

# The Role of the Vascular Testing Unit

Louise Fearnside  
North Bristol NHS Trust

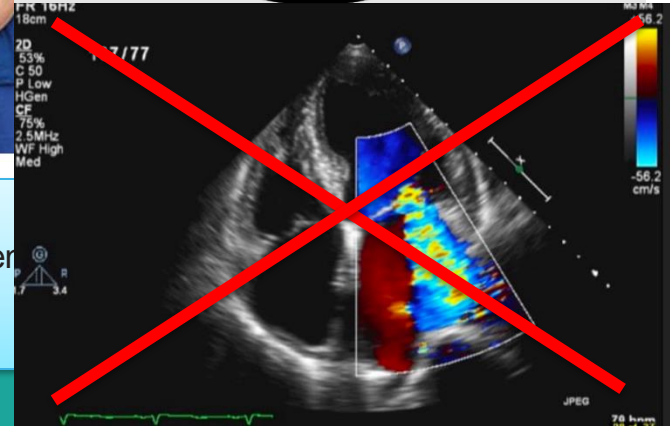


- Who we are
- What we do (fly-by of ultrasound)
- Wound referral – how can we help?
- Focus on tests related to wound management
- Treatment pathway focus



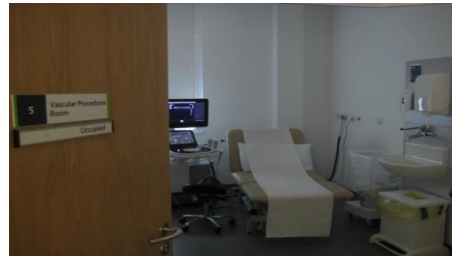
# Team: Who are we?

Head of  
Department



# Vascular Testing Department

- Carotid duplex
- Lower and upper limb arterial duplex
- Graft surveillance
- Ankle & Toe Brachial Pressure Indices
- Lower and upper limb deep vein thrombosis duplex
- Aortic Aneurysm Surveillance
- Venous stent surveillance
- Renal fistula ultrasound



- Renal Access Mapping
- Vein mapping pre surgery
- Lower limb venous insufficiency duplex
- EVAR stent graft surveillance
- Temporal artery duplex for Temporal Arteritis
- PPG assessment
- Toe pressures and TCPO2 (Transcutaneous oxygen measurements)

**~ 13,000 investigations annually**

# Vascular Disease Diagnoses

Atherosclerotic

Aneurysmal

Thrombotic

Venous

Vasculitis

OPEN VALVE

CLOSED VALVE

REFLUX IN  
VARICOSE VEIN





# How can we help?



Arterial ?

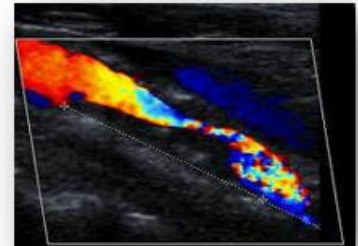
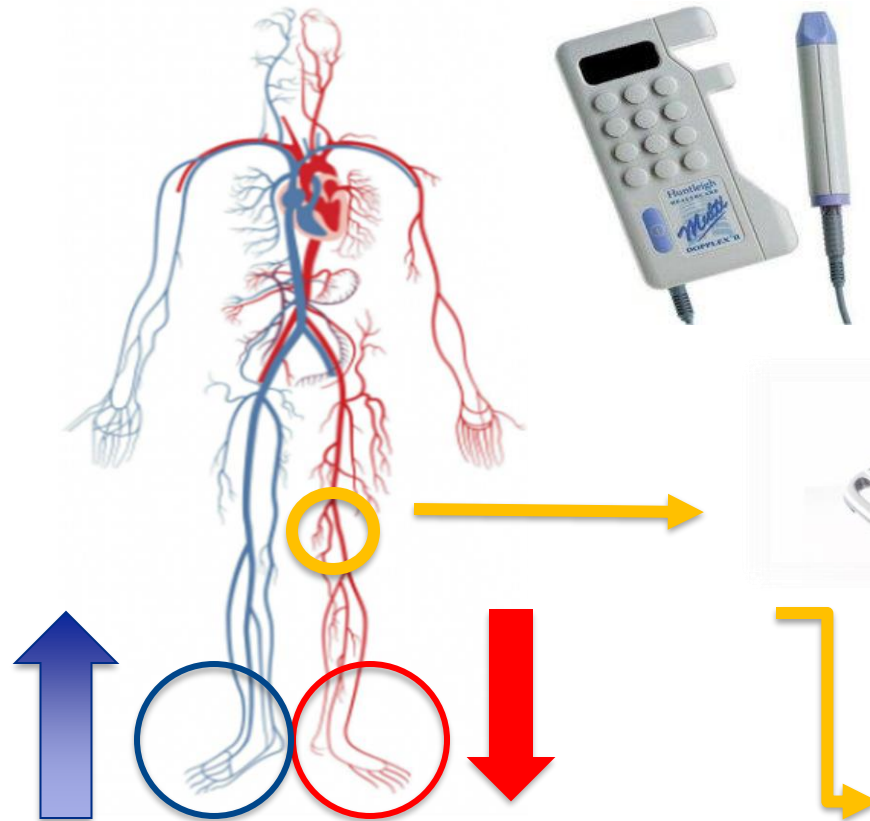


Venous ?



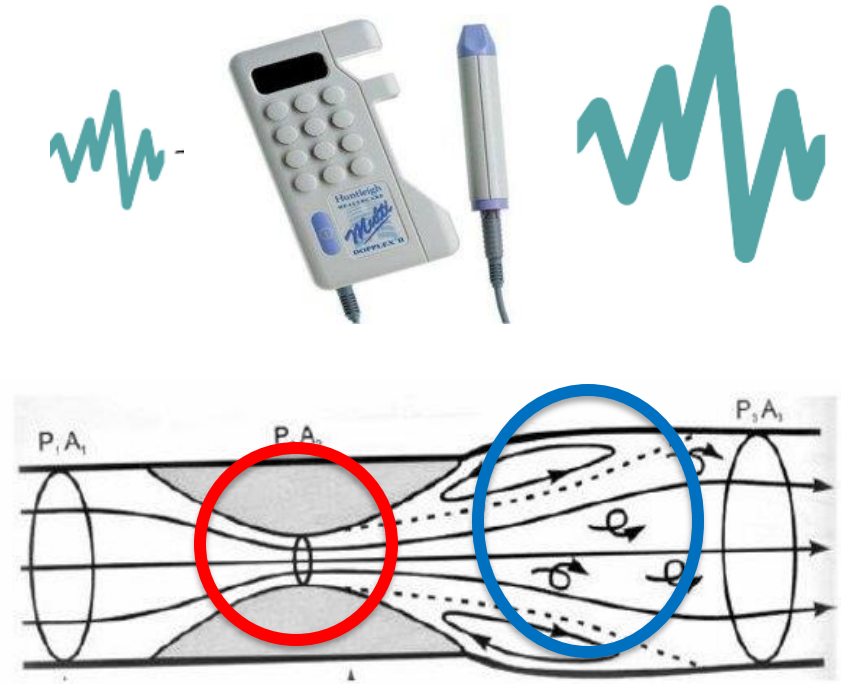
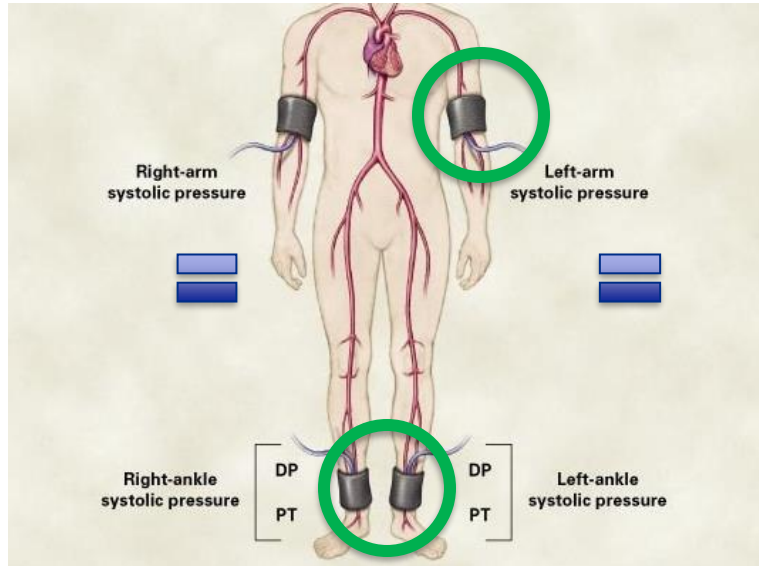
Arterial ?

# Where do we start?



# Ankle brachial pressure Index (ABPI)

- Baseline test for detecting/grading Lower limb arterial disease





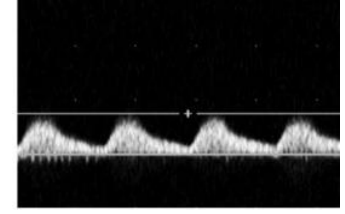
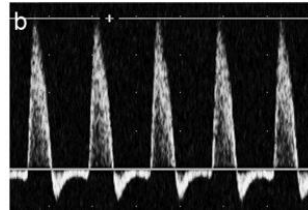
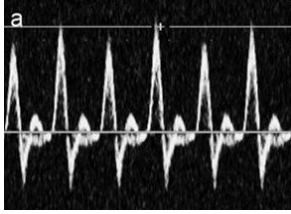
Ratio

Ankle artery systolic pressure (mmHg)

Brachial systolic pressure (mmHg)

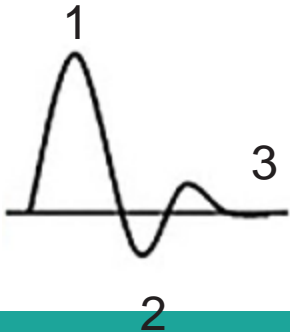
Reference Values

| Interpretation of ABPI |   |
|------------------------|---|
| ABPI value             | Disease severity                                    |
| >1.3                   | Arterial calcification may be present               |
| >1.0–1.3               | Probably no peripheral arterial disease             |
| 0.81–1.0               | No significant or mild peripheral occlusive disease |
| <0.51–0.8              | Moderate peripheral arterial occlusive disease      |
| <0.5                   | Severe peripheral arterial disease                  |



Triphasic..... Biphasic..... Monophasic.....

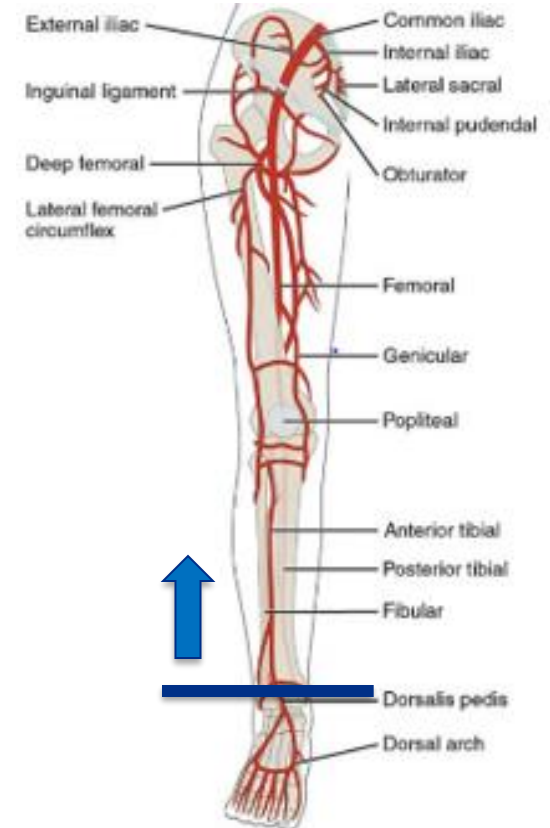
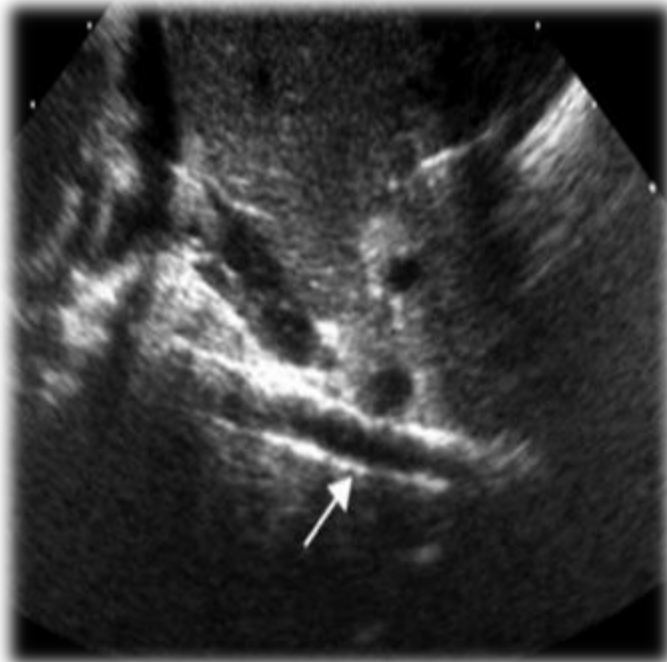
- Blood pressure changes during each cycle of cardiac activity – due to heart contraction and relaxation
- Systolic – maximum pressure, diastolic – minimum pressure



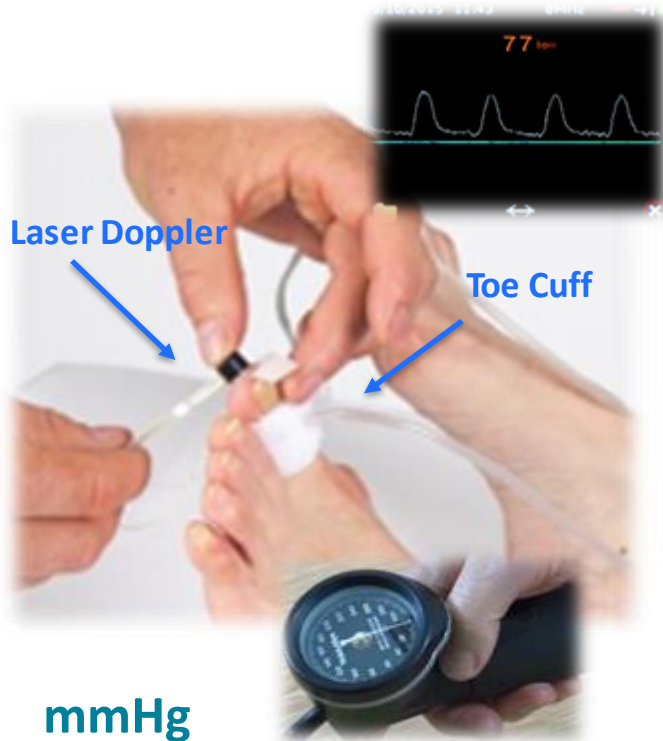
1. Forward flow to peak systolic pressure
2. Transient reversal flow in early diastole
3. Forward flow in late diastole



# When does an ABPI not work?



# Toe pressures/TBI



mmHg

## W WOUND

- 0: No ulcer and no gangrene
- 1: Small ulcer and no gangrene
- 2: Deep ulcer or gangrene limited to toes
- 3: Extensive ulcer or extensive gangrene

## I ISCHEMIA

- Toe Pressure/TcPO<sub>2</sub>
- 0:  $\geq 60$  mmHg
  - 1: 40–59 mmHg
  - 2: 30–39 mmHg
  - 3:  $< 30$  mmHg

## FI FOOT INFECTION

- 0: Uninfected
- 1: Mild ( $\leq 2$  cm cellulitis)
- 2: Moderate ( $> 2$  cm cellulitis/purulence)
- 3: Severe (any necrotic or gangrenous)

TBI -  $> 0.7$



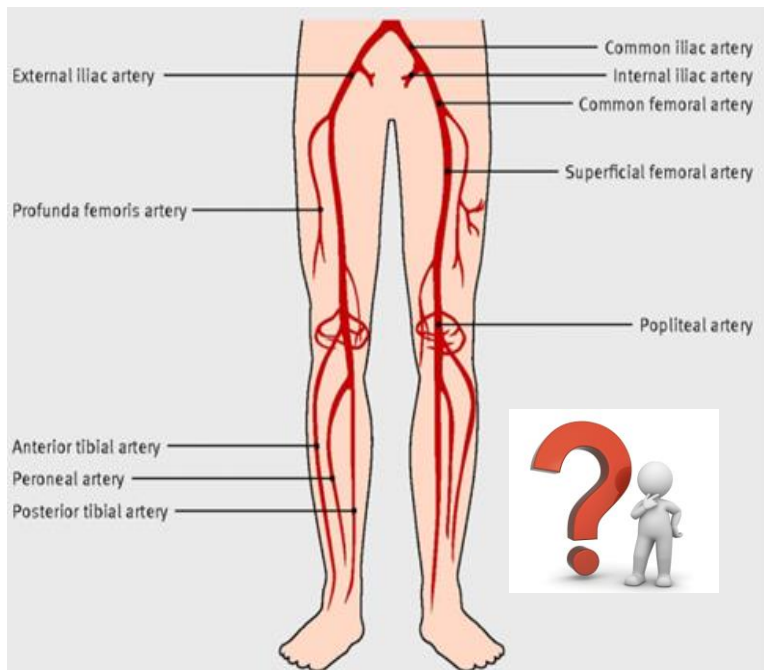
- 50-70 mmHg Normal
- $< 40$  mmHg Impaired Wound Healing
- $< 30$  mmHg Critical Limb Ischemia

# TBI Challengnes





# What Next?

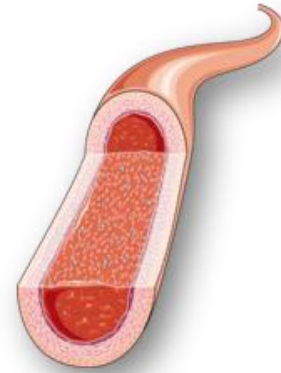


ABPI  $< 1$

TBI  $< 0.7$

- **$<40$  mmHg Impaired Wound Healing**
- **$<30$  mmHg Critical Limb Ischemia**

# Duplex Ultrasound

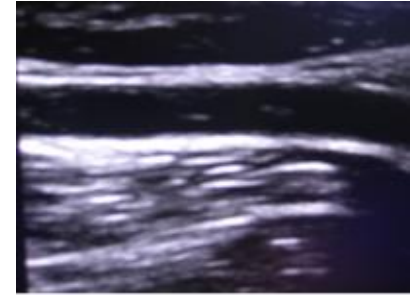


- ❖ Visualise anatomy
- ❖ Identify pathology
  - Location, severity, new/old*
- ❖ Aid clinical decision making

# Ultrasound Assessment (Duplex)

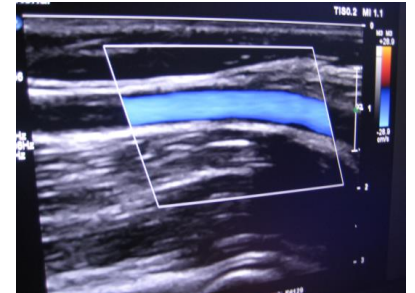
- *B-mode (Brightness)*

- Grey scale image, structures of differing echo intensity
- Identifies structures, course and gross pathology



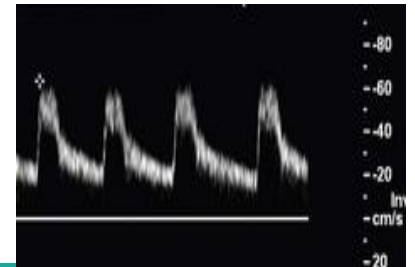
- *Colour Doppler*

- Qualitative assessment of flow dynamics
- Direction
- Signposts blood flow issues/ other pathology

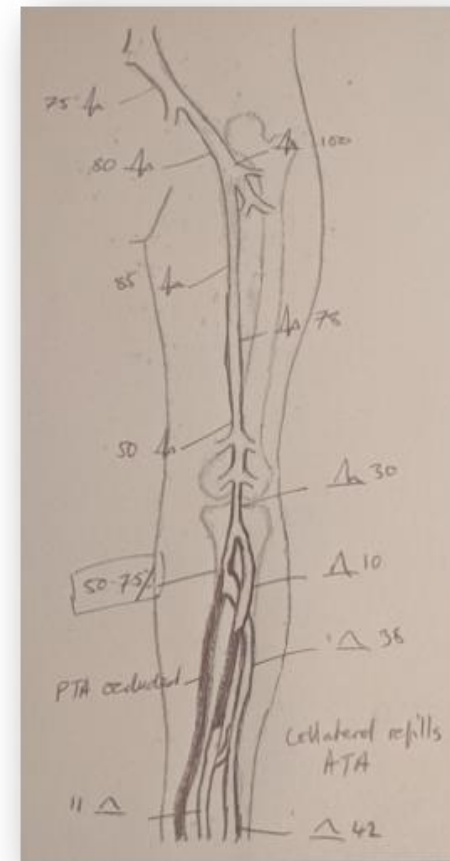
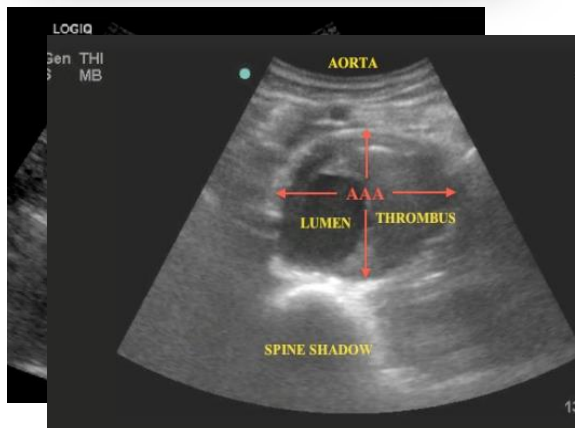
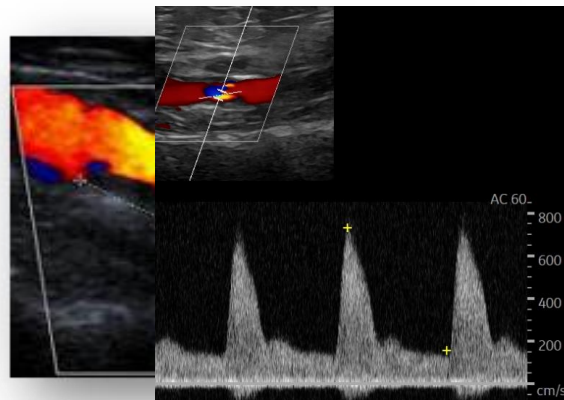
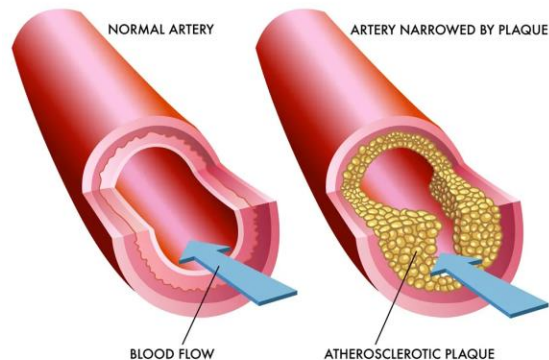


- *Spectral analysis (PW- Doppler)*

- Focused quantitative assessment blood flow
- Measure blood velocity/grade disease severity



# Arterial insufficiency diagnosis



## Conclusion:

*Widely patent aorto-iliac segment on the left.*

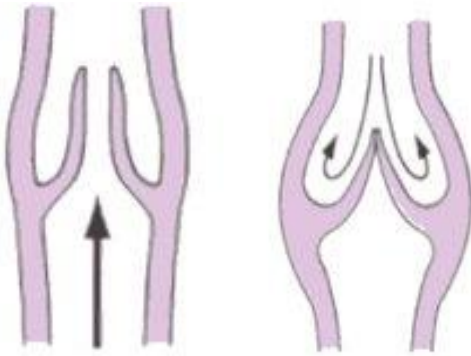
*Common femoral artery, profunda femoris artery origin, superficial femoral and popliteal artery widely patent with multiphasic signals.*

*50-75% stenosis of the tibioperoneal trunk.*

## Run-off disease:

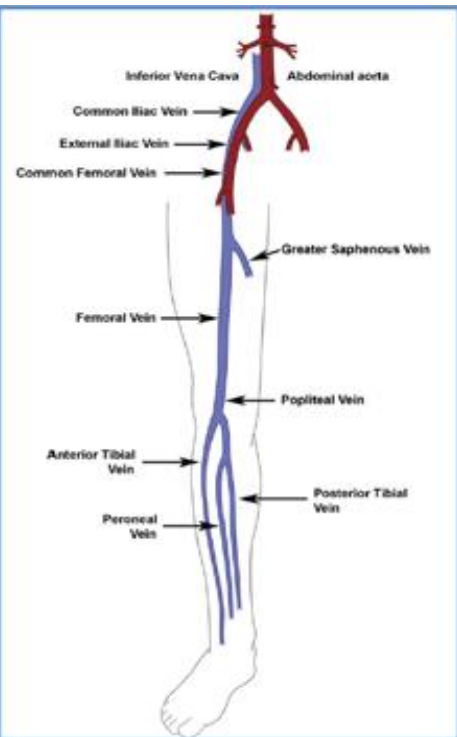
*Occluded posterior tibial artery. Segmental occlusion of the anterior tibial artery mid calf. Peroneal artery patent throughout calf*

# Venous insufficiency diagnosis

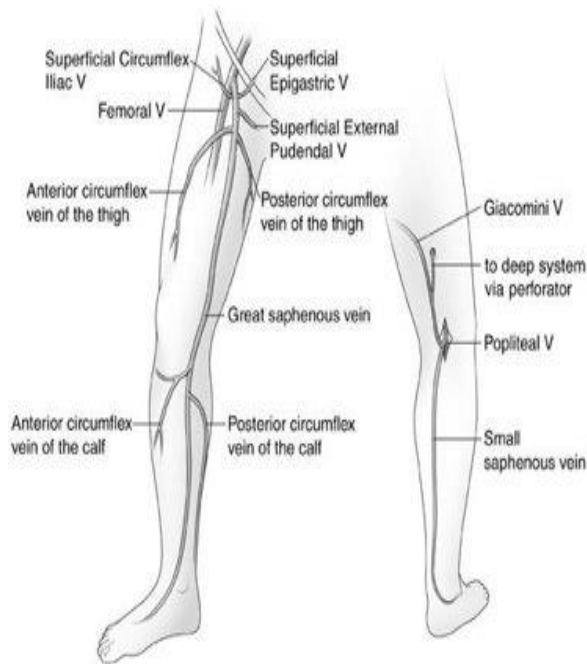




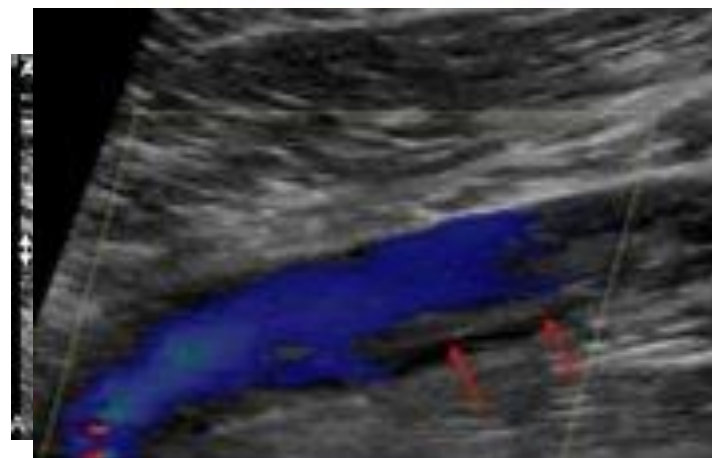
# Venous Insufficiency diagnosis



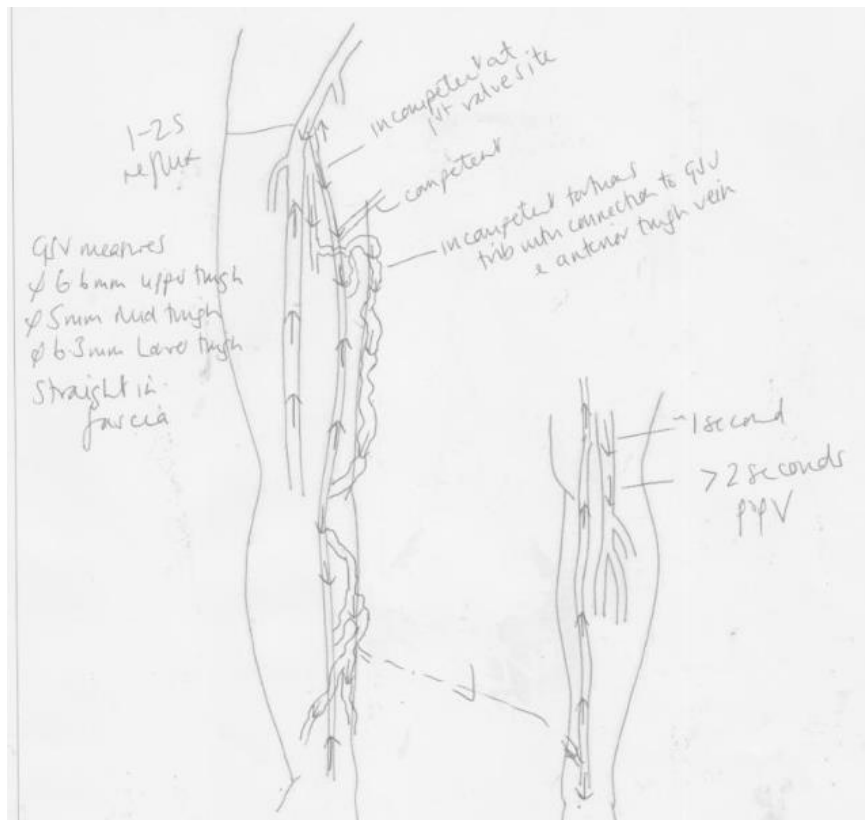
**Deep Veins**



**Superficial veins**



# Guide Treatment



Laser fiber is  
inserted in vein

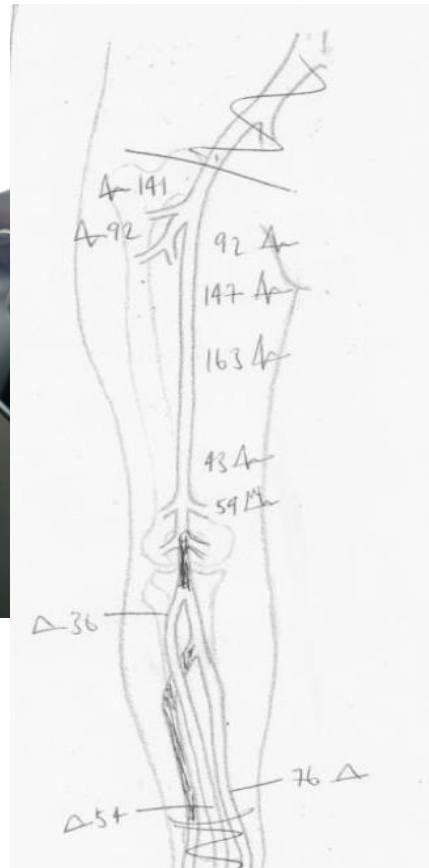


Laser fiber is  
slowly removed

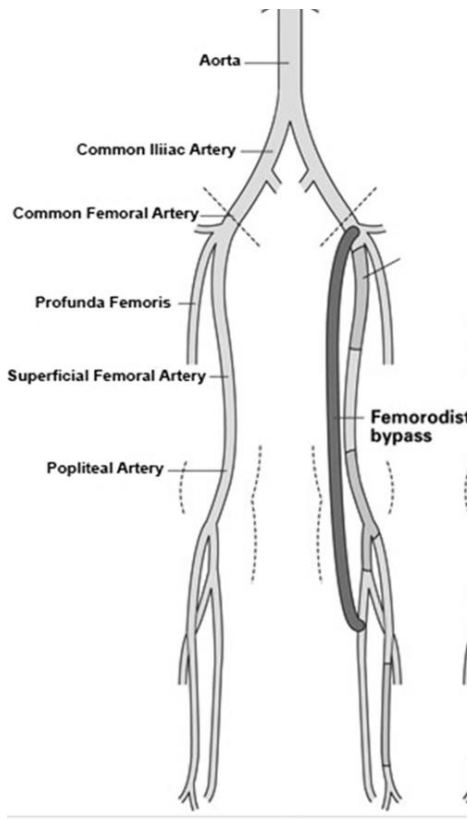


Closed vein  
following treatment

# Patient treatment Focus



# What next? Revascularisation





# Summary

- Who we are
- Role in secondary care wound management
- Fit into patient treatment pathway

Pre-treatment

Post - treatment



# Thank you for listening

Louise Fearnside

North Bristol NHS Trust

[Louise.Fearnside@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Louise.Fearnside@nbt.nhs.uk)

