

## Gene therapy applied to peripheral arterial disease

Hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) [gene therapy](#) could be used to treat patients with severe peripheral arterial disease (PAD), suggest results of a phase I clinical trial.

This finding could be “cautiously interpreted” to indicate that intramuscular injection of naked plasmid [DNA](#) encoding HGF is safe, feasible, and can achieve successful improvement of ischemic limbs as sole therapy, remark Ryuichi Morishita (Osaka University, Japan) and team.

In a previous study by the researchers, ankle-brachial pressure index (ABI) was significantly increased in patients with PAD who were treated with HGF from 0.46 at baseline to 0.59 at 8 weeks after injection.

**View the original article here: [Gene therapy applied to peripheral arterial disease – News-Medical.net](#)**