

Peripheral
Arterial Disease



Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) and Non-Healing Wounds



PAD affects more than 8 million Americans ages 40 and older.

PAD occurs when arteries in the legs become narrowed or blocked by plaque buildup, reducing blood flow to the limbs.

When blood flow is limited, patients may experience severe pain in the feet or toes, even while resting, and are at a greater risk for developing wounds. In addition, without healthy circulation, the oxygen and nutrients critical to successful healing are unable to reach those wounds. Left untreated, PAD-related wounds can result in serious consequences, including limb loss or even death.

To prevent amputation, blood flow must be restored to the affected area. Because of this, one of the first things our wound center staff will do for patients with PAD is performing a simple test to determine blood flow. If needed, the staff may also order advanced testing or refer to a vascular specialist for consultation.

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/health/peripheral-artery-disease>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6363558/>



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