



Primăvara Dermatologică 2017

leșeană 30 martie - 1 aprilie



Prof. Univ. Dr. Niazi Khusrow

*Director, Peripheral Vasuclar Interventions
Departament of Medicine
Emory University, Atlanta Georgia, USA*

Stopping the epidemic of lower extremity am-

George Bernard Shaw said: "If I refuse to allow my leg to be amputated, its mortification and my death may prove that I was wrong; but if I let the leg go, nobody can ever prove that it would not have mortified had I been obstinate. Operation is therefore the safe side for the surgeon as well as the lucrative side." Close to 200,000 amputations occur per year in the USA and the predominant cause, especially in the elderly, is vascular insufficiency. About half of these people who have vascular related amputations will not survive more than 5 years. However, it is imperative that we, as health care providers, stop this epidemic. As dermatologists it is essential that you understand and recognize the vascular insufficiency causes that effects the skin because recognizing them earlier will reduce the number of amputations that may happen. Besides the physical and emotional strain on the patient, the financial burden is tremendous. In the USA, over 8 billion dollars were spent by hospitals in treating limb amputations in 2009 alone. As dermatologists you can develop screening programs for patients especially at high risk to undergo vascular testing to assess the perfusion of the skin so if they develop any wound it would heal promptly before any infection may set in. This evaluation may not only help with a healthier skin but may also improve the quality of life making the patient more ambulatory.

