

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Newman Medical simpleABI Systems

Why doesn't the system have automatic cuff inflation and deflation? Two reasons: Speed and accuracy. When you compare the manual aneroid in a practiced hand to the slow electric pumps in most of the "automated" systems you will find that it is much quicker to inflate and deflate the cuffs with an aneroid like you use every day. Our specially designed aneroid makes it very easy to deflate the cuff at the correct speed and then to dump the pressure once the returning Doppler signal has been heard. And hearing the signal can be more sensitive and accurate compared to watching for a blip of a Doppler signal on a waveform. Our ears are very good at distinguishing the Doppler signals. Even so called automatic systems usually aren't really automatic; they require you to push the button continuously until the cuff is inflated.

We focused our automation efforts on quickly and easily getting the report you need. We eliminated cutting and pasting strips from a chart recorder or the transfer of data from a separate system to a computer.

Can I use my own computer? Yes, our simpleABI System 100 will allow you to use your own Windows based laptop computer. You will need a system with Windows 7, Vista or XP (either 32 bit or 64 bit for any operating system). You will also need two available USB connections for the PVR boxes.

I hear the CPT codes for the tests related to diagnosing PAD changed as of January 1, 2011. Does this system meet the new criteria? Yes, all simpleABI systems meet all the new criteria for CPT code 93922.

Why doesn't the system have a bidirectional Doppler? Bidirectionality is not required for the measurement of the ABI's. Either a bidirectional Doppler waveform or a pulse volume recording waveform is required in addition to the ABI's; most vascular users know that the PVR waveforms are easier to obtain and interpret than a bidirectional Doppler waveform.

What is Newman Medical's experience in this area? Newman Medical is a descendant of Imex Medical Systems in Colorado. We have been making vascular systems for about thirty years. We are based in Illinois, and all of our products are manufactured and serviced there. Some of our principals were the founders of the Vascular Disease Foundation, of which the PAD Coalition is a key part.

Why did you choose to use a computer as the platform for the system? It didn't make sense to us to duplicate the expensive custom screens, microprocessors and strip chart recorder or printers that older systems are based around. Since the hard copy desired is usually a full size report, we felt it best to keep it simple and go directly to the computer. Most office personnel are familiar with personal computers and using one as the core of our system cuts the learning curve down significantly. With our simpleABI systems it is a matter of simply filling in the blanks of the report form displayed on the computer screen at all times. And the ability to electronically forward the information fits in perfectly with today's internet based healthcare systems.