

Cardiovascular Office-Based Accreditation
Why It Is Needed and How It Should Be
Done

John Blebea MD, MBA

Professor and Chair
Department of Surgery

Central Michigan University
College of Medicine
Saginaw, MI

Disclosures

No financial disclosures

Outline

- **Public issues**
- **Professional issues**
- **Clinical context**
- **Options**
- **OEIS decision**

Public Needs

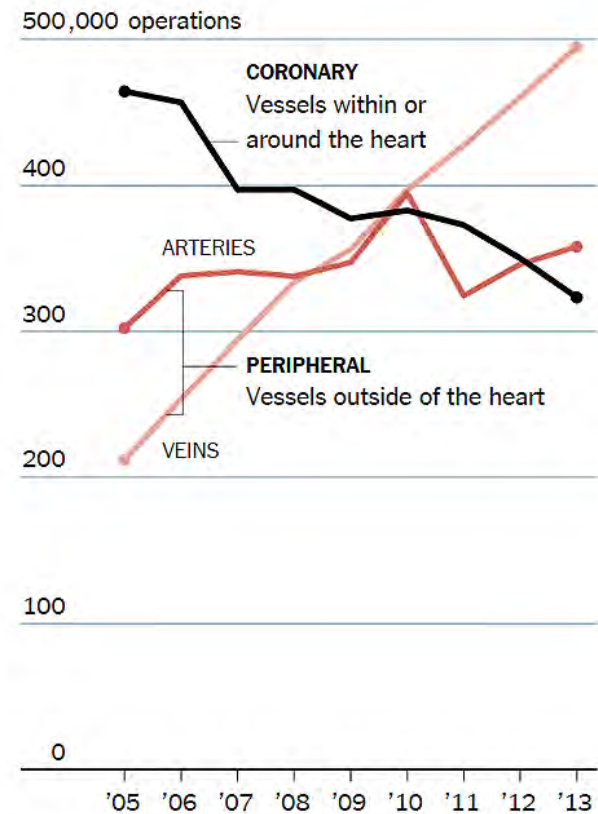
The New York Times

Medicare Payments Surge for Stents to Unblock Blood Vessels in Limbs Jan 29, 2015



Public / government perception
overuse and inappropriate care

Number of Medicare-paid operations to open blood vessels*



Professional Issues

From the Society for Vascular Surgery

Overuse of early peripheral vascular interventions for claudication

Caitlin W. Hicks, MD, MS, Courtenay M. Holscher, MD, Peiqi Wang, MD, MPH, James H. Black III, MD, Christopher J. Abularrage, MD, and Martin A. Makary, MD, MPH, *Baltimore, Md*

Medicare claims - 194,974 patients

First-time diagnosis of claudication

“Early PVI utilization was higher for physicians who had a higher percentage of services performed in an ASC or OBL setting.”

“procedures for claudication may be overused for financial gain”



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Doctors Sound an Alarm Over Leg-Stent Surgery

Johns Hopkins researchers analyzing Medicare data say they've detected physicians performing what look like unnecessary vascular procedures



By [Sumathi Reddy](#)

Sept. 10, 2019 10:54 am ET

“Some may represent a serious and immediate threat to public safety.”

“... some doctors will balloon and stent any plaque.”

Negative public image of MDs in OBL

Statistical determination of clinical outliers and public shaming

- **Statistical analysis of any procedural data will always identify 5% outside of two standard deviations \neq clinically inappropriate**
- **Inappropriate to publicly disclose MD names**
- **No consideration for office expense**

Response: “the majority of dissent comes from physicians who are knowingly stretching the boundaries of appropriate care.”

No response to ethics / cost



Present Status



Outpatient Procedures

- **Min invasive techniques allow out-patient treatment in office setting**
- **Number procedures / cost exploding**
- **No outside oversight as in hospital/surg centers**
- **No objective review or special licensing**
- **Who is doing it?**

Vascular Specialists



- **Who are these specialists?**
- **Procedures performed by variety of physicians**
- **Many specialty backgrounds**
- **Wide range of knowledge, skill and experience**
- **How insure physician quality?**