

Vascular Surgeons Save Legs And Feet

(NAPSA)—Patients with diabetic vascular disease have increased chances to develop blockages in their arteries secondary to peripheral vascular disease (PVD). These blockages can be very serious and result in foot sores, pain in legs when walking, loss of feeling or a burning feeling in their feet or even gangrene.



Vascular surgeons can help protect people with peripheral vascular disease from losing their legs.

Vascular surgeons are experts in treating diabetic vascular disease. They want patients to know that there are preventative measures patients can take to avoid these severe consequences of PVD. Patients should stop smoking and control their blood sugar levels, blood pressure and lipid levels with diet, exercise and medication.

When blockages do develop, vascular surgeons can perform non-invasive treatments using balloon catheters (angioplasty and/or stents) or open surgical reconstruction to bypass the blockage in the arteries in order to save the patient's leg. They do amputations when and only when all attempts at limb salvage are exhausted.

To learn more about vascular disease and find a vascular specialist, visit VascularWeb.org presented by the Society for Vascular Surgery®.