

Arterial Vascular Pathology presenting to ED

1. ISCHAEMIC LIMBS

This is a large group of patients with many potential pathologies. Best management does not always mean referral to the Vascular hub.

Discuss with the Vascular Hub SpR if -

- Severe foot pain of recent onset
- Sensori-motor deficit
- Muscle tenderness
- Sudden deterioration with previous vascular graft or stent

Refer urgently to Vascular Clinic* at ESH if -

- History greater than two weeks
- Dry gangrene and ulceration

Refer to AMU / SAU if -

- Ischaemic leg part of end of life process
- Other co-morbidity requires patient's admission

2. DIABETIC FOOT

Infection in the Diabetic Foot may be limb and/or life threatening

Discuss with the Vascular Hub SpR if -

- Signs of systemic sepsis
- Erythema extending proximal to ankle

Otherwise refer to AMU to be reviewed by the Diabetic Team

3. THROMBOPHLEBITIS

Refer to AMU if –

- Concern there may be associated DVT

Treatment is –

- Compression hosiery if palpable pedal pulses
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory gel
- NO ANTIBIOTICS
- Advise GP to refer to Vascular Team at ESH

Emergency Department Guidelines

4. BLEEDING FROM VARICOSE VEINS

Elevate and apply pressure to bleeding point. If bleeding persists consider coagulopathy.

Advise GP to refer to Vascular Team at ESH for clinic review

Refer to AMU / SAU if –

- Severe co-morbidities making discharge unsafe
- Need for transfusion

5. VENOUS ULCERS

Refer to AMU if –

- Cellulitis associated with ulceration
- Signs of systemic sepsis

Advise GP to refer to Vascular Team at ESH if neither of the above

6. ABDOMINAL AORTIC ANEURYSMS

Refer to Vascular Hub SpR if –

- Clinical diagnosis of ruptured AAA +/- FAST scan

Hub SpR will usually accept patient BUT –

- If uncertainty of diagnosis may ask for CTA to be performed at ESH
- If patient deemed unfit for repair may advise referral to AMU

CONTACT NUMBERS

If you are unsure and would like further advice please contact the Vascular Team at East Surrey Monday to Friday 0800 to 1700.

ESH - Vascular Office	X 1749
ESH – Vascular Trust Doctor	Bleep 899
ESH – Vascular Nurse Specialist	Bleep 492
St George’s Vascular Hub SpR	020 8672 1255 Bleep 6640
Brighton Vascular Hub SpR	01273 696955 Bleep 8004
email	vascularinpatientreferrals@sash.nhs.uk

***VASCULAR CLINIC** *Additional Information provided by Dr Julian Webb (ED Lead Consultant)*

June 2018: We now have formal access to vascular clinics for patients with **sub-acute arterial issues** which do not require admission: three clinic slots a week, one on Wednesday and two on Thursday. If

Emergency Department Guidelines

you want a patient seen you can get an appointment in much the same way as you get a fracture clinic appointment.

Please note though this is not for recurrent/non-acute conditions that **do not** require an appointment via ED e.g. thrombophlebitis, bleeding varicose ulcers (GP referral to vascular clinic required)

Subject	This policy lays out guidance in relation to arterial vascular pathology presenting to ED
Applies to	All staff working in the ED at East Surrey Hospital
Date issued	13June2018
Status	Approved
Version	1.0
Review date	11 June 2018
Responsible person	Dr J Webb, Lead Consultant in Emergency for the Vascular Surgeons. Written for ESH ED by Vascular Surgeons Mr Alex Rodway and Mr Tom Loosemore.
Authorised by	Dr J Webb on behalf of the Clinical Governance Meeting
Related documents	
Documents replaced	Vascular Pathways – ED2017 (original 2016) Vascular Service Protocols – ED2013