

MICROVASC STUDY  
CLAREMORE VETERANS CENTER

February 14, 2006

**Purpose:** Evaluate microvasc equipment through usage on our residents for improvement in their circulation. The study was conducted to evaluate pain, peripheral neuropathy secondary to diabetic neuropathy, promote healing of decubitus ulcers, improvement with movement or strength in the lower extremities. There was also interest in how the patients responded to the electric stimulus and monitor their reactions to this new therapy. We asked the patients if they felt they were improving and would continue in the study.

**Length of study:** December 5, 2005 to March 5, 2006.

This was not a double blind study. All results that are reported in the progress notes are from direct observation of the patients during treatment, any comments the patients made regarding their treatment, and comments from nursing staff and attendants in Physical Therapy. Also for consideration, is the patient's willingness to continue this therapy.

This study deals with a very difficult population. These are patients that are older, some that are senile and some with dementia. They have had neuropathy for years and have very little patience with any new technology. They want immediate gratification. Many do not follow prescribed diets or physician orders of any type. In general, this is the type of patient that wants an instant cure. Along with this, many of them have many co-morbidities stemming from many types of diseases in addition to the ones mentioned above with peripheral pain, peripheral neuropathy and decubitus ulcers.

Patients starting treatment: 20  
Test not reordered by physician: 1  
Patients that quit treatment: 2  
(Felt that tx was not beneficial)  
Patients expired: 1  
Patients health: 1  
(Chest pain, note in chart as  
patient was having an  
excellent response)

Total pt. participation 25

Progress notes were kept and updated every month during this time. Review of these notes should be reviewed when considering the outcome of this study.

## SUMMATION

Out of the twenty patients continuing the therapy in this study, only one patient related that he could not see any improvement. Other patients for this study replaced the patients that did not continue with the therapy for the reasons stated below.

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Test not reordered by physician: 1  
Patients that quit treatment: 2  
(Felt that tx was not beneficial)  
Patients expired: 1  
Patients health: 1  
(Chest pain, note in chart as  
patient was having an  
excellent response to therapy)

We are very pleased with the overall results obtained through this microvasc therapy. Hopefully, Administration will find a way to purchase one or two machines for each Veterans facility in the state of Oklahoma. Possible suggestions for purchasing this equipment could be as a project for an area service organization. When you multiply our excellent results with all the potential patients in the seven Veterans Centers in Oklahoma, the amount of pain and suffering that could be eradicated would be overwhelming.

Note: Microvasc study was accomplished in cooperation with the Physical Therapy Department and the Medical Staff Department.