

Mayo Clinic Minute: Arteriovenous Malformation - Brain AVM

VIDEO	AUDIO
3D images of AVM and image of bowl of spaghetti.	A brain arteriovenous malformation, or AVM, is a tangle of weakened blood vessels connecting arteries and veins, which is often described as a bowl of spaghetti. AVMs can cause severe headaches, seizures and, in some cases a rupture.
Dr. Bendok on camera Bernard Bendok, M.D. Neurosurgery Mayo Clinic	“So, what an AVM does is it exposes those veins to a much higher pressure, and that leads to the veins getting sick essentially.”
Images of Dr. Bendok holding 3D print of AVM. Scans of AVM on monitor	Mayo Clinic, Neurosurgeon Dr. Bernard Bendok says AVMs only occur in about 1 in every 700 people. While they’re not real common, they can be dangerous.
Dr. Bendok on camera	“AVMs can occur anywhere. But when they occur in the brain, the consequences can be more severe. So, AVMs, can sit quietly for many years without symptoms, and in a fairly unpredictable way, cause a brain hemorrhage.
Dr. Bendok in surgery	Dr. Bendok says there are several treatments available to patients, including microsurgery, embolization, where glue is injected to close the abnormal vessels, and radiosurgery. As treatments advance, the outlook for people with AVMs is positive.
Dr. Bendok on camera:	“AVMs can be scary, but, with modern treatments, there has never been a better time in the history of AVM treatment for patients with AVMs.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Ian Roth

