Hundreds of medical practitioners in the West are trying Chelation Therapy for prevention and treatment of degenerative circulatory diseases, such as coronary artery disease, hypertension, atherosclerosis, peripheral circulatory disease, premature senility and age-related diseases.

EDTA is the commonly used agent for Chelation. It is a synthetic amino acid (expands as Ethylenediamine-tetra-acetic acid). It is administered as a series of intravenous infusions. Initially, EDTA was reputed to remove toxic metal poisoning and was used in rare condition where the calcium levels in the blood are high. It was an accidental finding that EDTA also helps restore impaired circulation, which has led to its widespread use in alternative medicine.

**How does EDA work?**

EDTA acts as a scavenger and binds to atheromatous concretions in the blood vessels, thus cleansing the vessels, and making them supple. It reduces their constriction.

In chronic circulatory dysfunction, EDTA opens up narrow and blocked coronary artery and reduces anginal pain. If there is a circulatory deficiency in the legs, EDTA improves circulation by removing the obstructing plaques in the lower limb blood vessels. It works similarly on the kidney and the brain.

**Is Chelation Alone Enough?**

If elderly patients have a crippling disease and are bed-ridden, Chelation should be tried in isolation. But, if the patient is able to comply, it must be tried with diet modification and graded exercise programmes as part of a comprehensive approach.

Despite widespread use in degenerative conditions, Chelation therapy has remained controversial; it has been much misunderstood and grossly under-investigated by mainstream medical professionals.

In course of time, it may perhaps become the answer to crippling and potentially fatal vascular diseases.

Dr. Rajesh Vishwanathan is a General Practitioner in Medicine in Mumbai with a keen interest in spirituality and holistic medicine. He may be contacted at dr. rajesh.viswanathan@gmail.com