

PAD: detection & diagnosis

Assess for suspected peripheral arterial disease if:

- Presence and severity of possible claudication
- Presence of critical limb ischaemia
- Examining the femoral, popliteal and foot pulses
- Measuring the ankle brachial pressure index
- Muscular wasting
- Hair loss

Assess for presence of peripheral arterial disease if:

- Have diabetes, non-healing wounds on the legs or feet
- Unexplained leg pain
- Being considered for interventions to the leg or foot
- Need to use compression hosiery

Undertaking an ABPI assessment:

- Patient should be resting supine for 10 mins if possible.
- Record systolic blood pressure with an appropriately sized cuff in both arms and in the posterior tibial, dorsalis pedis and, where possible, peroneal arteries.
- Calculate the index using the highest ankle pressure by the highest arm pressure for each leg.

Aggressive CVD Secondary Prevention

Motivational interviewing techniques to support:

- Active lifestyle
- Smoking cessation through supported withdrawal
- Healthy diet and weight reduction if appropriate
- Antiplatelet medication possibly with cardiovascular dose rivaroxaban (2.5mg bd) as appropriate
- Atorvastatin 80mg once daily
- Aggressive blood pressure control with a systolic target of 130mmHg (120mgHg on ABPM or home readings).