



# VASCULAR ASSESSMENT

## (ANKLE BRACHIAL INDEX-ABI)

### WHAT IS IT?

The ankle brachial index - ABI is used to predict the severity of peripheral arterial disease (PAD). A decrease in the ABI result is an indicator that the PAD is probably present. This test is done by measuring blood pressure at the ankle and in the arm while a person is at rest. It can also be done in conjunction with exercise / stress test.

### WHY IS THIS TEST PERFORMED?

This test is done to screen for peripheral arterial disease of the legs.

### HOW IS THIS TEST PERFORMED?

This test consists of blood pressure readings in the arm and lower leg. A hand held doppler with ultrasonic gel is used to detect pulses.

### HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST

There is no preparation for this test.