



The Benefit of an ABI Awareness Program from VQI Results



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Problem

ABI Assessment is important before vascular procedures. This simple, objective test helps quantitate the perfusion to the limb using blood pressure gradients.

Appropriate care also relies on ABI measurements to insure excellent improvements in perfusion

Goals

To improve our hospital's awareness and knowledge of ABI assessment and change behavior

Background

Our hospital has historically had poor ABI documentation and recording before PVI. Cardiology and radiology practices seem to have learning opportunities.

Improvement Strategies

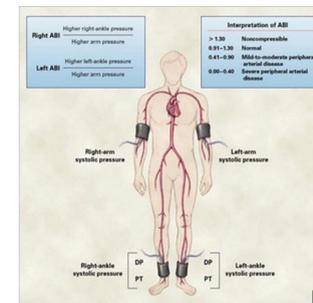
In our center, we reported our ABI before PVI results at our quarterly vascular meetings. In our region, our hospital realized there was an opportunity to improve our ABI recording. We set out to improve documentation, recording and make ABI awareness on campus important with our new hospital based vascular exercise program based in cardiac rehab. With physician and nursing education along with cath lab education, we hope to raise the bar ABI recording in 2017.

Process

We educated our providers, nurses, staff, and physician extenders about the importance of ABI recording prior to ABI. We developed a focused exercise program on campus which we promoted and hope to see ABI recordings and documentation increase with education

Results

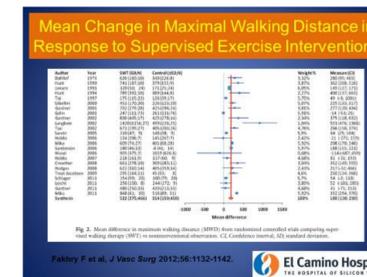
Present ABI recording rate before procedures in 48% compared to our region at 80%. Our claudication reading is 72% compared to region at 88%. We hope to see improvement in the coming year with our education, process and ABI awareness program.



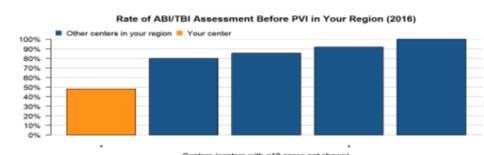
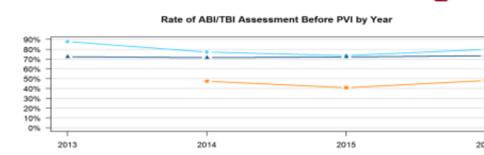
Characteristics of More Effective Walking Exercise Programs in Peripheral Arterial Disease

- Exercise Frequency: ≥ 3 times weekly.
- Exercise duration: > 30 minutes per session.
- Walking to maximal claudication pain **may be** best.
- Program duration of at least six months.
- Supervised treadmill exercise is better than alternatives.

Garber AW et al. JAMA 1995;274:975-80



ABI Assessment Before PVI - ECH VQI Annual Meeting



Conclusions

ABI recording before PVI is very important and demonstrates appropriate care and quality care. Making ABI recording a hospital focus and establishing an ABI based exercise program for patients are important steps for appropriate care with the help of VQI results.

ECH Claudication Program

Summary: Supervised Treadmill Exercise

- Supervised treadmill exercise improves treadmill walking performance in PAD.
- Improvement is observed 4-12 weeks after onset of exercise.
- Most medical insurance companies do not pay.
- Even with medical insurance, attendance three times weekly is burdensome.

Societies Support Coverage of Supervised Exercise Programs

Supervised Treadmill Exercise: Additional considerations

- Most people with PAD won't participate three times weekly even if paid for.
- Benefits last only for as long as participants attend supervised sessions.
- Provides added benefit to lower extremity revascularization

CARDIO & PULMONARY WELLNESS CENTER PAD (Peripheral Artery Disease) Exercise Program

FEEL BETTER WITH LESS PAIN!
Less or no lower limb pain to help improve leg pain and increase walking distance