Glossary for NVR State of the Nation Reports

Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)	This is an abnormal expansion of the aorta. If left untreated, it may enlarge and rupture causing fatal internal bleeding.
Angiography	Angiography is a type of imaging technique used to examine blood vessels. It may be carried out non-invasively using computerised tomography (CT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).
Carotid endarterectomy (CEA)	Carotid endarterectomy is a surgical procedure in which plaque build-up is removed from the carotid artery in the neck.
Case ascertainment	The number of procedures in the NVR compared to the number of procedures recorded in administrative hospital databases.
Chronic limb-threatening ischaemia (CLTI)	The most severe form of peripheral arterial disease, where the blood flow to the legs becomes severely restricted, to such an extent that these parts of the limb are at risk of developing gangrene. CLTI is associated with severe pain at rest, which is often worse at night, and there may also be ulcers on the leg and foot.
Confidence interval (CI)	A statistical term used to describe the range of values that we are confident the metric lies within.
Cranial nerve injury (CNI)	Damage to one of the 12 nerves supplying the head and neck.
Elective [admission/procedure]	An admission or procedure that is planned (not an emergency)
Endovascular aneurysm repair (EVAR)	A method of repairing an abdominal aortic aneurysm by placing a graft within the aneurysm from a small cut in the groin.
Fontaine score	An internationally recognised scoring system or classification of the severity of peripheral arterial disease.
Intermittent claudication	Pain affecting the calf, and less commonly the thigh and buttock, caused by lack of blood flow that is felt during exercise and relieved by rest.
Interquartile range (IQR)	Once the data are arranged in ascending order, this is the central 50% of all values and is otherwise known as the ‘middle fifty’ or IQR.
Median	The median is the middle value in the data set; 50% of the values are below this point and 50% are above this point.
Necrosis or gangrene	Death of body tissue caused by lack of blood supply to that part of the body.
Peripheral arterial disease (PAD)	Peripheral arterial disease (PAD) is a restriction of the blood flow in the lower-limb arteries. The disease can affect various sites in the legs, and produces symptoms that vary in their severity from pain in the legs during exercise to persistent ulcers or gangrene.
Revascularisation	Group of medical treatments (including open or endovascular) to restore blood flow to a part of the body.

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