

## PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE

### (i) **Atherosclerosis**

(ii) **Thromboembolic** (atherosclerosis/cardioembolic/aneurysm)

### (iii) **Anatomical**

Pop art entrapment:

anat=courses around medial head of gastroc w/ IC on flexion; 2/3 bilat, 10% involve vein; divide gastroc medial head

func=normal position, compressed against hypertrophic soleus/gastroc; treat if symptomatic only

(iv) **Developmental** (FMD/ACD: cystic degenof adv w/ rapid onset severe IC; smooth stenosis on angio; resect w/ vein graft)

(v) **Inflammatory** (Buerger's/Takayasu's)

### (vi) **Vasospastic**

(vii) **Hypercoagulable states**

## INTERMITTENT CLAUDICATION (ABPI 0.5-0.9)

### **Reproducible pain in specific muscle compartment precipitated by exertion and relieved by rest**

*Blood flow insufficient for metabolic demands of muscle (130-150mls at rest, 10x on exertion) → "angina"*

Patterns: Buttock/Thigh (**aortoiliac**)/calf (**SFA**)/LeRiche's= **both int iliacs** so both buttocks and impotence

Progression: Slow allows collaterals and resolution | acute has no collaterals

Associated: **paraesthesia** due to (a) skin->muscle shunting (b) nerve ischamia

Diff Dx:

**SpSt**: occlusion of cauda equina in extension; relieved on flexion so sit down and forwards

**Prolapsed IVD/nerve root compression**: not relieved on standing still

**Hip/knee OA**: present from first step and gets better on walking

**Venous claudication**: occlusion of iliofemoral/deep veins on exercise → bursting pain/swelling

## CRITICAL LIMB ISCHAEMIA (ABPI <0.5)

### **Rest pain (i) requiring opiates for 2+ wks (ii) with tissue loss with (iii) ankle BP <50/toe<30 (TASC II=70/50)**

Often lie in bed with leg hanging dependent/pain at junction of normal and affected tissues

**Ulcers**: full thickness tissue loss >4wks; **punched out on bony prominences**

**Gangrene: tissue necrosis + infection** (dry: line of demarcation, shrunken)(wet:no line of demarcation, swollen)

autoamputates

spreads to threaten limb

## INVESTIGATIONS

*NICE: Duplex US first-line if considering revasc/assess treatment response; MRA if need more Ix before intervention*

General indications: PAD symptoms/atypical leg pain/non-healing ulcer/planning intervention/before compression

### **1. Doppler**: Pulses + ABPI

ABPI: (i) CLIP<0.5 (ii) IC 0.5-0.9 (iii) >1.0 calcification (diabetes/renal failure) \*Normal ABPI w/IC: do exercise ABPI\*

(increased flow reveals occult stenosis)

**2. Duplex US**: first-line in all if considering revasc/assess treatment response

**3. MRA**: Good=non-invasive, no radiation/no Ca2+ degradation | Bad=poor resolution/Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis

**4. CTA**: Good=Good resolution, non-invasive | Bad: calcium degradation/contrast/radiation

**5. Catheter Arteriography**: stenosis <70%/short lesions <10cm may be amenable to angioplasty