

Orthotics 2009: Building Your Practice, Improving Your Outcome



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# PODIATRY MANAGEMENT

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## *Orthotics and Biomechanics: How to Code, Prescribe, and Ethically Boost Your Bottom Line*

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## **BioMedix Announces Collaboration with NIH Sponsored Claudication Trial—CLEVER**

Recognizing the importance of comparative effectiveness research in vascular medicine, and its impact on improving the health of patients with Peripheral Arterial Disease (P.A.D.), **BioMedix Vascular Solutions** has elected to join forces with the CLEVER (Claudication: Exercise versus Endoluminal Revascularization) trial investigators to increase patient recruitment into this pivotal study. BioMedix is a diagnostic company that provides an integrated suite of hardware, software and online services designed to diagnose Peripheral Arterial Disease (P.A.D.). Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) and podiatrists use the PADnet network to provide a diagnosis and recommendation for the PCP or podiatrist and their patients.

The CLEVER study is a multi-center clinical trial designed to determine prospectively the optimal treatment for individuals with proximal intermittent claudication due to the aortoiliac arterial insufficiency. It is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, through the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, and is taking place in approximately 30 medical centers across the country. It is the only study of its kind to compare the benefits of supervised exercise, endovascular revascularization, as well as "optimal medical care" (the most common care, which includes claudication pharmacotherapy) in a multi-center prospective randomized trial design.

As a part of BioMedix's new initiative to facilitate vascular research activities to further sup-

port its mission to promote early detection and best medical care for persons with P.A.D., BioMedix has offered to inform the Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) in its network about the CLEVER trial and the location of the CLEVER sites nearest to their clinics. BioMedix will provide PCPs with the CLEVER eligibility criteria, and will facilitate the local collaboration among the PCPs and the CLEVER site principal investigators and staff to increase patient recruitment into the study.

For more info on the CLEVER trial, potential patients and referring physicians should contact Dr. Cerezo at [jcerezo@lifespan.org](mailto:jcerezo@lifespan.org) or call 401-444-1739.

### **About BioMedix**

BioMedix Vascular Solutions, Inc. provides a suite of hardware, software and online services designed to cost-effectively detect Peripheral Arterial Disease (P.A.D.) and Chronic Venous Insufficiency (CVI). Vascular specialists, primary care providers, hospitals and health systems use their products to identify these patients. Their devices and software are designed to reduce mistakes, provide data for sound analysis, build practice revenue and streamline reimbursement while providing a platform that supports the continuum of care and increased quality outcomes. For more information, call (877) 854-0014 or log on to [www.BioMedix.com](http://www.BioMedix.com), or circle #164 on the reader service card.

high-risk patients, membership in the American Professional Wound Care Association (**APWCA**) is an important consideration. With 2,700 active members, 80% of whom are physicians and better than 50% of them podiatric physicians, the APWCA seems to be fulfilling a need—a gap for provider advocacy in dealing with this patient group and issues affecting their care.

The APWCA Insurance Committee is regularly active dealing with insurance companies, CMS and similar organizations by providing education, commentary and, where appropriate, other responses to address reimbursement, allowance for supplies and ser-

vices, and related concerns that affect the provider and patient. Patient advocacy for chronic as well as acute wounds is also a major objective. Consultation for difficult cases, education through conferences, e-mail updates, newsletters, peer reviewed MEDLINE-indexed monthly journal, and information on managing and maintaining a viable wound care practice/center are only a few examples that aid the provider. Multi-disciplinary membership offers conferences with mixed disciplines of registrants providing a unique educational opportunity. Visit [www.apwca.org](http://www.apwca.org) or (215) 364-4100, or circle #159 on the reader service card.

The **Physician-Specific Wound Care Certification Exam**, credentialing all prescribing physicians (MD, DO and DPM) in the field of wound care is offered by the Council for Medical Education and Testing (CMET). The certification process is the examination endorsed by the American Professional Wound Care Association and recognized by the American College of Hyperbaric Medicine. It is intended to be the first stepping stone to obtaining specialty recognition in wound care.

The next exam will be offered on Sunday, Oct. 25, in conjunction

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