

PROGRAM BY
ABBOTT HELPING
YOU TO IDENTIFY
AND MANAGE
YOUR PATIENTS
WITH PERIPHERAL
ARTERY DISEASE

# CLEAR

Streamlining Peripheral Artery Disease referral and diagnosis to improve quality of life



## PERIPHERAL ARTERY DISEASE REMAINS UNDERDIAGNOSED AND UNDERTREATED DESPITE BEING COMMON<sup>1,2</sup>



Peripheral artery disease (PAD) is a common condition where abnormal narrowing or blockage of the arteries due to atherosclerosis reduces blood flow to the extremities.<sup>2,3</sup>

### PAD IN NUMBERS



An estimated over 8.5–12 million people ≥40 years of age have PAD in the United States<sup>4</sup>



14.5% of people >70 years of age5



PAD 5-year mortality rate is 33%



The prevalence of PAD increases with age  $\rightarrow x^2$  each decade<sup>7</sup>



21% of patients with PAD will have MI, stroke, cardiovascular death or hospitalization within ONE YEAR8



Reduced quality of life<sup>9,10</sup>

#### PAD SYMPTOMS

PAD symptoms and their severity can vary greatly between patients, the most recognized subset of symptoms is 'intermittent claudication'. Intermittent claudication can include muscle fatigue, cramping and/or pain in the legs during exercise, which stops after resting. However, intermittent claudication is present in only a minority of patients with PAD.

## MOST PATIENTS WITH PAD HAVE ATYPICAL LEG SYMPTOMS OR ARE ASYMPTOMATIC<sup>12</sup>

#### Other symptoms include:3,13,14

- Ulceration on legs or feet that does not heal
- Hair loss on legs or feet
- Pale or bluish skin color of legs or feet
- Shiny skin
- Slow-growing and/or brittle toenails
- Erectile dysfunction in men

#### MANAGING PAD

Optimal PAD management is best achieved by the combined use of lifestyle changes and a wide range of treatments. 12,15



Lifestyle changes, such as smoking cessation (if applicable), diet adaptation and establishing a structured exercise regimen



Medications (customized to individual risk factors), such as antiplatelet, statin, and antihypertensive agents



Minimally invasive procedures, such as angioplasty or stenting



Surgical interventions (for patients with lifestyle-limiting claudication)

THE IMPORTANCE OF **EARLY** DETECTION

Early detection of PAD is important as the condition is associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality. A delay in treatment promotes rapid disease progression and increases the risk of serious complications, such as myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke and amputation when affecting the limb. 2,12,13



## PATIENTS DON'T ALWAYS SEEK PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION<sup>17</sup>

Studies have shown that:

- 10-50% of the patients with intermittent claudication had never sought medical care<sup>13</sup>
- There was a delay between the start of PAD symptoms and the patient seeking medical attention<sup>17</sup>
- Up to 50% of patients with PAD are yet to be detected<sup>13</sup>

IDENTIFYING PAD SYMPTOMS MAY ASSIST IN EARLY DETECTION AND TIMELY TREATMENT INITIATION<sup>2</sup>

### WHEN TO SUSPECT PAD?

Risk factors for PAD are similar to those for other atherosclerotic diseases<sup>12,15</sup>



≥65 years of age



<50 years of age: diabetes mellitus + 1 additional risk factor\* for atherosclerosis



50-64 years of age + risk factors\* for atherosclerosis or family history of PAD



Any age + known atherosclerotic disease in another vascular bed (e.g., coronary, carotid, subclavian, renal, mesenteric artery stenosis or abdominal aortic aneurysm)

When evaluating whether your patient is at an increased risk of PAD, the following screening assessments should be performed: 2,12

- Clinical history assessment
- Review of symptoms
- Physical examination

- Blood pressure reading
- Fasting lipid profile

#### IDENTIFYING PAD

#### What is an ABI?

An ankle-brachial index (ABI) is an initial diagnostic test validated for screening of PAD. It measures the systolic blood pressure in the lower legs compared to the systolic blood pressure in the arms using a Doppler device. A normal ABI is greater than 1–1.4. A value ≤0.90 is considered abnormal.<sup>10,12</sup>



In addition to confirming PAD symptoms, ABI is essential to diagnosing PAD as its symptoms can be highly variable, atypical or absent.<sup>7,12</sup>

\*Risk factors include diabetes mellitus, history of smoking, hyperlipidemia, and hypertension.<sup>12</sup>

### PAD CHECKLIST

The following checklist can be used to assess if a patient may be at risk of PAD. Multiple 'yes' answers, which indicate an increased risk of PAD, should prompt a thorough examination, preferably using a validated screening assessment such as ABI. 12,14,18

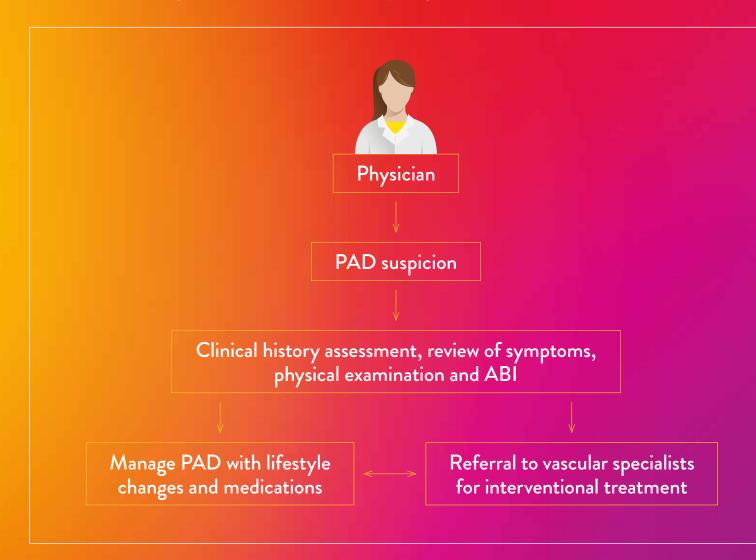
	QUESTIONS	YES	NO
AGE	<ul> <li>Is the patient:</li> <li>65 years of age or older</li> <li>50-64 years of age and has risk factors for atherosclerosis</li> <li>&lt;50 years of age with Type 2 diabetes and at least one other risk factor for atherosclerosis</li> <li>Any age and has any atherosclerotic disease in another vascular bed (e.g., coronary, carotid, subclavian, renal, mesenteric artery stenosis or abdominal aortic aneurysm)</li> </ul>		
SMOKING HISTORY	Does the patient smoke or have they smoked in the past?		
MEDICAL HISTORY	Has the patient been diagnosed with any condition that increases the risk of atherosclerosis such as:  Diabetes  Chronic kidney disease  High blood pressure  High cholesterol  Has the patient ever been diagnosed with PAD or cardiovascular disease?  Has the patient ever had a stroke?		
FAMILY HISTORY	Does the patient have a family history of PAD, cardiovascular disease or stroke?		
FOOT AND LEGS	Is the patients' walking function impaired?		
	Does the patient experience a burning pain in the ball of the foot and toes which worsens when they lie down (ischemic rest pain)?  Does the patient experience weakness, pain, and/or cramping in their leg		
	muscles when walking or exercising (claudication)?		
	Does the patient experience numbness, weakness or heaviness in their leg?		
	Does the patient have cold feet and/or toes?		
	Does the patient have discolored/pale skin on legs or feet?		
	Does the patient have sores on their legs and/or feet that heal very slowly or won't heal at all?		
	Do the patients' toenails grow slowly?		
OTHER	Men only: Has the patient experienced erectile dysfunction?		

WHEN SHOULD A PATIENT WITH PAD BE REFERRED TO A VASCULAR SPECIALIST?
SEE THE PAD REFERRAL PATHWAY ON THE NEXT PAGE TO LEARN MORE

## CLEAR CAN FACILITATE EDUCATION WITHIN THE REFERRAL PROCESS

Abbott's CLEAR program for PAD awareness fosters a multidisciplinary team collaboration to provide optimal care for patients with PAD.

The CLEAR program aims to support Health Care Professionals in the optimal management of PAD by providing tools for referral and timely diagnosis and treatment.<sup>12</sup>



EARLY DETECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND/OR REFERRAL OF PAD CAN SAVE LIMBS AND LIVES<sup>2,12,13</sup>



Abbott is committed to raise awareness of PAD among physicians and patients to minimize complications from PAD, allowing patients to live their lives to the fullest. This guide is part of the CLEAR program for PAD awareness.

For more information on PAD and Abbott's initiatives, please scan the below QR-codes with your mobile device.



#### **HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL** WEBSITE



CLEAR.abbott/US



#### PATIENT PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS



PAD-info.com/US

1. Haigh KJ, et al. Vasc Med. 2013; 18(6): 325-30. 2. Hirsch AT, et al. JAMA. 2001; 286(11): 1317-24. 3. Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD). CDC. Web. 27 Sep 2021. 4. Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD). Cleveland Clinic. Web. 2015. 5. Selvin E, Erlinger TP, et al. Circulation. 2004; 110: 738-43. 6. Tomson J, Lip GYH. BMC Cardiovasc Disord. 2005; 5: 15. 7. Virani SS, et al. Circulation. 2021; 143(8): e254-743. 8. Steg G, et al. JAMA. 2007; 297(11): 1197-206. 9. Schorr EN, et al. Geriatr Nurs. 2015; 36(4): 293-300. 10. Wu A, et al. JAm Heart Assoc. 2017; 6(1): e004519. 11. Shu J, Santulli G. Atherosclerosis. 2018; 275: 379-81. 12. Gerhard-Herman MD, et al. Circulation. 2017; 135(12): e686-725. 13. Norgren L, et al. J Vasc Surg. 2007; 45(1): 55-67. 14. Sibley RC, et al. Radiographics. 2017; 37(1): 346-57. 15. Steffen LM, et al. Diabetes Spectrum. 2008; 21(3): 171-7. 16. Criqui MH, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2008; 52(21): 1736-42. 17. Willigendael EM, et al. Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg. 2004; 27(6): 622-8. 18. A Clinician's Guide. Helping Your Patients with Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD). AHA. Web. 3 June 2021.

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Consult with a physician or qualified healthcare provider for appropriate medical advice.

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