

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Abdominal aortic aneurysm is a condition in which the abdominal aorta (the largest artery in the body) becomes dilated and is no longer a straight, narrow tube in the abdomen. This dilation often assumes the appearance of a balloon like outpouching from the aorta. This condition is concerning for its associated risk of rupture. The rupture of an abdominal aortic aneurysm is proportional to the size of that aneurysm. As these aneurysms grow, the likelihood of rupture increases.

Abdominal aortic aneurysm is a condition in which operative repair has yielded fantastic results throughout the years; however, emerging technologies with endovascular therapies have offered exciting alternatives in cases of uncomplicated abdominal aortic aneurysms in certain patients. Dr. Platnick screens patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms, offering operative intervention for those patients who require this and, in concert with his colleagues, offering endovascular repair for those patients who are candidates for this procedure.

Peripheral vascular surgery is that surgery which is often referred to as surgery for "hardening of the arteries" or "poor circulation." Patients with non-healing wounds on their lower extremities, pain or cramping when they walk are often victims of this narrowing or hardening of the arteries, which may be treated after adequate evaluation with bypass grafting. Dr. Platnick has also performed numerous peripheral vascular surgeries at multiple institutions.