

## The region's leader in treating PAD.

Peripheral artery disease (PAD) is caused by a narrowing of the blood vessels, usually from the build up of fatty deposits. The most frequent symptom of PAD is pain while walking, called claudication. PAD can also result in more severe symptoms, such as constant pain and/or non-healing wounds of the toes and feet.

The UPMC Heart & Vascular Center provides world-leading care for Peripheral Artery Disease. Doctors at UPMC helped to develop the first surgical treatments for PAD. We continue to provide the most cutting-edge approaches while also performing research that is leading to better, more effective treatments.

### Advanced options for every PAD patient.

At the UPMC Heart & Vascular Center, we understand that PAD affects different patients in different ways. That is why we provide a complete range of treatment options, including some that are not available anywhere else in the area.

- We are experts at helping patients avoid surgery. We are often able to help patients manage PAD with exercise, diet and other lifestyle adjustments.
- We provide the complete range of surgical options, including endovascular angioplasty, stents and traditional bypass surgery.
- We are the only center in the region that performs aggressive percutaneous minimally-invasive treatment of all PAD-related conditions, including disabling claudication, non-healing leg ulcers and gangrene.

- We are adept at using minimally invasive, catheter-based techniques on the smaller arteries of the calf which are traditionally treated only with bypass surgery.
- Most patients receiving endovascular treatments for PAD return home the same day, as opposed to a week or more in the hospital for traditional surgery.
- Our surgeons are national leaders who are setting the standard for other surgeons by performing clinical research and formulating national policies for the treatment of PAD.
- We are the only area center using a hybrid operating room to combine the best aspects of both open surgical procedures and catheter-based techniques.
- Our surgeons can treat PAD in patients other centers cannot by using imaging techniques that don't require IV contrast dye. UPMC sets the standard in using duplex and intravascular ultrasound imaging to facilitate peripheral angioplasty and stenting.
- Our surgeons can correct problems with leg clots using minimally invasive techniques in cases where other surgeons would need to perform major surgery.
- Our Wound Care Center provides advanced therapy for patients with wounds due to PAD.
- Our Cardiovascular Device Design Program is helping to develop the next generation of technology for the treatment of PAD.



### The importance of true multidisciplinary

**care.** In most cases, patients with PAD are also affected by cardiac disease. That is why the multidisciplinary approach employed at the UPMC Heart & Vascular Center is so vital to patients.



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# Peripheral Artery Disease

## We work closely with our cardiology group to co-manage PAD patients.

Cardiologists help with diagnosis and treatment, as well as pre-operative and post-operative care. This is critical for the management of cardiac risk factors. It also helps in identifying and reducing long-term risks for heart disease and stroke.

We also collaborate with specialists in our Wound Care Center. These highly trained and compassionate experts work with us to identify patients who may need more advanced care. They also work with patients after surgery to promote wound healing.

### One number for excellent care.

For more information on Peripheral Artery Disease, or to set up an appointment, please call us today. With just one phone number for every heart and vascular need, we make getting the care you need simple:  
**call 585-275-2877**  
or visit us at [heart.urmc.edu](http://heart.urmc.edu).

## Conditions we treat.

- Arterial blockages
- Claudication (pain while walking)
- Critical limb ischemia
- Gangrene
- Infection in feet or legs
- Leg cramps
- Leg pain
- Neuropathy due to PAD
- Ulcers (open sores)



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