Thrombosis Epidemiology in Ill Adolescents (THEIA) study investigators." "Epidemiology of Lower Extremity Deep Vein Thrombosis in Critically Ill Adolescents". *Journal of Pediatrics* October 2018; 201:176-183.

10. Survival after endovascular therapy in patients with ruptured thoracic aortic diseases: Results from the Global Registry for Endovascular Aortic Treatment Registry. Walsh K, O'Connor DJ, Weaver F, Trimarchi S, Cao L, Wilderman M, Ratnathicam A, Cook K, **Napolitano M**, Simonian G. J Vasc Surg. 2020 Apr 8:S0741-5214(20)30294-9. doi: 10.1016/j.jvs.2020.02.022. Online ahead of print.
11. Zaifman J, Sugalski G, Tank L, **Napolitano M**, McCain D, Schlesinger M, Underwood J, Freguletti T, Pereira-Argenziano L, Kretschmar R, Stifelman M. "Implementing the Medically Necessary, Time-Sensitive Surgical Scoring System During the COVID-19 Pandemic" Am J Surg 2022 Jan;223(1):201-202.
12. Bousleiman J, Napolitano M, Tran S, Hamdani M, Faries C, Berger K, Harris J, Han D, Prakash V, Rao A, Tadros R, Vouyouka A, Marin M. "Multi-Center Clinical Trial to Validate Efficacy of Sundt Carotid Shunt" J Vasc Surg 2021; 74(4):E350

Published Abstracts:

Analysis of Early Deep Vein Thrombosis in Trauma Patients Undergoing Screening Venous Duplex

Journal of Vascular Surgery, Volume 63, Issue 6, Supplement, June 2016, Page 131s, David O'Connor, Sanjeev Kaul, Themba Nyirenda, Melissa Blatt, Gregory Simonian, Massimo Napolitano

Outcomes of Ultrasonic Accelerated Thrombolysis for Inferior Vena Cava Thrombosis.

Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders, Volume 3, Issue 1, January 2015, Page 131, L. Lajoie, A. Lee, M. Wilderman, G. Simonian, Napolitano, D. O'Connor

Below Knee DVT: Clinically Silent Is Not Clinically Insignificant. *Journal of Vascular Surgery: Venous and Lymphatic Disorders*, Volume 4, Issue 1, January 2016, Pages

142-143, D. O'Connor, S. Kaul, S. Limor, M. Blatt, E. Coll, G. Simonian, M. Napolitano

Use of Orbital Atherectomy to Aid in Endovascular Aortic Endograft Delivery in Patients with Severe Iliac Artery Occlusive Disease. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, Volume 68, Issue 18, Supplement, November 2016, Page b326, David O'Connor, Massimo Napolitano, Gregory Simonian

Routine Hemoglobin A1C Testing in Patients Undergoing Intervention for Peripheral Vascular Disease Can Detect Unknown Diabetes

Kimberly Reynolds, David J. O'Connor, Michael Wilderman, Anjali Ratnathicam, Massimo Napolitano, Gregory Simonian

Journal of the American College of Surgeons October 2017

Posters

Amianda E, Zielonka, T, Sudol, M, Napolitano, M. *The surgeon champion and physician assistant collaboration: A quality improvement initiative to enhance clinical support to surgical clinical reviewers*. Poster presentation: American College of Surgeons Quality and Safety Conference; July 21, 2019; Washington, DC.

Book Chapters

1. **Napolitano M.** and Shepard A.: Intestinal Ischemia as a complication of Abdominal Aortic Reconstruction. In "Current Therapy in Vascular Surgery. III Edition." Edited by C.B. Ernst and J. Stanley. DC Becker, Philadelphia 1995.
2. **Napolitano, M.** and Ernst, C.B.: Physiologic Changes in Visceral Ischemic Syndromes. In "Vascular Surgery. Basic Science and Clinical Correlation". Edited by R. White and L. Hollier. Lippincott. June 1994.
3. **Napolitano M.:** "Perioperative Monitoring of Femoro-Infrapopliteal Bypasses with "In Situ" Saphenous Vein." Vascular Surgery Board Thesis, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart. Rome, Italy. November 1990.
4. **Napolitano M.:** "Clinical and Experimental Problems of Graft Replacement of the Inferior Vena Cava". Laureate Thesis, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart. Rome, Italy. July 1984.