

Welcome to the Winter 2006 issue of the RIHVR "Research Update". The purpose of this bulletin is to update Chicago area health professionals about current trials offered by the RIHVR group at Rush University Medical Center

Stem Cells for Severe Angina



Patients with **severe angina pectoris** refractory to medical therapy who are not candidates for CABG or PCI will be randomized (2:1) to percutaneous intramyocardial injections of **autologous CD34+ stem cells** or placebo. The goal of the ACT34-CMI trial is to reduce angina frequency by stimulating myocardial angiogenesis.
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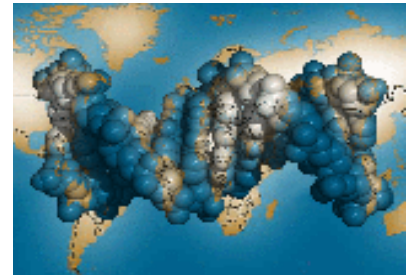
Gene Therapy for Claudication

Patients with **peripheral arterial disease** and intermittent claudication will be randomized (3:1) to Ad2/HIF-1 α /VP16 (gene product) or placebo administered by IM injections in each leg. The study goal is to stimulate angiogenesis, reduce claudication and improve walking distance.

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PFO Closure for CVA or TIA



The **CARS clinical registry** provides a percutaneous PFO-closure treatment option for patients who have had a recurrent cryptogenic stroke or transient ischemic attack.

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Carotid Stenting

The **ACT 1** trial will randomize (3:1) patients with significant carotid disease but no symptoms to carotid stenting (Xact stent and Emboshield distal protection) or surgical carotid endarterectomy.

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