



VASCULAR & INTERVENTIONAL SPECIALISTS

A DIVISION OF CHARLOTTE RADIOLOGY



Up to 40% of women in the United States suffer from fibroids.



Approximately 30% of men who are evaluated for infertility will have varicoceles.

One in every 20 Americans over the age of 50 has PAD, a condition linked to an increased risk of heart attack and stroke.

**1/3** of hysterectomies are due to fibroids.\*

Up to **TWO MILLION** Americans suffer from DVT, resulting in approximately **300,000 DEATHS** annually from pulmonary embolism.

\*Performed annually in the United States

CONDITIONS	TREATMENTS
Liver (primary and metastatic), Renal & Lung Cancers	Chemoembolization
	Radioembolization
	Microwave Ablation
	Radiofrequency Ablation
Compression Fractures	Kyphoplasty/Vertebroplasty
Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)	DVT Thrombolysis Therapy
Pelvic Congestion Syndrome	Pelvic Vein Embolization
Peripheral Artery Disease	Angioplasty
	Thrombectomy
	Stent Placement
Stroke	Stroke Intervention with clot removal
Uterine Fibroids	Uterine Fibroid Embolization
Varicoceles	Varicocele Embolization

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VASCULAR & INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES

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### ***A less invasive approach.***

Vascular & Interventional Specialists (VIS) is a division of Charlotte Radiology. Our team of physicians is highly specialized in treating vascular conditions through modern, minimally invasive techniques. From immediate care with stroke intervention to ongoing cancer treatments and amputation prevention, we are proud to offer consultations and medical services at several outpatient clinics and hospitals in the Charlotte metropolitan area.

### ***What is an interventional radiologist?***

Interventional radiologists are board-certified physicians who specialize in minimally invasive, targeted medical treatments. Using technology such as CT, X-ray or ultrasound for image guidance, these physicians are able to directly access the disease site using catheters and other fine instruments, often through tiny punctures as small as a pencil tip. These targeted procedures minimize trauma to the body, reduce infection rates and recovery time, and typically cost less than traditional operations.

**VIS physicians perform minimally invasive procedures to treat the following conditions:**

#### **► CANCER**

Our physicians provide interventional oncology treatments for the liver, kidney and lungs, often allowing patients to preserve the affected organ by specifically targeting the cancer. Common interventional oncology treatments include chemoembolization, radioembolization, microwave ablation, radiofrequency ablation and cryoablation.

#### **► COMPRESSION FRACTURES**

Osteoporotic patients can experience painful compression fractures when height loss and spine curvature put stress on the backbone. During kyphoplasty and vertebroplasty, our physicians inject special medical-grade bone cement into the fractured vertebra to create an internal cast. This helps to alleviate pain, optimize healing and restore mobility.

#### **► DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS (DVT)**

Deep Vein Thrombosis is a serious medical condition that occurs when a blood clot forms in one or more of the body's major deep veins (typically in the legs or pelvis), leading to blockage of circulation. The result is pain, swelling and risk of serious health complications, like pulmonary embolism (PE), which occurs when a blood clot travels to the lungs. DVT therapy utilizes ultrasound and live X-ray guidance to remove the blood clot, typically in a single setting.

#### **► PELVIC CONGESTION SYNDROME**

Pelvic Congestion Syndrome results from pelvic venous insufficiency (PVI), where the pelvic veins become enlarged (similar to varicose veins that are common in the lower legs). With PVI, pelvic varicose veins bulge and stretch, leading to pelvic pain and a sensation of heaviness in the lower pelvis. Pelvic Congestion Syndrome is treated with pelvic venous embolization, which closes off the blood supply to the failing veins and redirects blood flow to normally functioning veins.

#### **► PERIPHERAL ARTERY DISEASE (PAD)**

Peripheral Arterial Disease, or Peripheral Vascular Disease, is a condition in which accumulated vascular plaques cause arteries to narrow or become clogged. It limits blood flow to leg tissue and muscle, which can cause pain with exertion and lower extremity ulcers. Most patients are candidates for angioplasty or atherectomy. Minimally invasive procedures can remove the blockage, or a stent can be placed in the artery to hold the clogged blood vessel open. Drug-coated balloon angioplasty is a newer technology, which helps prevent the return of blockage by applying medication to arterial walls.

#### **► UTERINE FIBROIDS**

Uterine fibroids are the most common form of noncancerous uterine tumors, affecting 25 – 40% of women. Fibroids can cause significant discomfort, including pelvic pain, cramping, heavy menstrual bleeding, bladder pressure and constipation. Fibroids are treatable with Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE), a minimally invasive procedure performed by an interventional radiologist. During UFE, a small catheter is guided into the uterine arteries, and tiny sterile particles are injected to block the blood supply to the fibroids, causing them to shrink and symptoms to subside.

#### **► VARICOCELES**

A varicocele is a cluster of enlarged veins in the scrotum that causes blood pooling and increased pressure in the veins. Fifteen percent of all men have varicoceles, with the highest occurrence in younger men. Varicoceles are treated with embolization, during which abnormal veins are permanently closed, allowing blood to redirect via normal venous channels.

