

Carotid Artery Disease Treatment Discussion Guide

If you are diagnosed with carotid artery disease or told you have a blocked carotid artery, it is important to seek care with your vascular specialist (i.e. Vascular Surgeon).

Be sure to ask your doctor to explain the risks and benefits of your treatment options and answer any questions you or your family may have.

The following can help you discuss your carotid artery disease diagnosis with your doctor:

- **What is my prognosis? What are the likely outcomes?**
- **What additional tests might I need?**
- **Am I in any danger of having a stroke?**
- **What are my treatment options?**
 - *What are the risks of the surgery options available?*
 - *If surgery is required, are there minimally invasive treatment options?*
 - *What is TCAR? Am I a candidate?*
- **How long will the recovery from any treatment take? Will there be any noticeable limitations for me?**
- **When is it appropriate to schedule an appointment with a vascular specialist?**
- **Will there be any required follow-up?**

Notes: _____

Carotid artery disease treatment options depend upon the severity of your overall condition and symptoms. Moderate disease may not require carotid artery surgery, as some individuals can manage the disease with medications and lifestyle changes. More severe blockages may require carotid artery surgery.

For additional information visit: <https://protectionfromstroke.com/>

To find a list of physicians and practices that perform carotid artery surgery using the latest technology, visit: <https://silkroadmed.com/hospitals/>

This Discussion Guide is only a guideline. It is not intended to diagnose a medical condition. The treatment of carotid artery disease may vary according to each individual's unique needs and doctor assessments. As with any medical procedure, the best source for information and advice is your doctor.

* <https://www.cdc.gov/stroke/facts.htm>