



Revolutionary Treatment for People Suffering from Blocked Artery in the Leg FAQ's

Q: What is PAD?

A: Peripheral artery disease, or PAD, is an accumulation of plaque (fats and cholesterol) in a person's legs or arms. This makes it harder for the blood to carry oxygen and nutrients to the tissues.

Q: What's the correlation between PAD and heart disease?

A: Although PAD is a different condition from coronary artery disease, the two are related. People who have one are likely to have the other. A person with PAD has a higher risk of coronary artery disease, heart attack or stroke. Likewise, a person with heart disease has a 1 in 3 chance of having PAD in their legs.

Q: What are the symptoms of PAD?

A: Specifically for the legs, there can be pain, cramping and discomfort. Typically, the pain occurs when walking or exercising. The pain generally goes away with rest however PAD is a long term, persistent problem and the disease increases the risk of getting ulcers or dead tissue (gangrene) which can make it necessary for amputation to remove a person's foot or leg.

Q: What was traditional treatment for PAD?

A: Various medications and supervised exercise programs can help treat the risk factors. Angioplasty and stents are viable options for less complex cases however not durable when the disease is extensive. More advanced PAD that's causing severe pain and limiting mobility often requires surgical treatment including peripheral artery bypass surgery. Such treatment can involve multiple nights in the hospital and complete recovery time can take six-eight weeks.

Q: What is the newest option to treat complex PAD?

A: In June 2023, the FDA approved a new revolutionary technique called PTAB, which is the first-ever fully percutaneous transmural arterial bypass (PTAB) therapy using the Detour system. This novel approach allows physicians to bypass lesions in the superficial femoral artery by using stents routed through the femoral vein to restore blood flow to the leg.

Q: What is the recovery time with the Detour System?

A: The procedure generally takes about two hours and the patient is often discharged the same day or has a one night hospital stay. The durable and revolutionary stent provides immediately improvement in blood flow and pain relief.

Q: How successful is the procedure?

A: Outcomes have been extraordinary. While the first patients in the U.S. underwent the procedure on Friday, July 14 at Salinas Valley Health and Cleveland Clinic, the Detour system has been in global clinical trials for years. Endologix reports 97.2% clinical success rate at 1 year and a minimal average hospital stay of 1.1 days.

Q: Who is most at risk for PAD?

A: Regardless of gender, people with one or more of the following risk factors are more prone to developing PAD or peripheral arterial disease.

- Tobacco product consumer (most instrumental risk factor)
- Diabetes
- Age 50 and older
- Personal or family history of heart or blood vessel disease
- High blood pressure
- High Cholesterol
- Abdominal obesity.
- Blood clotting disorder
- Kidney disease

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