



March 30, 2020

Colleagues and Friends:

Thank you for entrusting us with the vascular needs of your patients. As we all continue to cope with the COVID-19 situation, Vascular Institute will continue to provide inpatient and outpatient endovascular services for urgent and emergency needs. Our goal is to maintain outpatient services to limit the strain on hospital systems. Please continue the routine referral process and we will stratify patients by their acuity.

The health and safety of our patients and employees are of utmost importance to VIC. To reduce the potential spread of respiratory illnesses within our practice, we have divided our clinical staff into seven clinical care-teams which will maintain proper PPE for all clinical encounters. Each care-team will work in separate areas and different shifts and provide evaluation and management services, ultrasound diagnostics, and endovascular services, a mitigation strategy. If a member of a care-team has a high-risk exposure or develops illness that team can be quarantined allowing VIC to continue to provide medical services to this community. This will allow proper contact tracing and optimal health for patients and medical staff during this pandemic.

Operations in all locations including Chattanooga, Cleveland, and Fort Oglethorpe will continue. All referrals will be evaluated by the urgency of the problems and the risk status of the patients seeking evaluation. Clinic appointments are being maintained for those who have high risk vascular needs, and virtual clinic appointments will commence for all other patients utilizing the Doxy.me platform with hand-held phone and computer workstation options. If non-urgent procedures are deemed necessary, we will schedule those appointments at the appropriate time. Currently, we are focused on procedures that threaten lives or limbs.

As always, the vascular health and community safety of this region is our greatest concern, the above strategies are subject to change as required. Please contact our office for any specific needs, requests, or questions. Thank you for serving on the front line in helping maintain a safe environment for our entire community.

Respectfully,

Christopher LeSar MD

Christopher LeSar MD/VIC
The VIC Vascular Team

2358 Lifestyle Way Suite 100
Chattanooga, TN 37421
423-602-2750

www.vascularinstituteofchattanooga.com