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## Background

### The start

The Stichting (Dutch for foundation) Vasculitis International (SVI) was incorporated in November 2019 under Dutch law by three members of the Vasculitis Stichting (VAS), the Dutch organisation for patients with a primary vasculitis. The initiative came from the chairman of the VAS Peter Verhoeven and John Mills COO and former chairman of Vasculitis UK. The Dutch Vasculitis Stichting provided the initial funding.

### SVI Mission

To improve the quality of care and to decrease the disease burden for vasculitis patients and their carers by encouraging and supporting Vasculitis Patient Advocacy Groups (VPAG's) to combine forces and to jointly develop relevant projects and activities.

### Memorandum and articles of association.

Currently the memorandum and articles of association of the SVI are in Dutch. This document provides the key elements of that document in English, in order to create a common ground for stakeholders. A proper legal English version will be launched later.

### Goals and Objectives

- Create the strongest possible voice for the vasculitis patient community by supporting and encouraging collaboration and knowledge sharing between organisations supporting patients with a primary vasculitis, hereafter called the Vasculitis Patient Advocacy Groups (VPAG's).
- Support and encourage activities in the field of vasculitis in order to create more awareness
- Support and encourage international scientific research regarding cause, diagnosis and treatment of vasculitis.
- Increase the awareness among doctors and scientists about the psychological and social impact vasculitis has on patients, caregivers and their loved ones.
- Perform all further actions, those with the foregoing to the fullest meaning or may be conducive thereto.

### Governance

- The board of the foundation consists of a number of directors to be determined by the board but has at least three members. Current directors are: Peter Verhoeven (chair), Iris Sengers (secretary) and Pim Zaalberg (treasurer).
- Directors are appointed for a period of four years. They resign according to a schedule to be defined by the board and they can be re-appointed immediately and without restriction.
- Directors do not receive remuneration for their work but are entitled to the reimbursement of costs incurred in the performance of their duties.
- The board is authorised to establish Terms of Reference and other regulations for topics which in the opinion of the board require (further) regulation.

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### Meetings

- Annually, within six months after the end of the fiscal year, a board meeting will be held which will in any case include the adoption of the balance sheet and statement of income and expenses.
- Next to that there will be a meeting every quarter.
- Access to the meetings is granted to directors in office and those who have been invited by them.
- Every director has one vote.

### Changing the Memorandum of Articles

- The board is authorized to change these articles of association. Such a decision must be taken with unanimous votes in a meeting with all directors being present or represented.

### Dissolution and liquidation

- The board is authorised to dissolve the foundation.  
A possible positive balance from the dissolved foundation will be spent in accordance with the purpose of the foundation. Only organisations registered as a charity and with goals and objectives similar to VSI are eligible to acquire such a possible positive balance.