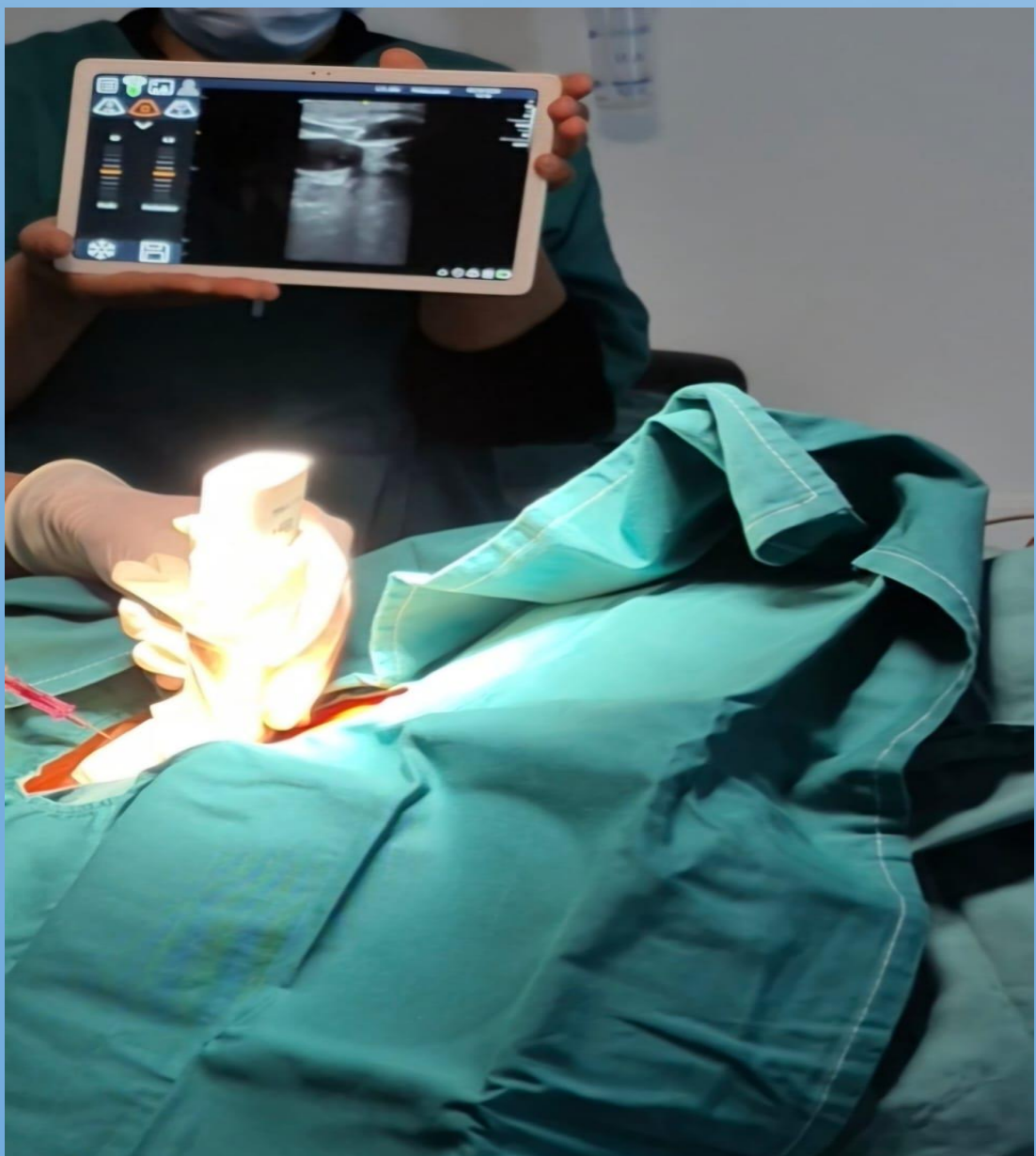




Background Despite cancer care being a national health priority in Tunisia, national guidelines and a structured network for Vascular Access Devices (VADs) are currently lacking. This study aims to evaluate the infrastructure, practices, and resource availability for VAD management across major Tunisian institutions.

Methods A cross-sectional survey was conducted during the 5th Congress of the Tunisian Society of Oncologic Surgery (December 2025). An 18-item self-administered questionnaire was distributed to key operators (anesthesiologists and surgeons) involved in VAD insertion, assessing device provision, insertion techniques, and complication management protocols.



Title: Current Landscape of Vascular Access Devices in Tunisia: A Multicenter Practice Audit

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Results Thirteen operators from five major referral centers (covering Tunis, Sousse, Monastir, Sfax, and Djerba) completed the survey.

Category	Key Findings	Data & Metrics
Participant Profile	Specialized Centers	5 major hubs (Tunis, Sousse, Monastir, Sfax, Djerba)
	Professional Background	Anesthesiologists (54%) vs. Surgeons (46%)
Device Utilization	Implanted Ports (IPs)	85% (Standard for 100% Oncology cases)
	PICCs & Midlines	Underutilized: 15% (PICCs) / 8% (Midlines)
Safety & Technology	Ultrasound Guidance	Only 23% use it systematically
	Equipment Barriers	38% report a total lack of US equipment
Complication Mgmt	Active Management	Mechanical (77%), Infectious (69%), Thrombotic (69%)
	Training Involvement	Heterogeneous / Sub-optimal
Home-Care	Primary Device	IPs remain the standard (69%)

Conclusion: This audit highlights a critical gap between international safety standards and local practices, particularly regarding ultrasound equipment shortages and the slow adoption of newer devices like PICCs. While establishing national guidelines and investing in technology remain urgent priorities, **the future is already in course**. To actively bridge this gap, we established a strategic collaboration between the **GIFAV** and the **STCO**. This partnership was officially launched with a **dedicated IV access session held during the recent STCO congress (December 2025)**, marking a concrete first step toward national standardization and improved patient outcomes



La Société Tunisienne de Chirurgie Oncologique, en collaboration avec le Groupe Interdisciplinaire Francophone d'Accès Veineux organise le 1er

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