

ARTERIAL ULCERS: DO THEY QUALIFY

- Presented by Inspira Health

WHAT IS IT?



- Arterial Ulcers develop as a result of Arterial insufficiency.
- Arterial Insufficiency
 - ❖ Any condition that slows or stops the flow of blood through the arteries.
 - ❖ Both acute and chronic arterial insufficiencies can result in arterial ulcers.
- Peripheral artery disease is a condition in which narrowed blood vessels reduce blood flow to the limbs
 - ❖ This can cause Critical Limb Ischemia



WHAT DOES
ARTERIAL
INSUFFICIENCY
LOOK LIKE?

CRITICAL LIMB ISCHEMIA

Most severe form of blockage

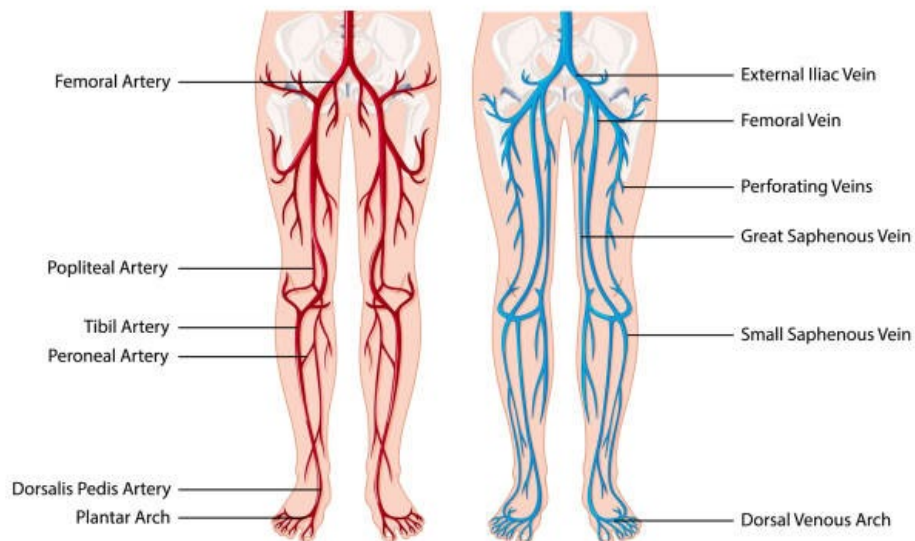
Can cause gangrene very quickly due to lack of blood flow

Major amputation rate

Within 6 months rate as high as 40% for amputation

Within 1st year, mortality rate is 20-25% after clinical presentation

Arteries and Veins of the Leg





CAN HBOT BE USED?

➤ YES!!

❖ CMS (Medicare) has listed **acute** peripheral arterial insufficiencies as an approved treatment.

➤ Powerful and effective advanced Modality that can increase wound healing.

➤ Undersea Hyperbaric Medical Society describes HBOT as beneficial for arterial insufficiencies

➤ Angiogenesis!



MEDICAL NECESSITY

- To qualify for Treatment, the patient must meet medical necessity
- Elements to meet for medical necessity for Acute peripheral arterial insufficiency include:
 - ✓ HBO is indicated within the first 4-6 hours of acute event
 - ✓ Only after blood circulation has been restored and documented
 - ✓ Origin of condition
 - Reconstruction/graft thrombosis, iatrogenic trauma, native thrombosis, embolism, or peripheral aneurysm with embolism or thrombosis.
 - ✓ Diagnostic testing
 - Arteriogram, CT angiogram, and/or MRO angiogram
 - ✓ Failed conservative treatment
 - Anticoagulation and percutaneous aspiration or mechanical thromboembolectomy





IN CONCLUSION

- ❖ HBOT reduces edema and enhances O₂ at the tissue level to counter reactive edema that often presents after surgical restoration of blood flow (reperfusion injury)
- ❖ Acute Peripheral arterial insufficiency is covered but to meet medical necessity:
 - ✓ Patient must be in hospital
 - ✓ Treatments are required to be inpatient
 - ✓ Arterial wounds or chronic arterial insufficiency are not considered a medical necessity for HBOT



QUIZ TIME

- ❖ Chronic and acute Peripheral arterial insufficiency can be treated by HBO.



QUESTION 1: TRUE OR FALSE?

- ❖ Chronic and acute Peripheral arterial insufficiency can be treated by HBO.



FALSE!

❖ Chronic and acute Peripheral arterial disease can be treated by HBO.



QUESTION 2: TRUE OR FALSE?

- ❖ Medicare does not cover HBOT for Peripheral arterial insufficiency.



FALSE!

❖ Medicare **does** cover HBOT for Peripheral arterial insufficiency.



QUESTION 3

❖ It can be treated as inpatient and outpatient.



FALSE!

❖ It can be treated as **inpatient** and ~~outpatient~~.



NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS

- ❖ Hyperbaric Safety Manual for 2023 is on the member's portal
- ❖ Monthly hyperbaric webinar attendance
- ❖ Amputating a DFU (Matt)
- ❖ The time frame of a compromised/failed flap/graft (Matt)
- ❖ Tracking pre-auth timing

ROUND TABLE





HYPERBARIC CONVERSION RATES