

Vascular Medicine – Cydar Medical AI Technology & Community Outreach

Funding Goal: \$100,000 Annual Cost for Software & Screenings

Your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$100,000 by a generous donor.

An abdominal aortic aneurysm is an enlargement within the lower aorta, the body's main artery and largest blood vessel, which runs from the heart through the abdomen. The condition is most common in men over the age of 65, affecting up to 7 percent of that population. Risk factors include a history of smoking, high blood pressure, atherosclerosis, or a family history of aneurysms.

Although this condition often has no symptoms, when an aneurysm ruptures, it can cause life-threatening bleeding. Less than 10 percent of people who experience a rupture survive. When caught early, the condition can be closely monitored and addressed with minimally invasive endovascular surgery, during which a specialist inserts stents to reline the aorta and protect it from rupturing by relieving pressure. Fixing aneurysms in a planned setting before ruptures has occurred has excellent outcomes, with a 99% survival. Worryingly, the majority of people who have an abdominal aortic aneurysm don't even know it. The condition might only be detected if the patient has an ultrasound or CT scan for another health issue, prompting a primary care physician or other specialist to refer the patient to a vascular surgeon. Therefore, screening for aneurysms in people at risk is recommended to identify aneurysms, and treat them before they rupture.

Given the severe consequences of a ruptured aortic aneurysm, the demographics of our community, and the lives that can be saved with a proactive strategy, MarinHealth is making advanced vascular care a priority. With donor support for this initiative, MarinHealth Foundation will be able to **extend its current screening campaign** across the North Bay and **purchase state-of-the-art Cydar Medical AI software** that greatly improves aortic surgeries. With screenings easily accessible, MarinHealth will be able to identify people at risk. Having innovative technology in place will save lives and distinguish MarinHealth as a leader in vascular care.



"With an expert care team, a leading-edge hybrid operating room, a commitment to community outreach, and the potential for new technology to support our work, MarinHealth is positioned to enter the top tier of vascular centers in the US. Donor support is essential to establishing this level of excellence. And it will save lives."

*— Allan M. Conway, MD,
Vascular surgeon*

MarinHealth Foundation

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Making MarinHealth a Leader in Vascular Care

MarinHealth aims to maintain vascular capabilities that are among the best in the nation. Achieving that goal will take investments in both programs and technology — raising community awareness of the risks of abdominal aortic aneurysm and adopting the most sophisticated tools to treat it.

Gifts to the Foundation toward vascular care will address both priorities. First, funds will equip MarinHealth with sophisticated software by Cydar Technologies, currently used in California only at Stanford Medical Center. Cloud-based Cydar software fuses x-ray imaging with artificial intelligence to support endoscopic microsurgery, where minute tools are used to access the aorta and place stents through a small incision in the groin. The software creates a unique anatomical map that registers real-time changes in the body — something no other technology does — making surgery, performed in MarinHealth's new hybrid operating room, more precise and accurate.

Cydar assistance can shorten what is typically a two-to-three-hour procedure, reducing radiation exposure from x-rays for both patient and care team and freeing up valuable operating room capacity for other uses. Unlike current technology, the new software also does not require contrast dye to map the aorta, reducing impact on the patient's kidneys. Patients can recover more quickly, and with fewer side effects.

With donor support, MarinHealth also will extend a community awareness campaign launched in Fall 2023. Patients can receive a free five-minute exam that uses ultrasound to create pictures and measurements of the aorta. Results, interpreted by the vascular team, are available the same day. Extending the scope of this program will enable MarinHealth to identify patients who may need additional care before the condition becomes dire.

What can philanthropy do?

For patients who are unaware of their risk for abdominal aortic aneurysm, community screening can be a game-changer, supporting peace of mind and a plan for proactive care. For patients who urgently need aortic surgery, access to leading-edge capabilities, facilitated by the most advanced software available, will be equally transformative. Your investment in this initiative can catalyze these changes, moving MarinHealth into the top echelon of vascular care centers nationwide and saving lives in our community.

At-a-Glance

Advanced Vascular Care

Your support will enable MarinHealth's world-class vascular team to:

- Perform life-saving, x-ray guided endoscopic micro-surgeries on the aorta with even greater precision and efficiency
- Reduce exposure to radiation for patients and care teams
- Map the aorta without contrast dye, improving the patient experience
- Perform surgeries in MarinHealth's new state-of-the-art hybrid operating room
- Reduce procedure time, freeing up operating facilities for other uses
- Expand MarinHealth's vascular health awareness campaign, providing screening to North Bay patients
- Reduce the potentially dire impacts of abdominal aortic aneurysm by identifying at-risk patients and providing proactive care

To learn more or make a gift that advances vascular care in the North Bay, please contact MarinHealth Foundation at **1-415-925-7770** or **Foundation@mymarinhealth.org**.