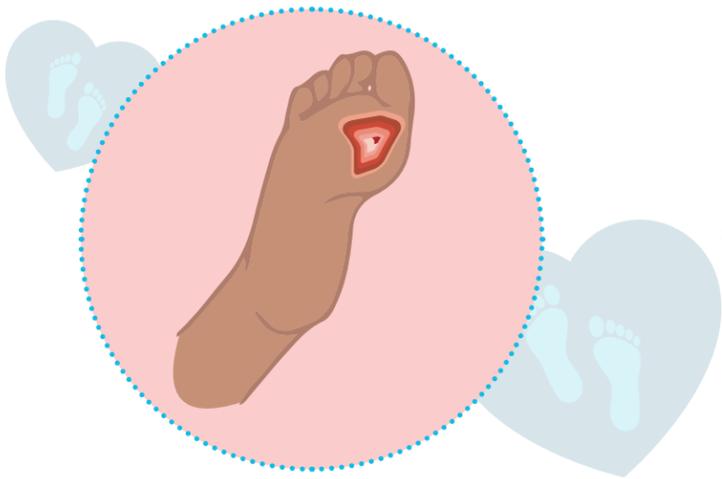


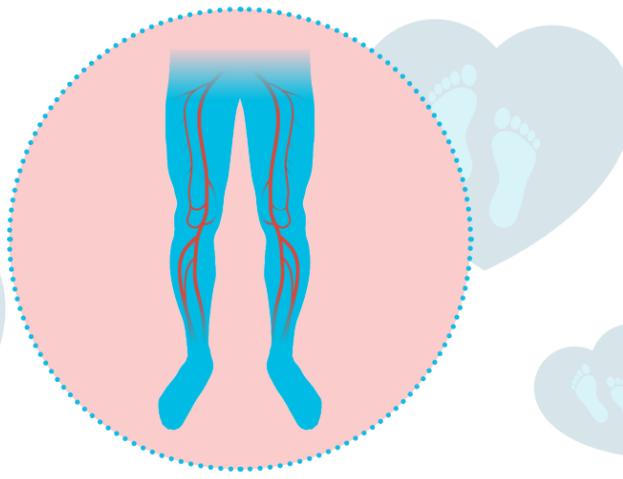
February Heart Health Awareness

What to know about venous and arterial ulcers



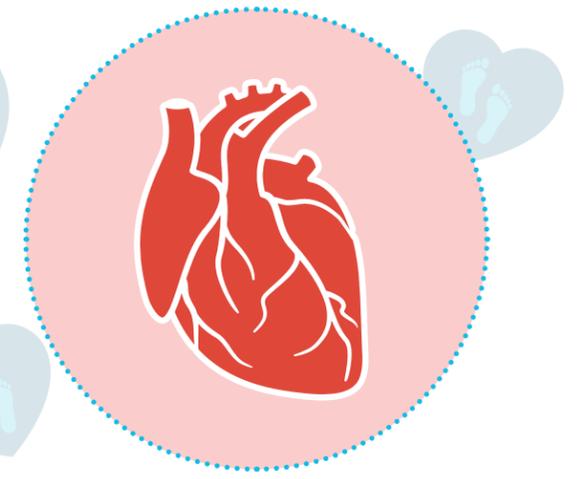
Ulcers are wounds, or sores, that do not heal.

Foot and leg ulcers are often the result of a heart or vascular condition, or other health problem. ♥



Arterial and venous ulcers typically occur on the lower leg.

Differentiating between these two ulcers may be challenging, but a correct diagnosis can result in optimal treatment options. ♥



Careful vascular assessment is key when a patient presents with a lower extremity ulcer

as arterial disease is generally contraindicative to compression therapy, the cornerstone of venous ulcer management. ♥

Arterial ulcers

An arterial ulcer is caused by poor blood supply to the affected area (ischemia).

They can occur on the tips of toes or on the outer ankle.



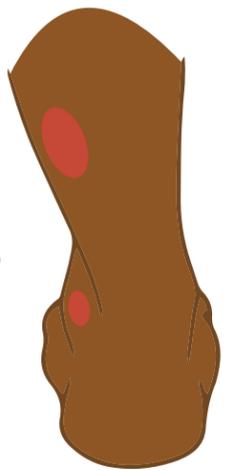
Characteristics can include:

- Pain, which may be worse when leg is elevated
- Shiny or tight, hairless skin
- Skin that is cool or cold to the touch
- Minimum odor or exudates
- Even looking edges, or the look of being punched out
- Absent or diminished pulses

Venous ulcers

A venous ulcer is a result of blood pooling in the veins.

They often occur between the ankle and the calf.



Characteristics can include:

- Leg pain, swelling or achiness
- Surrounding skin that is shiny, tight, warm or hot, and discolored
- Odor or pus draining from wound
- Uneven shape
- Edema or excess fluid

Chronic, non-healing wounds need advanced wound care. Find a Healogics Wound Care Center[®], where healing happens.

HEART HEALTH
MONTH
Healogics[®]

The power to heal