

CV

Budtz-Lilly, Jacob

Current positions

2023- present: Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Medicine - Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, Aarhus University, Denmark

2018- present: Senior Consultant, Department of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

Previous positions

2014-2017: Fellow in interventional radiology and complex aortic treatment, Uppsala University Hospital / Aarhus University Hospital / Skåne University Hospital Malmö, Sweden

Education

2020: PhD, Department of Surgical Sciences, Uppsala University, Sweden

2018: Fellowship of the European Board of Vascular Surgery

2013: Specialist in Vascular Surgery, Denmark

2005: MD, University of Vermont College of Medicine, USA

1998: BSc, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Career breaks

Not relevant.

Research statement

I am a vascular surgeon-scientist focused on aortic disease, endovascular therapy and outcomes research. My work has progressed from registry-based evaluation of complex aortic repair to investigator-initiated multicentre trials. I initiated and now lead the SUNDAY Trial, a randomized trial of subacute TEVAR versus medical therapy for uncomplicated type B aortic dissection, now conducted across seven countries. I have built Nordic and international research networks through Uppsala University, VASCUNET and the International Consortium of Vascular Registries. The proposed Aortic LEAD programme extends this platform to total aortic repair, integrating staged treatment strategies, imaging, longitudinal outcomes and advanced epidemiology. My combination of clinical responsibility, trial

leadership, registry experience and international team-building positions me to establish a durable, independent Nordic aortic research group.

Personal context

My primary role is as a clinically active senior consultant in a national referral environment for complex aortic disease, combined with appointments as Clinical Associate Professor and Head of Research. My professional time is currently allocated approximately 60% to clinical duties, 25% to research, and 15% to teaching and supervision. I therefore integrate tertiary aortic care with research leadership, supervision, and teaching within a predominantly clinical position. The research component encompasses trial leadership, supervision, grant development, data analysis, manuscript preparation, and international collaboration, and is consequently distributed across several responsibilities rather than representing continuous protected research time. This clinical-academic position provides direct access to complex patient pathways and clinically important research questions, but research leadership must be developed alongside substantial clinical responsibilities and within a relatively small local research infrastructure. I have built multicentre and international platforms to achieve the scale, expertise, and methodological breadth required for competitive clinical research.

Supervision, teaching and research leadership

- Lead PI and Trial Steering Committee chair, SUNDAY Trial; investigator-initiated multinational randomized trial in seven countries.
- Head of Research, Vascular Surgery, Aarhus University; Co-chair, International Consortium of Vascular Registries; former President, VASCUNET; former President, Danish Society of Vascular Surgery (2022-2024).
- Site PI for international aortic device/registry studies including GORE VBX and European Aortic Data Collection.
- Supervision: 9 completed research-year/Master of Medical Science students; 3 ongoing PhD co-supervisions; 0 completed postdoctoral mentorships.
- Formal assessment of 9 PhD theses/defences across Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands (2022-2026), including chairing/assessment roles.

Collaborations and teamwork

- SUNDAY Trial network: multidisciplinary collaboration across Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Iceland, the Netherlands and New Zealand, coordinated from Aarhus.

- Uppsala University: longstanding collaboration in aortic disease, including PhD training, ongoing PhD co-supervision and joint trial work; collaboration forms the basis for the proposed postdoctoral/methodological component of Aortic LEAD.
- VASCUNET and ICVR: international registry collaborations on vascular outcomes, quality standards and comparative practice.
- National collaborations through Danish vascular centres and the Cardiovascular Network; practice-oriented collaboration with Cook Medical and W.L. Gore through investigator/site-PI registry projects.

Contributions to the research community

- Editorial Board, European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery; Guest Editor, Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery (2024-2025).
- Grant reviewer, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO/ZonMw), Vidi Programme (2024-present).
- Peer reviewer for journals including EJVES, Journal of the American Heart Association, British Journal of Surgery, Journal of Endovascular Therapy and BMJ Surgery, Interventions, & Health Technologies.
- Leadership in ICVR, VASCUNET and national vascular-surgery organisations; repeated service on PhD assessment committees in Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands.
- Promotes transparent multicentre research through prospective trial registration, shared protocols, registry standards and international data collaboration.

Contributions to the wider society

- Senior author on Danish national guidance on peripheral atherosclerotic disease and amputation prevention.
- Former President of the Danish Society of Vascular Surgery and Danish councillor representative to the European Society of Vascular Surgery, contributing to professional policy, education and cross-border collaboration.
- Patient involvement is embedded in SUNDAY governance through former aortic-dissection patients participating in the Trial Steering Committee and selected investigator activities.
- Regular dissemination of evidence on aortic disease through international scientific meetings, professional education and multidisciplinary clinical networks.