Circulatory Disorder (Limbs and Head) Drugs

Vasodilators (expand blood vessels) are believed to increase blood flow by indirectly or directly dilating blood vessels. There is no clinical acceptable evidence that vasodilators relieve leg pain or reduce senility (Dementia).

The majority of the prescriptions are written for the elderly (sales over 600 million dollars a year).

Most of the elderly have blood vessels that are too hard and not enough flexibility to expand (atherosclerosis).

Peripheral vascular diseases (poor circulation) are classified as obstructive and vasospastic. Obstructive disease, such as Arterlosclerosis Obliterans is caused by the thickening of the tissue of the blood vessels.

Thick tissue narrows the vessel (tube) opening and decreases blood flow. Another obstructive disease is Intermittent Claudication, which is leg cramp pain associated with blood vessel obstruction and spasm (vasospastic) which cause the blood vessels to narrow it's opening and decrease circulation (Raynaud's Disease).

Drug; used for vasospasms (e.g., Tolazoline = Prisoline) have no substantial evidence to justify their use. The majority of the prescriptions written for Tolazoline are not for vasospasm but for obstructive cerebrovascular disease (e.g., Strokes, Alzheimer's) and obstructive peripheral arterial disease (poor circulation). These type drugs further decrease circulation to the brain and limbs.

Blood circulation to affected parts (i.e., brain, limbs) depends upon smaller vessels (collaterals) in the immediate area of the affected part. Getting the blood past (beyond) the area obstructed in the blood vessels is the problem.

The movement of the muscles further narrows the vessels and puts pressure on the obstructed vessels. This causes them to get narrow and collapse which decreases circulation further. In order for blood flow to get through the narrow opening and provide adequate blood to limbs and the brain the entire body would have to have increase blood flow. Vasodilator drugs decrease blood flow to affected parts.

The vasodilators cause healthy blood vessels to dilate and open wider, and this increases blood flow to body parts with open blood vessels that do not have obstructed vessels. Blood flow to obstructed vessels resist blood flow, this means vasodilators take blood from the parts needing blood the most The FDA Bureau of Drugs states that there are no drugs effective for symptoms due to peripheral vascular disease.

They allow vasodilator drugs to be sold because there is no better alternative available, than these drugs that do not work, Vasodilators are used for Memory Impairment Memory Impairment is a decline in mental functioning, analytical and learning ability and orientation to place, time and date.

These are symptoms of brain disorders called Senile Dementia, Attention Deficit, Senility, Alzheimer's and Organic Brain Syndrome. These disorders are a collection of terms that refer to a group of symptoms.

Senility is not caused by old age. The brain cells can degenerate/deteriorate (Primary Dementia) and emotional problems (e.g., depression) or drugs can impair intellectual ability and memory resulting in Senili1y, Alzheimer's etc.