CLI CASE STUDY

Successful revascularization with complete wound healing

MAJOR AMPUTATION PREVENTED!

BLOOD FLOW PRE-PROCEDURE indicates missing blood flow due to blockages

BLOOD FLOW POST-PROCEDURE

What Emergency Healthcare Providers NEED TO KNOW About Critical Limb Ischemia (CLI)

When untreated, CLI will lead to amputations and death.

CLI is more deadly than most cancers combined.¹

55% of patients receiving a major amputation die within 4 years.¹

85% of diabetes-related amputations are preventable.²

REFERENCES:
2. American Diabetes Association
What Is CLI?

CLI is the worst form of Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) and is caused by lack of blood flow due to severe narrowing or blockages in the arteries of the legs and feet.

How to Recognize CLI?

If your patient has any of the following symptoms in the legs and/or feet, they may have CLI:

- Open sores, wounds, or skin infections that will not heal
- Gangrene
- Pain, cramps, or numbness
- Shiny, smooth, dry skin
- Thickening of the toenails

What are Risk Factors for CLI?

- Anyone age 50 or older
- Smoking/Nicotine
- Diabetes
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Heart disease
- Chronic kidney disease

How to Treat CLI?

Endovascular (minimally invasive) procedures, such as the use of balloon angioplasty, atherectomy, and stenting, to restore blood flow.

Surgical bypass which uses a vein or graft to go around the blocked portion of the artery and restore blood flow.

Medical therapy, wound care, surveillance, exercise, and diet modification in conjunction with endovascular and/or surgical procedures.

Avoiding amputations are best achieved with immediate referral to a CLI Specialist, who can guide appropriate diagnostic testing.

Who Treats CLI?

An endovascular or surgical specialist who performs procedures in the small vessels of the legs and feet.

These specialists include:
- Interventional Cardiologists
- Interventional Radiologists
- Vascular Surgeons

NOT ALL SPECIALISTS ARE PROFICIENT IN CLI.

CLI patients may visit an emergency room with the following symptoms of the legs and/or feet:

- Cold to the touch
- Absent or diminished pulses
- Severe pain
- Open/draining wounds, sores, and/or gangrene
- Discolored skin and nails
- Lack of capillary filling

CLI Specialist revascularizing the pedal loop, a major artery perfusing the foot.