

About the Screenings

VascularLife is a partnership of Forrest General Hospital and the Vascular Specialists of Hattiesburg Clinic. VascularLife physicians Keith Thompson, D.O., F.A.C.O.S., R.V.T.; Lewis Hatten, M.D., F.A.C.S.; and Brian Sellers, D.O., are fellowship-trained vascular physicians specializing in the comprehensive management of PAD, carotid disease, aortic aneurysms and varicose veins.

Common risk factors that may make you more likely to develop vascular disease:

- Increasing Age
- Gender - males are more prone to abdominal aortic aneurysms and PAD
- Smoking or history of smoking
- Diabetes
- Obesity
- High cholesterol
- Lack of exercise
- High blood pressure
- Family history of vascular disease

Future screenings are being planned. Please call Hattiesburg Clinic Vascular Specialists at 601-579-5010, for more information about VascularLife and upcoming screening opportunities or visit forrestgeneral.com or hattiesburgclinic.com.

Hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Patient Results

Screening results for:

_____ patient name

on _____ date

You were recently screened for vascular disease. The screening detects carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAA), and peripheral arterial disease (PAD).

The results from your exam are as follows:

Blood pressure:

- Normal Elevated

Leg blood flow:

- Normal Abnormal

Aortic diameter :

- Normal Enlarged

Carotid ultrasound scan:

- Normal Abnormal

Other companies routinely charge patients \$120 or more for the same screenings. VascularLife screenings are provided to you at no cost. For more information about the results of your screening, please contact your primary care physician.



 A partnership of **Forrest General** and **Hattiesburg Clinic**
Vascular Specialists



What you need to know about

Vascular Screenings



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Peripheral Arterial Disease

What is PAD?

Lower extremity Peripheral Arterial Disease or PAD is a common disease that decreases blood flow to the legs and feet. It is caused by a buildup of plaque in the arteries making them too narrow or obstructed.

Symptoms of PAD:

There may be no symptoms of PAD in the early stages. Developing symptoms may include leg pain or leg cramps caused when walking. More severe symptoms may include foot or toe pain at rest that disturbs sleep.

Why should I be screened?

Peripheral arterial disease (PAD) can lead to severely debilitating pain in the legs which can progress in severe cases to loss of a limb.

This screening, which includes measuring blood pressure in the ankles and comparing it to that in the arms, evaluates for PAD.

This screening can diagnose an AAA. The size of the aorta will be accurately measured with ultrasound to determine if an aneurysm is present.

This screening will evaluate for the presence of plaque in the carotid arteries in the neck, and show if you have a narrowing or blockage.

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms

What is AAA?

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms (AAA) are serious medical conditions that result when the wall of the aorta progressively weakens and begins to bulge. An aneurysm can be cured permanently when diagnosed early. If left untreated, an abdominal aortic aneurysm can rupture and cause internal bleeding and possibly death.

Symptoms of AAA:

Most people feel no symptoms and an AAA is often detected during unrelated testing. People who are symptomatic have described a pulsing feeling in their abdomen and unexplained, severe pain in the abdomen or lower back.

Carotid Artery Stenosis

What is CAS?

Carotid Artery Stenosis (CAS) results when the carotid arteries in the neck become narrowed or blocked by plaque. This limits blood flow to the brain. Strokes result from obstruction of blood flow to the brain or when pieces of plaque break off and flow to the brain.

Why should I be screened?

Carotid artery disease is a cause of many strokes. It can be easily and accurately diagnosed using an ultrasound scan that is simple, painless, and takes only a few minutes. The results of not treating the disease can be devastating.

Symptoms of CAS:

There may be no symptoms of carotid disease in the early stages, and sometimes having a stroke is the first sign of the disease. Typically, strokes have warning signs known as ministrokes or transient ischemic attacks (TIAs). These symptoms usually last a few minutes to a few hours and should be treated as an emergency.

Symptoms of strokes or TIAs include:

- Weakness, numbness, or tingling on one side of the body
- Inability to control movement of a body part
- Loss of vision in one or both eyes
- Inability to speak clearly
- Difficulty talking or comprehending what others are saying
- Dizziness or confusion