

Schedule your appointment with Charlotte Radiology

You may check our website for free screenings offered a couple of times a year. To schedule a screening and consultation appointment with one of our Interventional Radiologists, please call:

Carolinas Imaging Services (Outpatient Centers)
704.442.4390

Carolinas Medical Center Facilities
704.355.1322

CMC – Union
704.283.3373

**Interventional Radiology Clinic
(Cabarrus County Consultations)**
704.786.0052

For an ankle-brachial index (ABI) screening procedure, you need a physician's referral. Appointments are available Monday through Friday. In order to allow time for patient registration, we ask that you arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled exam time.

For more information

If you have questions about any of our procedures or for directions, please visit our comprehensive website:

www.charlotteradiology.com

May we also suggest:

www.radiologyinfo.org
www.sirweb.org

CharlotteRadiology

Carolinas Imaging Services Locations:

Carolinas Imaging Services – Ballantyne
15110 John J. Delaney Drive, Suite 130
Charlotte, NC 28277

Carolinas Imaging Services – Matthews
1401 Matthews Township Parkway, Suite 310
Charlotte, NC 28105

Carolinas Imaging Services – Morrocroft
4525 Cameron Valley Parkway, Suite 1000
Charlotte, NC 28211

Carolinas Imaging Services – Northcross
16455 Statesville Road, Suite 110
Huntersville, NC 28078

Interventional Radiology Clinic
(for patients in Cabarrus County, procedures done at
CMC-NorthEast)
212 LePhillip Court, Suite 201
Concord, NC 28025

Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)
1000 Blythe Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203

CMC- Mercy
2001 Vail Avenue
Charlotte, NC 28207

CMC- Pineville
10628 Park Road
Charlotte, NC 28210

CMC- University
8800 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28262

CMC- Union
600 Hospital Drive
Monroe, NC 28112

www.charlotteradiology.com

CharlotteRadiology



Peripheral Vascular Disease
providing the perfect balance of health and spirit.

What is Peripheral Vascular Disease?

Peripheral vascular disease, or PVD, is a condition in which the arteries that carry blood to the arms or legs become narrowed or clogged, hindering normal blood flow. PVD can occur in anyone; however, it is more common in men and women over the age of 50. If you have PVD, you are at a higher risk for heart disease and stroke.

Approximately 10 million people in the United States may have PVD. Risk factors include:

- age over 50
- smoking
- diabetes
- overweight
- lack of exercise
- high blood pressure or high cholesterol

A family history of heart or vascular disease may also put you at higher risk for PVD.

What are the symptoms of PVD?

The disease, which affects both men and women, often goes undiagnosed. Many people mistakenly think the symptoms are a normal part of aging. The following are symptoms associated with PVD:

- Leg or hip pain occurring during exercise
- Pain stops when resting
- Numbness in legs or feet
- Tingling in legs or feet
- Weakness in the legs
- Burning or aching pain in feet or toes when resting
- Sore on leg or foot which doesn't heal
- Cold legs or feet
- Color change in skin of legs or feet
- Loss of hair on legs

How is PVD diagnosed?

The most common test for PVD is the ankle-brachial index (ABI), a painless exam in which ultrasound is used to measure the blood pressure in the feet and arms. A blood pressure cuff and a Doppler unit (microphone) are used to determine pressures in the leg. A Doppler device is placed on the skin over the pulse. If there are any blockages, the Doppler makes a specific sound that will be detected by the technologist. This screening procedure takes approximately 15 minutes. A physician must refer you for this procedure, or you may check our web site (charlotteradiology.com) for free screenings offered a couple of times a year.

Based on the results of your ABI, as well as your symptoms and risk factors for PVD, the radiologist can decide if further tests are needed. If your screening test indicates you are at moderate or high risk for PVD, you will return to one of our centers for a Doppler Ultrasound scan. This more extensive color exam will take approximately one hour. Echoes from the sound waves will create an image on a TV-like monitor. A vascular interventional radiologist will interpret these results, along with your history, and discuss with you and your physician any further testing or treatment.

How can PVD be treated?

The most appropriate treatment for PVD is based on a number of factors, including your overall health and the severity of the disease. In some cases, lifestyle changes (diet, exercise, smoking cessation) are enough to stop the progression of PVD and manage the disease. Sometimes, prescription drugs or procedures that open up clogged blood vessels are used to treat PVD.

Our vascular radiologists, after interpreting your Doppler Ultrasound exam, and after consulting with your physician, may determine that you are a candidate for one of the procedures listed below. They will be available to discuss the procedure, risks and expected results at the time of your visit.

The following procedures allow our Vascular Interventional Radiologists to open blood vessels at the site of blockages and restore normal blood flow. In many cases, they can be performed using modern, tiny tubes called catheters and other miniaturized tools and X-rays.

Procedures performed by our Vascular Interventional Radiologists include:

Angioplasty:

a balloon is inflated to open the blood vessel.

Thrombolytic therapy:

clot-busting drugs are delivered to the site of blockages caused by blood clots.

Stents:

a tiny metal cylinder, or stent, is inserted in the clogged vessel to act like a scaffolding and hold it open.

Stent-grafts:

a stent covered with synthetic fabric is inserted into the blood vessels to bypass diseased arteries.