# Lower extremity peripheral arterial disease - lePAD

# I can't walk 500 miles



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### Disclosures

- Relationship with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, Amgen, Amarin, Bayer, Pfizer, Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, and Idorsia that includes consulting or advising.
- Relationship with Janssen that includes research grant funding paid directly to the research department

# Objectives

• Diagnosis, Prognosis, Prevention, and Treatment



- Review peripheral arterial disease and the importance of screening and early intensive management
- Discuss strategies to reduce the risk of amputations and other cardiovascular disease events through lifestyle and pharmacologic treatment.





### Acute Coronary Syndrome/Chronic Stable











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250x Magnification 20x Magnification FEMORAL CAPILLARY **SMALL ARTERY** ARTERY more than 100 µm 3 to 3 µm 10 mm CD Y WINE DY ARTERIOLE less than 100 μm more than 5 μm CORONARY ARTERY AORTA 25 mm 3 mm

GIFSBOOM

https://www.crossfit.com/essentials/the-heart-part-6-blood-vessel-basics; Lorbeer. 2018. PLoS One. 13(6): e0197559; Dodge Jr. 1992. Circulation. 86:232–246; Paruchuri. 2015. Cardiology. 131:265-272

### **Coronary Calcium**



 $CAC = 0 \rightarrow NO STATIN$ 

CAC = 1-99 → Favor STATIN

CAC = ≥100 or ≥ 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile  $\rightarrow$  **STATIN** 





POPULATION: Framingham (Offspring and 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation). 50±10 yrs of age. Female

**MAJOR CVD** included: 1 coronary heart disease (CHD), 2 stroke, and 3 peripheral arterial disease. Additionally, authors included 4 MI, and 5 death from CHD (i.e., fatal coronary event, MI, or cerebrovascular accident [i.e., ischemic stroke, hemorrhagic stroke]).

50.9%.

Hoffmann. JAHA. 2016 Feb 22;5(2):e003144

#### **ABI WORKSHEET**

**PVR** 



\* The lower of these numbers is the patient's overall ABI. Overall ABI (lower ABI) = \_\_\_\_\_ Sibley III. 2017. Radiographics. 37:1, 346-357



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#### Α

Older: 72 Female: 58% ABI >1.5 excluded

#### **OUTCOMES:**

1 all-cause mortality OR severe vascular events 2 myocardial infarction, 3 coronary revascularization, 4 stroke, 5 carotid revascularization, 6 peripheral revascularization, or 7 amputation



Diehm C et al. Circulation. 2009;120(21):2053-2061

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Α

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1 all-cause mortality OR severe vascular events 2 myocardial infarction, 3 coronary revascularization, 4 stroke, 5 carotid revascularization, 6 peripheral revascularization, or 7 amputation







# PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE

https://lermagazine.com/article/arterial-disease-lower-extremity-implications Accessed 10/19/2022; https://www.pacecvi.com/blog/they-say-amputation-here-at-pace-we-say-second-opinion, accessed 10/20/2022. https://www.amboss.com/us/knowledge/Peripheral\_arterial\_disease, accessed 10/20/2022

# FOURIER



### Patients with Peripheral Artery Disease

57%

- Patients between 40-85 yrs of age
- History of ASCVD event
- Fasting LDL-C >70 or non-HDL-C >100
- Fasting Trigs <400

69% 27,564 Intermittent Claudication & Peripheral Revascularization Patients with ABI < 0.85 at Baseline (Median 3.7 years prior) Atherosclerosis Randomized 3.642 Patients with Symptomatic Lower 42% 26% 27% Extremity Peripheral 1517 955 1.044 Artery Disease 1,505 Patients with Symptomatic Lower 39 Extremity Peripheral Artery Disease and no 4% prior MI or Stroke Amputation for Ischemia

An Academic Havearch Organization of Nomen's Hospital and Harvard Medical School





### CV Death, MI or Stroke in Patients with and without Peripheral Artery Disease

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### Diagnosis – Have an index of suspicion

PARTNERS Trial – Invited those aged 50-69 yrs w/history of smoking or diabetes to enroll. Evaluated by history and by ABI.

6417 were analyzed based on full records

- PAD was identified in 1865 (**29%**);
  - PAD only 825/1865 (44%), PAD/CVD 1040/1865 (56%
  - Total NEW PAD 823/6417, (13%)
- CVD only 1527/6417 (24%)
- No PAD OR CVD 3025/6417 (47%)

PARTNER COHORT, n=6417



83% of patients were aware of prior PAD Dx. Only 49% of clinicians were aware at baseline



### **PAD** Prevalence

- 8.5 Million individuals in the US >40 years of age are affected
- 14.5% of those >70 years of age in the US have PAD
- Only 10% of PAD patients experience classic claudication
- 40% have variable leg symptom presentation
- 50% do not experience any leg pain (yet 26% CVD events in 5 years)





### **Risk Factors and treatment targets for PAD**

- Smoking
- Diabetes
- Age
- Gender
- Race
- Hypertension
- Hyperlipidemia
- Hyperhomocysteinemia









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### Screening

- Claudication larger vessels=more forgiving. Low symptom presentation. Partner trial: Of 29% with PAD, only 2% had symptoms
- Age  $\geq$ 65 years old
- Age 50–64 years old, with risk factors for atherosclerosis (e.g., diabetes mellitus, history of smoking hyperlipidemia, hypertension) or family history of PAD
- <50 years old with diabetes mellitus and 1 additional risk factor for atherosclerosis
- Individuals with known atherosclerotic disease in another vascular bed (e.g., coronary, carotid, subclavian, renal, mesenteric artery stenosis, or AAA)

#### Patients at Increased Risk of PAD<sup>2</sup>

- Age ≥65 years old
- Age 50–64 years old, with risk factors for atherosclerosis (eg, diabetes mellitus, history of smoking hyperlipidemia, hypertension) or family history of PAD
- Age <50 years old, with diabetes mellitus and 1 additional risk factor for atherosclerosis
- Individuals with known atherosclerotic disease in another vascular bed (eg, coronary, carotid, subclavian, renal, mesenteric artery stenosis, or AAA)



#### History and/or Physical Examination Findings Suggestive of PAD<sup>2</sup>



#### **History:**

- Claudication
- Other non-joint-related exertional lower extremity symptoms (not typical of claudication)
- Impaired walking function
- Ischemic rest pain



#### **Physical Examination:**

- Abnormal lower extremity pulse examination
- 🔍 Vascular bruit
- Q Nonhealing lower extremity wound
- Q Lower extremity gangrene
- Other suggestive lower extremity physical findings (eg, elevation pallor/dependent rubor)



#### **ABI WORKSHEET**



\* The lower of these numbers is the patient's overall ABI. Overall ABI (lower ABI) = Sibley III. 2017. Radiographics. 37:1, 346-357

- Smoking Cessation
- Optimize Diabetes Control
- Blood pressure control
- Lipid lowering therapies
- Structured Exercise Program











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- Smoking Cessation
- Optimize Diabetes Control in the current era = SGLT2i (e.g., empagliFLOZIN, dapagliFLOZIN; the FLOZINs); GLP1ra (e.g., semaglutide, dulaglutide, etc.) and GIP/GLP1. A1c goal is <6.5%. Teach self-foot examination, consider biannual clinical foot examination.
- Blood pressure control Consider RAASi, ACEi or ARB (HOPE and ONTARGET trials). BP goal is <130/<80.</li>
- Lipid lowering therapies ASCVD Secondary prevention = high intensity statin therapy (Rosuvastatin 20 and 40 mg; Atorvastatin 40 and 80 mg) for <a>>50%</a> reduction of LDL-C from baseline AND LDL-C target of <70 mg/dL.</a>









- Structured Exercise Program
  - Supervised Exercise Program (hospital or outpatient)
    - Standalone vs Part of an established Cardiac Rehab Program
    - Structured Community- or Home-Based Exercise Program



### Evidence for benefit from supervised walking therapy:

Meta-analysis of 25 randomized trials of patients with PAD and intermittent claudication (n=1,054). Supervised walking exercise or control (no exercise).

12-26 weeks in duration.

### BENEFITS

Maximal treadmill walking distance increased by 180 meters (590 feet or nearly 2 football field lengths), pain-free walking 128 meters (420 feet).

Nearly 3 of 4 patients reported at least 50% improvement, 1 in 5, 100% improvement.





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<u>Standalone</u> vs <u>Part</u> of an established Cardiac Rehab Program

- Direct supervision by healthcare providers
- Minimum 30 to 45 minutes per session, at least 3 times/week for 12 weeks.
  - Intermittent bouts of walking → moderate-to-maximum claudication alternating with periods of rest
  - Warm-up and cool-down before exercise



### Structured Community- or Home-Based Exercise Program

- Self-directed with guidance, regimen like supervised program
- Counseling and education on how to begin, maintain, progress
- Incorporate behavioral change using health coaching, activity monitors, or both.
- Minimum 30 to 45 minutes per session, at least 3 times/week for 12 weeks.
  - Intermittent bouts of walking → moderate-to-maximum claudication alternating with periods of rest
  - Warm-up and cool-down before exercise



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### Who and How under CMMS

 Table 1: Characteristics of Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Coverage for Supervised Exercise in Peripheral

 Artery Disease<sup>12</sup>

Components and Requirements of Supervised Exercise Programs for PAD Under CMS

- Exercise must be prescribed by a physician after a face-to-face meeting with the patient that includes counseling on cardiovascular disease prevention.
- Prescribed exercise must consist of exercise sessions three times weekly for 12 weeks.
- An additional 36 sessions may be prescribed, with written justification, after the first 12 weeks are completed and may take place over a longer period of time.
- The exercise sessions must take place in a physician's office or outpatient hospital-affiliated setting.
- Exercise must be delivered by qualified personnel with training in basic and advance life support and exercise therapy for PAD.
- Exercise must be supervised by a physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist.



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- Antiplatelet therapy Plaque = potential rupture and fibrin/clots. Either Aspirin 81 mg OR Clopidogrel 75 mg daily is recommended. Consider rivaroxaban 2.5 mg po BID + ASA 81 mg (see Voyager and Compass Trials).
- Claudication reduction and control Cilostazol has been shown to improve walking distance. Dosing is Cilostazol 100 mg po bid, 30 minutes before meals or 2 hours after meals. Supervised exercise programs improve functional status, quality of life, and reduce leg symptoms. Consider structured home-based exercise program with behavioral change techniques.
- Flu Vaccine Protect PAD patients with annual influenza vaccination.

### **Patient Perspectives**





"Each capsule contains your medication, plus a treatment for each of its side effects."

### Case

### **SUMMARY**

- PAD has a high prevalence, up to 1 in 3 patient aged 50+ and history of smoking or diabetes.
- Symptomatic PAD is not common. Up to 50% fully asymptomatic.
- Asymptomatic PAD carries a 1 in 4 (~25%) cardiovascular event rate in 5 years.
- ABI is a relatively cheap and sensitive screening tool for identifying PAD, regardless of the presence or absence of symptoms. ABI <0.9 is Abnormal.
- PAD is an amplifier of risk for those with concomitant cardio- and cerebrovascular. Intensify existing ASCVD risk reducing therapies.

Enlist preventive cardiology, vascular medicine, endocrinology, etc. to team-up with you and your patients with PAD.