

EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF LOWER ARTERIAL DISEASE: AN ACCELERATED DIAGNOSTIC THERAPEUTIC PATHWAY (ADTP)



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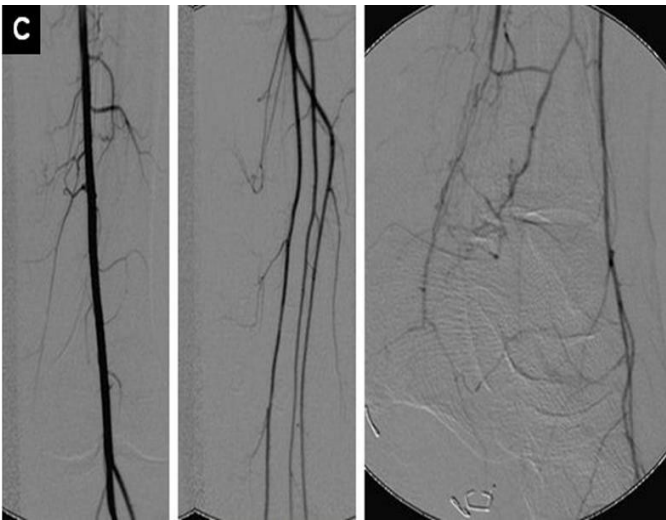


Figure 1: Angiography: posterior tibial artery stenosis

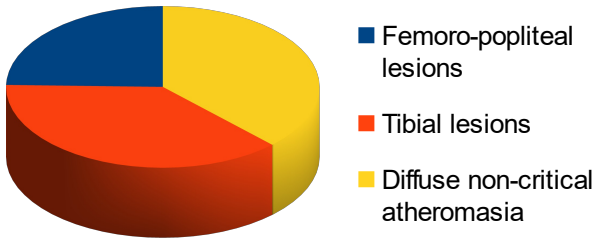


Figure 2: Vascular lesions frequency

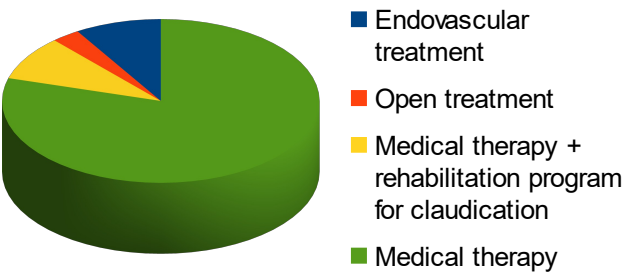


Figure 3: Vascular lesions treatment

INTRODUCTION

Peripheral artery disease (PAD) is highly prevalent in dialysis patients. It's associated to increased cardiovascular mortality. In most cases, late diagnosis makes treatment ineffective. The aim of this study is to evaluate the usefulness of a ADTP aimed at early diagnosis and treatment of PAD in dialysis patients.

METHODS

Peripheral artery disease (PAD) is highly prevalent in dialysis patients. It's associated to increased cardiovascular mortality. In most cases, late diagnosis makes treatment ineffective. The aim of this study is to evaluate the usefulness of a ADTP aimed at early diagnosis and treatment of PAD in dialysis patients.

RESULTS

A total of 68 patients (48.9%) was selected. Mean age was 69.11 ± 10.11 years. Seniority in dialysis was 4.08 ± 3.02 years. 24.6% of patients had femoro-popliteal lesions, 37.7% tibial lesions, 37.7% widespread atheromasia. 11.7% of the patients was subjected to revascularization (8.8% endovascular, 2.9% open), the rest was conservatively treated with optimized medical therapy.

CONCLUSIONS

More than 50% of the patients on dialysis has risk factors for PAD in the absence of a clinical diagnosis. Beside the limitations of our study, we believe that an ADTP makes possible early detection and treatment of more than 20% of the cases. The monitoring of the effectiveness of our ADTP will evaluate modifications in the natural history of PAD and the impact on cardiovascular morbidity and mortality.

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