



Amputation Reduction and Compassion (ARC) Act of 2025 ([H.R. 307](#))

Take Action to Address Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD)

Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) is caused by a buildup of plaque on the artery walls, known as atherosclerosis. The condition affects [10–12 million Americans](#) who are over the age of 40 and is a leading cause of amputation in the United States.¹ If left untreated, PAD can lead to unnecessary limb amputations and even death. Amputation rates are disproportionately higher among Black and Hispanic adults, as well as individuals with lower incomes. Despite its global prevalence, [nearly 70%](#) of Americans are unaware of PAD.² A PAD diagnosis is associated with a [67% increased risk](#) of cardiac death compared to individuals without the condition.³ Alarming, many amputations are performed without prior vascular screening, despite available diagnostic and interventional tools. Standard testing for PAD is low-cost whereas a single lower-limb amputations can [exceed \\$100,000](#) with Medicare and Medicaid covering a [significant](#) portion.⁴ The annual economic burden of PAD is estimated at [\\$233–414 billion](#).⁵

PAD-related amputations are largely preventable through early diagnosis and timely interventions, yet patients who undergo such procedures face a significant decline in quality of life and a high risk of mortality—ranging from [35–48%](#) within the first year.⁶ Urgent federal legislation is needed to expand PAD screening to save lives, lower health care costs, and improve public education about risk factors contributing to the disease.

Overview of the Amputation Reduction and Compassion (ARC) Act of 2025

Continuing the legacy of the late Congressman Donald Payne (D-NJ), the bipartisan *Amputation Reduction and Compassion (ARC) Act of 2025* (H.R. 307)—sponsored by Representatives LaMonica McIver (D-NJ), Jack Bergman (R-MI), Robin Kelly (D-IL), Thomas Kean (R-NJ) and Jonathan Jackson (D-IL)—aims to reduce preventable amputations and ensure that millions of Americans have access to PAD screening at no additional cost. The bill would:

- Expand Medicare and Medicaid coverage for PAD screening among at-risk beneficiaries, without cost-sharing requirements.
- Establish a national PAD education program in coordination with clinical and patient advocacy organizations to raise awareness among healthcare providers and the public, with authorized funding through 2030.
- Require HHS to identify and disseminate best practices for PAD management and treatment.
- Support development of quality measures under Medicare focused on reducing nontraumatic lower-limb amputations by encouraging early diagnostic screening and alternative treatments.
- Create a pilot program to increase access to amputation prevention services, improve early detection and care coordination, and reduce healthcare costs through enhanced PAD screening, testing, treatment, and surveillance.

ENDORSEMENT: The Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) supports the ARC Act of 2025 (H.R. 307). We urge Congress to pass this important measure as soon as possible to change and save lives.

About ABC: *Founded in 1974, ABC is a nonprofit organization with a global membership, including health professionals, community health advocates, and institutional members. The Association's mission is to promote the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease (CVD), including stroke, in Black populations and other groups facing barriers to optimal health. Through education, research, partnerships, and advocacy, the Association works to advance cardiovascular health and improve outcomes in communities nationwide.*

¹ 2024 ACC/AHA/AACVPR/APMA/ABC/SCAI/SVM/SVN/SVS/SIR/VESS Guideline for the Management of Lower Extremity Peripheral Artery Disease: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. May 2024.

<https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/CIR.0000000000001251>

² New data: 70% of Americans unaware of common vascular disease that is one of the leading causes of amputation. Association of Black Cardiologists, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions, Society of Interventional Radiology, and Society for Vascular Surgery. February 2024. <https://www.sirweb.org/for-press/new-data-70-of-americans-unaware-of-common-vascular-disease-that-is-one-of-the-leading-causes-of-amputation/>

³ Peripheral Arterial Disease and Risk of Cardiac Death in Type 2 Diabetes: The Fremantle Diabetes Study. March 2006. <https://diabetesjournals.org/care/article/29/3/575/25388/Peripheral-Arterial-Disease-and-Risk-of-Cardiac>

⁴ Black, Latino patients much more likely than whites to undergo amputations related to diabetes. April 2019. <https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/26/health/diabetes-amputation-disparity-partner>

⁵ The True Prevalence of PAD and the Economics of Major Amputation. May 2021.

<https://evtoday.com/articles/2021-may/the-true-prevalence-of-pad-and-the-economics-of-major-amputation>

⁶ Peripheral Artery Disease Leading to Major Amputation: Trends in Revascularization and Mortality Over 18 Years. January 2022. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34182110/>