Superior Vascular Care

Beebe Healthcare’s experienced vascular surgeons, with support from surgical teams and the latest technologies, perform surgeries to either open or repair blood vessels, other than the ones in the heart, so that blood flows more freely to the body. These vascular surgeons provide emergency coverage 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at Beebe. In addition to surgical treatment of vascular illnesses, Beebe also offers a broad range of diagnostic testing and other nonsurgical procedures.

A new, state-of-the-art, hybrid operating room is being constructed at the Margaret H. Rollins Lewes Campus. This efficient operating theater will allow vascular surgeons and diagnostic teams to work seamlessly in one dedicated space.

Beebe’s Vein Center is operated by the vascular team to provide patient-centered care for most vein diseases and illnesses.

BEEBE VASCULAR SERVICES PROCEDURES INCLUDE:

- Abdominal aortic aneurysm repair
  > Open/Endovascular
- Limb salvage revascularization
- Endovascular stent
- Carotid endarterectomy/stent
- Dialysis access for nephrology patients
- Lower extremity revascularization
  > Open/Endovascular
- Balloon angioplasty
- Thoracic outlet syndrome management
- Minimally invasive venous procedures
- TCAR—transcarotid artery revascularization

The Beebe Vein Center offers a full spectrum of treatments for varicose veins and spider veins.

THE TCAR PROCEDURE: Transcarotid Artery Revascularization

Beebe Healthcare is the first in the region to provide TCAR—transcarotid artery revascularization.

TCAR is designed to reduce the risk of stroke during the insertion of the stent for patients who are at risk for stroke. This procedure uses a special transcarotid neuro-protection system, which allows the surgeon to directly access the common carotid artery in the neck and initiate temporary blood flow reversal. By reversing the blood flow quickly during the procedure, the patient’s brain is protected from a stroke.

During the TCAR procedure, one of Beebe’s vascular surgeons makes a small incision at the neckline, just above the clavicle. This incision is much smaller than
would be made for a traditional carotid endarterectomy. The catheter is placed directly into the carotid artery and connected to the neuro-protection system to direct blood flow away from the brain, protecting against embolism that could reach the brain and cause stroke. Any embolic plaque is captured in a filter outside the body.

The filtered blood is then returned through a second catheter which flows into the patient’s upper leg. Once the stent is placed successfully, the blood flow is returned to normal.

**SYMPTOMS OF VASCULAR DISEASE**

**Peripheral Arterial Disease**
- Pain in the calf or thigh after walking a short distance
- Changes in skin color, or foot sores that don’t heal

**Venous Insufficiency**
- Swelling, pain, aching sensation of the legs
- Discoloration, ulcers of the lower legs
- Varicose veins, spider veins, reticular veins

**Stroke/Carotid Artery Disease**
- Brief loss of vision in one eye
- Difficulty speaking or forming words
- Temporary weakness in an arm or leg

**NON-INVASIVE VASCULAR TESTING**

Non-invasive peripheral vascular testing allows the physician to make a clinical diagnosis without submitting the patient to costly, uncomfortable, and complicated invasive procedures. Non-invasive vascular studies show the functional aspect of the vessels rather than the structural changes that are indicated by an angiogram.

Beebe Healthcare offers convenient Vascular labs at the medical center in Lewes, at Beebe Vascular, and at the Millsboro outpatient lab location. Both have been accredited by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Vascular Laboratories. They have state-of-the-art equipment, including color-flow duplex, which is capable of the most sophisticated non-invasive diagnostic procedures available. Tests performed at these labs provide physicians with an in-depth evaluation of the cerebrovascular, peripheral arterial, and venous systems.

Testing is done both for outpatients and inpatients. Most procedures require 30 minutes to perform and are painless. Interpretation of test results is provided by Board Certified vascular surgeons.

Patients must be referred to the Beebe Vascular Lab by a doctor. Procedures may be scheduled by calling Outpatient Scheduling Services 302-645-FAST (3278).