



**Henry Hagopian III, MBA**  
*NATF Patient Advocate*  
*Boston College Alumnus*

*Event Chairman*



**Henry Hagopian was named to the North American Thrombosis Forum's (NATF) advocacy committee in 2008.** He is committed to advancing the mission of the organization. Henry's personal experience exemplifies the need to increase awareness about Venous Thromboembolism (VTE) symptoms and risk factors within the medical community and the general public.

Henry was diagnosed with Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) in both of his legs in 2007 after numerous cross-country airplane trips. The blood clot in his left leg was extensive, partially caused by what was supposed to be a harmless Baker's cyst in his knee.

The doctors in the ER warned him that there was a high risk of pulmonary embolism or stroke if a portion of the clot broke off and traveled to his lungs or brain. Henry was frightened as were many of the nurses who shook their heads as they entered the room. Each voiced their concerns saying he was much too young for DVT and that he had no known risk factors. Henry tried to stay calm, but his mind kept returning to a man he greatly admired, NBC News Correspondent David Bloom. Ironically, at that time, Henry was the same age as David when he died in 2003.

The technician who administered Henry's first ultrasound gave him the first glimpse of the bad news, an extensive clotting in his left leg. Luckily for him, just a week prior to this trip to the emergency room, Henry had visited Brigham and Women's Hospital for an orthopedic consult. Henry immediately called his consulting orthopedic surgeon, Dr. John Abraham, who accurately diagnosed the pain and symptoms described to him over the phone. Dr. Abraham's assistant, Courtney Cassidy, immediately arranged for Henry to be seen at the Brigham and Women's Hospital Vascular Lab, where Henry was quickly diagnosed and treatment with enoxaparin and warfarin was initiated. Henry strongly believes this rapid response helped saved his life and helped him recover.

Over the ensuing twenty-four months, Henry felt frustrated for not acting sooner and recognizing that the pain he felt after arriving home from his most recent trip was more than just a pulled muscle. He also had to work with his HMO insurance plan and former primary care physician for several months, in order to get an initial orthopedic consult and later, a second opinion on his knee.

After his initial diagnosis at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Henry returned to his primary care physician at a major suburban medical center for follow-up care. Unfortunately, the physician did not fully understand or appreciate the severity of the situation and debated with Henry the correct warfarin therapy protocol to follow and refused to perform a follow-up ultrasound. Feeling a new level of discomfort for this medical care, Henry once again turned to Brigham and Women's Hospital for further care. With the help of Dr. Abraham and Courtney Cassidy, Boston Magazine, practices, quickly referred Henry to the Brigham and Women's Hospital's Cardiology Associates where Dr. Marie Gerhard-Herman, named one of Boston's best doctors in 2007. Dr. Gerhard-Herman's follow-up ultrasound exam showed the clot was still present in one of the veins. The caring and expertise Dr. Gerhard-Herman has shown in managing Henry's care over the last twenty-four months, has overwhelmed and touched him like no other physician he has ever met. Henry believes that the care he received at the Brigham and Women's Hospital was and continues to be, the main reason he is here today.

Henry is currently Controller of Massachusetts based Organogenesis, Inc., the world's leading regenerative medicine company focused in areas of wound healing, bio-surgery, and aesthetics. The company's flagship product, Apilgraf is FDA approved for the treatment of Venous Leg Ulcers, often a latent complication of VTE that develops in patients who experience Post Thrombotic Syndrome. Prior to Organogenesis, Henry was responsible for all corporate finance and treasury functions at Circor International, a \$700 million NYSE listed aerospace and industrial products company, headquartered in Burlington, Massachusetts. Prior to that, Henry was Assistant Controller of Stratus Technologies, a high-tech server manufacturer. Henry's career began in the telecom industry at AT&T and later with Lucent Technologies in New Jersey and Massachusetts. Henry received his B.S. degree in Economics & Finance, Summa Cum Laude, from Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey and later earned a Master of Science degree in Accounting at Boston College in 2004. He went on to receive his MBA from the Carroll School of Management in May of 2007. A member of the Boston College Club, Henry was recently elected to membership in the Treasurer's Club of Boston. This prestigious fifty-year-old Boston institution recognizes senior financial executives. A New Jersey Native, he is the father of three daughters and currently resides with his family in the Metro-West area of Boston.