

Why Do Patients Prefer AI3

Advanced Imaging and Interventional Institute is the Tampa Bay Area's first and most advanced *OUTPATIENT* center for Interventional Radiology and Vascular Specialties

1. **No Over Night Hospital Stays** – Patients will return to the comfort of their own homes the same day of procedures
2. **Less Costly** - The services that AI3 provides are much less expensive than the same procedures done in a hospital setting and provide a real financial savings. This could make a difference in hundreds of dollars for personal medical expenses from co-pays and deductibles
3. **State-Of-The-Art Equipment** - The interventional suite at AI3 has equipment which is more advanced than most hospitals in the Tampa area and is a national show site for General Electric Corporation
4. **Special Care and Patient Education** - Patients receive extensive education from the medical staff to learn more about themselves and medical conditions
5. **Highly Qualified Physicians** – All of our doctors are board certified Vascular Interventional Radiologists. Dr. Jerry is the present Chairman of the Economics Committee SIR and has been providing a major role in training standards for physicians performing Interventional Radiology
6. **Less likely to become ill from infectious disease** – 5% of all hospital inpatients acquire an infection of some kind during their stay, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services.



Coastal Vascular Specialists is a division of Advanced Imaging and Interventional Institute (AI3) and is one of the first and most advanced Free-Standing Interventional Vascular Specialist centers in the Tampa Bay area. Coastal Vascular Specialists offers a full range of diagnostic imaging and minimally invasive outpatient procedures and is wholly owned and staffed by Board certified and fellowship trained radiologist,

Dr. Gerald Niedzwiecki M.D.



Advanced Imaging and
Interventional Institute

2730 N McMullen Booth Rd Ste 100
Phone: 727-791-7300
Fax: 727-723-9010

www.ai3web.com



Gerald A. Niedzwiecki, M.D.
"Dr. Jerry"



Angiogram with Angioplasty and Stenting



*Minimally Invasive
Treatment for Peripheral
Artery Disease*

Atherosclerosis – Hardening of the Arteries

Atherosclerosis, or “hardening of the arteries,” occurs when cholesterol and scar tissue build up, forming a substance called plaque inside the arteries that narrows and clogs the arteries, causing decreased blood flow. Because atherosclerosis is a systemic disease, people are likely to have blocked arteries in multiple areas of the body. These people are at increased risk for heart disease, aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease, stroke, renal hypertension and kidney failure.

Angiogram / Angiography

An angiogram is an X-ray test that uses a special dye and camera (fluoroscopy) to take pictures of the blood flow in an artery (such as the aorta) or a vein (such as the vena cava). An angiogram can be used to look at the arteries or veins in the head, arms, legs, chest, back, or belly.

Common angiograms can look at the arteries near the heart (coronary angiogram), lungs (pulmonary angiogram), brain (cerebral angiogram), head and neck (carotid angiogram), legs or arms (peripheral), and the aorta (aortogram).

During an angiogram, a thin tube called a catheter is placed into a blood vessel camera.gif in the groin (femoral artery or vein) or just above the elbow (brachial artery or vein). The catheter is guided to the area to be studied. Then an iodine dye (contrast material) is injected into the vessel to make the area show clearly on the X-ray pictures. This method is known as conventional or catheter angiogram. The angiogram pictures can be made into regular X-ray films or stored as digital pictures in a computer.

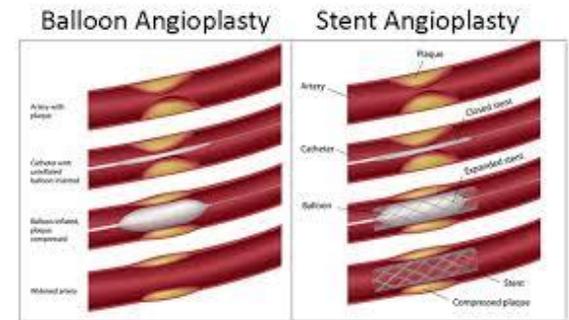
An angiogram can find a bulge in a blood vessel (aneurysm). It can also show narrowing or a blockage in a blood vessel that affects blood flow. An angiogram can show if coronary artery disease is present and how bad it is.

A magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA) or computed tomography angiogram (CTA) may be an option instead of an angiogram. Each of these tests is less invasive than a standard angiogram. Some MRA tests and all CTA tests require an injection of dye. A CTA also involves radiation exposure.

Why It Is Done

An angiogram is done to:

- Detect problems with blood vessels that affect blood flow. Examples of such problems include a tear in a blood vessel (which can cause blockage or internal bleeding), aneurysms (which are weaknesses in the blood vessel wall), and narrowed areas.
- Look for changes in the blood vessels of injured or damaged organs.
- Show the pattern of blood flow to a tumor. This can not only help show how much the tumor camera.gif has spread but also guide treatment.
- Show the condition, number, and location of renal arteries camera.gif before a kidney transplant.
- Look for a source of bleeding, such as an ulcer.
- Prepare for surgery on diseased blood vessels of the legs (peripheral arterial disease) in people who have severe leg pain when walking.
- Check how bad atherosclerosis is in the coronary arteries.



Angioplasty and Stenting

In many cases, interventional radiologists can open blocked or narrowed blood vessels caused by peripheral arterial disease or other conditions. For example, in some patients, high blood pressure is caused by blockage in the artery to the kidney, a condition known as renal vascular hypertension. Interventional radiologists can often treat blocked blood vessels without surgery. In most cases, hospitalization and general anesthesia are not required. There is no surgical incision –just a small nick in the skin — and no stitches are needed. Often, patients may return to normal activity shortly after the procedure.

Angioplasty and Stenting Definition

In this technique, the interventional radiologist inserts a very small balloon attached to a thin catheter into a blood vessel through a small nick in the skin. The catheter is threaded under X-ray guidance to the site of the blocked artery. The balloon is inflated to open the artery. Sometimes, a small metal scaffold, called a stent, is inserted to keep the blood vessel open.