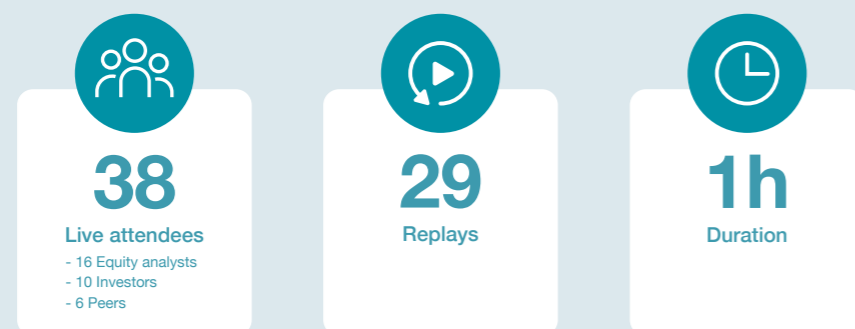


## The impact of Refractory or Recurrent Liver Ascites on Patients and Healthcare systems and the potential for alfapump therapy in NASH-related Ascites

KOL Event with Hugo E. Vargas, M.D. and Grace Knuttinen, M.D., Ph.D. from Mayo Clinic

— Thursday, July 15th, 2021



We hosted a total of 67 overall attendees, including institutional investors, sell-side analysts, bankers, high net worth individuals, and strategics.

“The reported improvement in quality of life is extremely important to us since this is a very advanced and difficult disease process.”

- Dr. Hugo E. Vargas, M.D.

**Hugo E. Vargas, M.D.**

Dr. Vargas is a Mayo Clinic Consultant in the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and the Mayo Clinic Transplantation Center. His current clinical and research interests include management of cirrhosis complications, acute chronic liver disease and alcohol related liver disease. Dr. Vargas is the Medical Director for the Office of Clinical Research – Arizona and a Professor of Medicine in the Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine and is the Chair of the Clinical Research Subcommittee, and the Vice Chair of the Arizona Research Operations Management Team. Dr. Vargas received his M.D. from Hahnemann University Graduate School of Medicine, has authored or coauthored more than 125 peer-reviewed articles and is a Fellow of the AASLD, AGA, ACG, ASGE and ACP.



## Key Takeaways from KOL webinar with Dr. Vargas and Dr. Knuttinen from Mayo Clinic, Arizona

- High Burden**  
Ascites has a significant negative impact on patients and may lead to serious complications.
- Increasing prevalence**  
Net effect of NASH becoming very prevalent is that we will see an increased incidence of cirrhosis with the complication of ascites
- Patient support**  
alfapump is very well accepted with strong interest from the patient community
- Solid benefit on patients**  
Reported outcomes of POSEIDON are solid and shows that alfapump has a positive impact on patients
- Easy implantation**  
Implantation of alfapump is a minimally invasive procedure under local anaesthesia / moderate sedation and recommends the use of ultrasound for ascites localisation and catheter placement

Replay available on our [website](#)

“The alfapump implantation is a straightforward procedure using standard techniques, catheters and wires that we are already using on a daily basis.”

- Dr. Grace Knuttinen, M.D., Ph.D.

**Grace Knuttinen, M.D., Ph.D.**

Dr. Knuttinen is a Mayo Clinic Consultant and Professor in the Department of Radiology. She is an interventional radiologist with Mayo Clinic in Phoenix, with clinical and research interests in hepatobiliary disease, the management of post liver transplant complications, and vascular disease. Dr. Knuttinen has more than 20 years’ experience in interventional radiology and is a member of the Leadership Academy of the Society of Interventional Radiology and an Invited ABR Board Examiner for International Radiology at the American Board of Radiology. She is the Director for the Mayo Alix School of Medicine Dual Degree program, and the Director for the Barretts ASU- Mayo Alix School of Medicine Premedical Scholars program. Dr. Knuttinen received her M.D. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University, has coauthored over 95 peer-reviewed articles and written 13 book chapters. She is a Fellow of the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) and is the chair of a national SIR committee and currently the principal investigator of an ongoing national prospective funded clinical trial.

