The SCAI (Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions) Fellows Course is an internationally renowned meeting designed for interventional cardiology trainees in their final year of training. I was lucky enough to be one of the 5 British Interventional Fellows to be offered a funded place by BCIS on the course (including course fees and accommodation), held this year in The Cosmopolitan Hotel in Las Vegas from 7-10th December.

The course was well organised and comprehensive, with expert faculty covering all the important topics in interventional cardiology, from the basics – such as how to gain radial access and guide wire properties – to complex interventional techniques – such as retrograde CTO interventions and complex haemodynamic support. The course was illustrated in each session with well-chosen cases presented by faculty and fellows attending the course that stimulated good discussion. With an obvious North America bias to the content, it was interesting to see the variation in practice across the different healthcare systems. There was a parallel course run in the adjacent room on congenital and structural interventional cardiology, and delegates were free to move between the courses at will. I particularly enjoyed (and found useful) the tips and trick sessions, and have already started to use some of these in my daily practice.

I believe the course has been a valuable addition to my training, and would highly recommend that future British interventional cardiology trainees apply to attend (either from BCIS, or I understand there are some places available directly from SCAI).

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