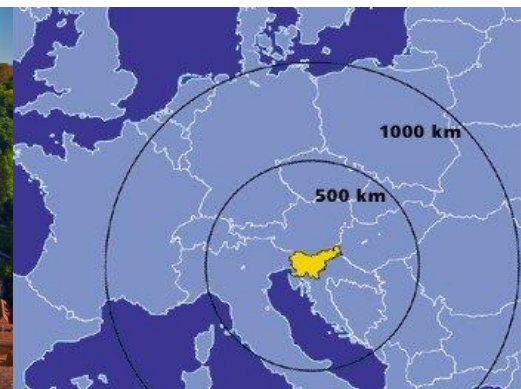


Peripheral arterial disease – where are we going?

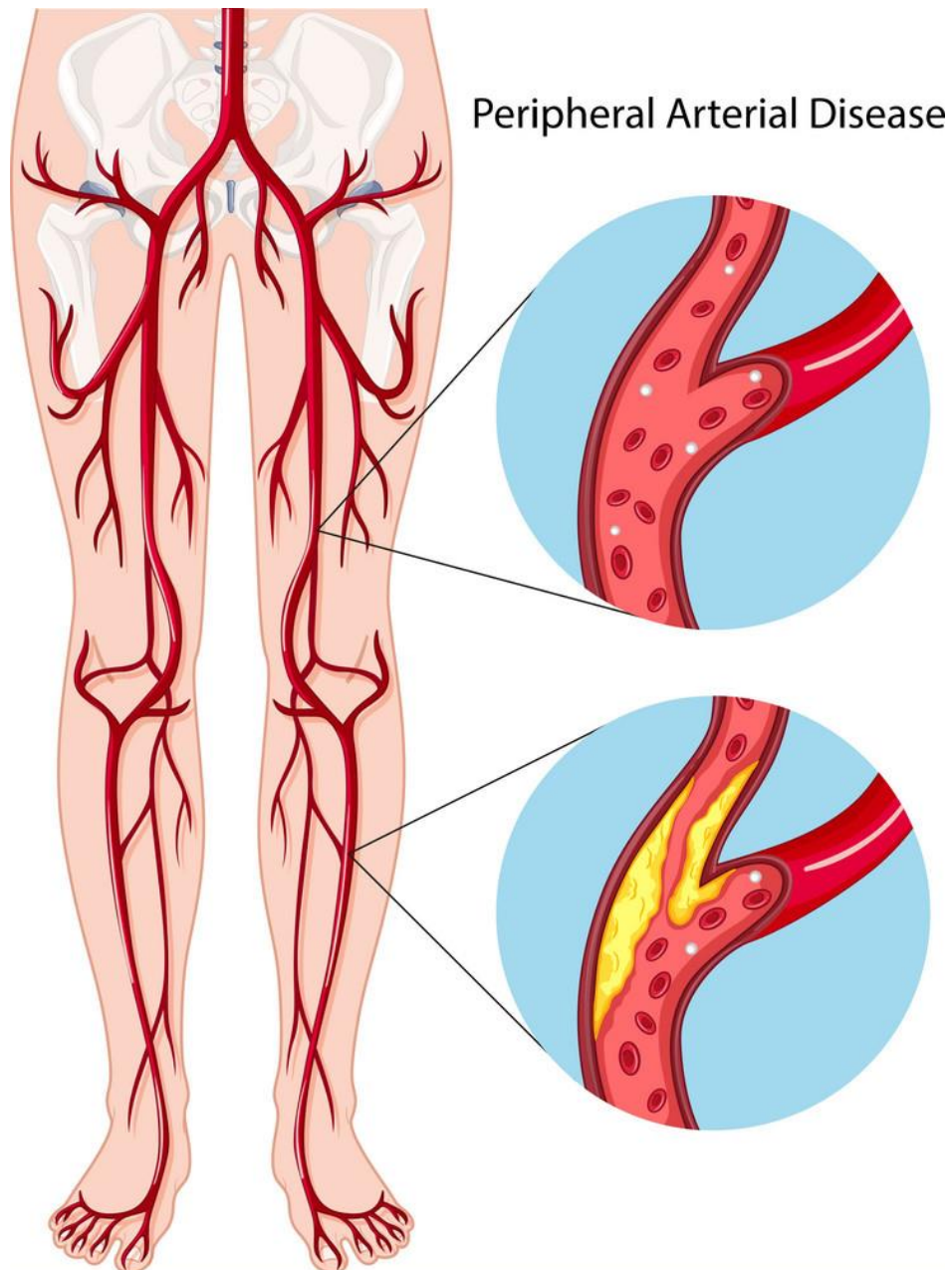
Aleš Blinc

Department of Vascular Diseases
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Outline

- Definition and epidemiology of PAD
- Prognosis of PAD & pharmacological prevention of MACE/ MALE
- PAD with intermittent claudication
- Chronic critical limb ischemia = chronic limb-threatening ischemia
- Acute limb ischemia

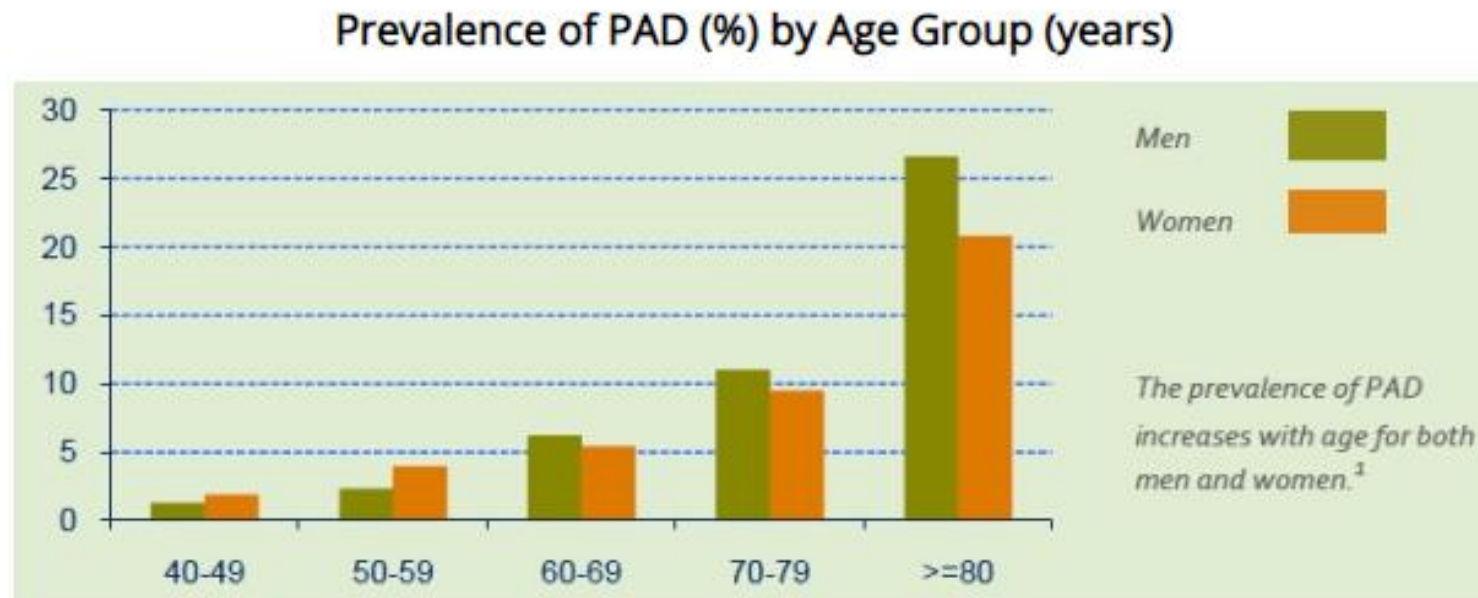


Peripheral arterial disease
(PAD) =
Lower extremity artery disease
(LEAD)

Predominantly:
atherosclerosis and atherothrombosis
of the arteries
below the aortic bifurcation

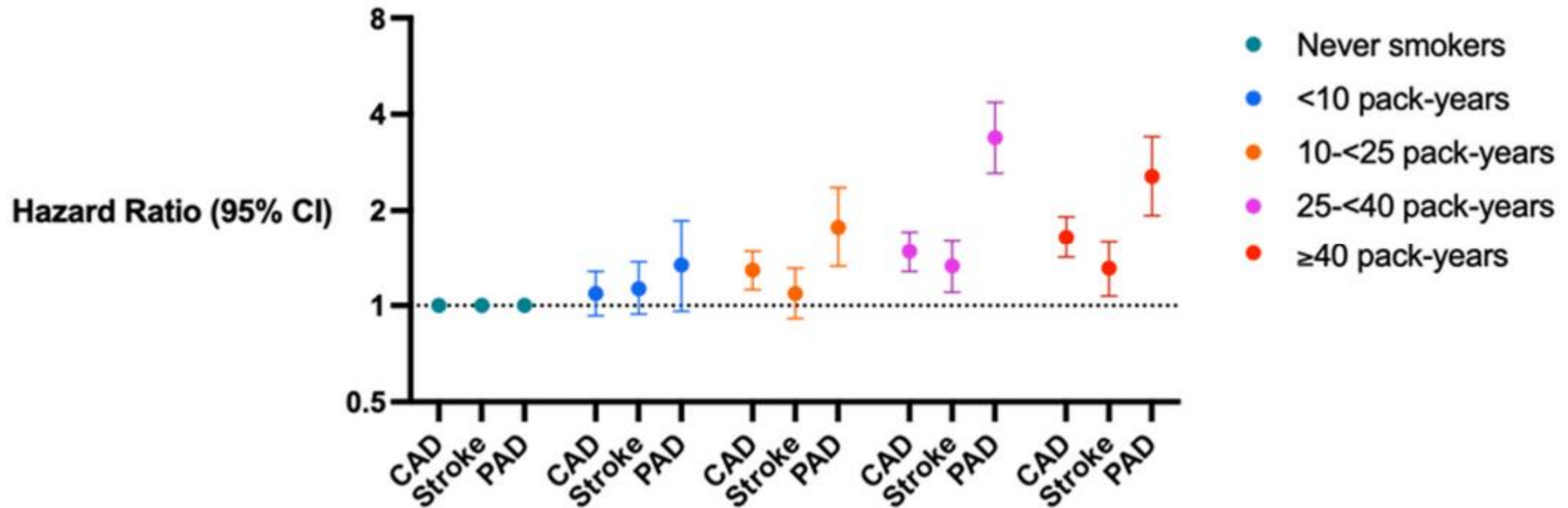
~ 236 million adults were living with PAD worldwide in 2015.

Lancet Glob Health 2020; 8:e721–e729. doi: 10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30117-0

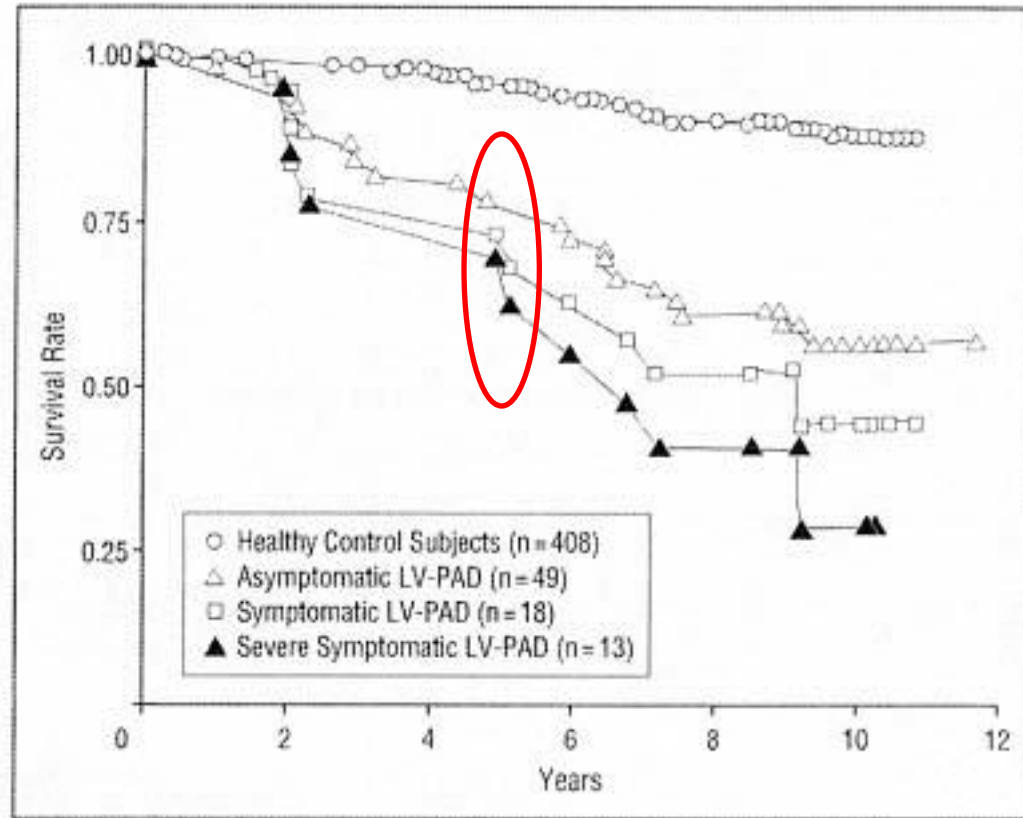


Circulation 2021; 143: e254–e743.

Risk factor	
Smoking	PAD>CAD/stroke
Diabetes	PAD>CAD/stroke
Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol	PAD<CAD/stroke
Triglycerides	PAD>CAD/stroke
Hypertension	PAD=CAD/stroke*
Microvascular disease	PAD>CAD/stroke

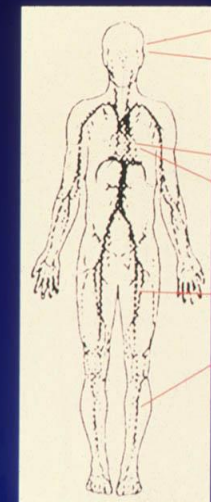


Patients with PAD often succumb to atherothrombotic events



Criqui MH et al. N Engl J Med 1992; 326: 381-6.

Major Clinical Manifestations of Atherothrombosis



- Transient ischemic attack
 - Ischemic stroke
 - Angina pectoris (stable, unstable)
 - Myocardial infarction
 - Claudication
 - Critical limb ischemia, rest pain, gangrene, necrosis
- Ischemic sudden death

PAD Risk-reduction Therapies



Therapies for all Patients

- **Lifestyle Modification & Exercise**
- **Tobacco Cessation Therapies** (behavioral and pharmacologic)
- **Targeting blood pressure goals with preference for ACEi**
- **LDL-C lowering with statin ± ezetimibe and/or PCSK9i**
- **Antiplatelet monotherapy (symptomatic), preference for P2Y₁₂ inhibition**

Therapies for MACE Reduction in Selected Patients

Diabetes

- **Glucose lowering to reduce microvascular risk**
- **GLP-1 (n.b. amputation benefit) , SGLT2 inhibitors**

Prior MI or CAD (Polyvascular Disease) and low bleeding risk

- **ASA + rivaroxaban 2.5 BID (broad polyvascular definition)**
- **ASA + ticagrelor 60 mg BID (prior MI or other need for DAPT)**
- **ASA and/or clopidogrel with vorapaxar**

Therapies for MALE Reduction in all Patients

- **LDL-C / Lp(a) lowering with statin ± ezetimibe and/or PCSK9i**

Therapies for MALE Reduction in Selected Patients

Prior peripheral revascularization & low bleeding risk

- **ASA + rivaroxaban 2.5 BID – (only option shown efficacious in the immediate post-revascularization setting)**
- **ASA + ticagrelor 60 mg BID (prior MI or other need for DAPT) – chronic PAD**
- **ASA and/or clopidogrel with vorapaxar – chronic PAD**

Therapies for Claudication

Symptomatic Patients

- **Cilostazol 100 mg BID**

Survival and event-free survival of patients with peripheral arterial disease undergoing prevention of cardiovascular disease

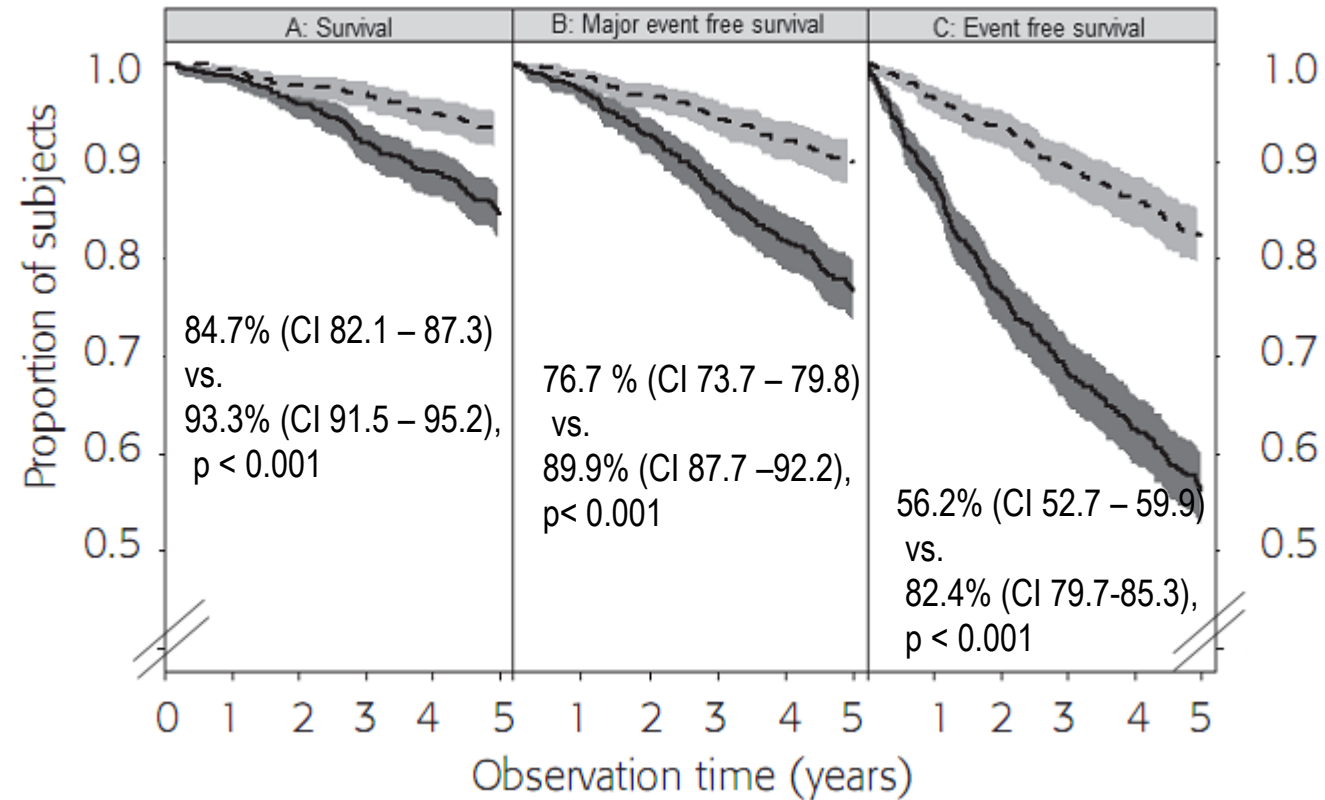
Aleš BLINC^{1,2*}, Matija KOZAK^{1,2}, Mišo ŠABOVIČ^{1,2}, Mojca BOŽIČ MIJOVSKI^{1,3}, Mojca STEGNAR^{1,3}, Pavel POREDOŠ^{1,2}, Andrej KRAVOS⁴, Breda BARBIČ-ŽAGAR⁵, Janez Stare⁶, Maja POHAR PERME⁶

¹Department of Vascular Diseases, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia; ²Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia; ³Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia; ⁴Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Maribor, Maribor, Slovenia; ⁵Krka, d. d., Novo mesto, Slovenia; ⁶Institute of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

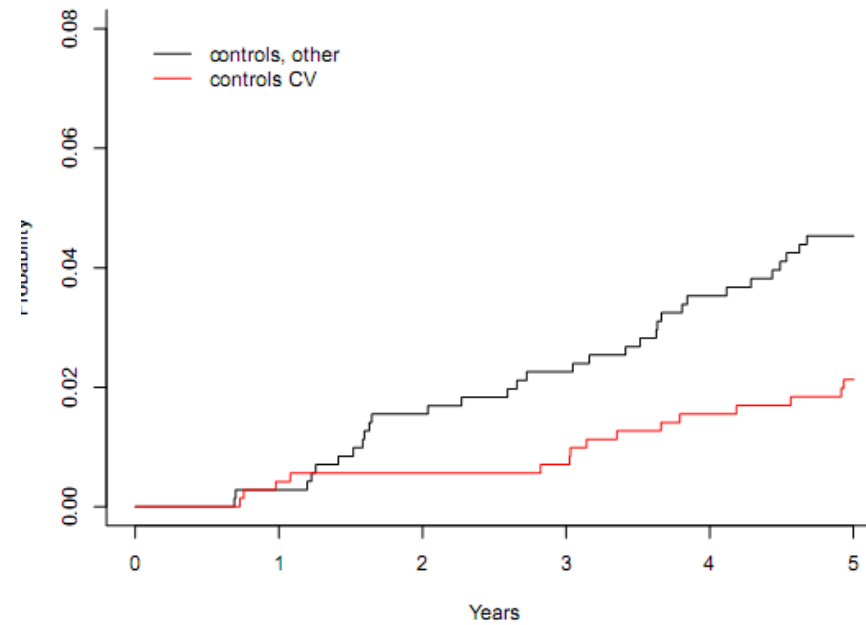
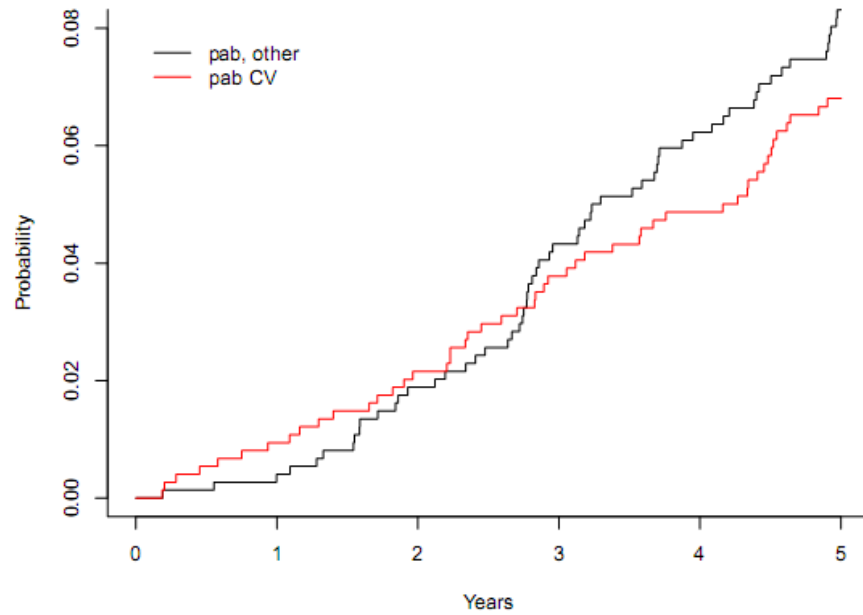
*Corresponding author: Aleš Blinc, Department of Vascular Diseases, University of Ljubljana Medical Centre, Zaloška 7, 1525 Ljubljana, Slovenia.
E-mail: ales.blinc@kclj.si



In spite of secondary prevention with **platelet inhibition**, **RAS inhibition** and **statins**, PAD remains an ominous disease.



Time course of cardiovascular and non-cardiovascular death in patients with PAD and in control subjects:



Improvements in prevention of adverse cardiovascular outcomes for patients with PAD

- Dual antithrombotic treatment
- Intensified lipid-lowering treatment
- SGLT2-inhibitors are safe
- *Future: individualized approach*

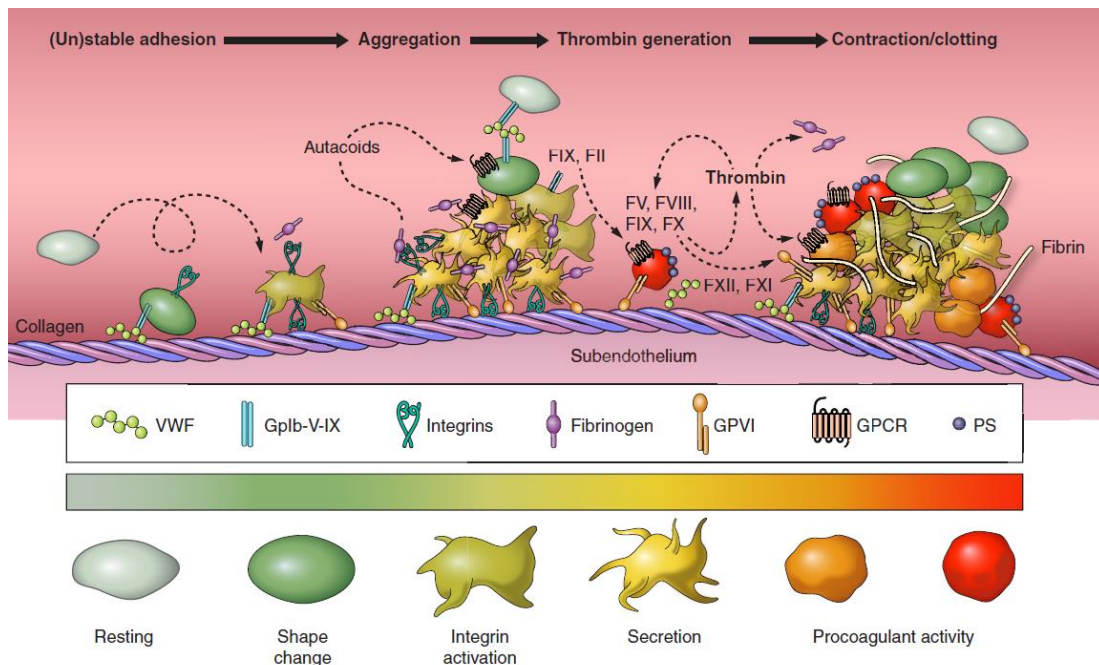
Dual antithrombotic treatment

Platelet aggregation and fibrin deposition(= coagulation) are **interlinked!**

Major Adverse Limb Events and Mortality in Patients With Peripheral Artery Disease

The COMPASS Trial

J Am Coll Cardiol 2018;71: 2306-2315

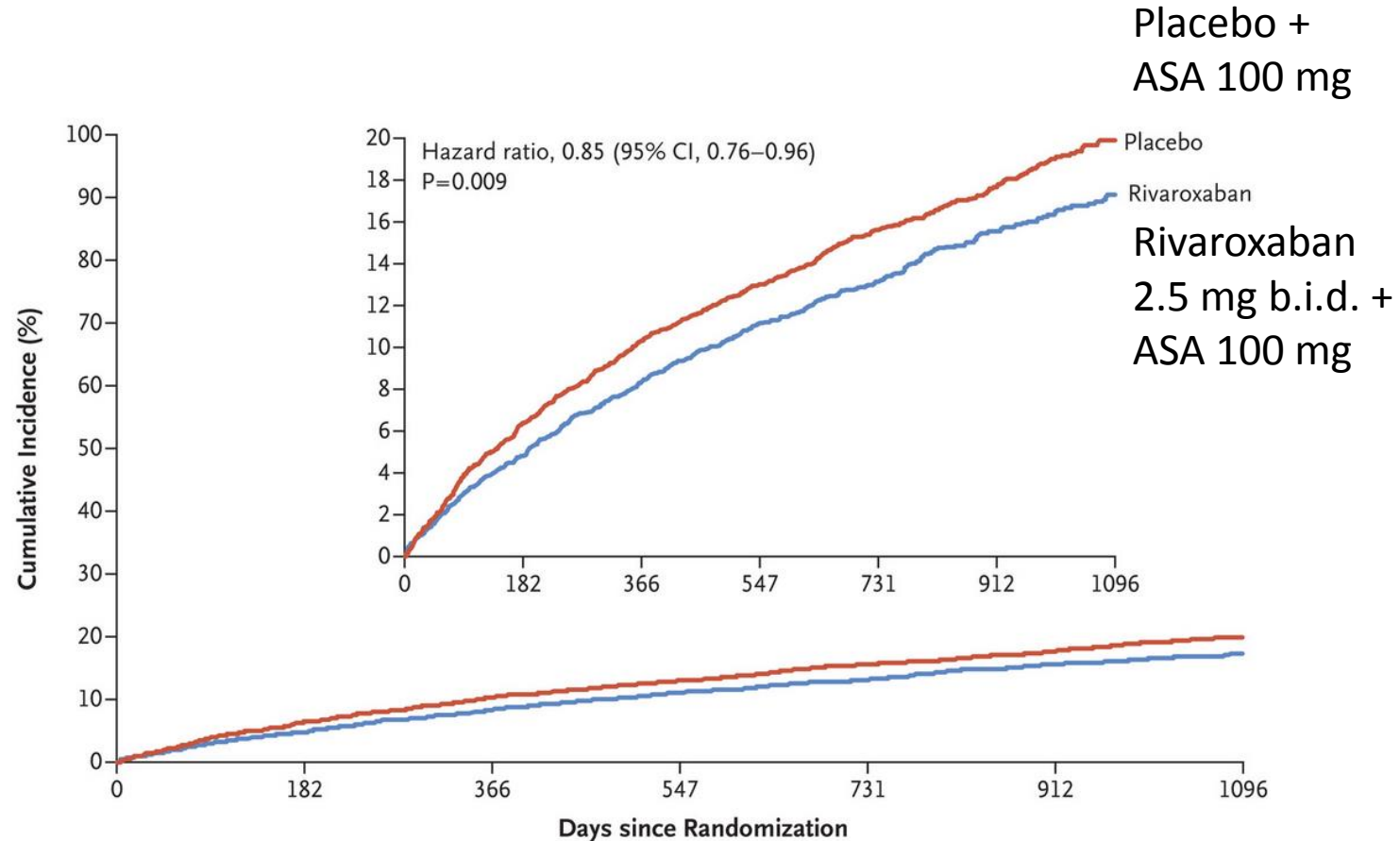


	Rivaroxaban 2.5 mg b.i.d. Plus Aspirin 100 mg (n = 2,139)	Aspirin 100 mg Plus Rivaroxaban Placebo (n = 2,123)	Rivaroxaban 2.5 b.i.d. Plus Aspirin 100 mg	
			HR (95% CI)	p Value
MALE*	32 (1.5)	56 (2.6)	0.57 (0.37-0.88)	0.01
Total vascular amputation	11 (0.5)	26 (1.2)	0.42 (0.21-0.85)	0.01
Major vascular amputation	5 (0.2)	15 (0.7)	0.33 (0.12-0.92)	0.03
All amputations	19 (0.9)	36 (1.7)	0.52 (0.30-0.91)	0.02
Vascular interventions†	117 (5.5)	150 (7.1)	0.76 (0.60-0.97)	0.03
Total outcomes for peripheral artery disease complications‡	132 (6.2)	169 (8.0)	0.76 (0.61-0.96)	0.02
Major bleeding	68 (3.2)	42 (2.0)	1.61 (1.09-2.36)	0.01
Severe bleeding§	24 (1.1)	18 (0.8)	1.32 (0.71-2.42)	0.38

Rivaroxaban in Peripheral Artery Disease after Revascularization

N Engl J Med 2020; 382: 1994-2004. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2000052

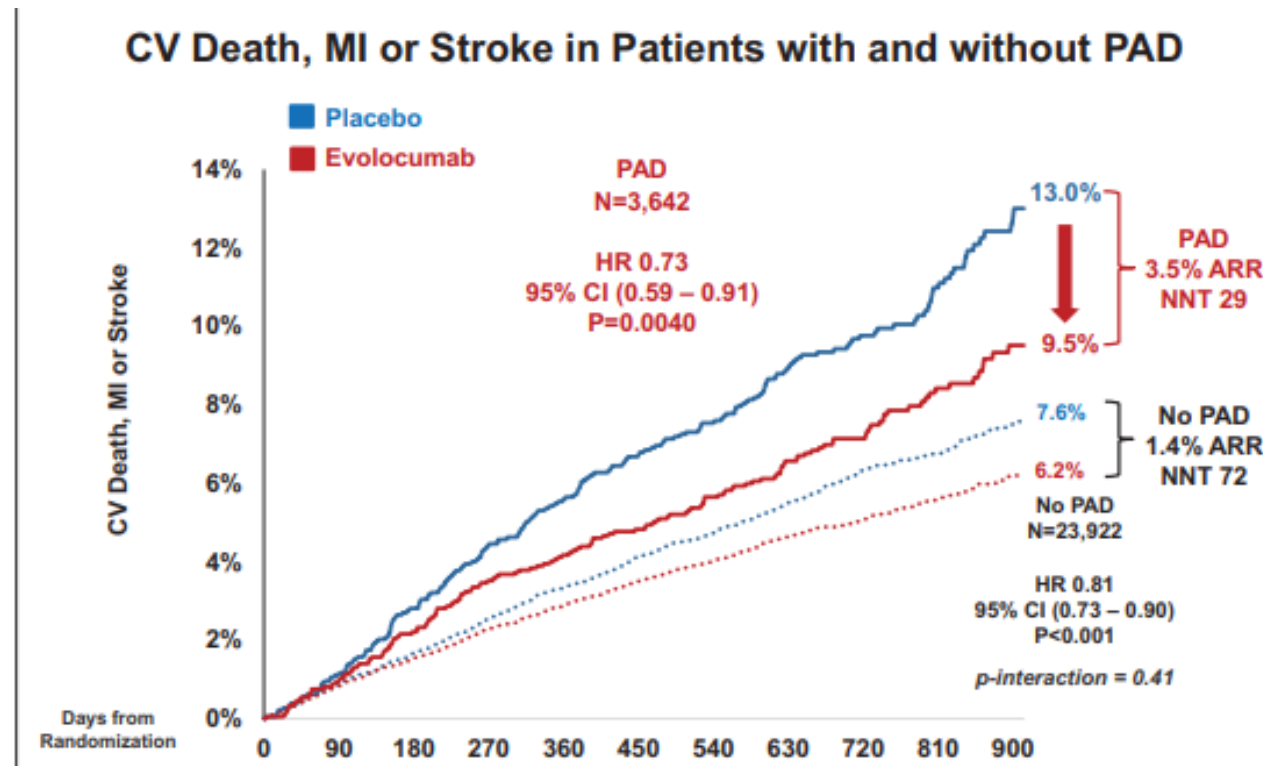
acute limb ischemia, major amputation for vascular causes, myocardial infarction, ischemic stroke, or cardiovascular death.



No. at Risk	0	182	366	547	731	912	1096
Placebo	3278	3030	2881	2773	2151	1351	642
Rivaroxaban	3286	3082	2938	2834	2219	1415	684

Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Lowering With Evolocumab and Outcomes in Patients With Peripheral Artery Disease

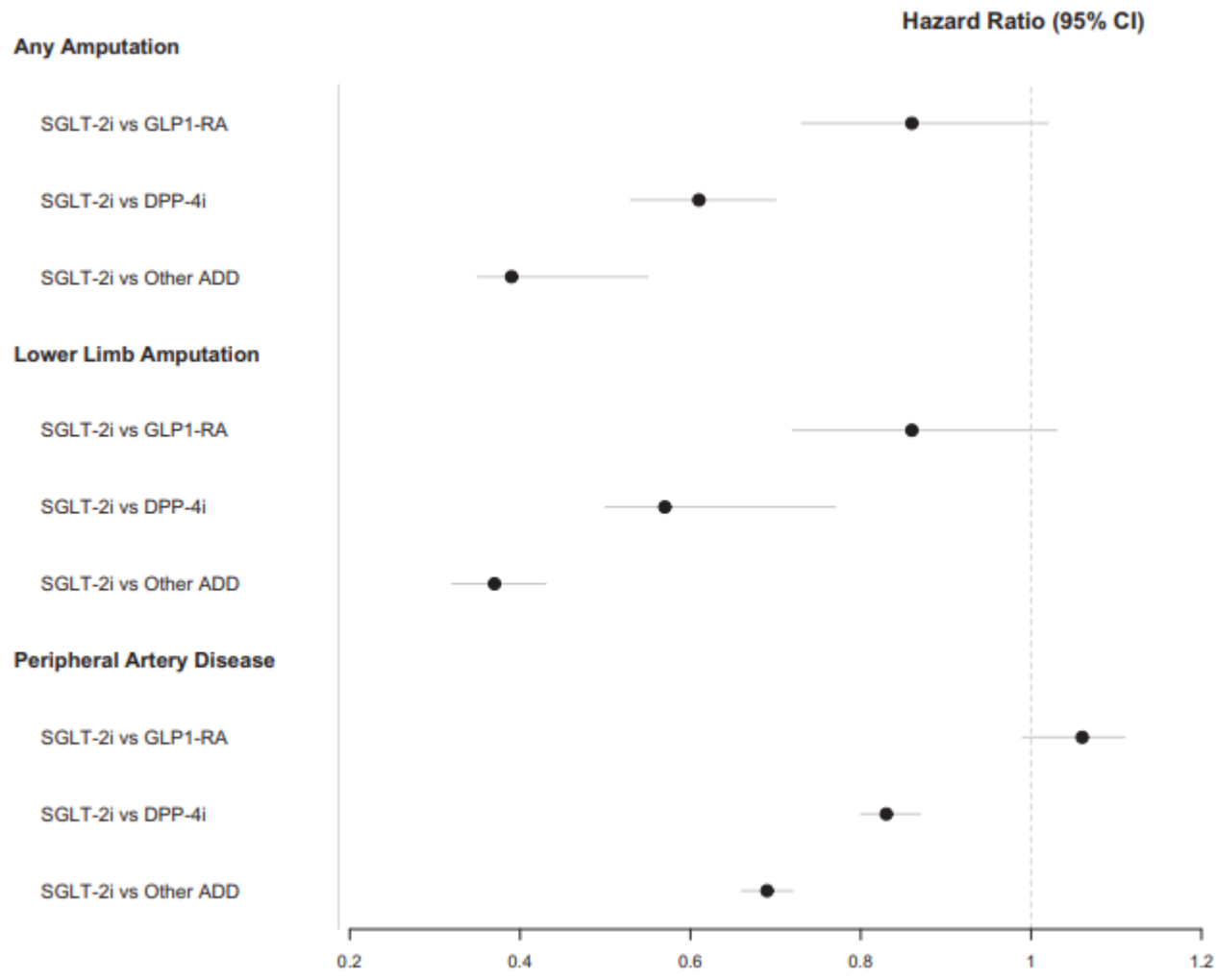
Insights From the FOURIER Trial (Further Cardiovascular Outcomes Research With PCSK9 Inhibition in Subjects With Elevated Risk)







The association of amputations and peripheral artery disease in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus receiving sodium-glucose cotransporter type-2 inhibitors: real-world study

SGLT2-inhibitors are safe !

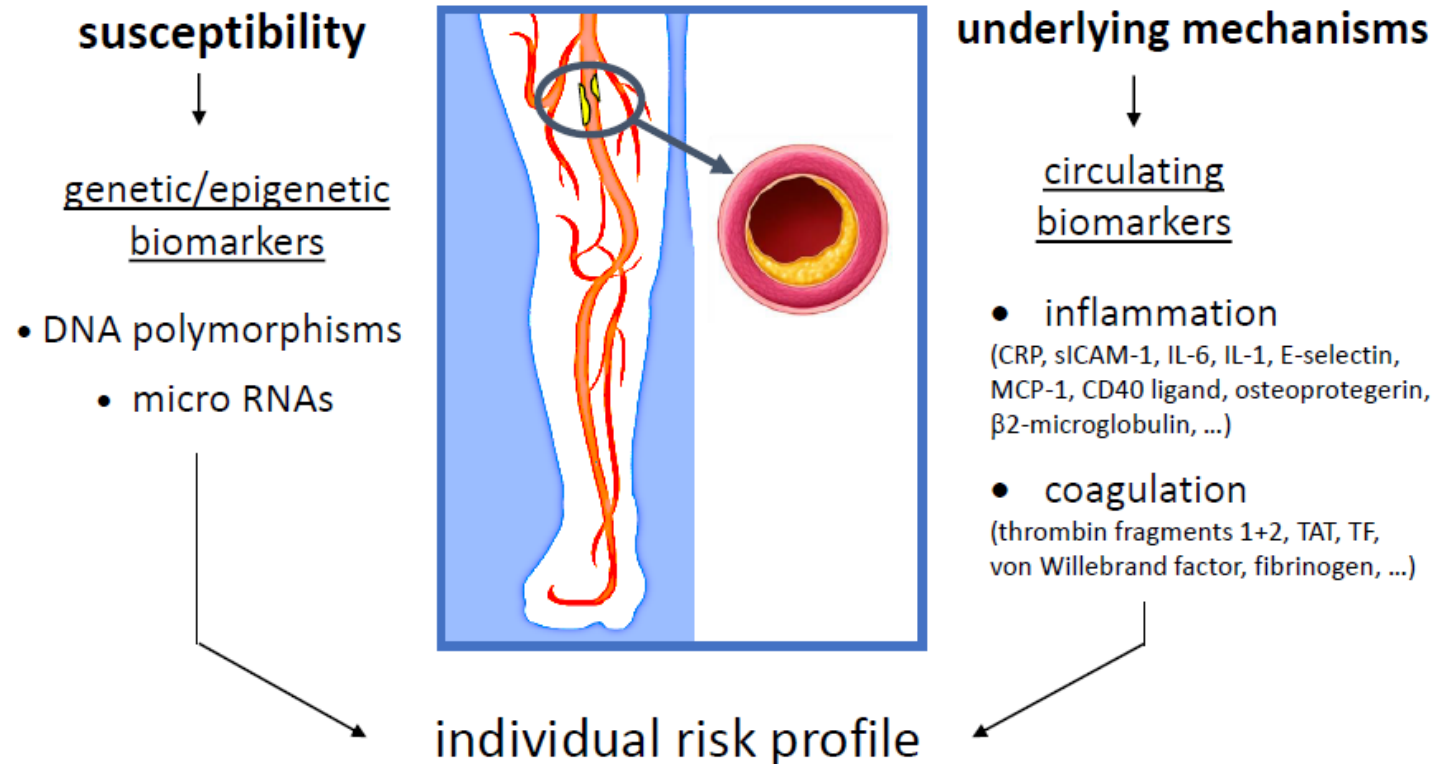
Adjusted Risk of Amputations and Peripheral Artery Disease



Inflammatory and Prothrombotic Biomarkers, DNA Polymorphisms, MicroRNAs and Personalized Medicine for Patients with Peripheral Arterial Disease

Pavel Poredoš¹, Mišo Šabovič^{1,2}, Mojca Božič Mijovski^{1,3} , Jovana Nikolajević¹, Pier Luigi Antignani⁴ , Kosmas I. Paraskevas⁵ , Dimitri P. Mikhailidis⁶ and Aleš Blinc^{1,2,*} 

Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2022; 23: 12054. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms231912054>



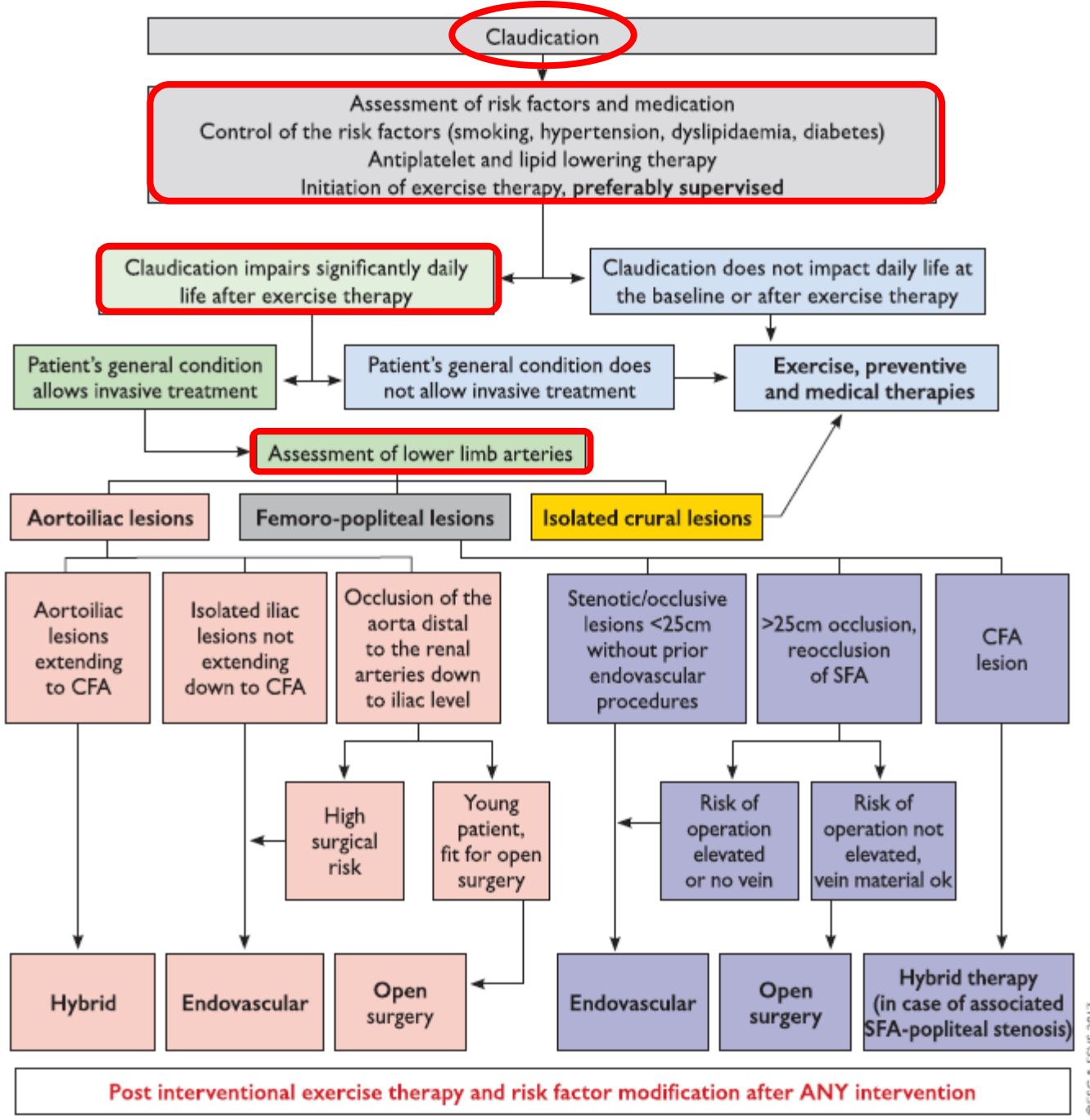
2017 ESC Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Peripheral Arterial Diseases, in collaboration with the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)

Intermittent claudication

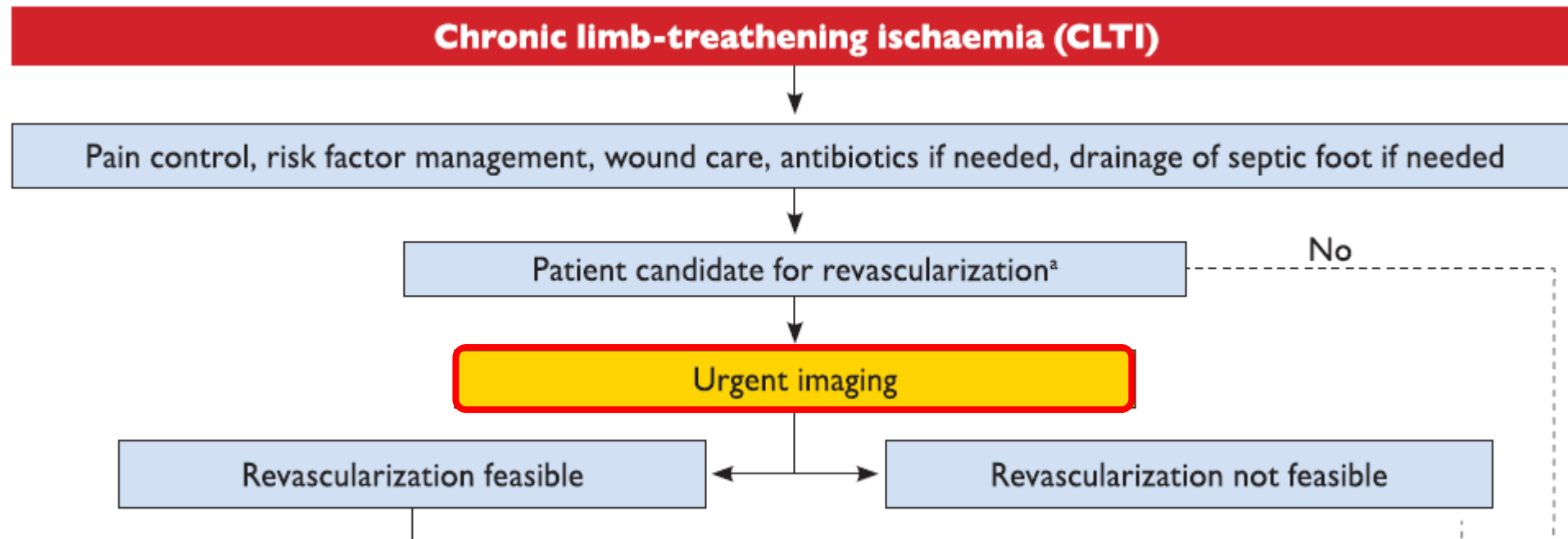
Recommendations for the management of patients with intermittent claudication

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
On top of general prevention , statins are indicated to improve walking distance. ^{30,278}	I	A
In patients with intermittent claudication:		
• supervised exercise training is recommended ^{273,287–289}	I	A
• unsupervised exercise training is recommended when supervised exercise training is not feasible or available.	I	C
When daily life activities are compromised despite exercise therapy, revascularization should be considered.	IIa	C
When daily life activities are is severely compromised, revascularization should be considered in association with exercise therapy.^{288,290}	IIa	B

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Chronic critical (=limb-threatening) limb ischemia



There is **no single threshold** for **ankle pressure** or **toe pressure** in suspected **CLI**

Presence of **chronic ischemic rest pain** plus

- ankle pressure <50 mmHg or
- toe pressure <30 mmHg

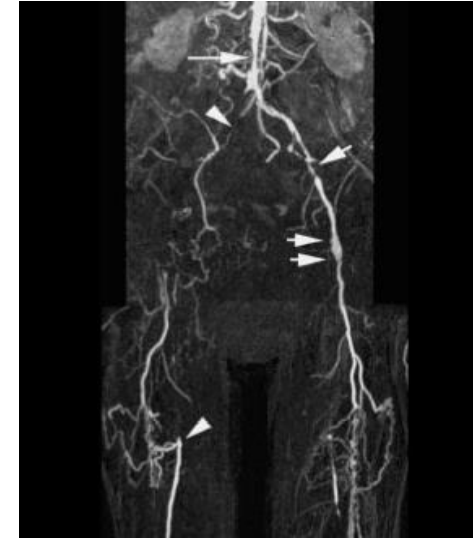
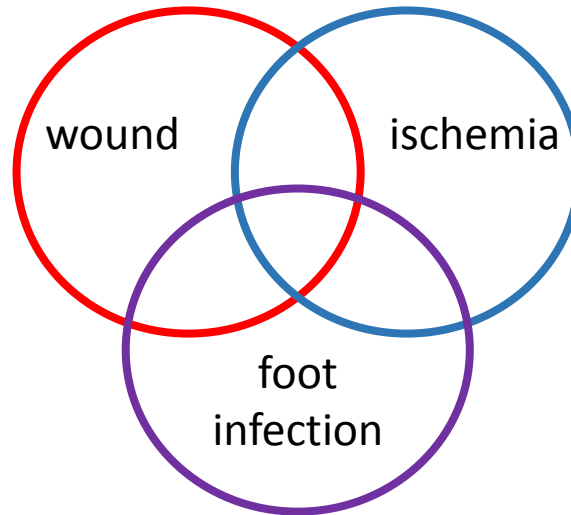
Presence of **foot ulcers or gangrene** plus

- ankle pressure <70 mmHg
 - toe systolic pressure <50 mmHg or
 - TcPO₂ <30 mmHg
-

J Vasc Surg. 1995;22(4):485–490.



3 components of chronic limb-threatening ischemia

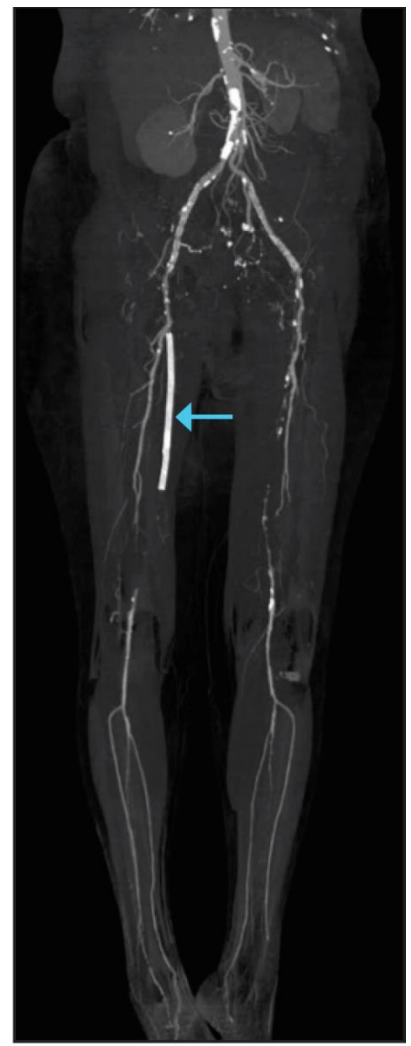
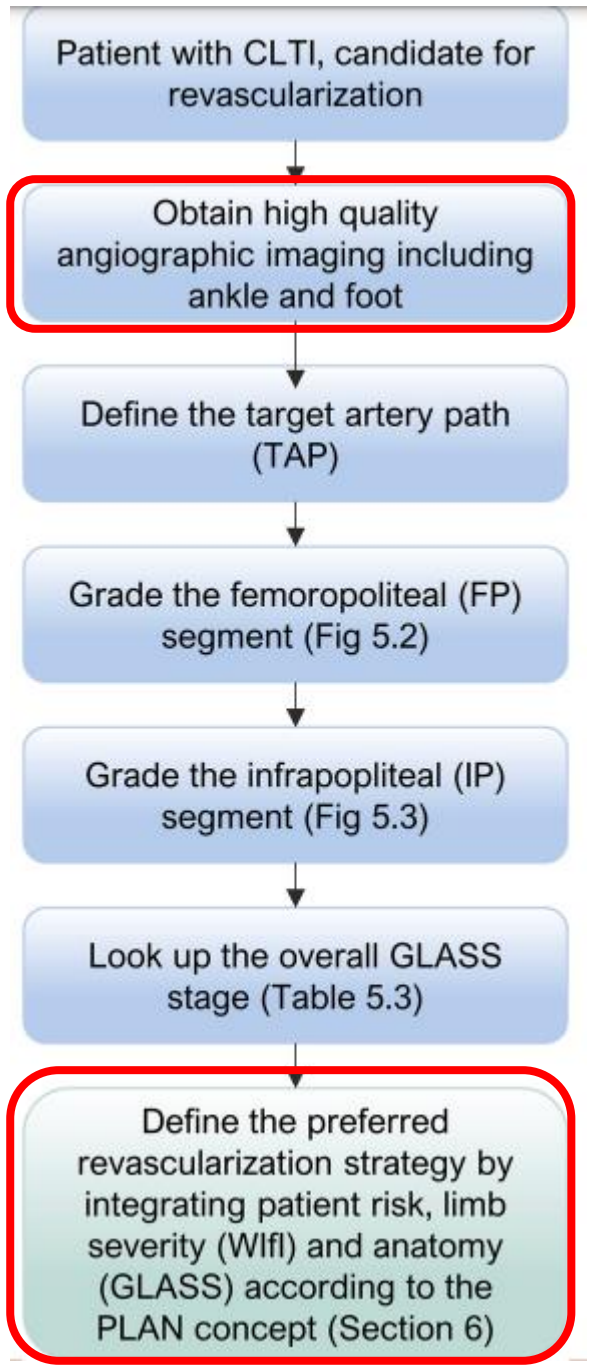


Component	Score	Description		
W (Wound)	0	No ulcer (ischaemic rest pain)		
	1	Small, shallow ulcer on distal leg or foot without gangrene		
	2	Deeper ulcer with exposed bone, joint or tendon ± gangrenous changes limited to toes		
	3	Extensive deep ulcer, full thickness heel ulcer ± calcaneal involvement ± extensive gangrene		
I (Ischaemia)		ABI	Ankle pressure (mmHg)	Toe pressure or TcPO ₂
	0	≥0.80	> 100	≥60
	1	0.60-0.79	70-100	40-59
	2	0.40-0.59	50-70	30-39
	3	<0.40	<50	<30
fi (foot Infection)	0	No symptoms/signs of infection		
	1	Local infection involving only skin and subcutaneous tissue		
	2	Local infection involving deeper than skin/subcutaneous tissue		
	3	Systemic inflammatory response syndrome		

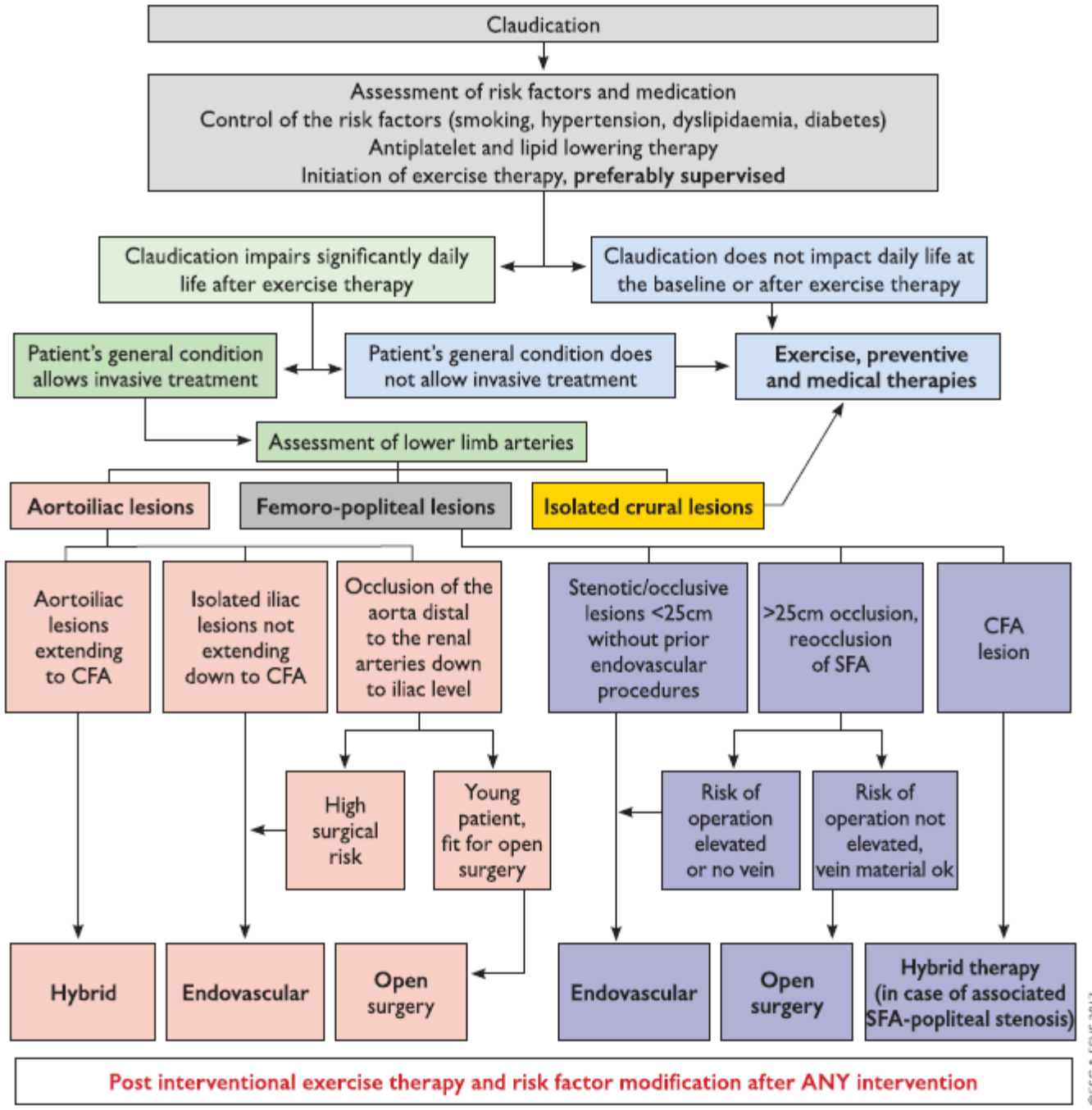
Global vascular guidelines on the management of chronic limb-threatening ischemia



DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvs.2019.02.016>



2017 ESC Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Peripheral Arterial Diseases, in collaboration with the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)



Global vascular guidelines on the management of chronic limb-threatening ischemia


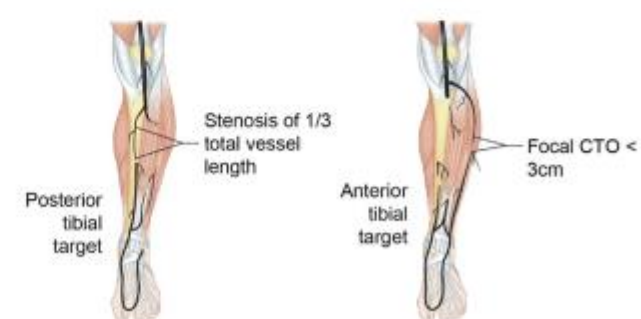

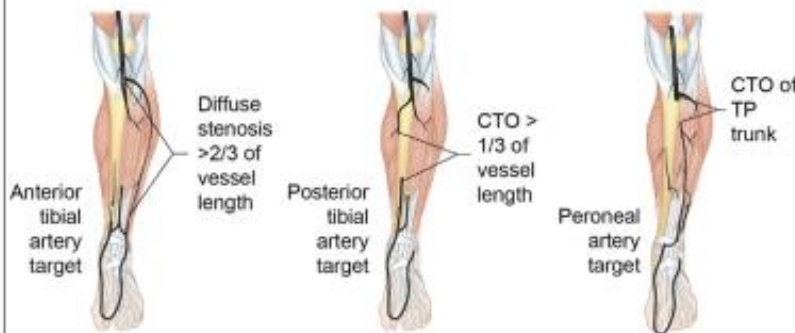


DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvs.2019.02.016>

Global Limb Anatomic Staging System (GLASS) for FP segment

0	Mild or no significant (<50%) disease		3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total length SFA disease >2/3 (>20 cm) length • May include any flush occlusion <20 cm or non-flush CTO 10-20 cm long • Short popliteal stenosis 2-5 cm, not involving trifurcation 	
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total length SFA disease <1/3 (<10 cm) • May include single focal CTO (< 5 cm) as long as not flush occlusion • Popliteal artery with mild or no significant disease 		4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total length SFA occlusion > 20 cm • Popliteal disease >5 cm or extending into trifurcation • Any popliteal CTO 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total length SFA disease 1/3-2/3 (10-20 cm) • May include CTO totaling < 1/3 (10 cm) but not flush occlusion • Focal popliteal artery stenosis <2 cm, not involving trifurcation 				

Global vascular guidelines on the management of chronic limb-threatening ischemia

0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mild or no significant disease in the primary target artery path 	
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focal stenosis of tibial artery < 3cm 	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stenosis involving 1/3 total vessel length May include focal CTO (<3 cm) Not including TP trunk or tibial vessel origin 	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disease up to 2/3 vessel length CTO up to 1/3 length (may include tibial vessel origin but not tibioperoneal trunk) 	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diffuse stenosis > 2/3 total vessel length CTO > 1/3 vessel length (may include vessel origin) Any CTO of tibioperoneal trunk if AT is not the target artery 	

The prediction value of GLASS: differences between endovascular intervention and surgical bypass.

Systematic review (2204 patients) Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg. 2022;64:32. Epub 2022 Apr 11.

- Following endovascular intervention, the pooled estimates for amputation-free survival and limb salvage were worse for GLASS 3 compared with GLASS 1/2, and major adverse limb events (MALE) were increased for higher GLASS stages. Immediate technical failure also increased with higher GLASS stage (GLASS 1: 3.9 %; GLASS 2: 5.3 %; GLASS 3: 27.9 %).

- Following bypass surgery, observed differences in amputation-free survival, limb salvage rate, and MALE for GLASS 3 versus GLASS 1/2 were not significant.

- For GLASS 2 or GLASS 3, but not GLASS 1, the pooled rate of MALE was significantly better for bypass surgery compared with endovascular therapy.

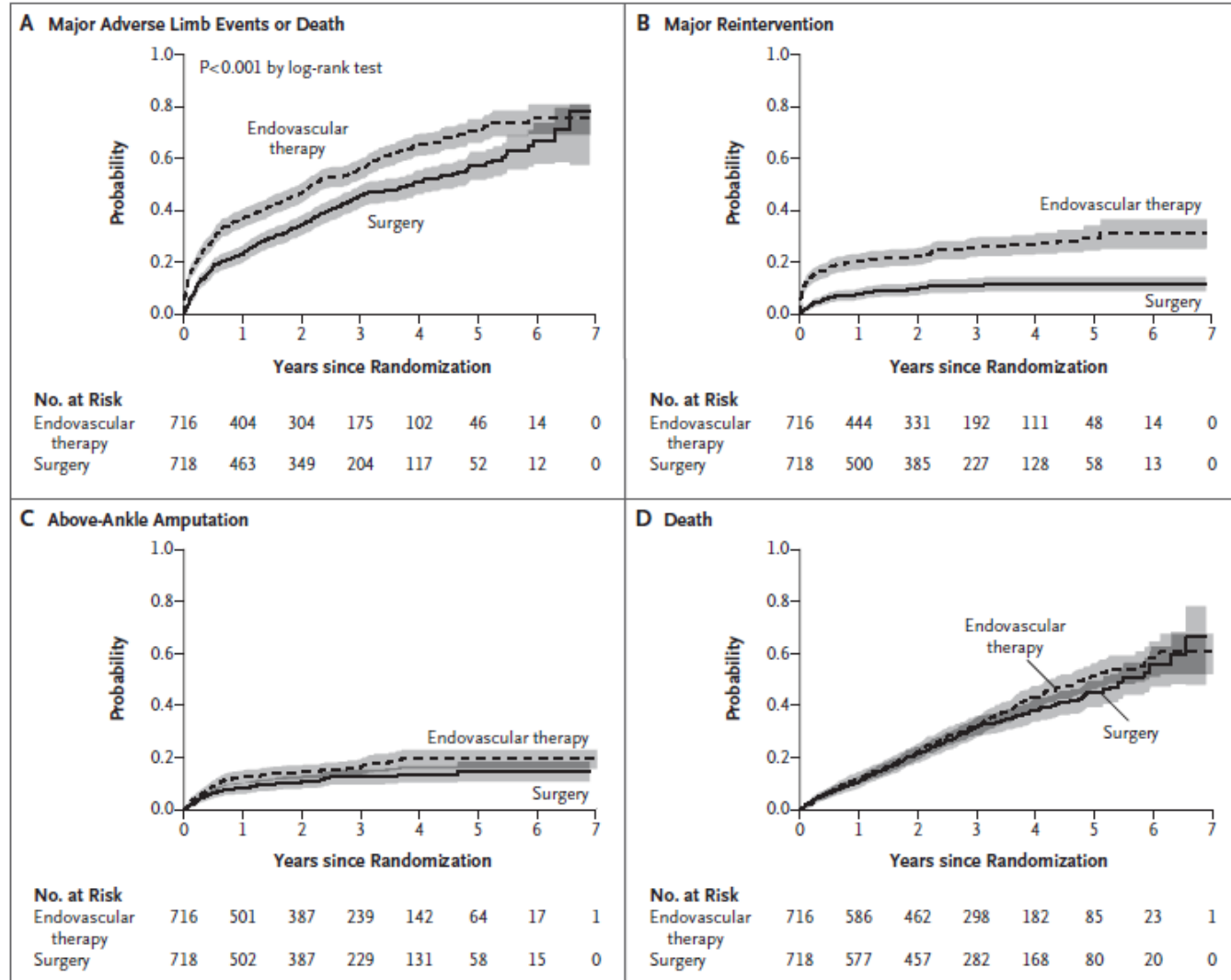
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Surgery or Endovascular Therapy for Chronic Limb-Threatening Ischemia

This article was published on November 7, 2022, at NEJM.org. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2207899

CONCLUSIONS

Among patients with CLTI who had an adequate great saphenous vein for surgical revascularization (cohort 1), the incidence of a major adverse limb event or death was significantly lower in the surgical group than in the endovascular group. Among the patients who lacked an adequate saphenous vein conduit (cohort 2), the outcomes in the two groups were similar. (Funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; BEST-CLI ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT02060630.)



Global vascular guidelines on the management of chronic limb-threatening ischemia

Joint guidelines of the Society for Vascular Surgery, European Society for Vascular Surgery, and World Federation of Vascular Societies

J Vasc Surg 2019;69:3S-125S

CLTI in patients with no option for revascularization

Recommendations	Grade	Level of evidence	Key references
Consider SCS to reduce the risk of amputation and to decrease pain in carefully selected patients (eg, rest pain, minor tissue loss) in whom revascularization is not possible.	2 (Weak)	B (Moderate)	Ubbink, ¹⁰⁶ 2013
Do not use LS for limb salvage in CLTI patients in whom revascularization is not possible.	2 (Weak)	C (Low)	Karanth, ¹⁰⁷ 2016
Consider IPC therapy in carefully selected patients (eg, rest pain, minor tissue loss) in whom revascularization is not possible.	2 (Weak)	B (Moderate)	Abu Dabrh, ⁴ et al 2015

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J Vasc Surg 2019;69:3S-125S

Recommendations	Grade	Level of evidence	Key references
Do not offer prostanoids for limb salvage in CLTI patients. Consider offering selectively for patients with rest pain or minor tissue loss and in whom revascularization is not possible.	2 (Weak)	B (Moderate)	Vietto, ¹⁰⁸ 2018
Do not offer vasoactive drugs or defibrinating agents (ancrod) in patients in whom revascularization is not possible.	1 (Strong)	C (Low)	Smith, ¹⁰⁹ 2012
Do not offer HBOT to improve limb salvage in CLTI patients with severe, uncorrected ischemia (eg, Wfl ischemia grade 2/3).	1 (Strong)	B (Moderate)	Kranke, ¹¹⁰ 2015 Game, ¹¹¹ 2016 Santema, ¹¹² 2018
Recommendation			
Continue to provide optimal wound care until the lower extremity wound is completely healed or the patient undergoes amputation.			Good practice statement

Global vascular guidelines on the management of chronic limb-threatening ischemia

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J Vasc Surg 2019;69:3S-125S

Trials of gene therapy and cell therapy for CLTI have so far been disappointing.

Trial	Treatment	No. of participants	End points			Reference
			AFS at 12 months (treated vs placebo)	Other end points	Treatment vs placebo	
Gene therapy						
TALISMAN	FGF	125	73% vs 48% (<i>P</i> = .009)			Nikol, ⁵²² 2008
TAMARIS	FGF	525	63% vs 67% (<i>P</i> = .48)			Belch, ⁵²⁴ 2011
HGF-STAT	HGF	104	No difference	Change in TcPo ₂ at 6 months	25.2 mm Hg in high-dose group vs 9.4 mm Hg in placebo group (<i>P</i> = .0015)	Powell, ⁵²⁶ 2008
HGF-0205	HGF	27	No difference	Change in TBI at 6 months	+0.05 vs -0.17 (<i>P</i> = 0.047)	Powell, ⁵²⁵ 2010
Shigematsu et al	HGF	40	No difference	Improvement in rest pain or reduction in ulcer size	70.4% vs 30.8% (<i>P</i> = .014)	Shigematsu, ⁵²⁷ 2010
Cell therapy						
lafrati et al	Autologous bone marrow	97	No difference	Improvement in pain at 6 months	58% vs 26% (<i>P</i> = .025)	lafrati, ^{528,530} 2011, 2016
RESTORE-CLI	Expanded autologous stem cells	72	No difference	Improvement in TBI at 6 months Combined outcomes (1-year freedom from major amputation, mortality, increased wound size, new gangrene)	0.48 vs 0.012 (<i>P</i> = .02) 40% vs 67% (<i>P</i> = .045)	Powell, ⁵³² 2012
MOBILE	Autologous bone marrow cells	152	80% vs 69% (<i>P</i> = not significant)			Murphy, ^{529,531} 2011, 2016
JUVENTAS	BMMNCs	160	77% vs 84% (at 6 months) No difference	Major amputation at 6 months	19% vs 13% (<i>P</i> = not significant)	Teraa, ⁵³⁵ 2015

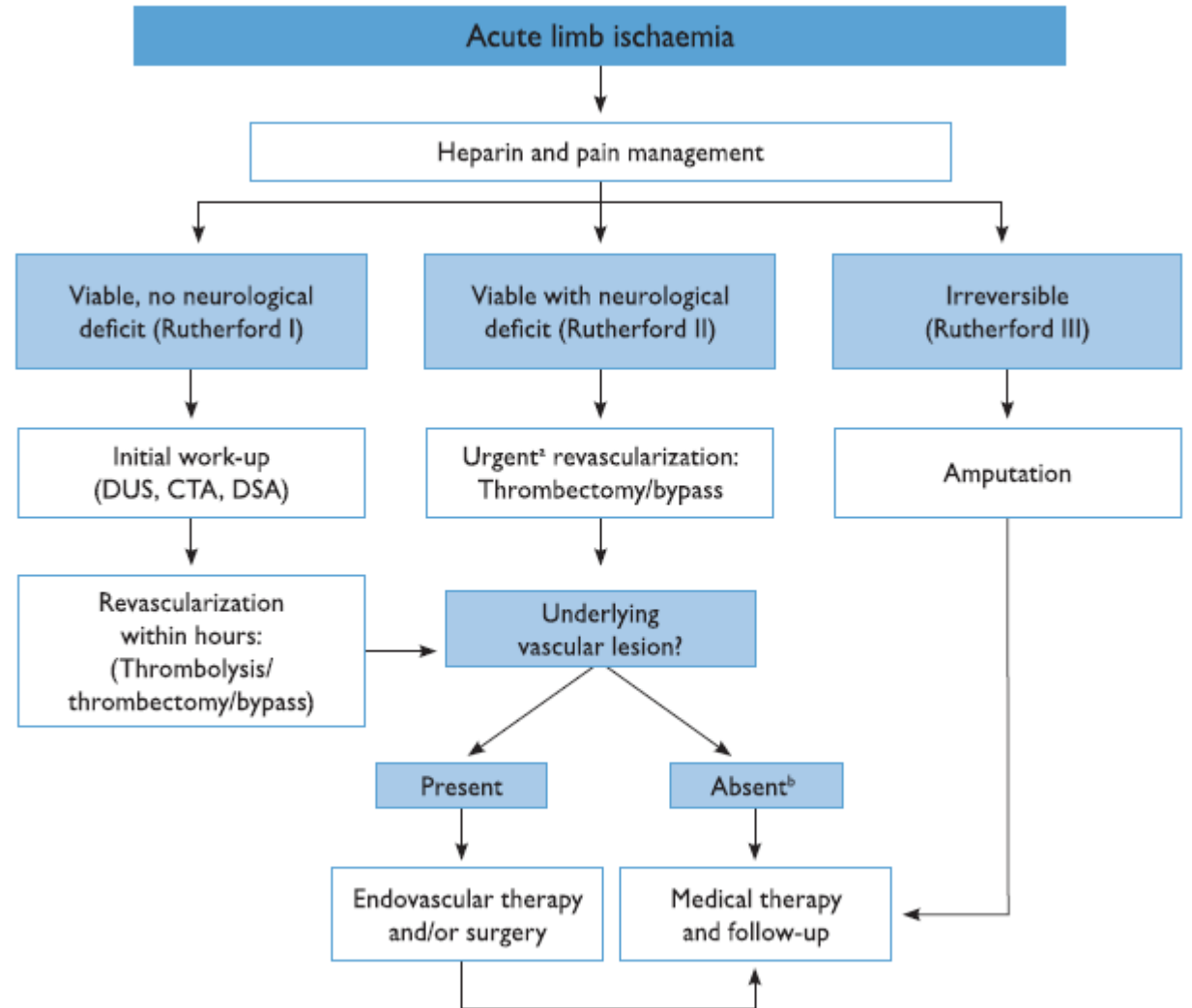
AFS, Amputation-free survival; BMMNCs, bone marrow mononuclear cells; FGF, fibroblast growth factor; HGF, hepatocyte growth factor; JUVENTAS, Rejuvenating Endothelial Progenitor Cells via Transcutaneous Intra-arterial Supplementation; MOBILE, MarrowStim treatment of limb ischemia in subjects with severe peripheral arterial disease; TBI, toe-brachial index; TcPo₂, transcutaneous oximetry.

2017 ESC Guidelines on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Peripheral Arterial Diseases, in collaboration with the European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS)




- Painful
- Pale
- Pulseless
- Paresthetic
- Paralytic

Acute limb ischemia



Conclusions

- PAD is a common manifestation of atherosclerosis.
- In the early stages of PAD, the patient's prognosis is dominated by the risk of major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) in the coronary and cerebral circulation(→ prevention!)
- In the advanced stages of PAD the patient's prognosis is dominated by major adverse limb events (MALE > MACE) (→ optimal revascularization strategies + prevention!)



Thank you for your attention!