

The Complete Vascular Specialist

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Vascular surgeons are experts in the treatment of the entire spectrum of vascular disease, including arterial aneurysms and occlusive disease, venous disease and lymphatic insufficiency.

In fact, the term vascular surgeon is really a misnomer. Contemporary vascular surgeons do much, much more than perform traditional surgery. Actually, open surgery is a small part of our practices today. The modern vascular surgeon provides comprehensive care for the patient with circulatory disease, including noninvasive diagnosis; medical management; state-of-the-art minimally invasive endovascular angioplasty, stent and stent graft procedures; as well as conventional open operations.

Vascular surgeons pioneered the development of noninvasive laboratory methods to diagnose the presence and severity of vascular disease. This diagnostic information allows us and the primary care physician to select the most appropriate treatment plan for the patient with circulatory disease, and monitor patients long-term.

Vascular surgeons are perhaps best known for performing time-honored conventional open surgical operations, and we operate on patients today with greater safety, and more effectively, than at any time in our history. Vascular surgeons are the only vascular specialists who offer these life- and limb-salvaging interventions. But, we offer much more.

Vascular surgeons have led in the development of catheter-based endovascular interventions, and are recognized leaders in the clinical investigation of these evolving modalities. In fact, vascular surgical leaders have published guidelines establishing the standard of care in this area.

Achieving the best outcomes for our patients requires not only the meticulous performance of therapeutic procedures, but equally importantly, knowing when these interventions are truly indicated, or conversely, when conservative medical management is more appropriate. We treat patients, not lesions. Vascular surgeons also are specialists in vascular medicine and partner with primary care doctors in the medical management of patients with vascular disease, and unlike other vascular specialists, we follow our patients long-term.

Vascular surgeons are the only vascular specialists who provide the entire spectrum of vascular treatment: medical, catheter-based endovascular procedures and open operations. It's common sense to realize that only when your patient sees a physician who offers all the possible treatment options will you be assured that your patient will receive the treatment most appropriate to his or her condition, rather than the treatment that a particular specialist offers.

Vascular surgeons have a long history of partnering with primary care physicians in managing patients with vascular disease. Contemporary vascular surgeons remain committed to working with our primary care colleagues to optimize the vascular health of our growing population with circulatory disease. Our patients deserve no less.

To learn more about your vascular health and find a vascular surgeon visit VascularWeb.org.