

Welcome to

# UMass Memorial Center for Complex Aortic Disease

---



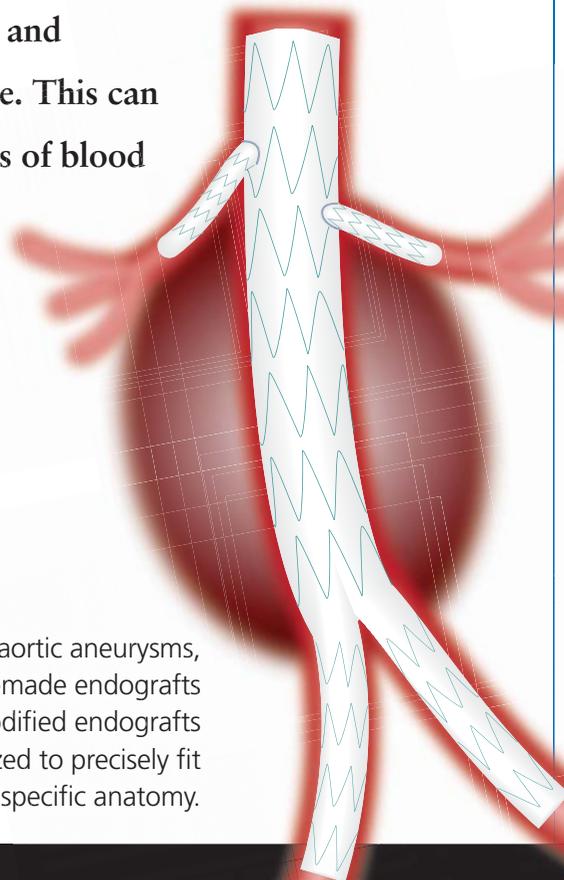
# Diagnosis • Treatment • Lifelong Care

## What is an Aortic Aneurysm?

An aortic aneurysm is a bulging of the large artery that carries blood from your heart to the rest of your body. Your aneurysm is complex because of the extent of aorta involved and because your aneurysm is very close to the arteries that provide blood to your liver, kidneys, and intestines.

When left untreated, most aortic aneurysms continue to grow and eventually rupture. This can cause a major loss of blood with a high risk of death or other serious complications.

To repair complex aortic aneurysms, we utilize custom-made endografts and physician-modified endografts that are customized to precisely fit each patient's specific anatomy.



## Diagnosis

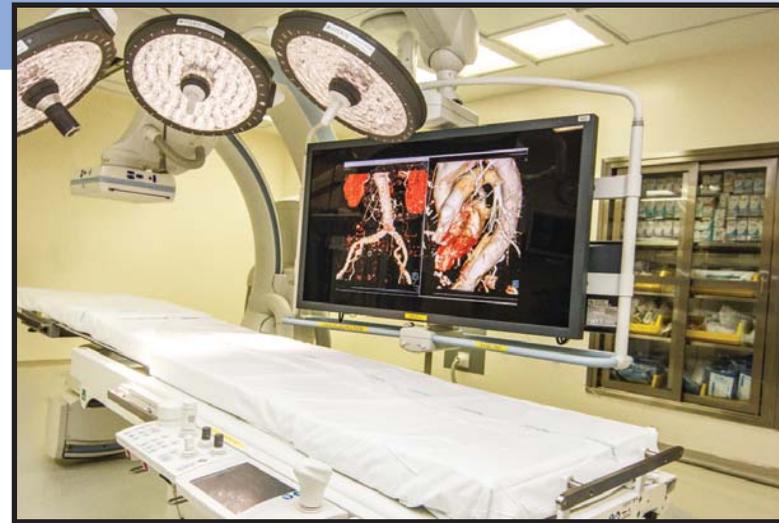
Just like each of us have unique features on the outside, we are just as unique on the inside. Dr. Schanzer and his team will spend hours reviewing your CT scan, ultrasound, and MRI. Using state of the art 3D reconstruction software, our complex aortic team will measure your anatomy to design a graft and customize it precisely to fit your anatomy.

## Treatment

The device to exclude your aneurysm is called an endograft. Dr. Schanzer and his team are able to place the endograft in the correct position using just a simple puncture or a small incision to guide the endograft through the arteries in your leg up to the aneurysm. This minimally invasive procedure is called endovascular treatment.

## Recovery

After surgery you can expect to spend 1 to 7 days recovering in a private hospital room. Each day the Vascular Surgery team



*Hybrid Operating Room – state of the art technology allows a CT scan to be performed right in the operating room. These images can be merged with a preoperative CT scan using “fusion.” This technology enhances the safety of the procedure by allowing the surgeons to minimize the amount of radiation and contrast dye that is used during the procedure.*



will monitor your recovery while you receive focused care by a specially trained nurse. Since this procedure is minimally invasive, you can expect quicker recovery time, minimal scarring and decreased pain. Within a few days you can resume most normal activities.

## Lifelong Care

After surgical correction, you can expect to have regular follow up appointments with Dr. Schanzer's medical team. These visits will include routine ultrasounds and other modes of imaging to monitor your condition as well as continued lifestyle education. All these efforts are designed to focus on a healthier you.



**Andres Schanzer, MD**  
Director, UMass Memorial Center for Complex Aortic Disease

## About Dr. Schanzer

Dr. Schanzer is a national leader in endovascular repair of complex aortic disease. He has completed specialized training in advanced endovascular techniques at several leading institutions around the world. These efforts have afforded him the opportunity to teach other vascular surgeons these techniques at special training workshops. He also serves as a proctor, supervising other surgeons performing these complex cases at other hospitals throughout the United States.

Dr. Schanzer graduated from Harvard University. He earned his medical degree from the New York University School of Medicine. He completed his surgical training at UC Davis Medical Center (General Surgery residency) and Brigham and Women's Hospital (Vascular and Endovascular Surgery fellowship). He has been on staff at UMass Memorial since 2007; in addition to directing the Center for Complex Aortic Disease, he is heavily involved in medical education, serving as the program director for the Vascular Surgery Residency training program since 2009.

# Diagnosis • Treatment • Lifelong Care

UMass Memorial offers the most comprehensive, minimally invasive endovascular aortic program in New England with the broadest range of available treatment options. As part of a clinical trial called the PRESERVE trial, UMass Memorial was the first hospital in the United States to use an emerging technology for aortic aneurysm repair that placed a branched endovascular graft in the iliac artery.

Through Dr. Schanzer's role as principal investigator, UMass Memorial participates in 7 clinical trials that focus on aortic aneurysms.

Dr. Schanzer is one of only a few surgeons in the country who is conducting a special type of clinical trial that studies endovascular aortic repair with experimental devices that are customized to a patient's specific anatomy (both physician modified endografts and custom made devices).

*UMass Memorial Center for  
Complex Aortic Disease  
UMass Memorial Medical Center*

**Andres Schanzer, MD, FACS**  
*Associate Professor of Surgery  
and Quantitative Health Sciences  
Program Director, Vascular Surgery Residency  
University of Massachusetts Medical School*



## **UMass Memorial Health Care**

UMass Memorial Health Care is the largest not-for-profit health care system in Central Massachusetts with more than 12,000 employees and 1,600 physicians, many of whom are members of UMass Memorial Medical Group. Our member hospitals and entities include Clinton Hospital, HealthAlliance Hospital, Marlborough Hospital, UMass Memorial Medical Center and Community Healthlink, our behavioral health agency. With our teaching and research partner, the University of Massachusetts Medical School, our extensive primary care network and our cancer, diabetes, heart and vascular, orthopedic and surgery programs, UMass Memorial delivers safe, high-quality and compassionate care.

Call 855-UMASS-MD (855-862-7763) for all your health care needs.  
Visit [umassmemorialhealthcare.org](http://umassmemorialhealthcare.org).



**UMass Memorial Heart and Vascular Care**  
**Center for Complex Aortic Disease**  
UMass Memorial Medical Center – University Campus  
55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655  
508-856-5599 • 844-89-AORTA (844-892-6782)  
[www.umassmemorial.org/heart](http://www.umassmemorial.org/heart)