Journal of Endovascular Therapy – A **new balloon catheter system** could advance the endovascular approach to treating obstructed arteries in the leg, offering an alternative to surgical revascularization. Peripheral artery disease affects about 12 to 14 percent of the general population, and revascularization can be achieved through bypass surgery or a number of minimally invasive endovascular techniques that seek to reduce or eliminate symptoms of reduced blood flow by improving tissue perfusion. Chronic total occlusions of the superficial femoral artery and popliteal artery, some of the most difficult lesions to recanalize with conventional guidewire techniques, were treated with this new system.

This first-in-man experience of the ENABLER-P Balloon Catheter System is reported in the current issue of the *Journal of Endovascular Therapy.*

The ENABLER-P Balloon Catheter System features a unique balloon-anchoring mechanism and an automated balloon inflation device that allows steady, controlled guidewire advancement by the operator through an occlusion. The new system incorporates increased top force and better pushability of a standard guidewire.

Thirty-seven patients with a variety of occlusions, including heavily calcified, long, and fibrotic lesions, participated in the study. A successful procedure was achieved in 86 percent. The average time to successfully navigate the occlusion was 5.3 minutes. Physicians participating in the study reported success in maintaining positioning of the guidewire in the lumen of the blood vessel, even in curvilinear and other challenging areas.

The authors of a commentary about this article welcome this test of new endovascular techniques and tools. Although an increasing number of facilities favor first trying an endovascular approach to obstructed arteries in the leg, there is a lack of adequately designed clinical studies helping to establish these techniques. The authors note that this new system may offer new possibilities and change attitudes toward lower limb revascularization in the setting of critical limb ischemia.

Full text of the article, " Recanalization of Femoropopliteal Chronic Total Occlusions Using the ENABLER-P Balloon Catheter System ," and commentary, " The ENABLER-P Balloon Catheter System: A New and Exciting Tool for Recanalization of Femoropopliteal CTOs ,"
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About the Journal of Endovascular Therapy

The Journal of Endovascular Therapy, an official publication of the International Society of Endovascular Specialists, publishes peer-reviewed articles of interest to clinicians and researchers in the field of endovascular interventions. The Journal's scope is multidisciplinary, representing all topics related to minimally invasive peripheral vascular diagnosis and treatment. Original clinical studies, experimental investigations, state-of-the-art reviews, rapid communications, case reports, technical notes, editorials, and letters to the editor are published, as well as feature articles on the basics of endovascular interventions. The journal is available online at www.jevtonline.org . To learn more about the society, please visit www.isesonline.org
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