P.A.D. Exam: A Study of your Arteries

Are you at risk?
Patients 50 years or older with a history of diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol or smoking.
Men and women ages 70 years and older.

Signs and Symptoms
Pain in the legs brought on by walking and relieved with rest.
Pain in the legs at rest due to poor circulation
A poorly healing wound on lower extremity
Injury to lower limb or foot involving blood vessels
Discoloration of toes and feet

What is P.A.D.?
Peripheral Arterial Disease occurs when there is a build up of cholesterol and plaque in the arteries of the lower extremities, causing decreased blood flow to the legs and feet.

What is a PADnet study?
The PADnet study detects blockages in arteries and the quality of blood flow using Pulse Volume Recordings (PVRs) and segmental blood pressure measurements.

Before your test
Getting ready for this test requires little effort. You will be asked to remove clothing that covers your arms and legs, keeping undergarments on. You will be asked to remove your shoes and socks as well. Bring shorts to wear, or paper shorts will be provided for your use. This test usually takes 30 minutes.
Do not smoke or use tobacco 30 minutes prior to your Padnet exam. Smoking constricts the peripheral arteries and can interfere with the exam.

During your test
You will lie down on the exam table. Pressure cuffs will be wrapped snugly around your arms, above knees, calves and ankles. The technician will inflate the cuffs starting with the big toes. Sensors in the machine will record the pulse volume waveforms that correspond to each beat of your heart.

After your test
The study will be read by a vascular surgeon and interpretation sent to our clinic. You may return to your normal routine right after the test. The doctor will let you know the results at your follow up appointment.