

## Research Article

# Peripheral Arterial Insufficiency: A Study of Prevalence and Factors Associated with Complications in Baja California Sur

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## Abstract

**Background:** Changes in the hygienic and dietary habits of population have favored an increase in peripheral arterial disease (PAI). It has a global prevalence between 3-10%; although, this number has increased to 15-20% in the last years. PAI is a disease characterized by stenosis of arterial lumen causing haemodynamic changes at arterial blood flow level with reduction in perfusion pressure and tissue damage.

**Aim:** So the purpose of this study is to determinate prevalence and factors associated to complications in patients with peripheral arterial insufficiency in Baja California Sur, Mexico.

**Design and Setting:** Comparative cross-sectional study.

**Methods:** In 156 patients with peripheral arterial insufficiency during 2015-2016 in General Hospital Zone #1, La Paz, Baja California, Mexico; prevalence of PAI was calculated. There were two groups (with sequels/without sequels) based on presence of sequels of PAI; it was used 80% statistical power and 95% interval confidence; association was established by calculating odds ratios, chi-squared and Student T test for statistical significance ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Results:** 61% were men, mean age 65.6 years ( $\pm 13.3$ ). The association between PAI sequels and comorbidities reported the following results: age [p 0.32], gender (man) [p 0.23], Chronic Renal Failure (with CRF) [p 0.05], Diabetes Mellitus (with DM) [p 0.42], Arterial Hypertension (With AH) [p 1.0], Dyslipidemia (with DL) [p 0.49] and Smoking (With SM) [p 0.45]. When comparing PAI sequels with type of treatment, we found the following: treatment (conventional surgical) [p 1.0], treatment (bypass) [p 0.3] and treatment (angioplasty) [p 1.0]. PAI prevalence was 6.2%.

**Conclusion:** Prevalence of PAI founded is similar to reported in national information; however the prevalence of complication or sequels is higher than reported in other cities of Mexico.

**Keywords:** Peripheral Arterial Insufficient; Prevalence; Angiology

## Introduction

In recent years amputations have increased in Mexico and in the world secondary to advanced occlusive vascular disease. Approximately 10% of Mexican population has Diabetes Mellitus (DM), an important risk factor for the development of peripheral arterial insufficiency [1]. Occlusive peripheral arterial disease occurs in 3 to 10% of the world's population, although this disease increases considerably in people over 70 years (15% to 20%) [2]. Risk factors such as smoking, type 2 diabetes mellitus and dyslipidemia should be strictly controlled to delay atherosclerotic process in peripheral vessels [2]. Related symptoms may range from pain on walking to presence of a chronic ulcer that does not heal properly [1].

Symptoms may occur in 3 forms: intermittent claudication, critical ischemia and acute arterial insufficiency; intermittent claudication and presence of critical ischemia are associated with vascular events such as myocardial infarction or cerebral infarcts. It

has been reported that 25% of patients with critical ischemia have died within first year since the event and another 25% have suffered a major amputation. Only 25% of these patients have a successful surgical procedure [1-2]. In the United States, it is estimated that frequency of amputation is from 1 to 7% at 5-10 years. Smoking, an ankle-arm index less than 0.6 and presence of type 2 diabetes mellitus are considered factors of poor prognosis [3].

The costs of PAI are very high, especially in quality of life and environment; the real area of savings and comprehensive care is to train primary care physicians to perform early detection of this disease [4-5]. The diagnostic methods in PAI are clinical history, physical examination and non-invasive tests. Therapeutic options available for treatment of chronic ischemia are very broad [5]. Currently, its management can be divided into preventive, pharmacological and surgical (conventional surgery or endovascular treatment). It is essential that a vascular surgeon be in charge of treatment of this

**Table 1:** Association between PAI sequels and comorbidities.

Variable	Subtype	With Sequels	Without Sequels	p
		N	N	
Gender	Man	47	47	0.23
	Woman	25	35	
Smoking	With Smoking	53	19	0.45
	Without Smoking	60	24	
Chronic Renal Failure	With CRF	41	36	0.05
	Without CRF	31	48	
Diabetes Mellitus	With DM	43	52	0.42
	Without DM	29	32	
Arterial Hypertension	With AH	46	46	1.0
	Without AH	26	38	
Dyslipidemia	With dyslipidemia	35	42	0.49
	Without dyslipidemia	37	42	

N: Frequency; p: Chi Square.

type of patients and offers the best alternative [1]. Indication of surgical treatment (conventional or endovascular) will depend on joint assessment of two fundamental aspects, clinical situation of patient and vascular territory that needs reconstruction. The clearest indication for revascularization is a patient with advanced stages of ischemia and a high risk of limb loss [6].

Ankle-arm index (AAI) and finger-arm index (FAI) allow diagnosis of this disease, being used as cardiovascular risk markers. Oscillometry, segmental pressures and spectral analysis of doppler curves are mainly used to know location of disease; all these are hemodynamic explorations. Morphological, echo-doppler (also contributes hemodynamic information), computed tomography, magnetic angioresonance and arteriography, give more precise information on location and characteristics of the lesions [7]. Based on the above, main objective of this study was to determinate prevalence and factors associated to complications in patients with peripheral arterial insufficiency in Baja California Sur, Mexico.

### Materials and Methods

A comparative, cross-sectional study was carried out in the General Hospital Zone #1 of the Mexican Institute of Social Security (IMSS) in La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico, from March 2015 to March 2016. All medical records of patients in angiology department were reviewed and information was collected of patients that met the following inclusion criteria: any gender, older than 18 years and diagnosis of PAI and were eliminated those who did not have complete information. The following data were obtained directly from the medical records: age, gender, diagnosis of PAI, type of treatment, complications of PAI, squeals of PAI and comorbidities or chronic degenerative diseases as Diabetes Mellitus (DM), Chronic Renal Failure (CRF) and arterial hypertension (HA).

The data obtained was integrated into data collection sheets and analyzed using the SPSS program version 20 in Spanish, where we applied descriptive statistics; for qualitative variables frequencies and percentages were used and for quantitative variables mean and standard deviation were used. For bivariate analysis was considered

**Table 2:** Association between PAI sequels and type of treatment.

Variable	Subtype	With Sequels	Without Sequels	p
		N	N	
Conventional surgical	With CS	1	3	0.80
	Without CS	39	81	
Bypass	With Bypass	17	16	0.30
	Without Bypass	55	68	
Angioplasty	With Angioplasty	34	1	1.0
	Without Angioplasty	38	83	

N: Frequency; %: Percentage; p: Chi Square.

statistically significant a  $p < 0.05$ , with a 95% confidence interval, all variables were dichotomized to apply odds ratio and chi square, for quantitative variables student T was used. The Protocol was authorized by the Local Committee of Research and Ethics in Health Research from the General Hospital Zone#1, where the study took place.

### Results

Productivity records of angiology department in General Hospital Zone #1 of La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico, were reviewed, finding 2108 patients between March 2015 to March 2016 of which 156 patients had diagnosis of peripheral arterial insufficiency, estimating a prevalence of 6.26%; mostly men with 61.0% compared to 39.0% women; mean age was 65.6 ( $\pm 13.3$ ) years. In medical records 72.4% had at least one comorbidity: Smoking (72.4%), Diabetes Mellitus (60.9%), Arterial Hypertension (59%), Dyslipidemia (49.9%) and Chronic Renal Failure (50%). In type of treatment 22.4% of patients had conventional surgical, 21.2% arterial Bypass and 2% angioplasty. In sequels of PAI, 46.2% had at least one, 23.7% chronic ulcers and 21.2% amputation.

The following results were obtained for the association of PAI sequels and comorbidities (Table 1): age [p 0.32], gender (man) [p 0.23], Chronic Renal Failure (with CRF) [p 0.05], Diabetes Mellitus (with DM) [p 0.42], Arterial Hypertension (With AH) [p 1.0], Dyslipidemia (with DL) [p 0.49] and Smoking (With SM) [p 0.45]. When comparing PAI sequels with type of treatment, we found the following (Table 2): treatment (conventional surgical) [p 1.0], treatment (bypass) [p 0.3] and treatment (angioplasty) [p 1.0].

### Discussion

In research study we found in angiology department a total of 2108 consultations during the months of March 2015 to March 2016. With data obtained, prevalence of peripheral arterial insufficiency was 6.26% which is similar to reported by Alzamora et al in Spain (2010) with a prevalence of 7.6% [8] and Aguilar et al (2007) who report a prevalence of 3 to 10% in Mexico [2]. Our research agrees with Gutiérrez et al (2014) in factors associated with presence of PAI (smoking and dyslipidemia) [1].

Presence of complications was 23.7% of cases, which is different to reported by Secretary of Health in Mexico (2009), where was reported a frequency of 1-7%. Based on above, in Baja California Sur presence of complications is very high and this research can be basis for future studies. According to Ohare et al, arterial insufficiency is

very frequent in patients with renal insufficiency and there is a strong association with the wrist-ankle index so it is considered important to detect asymptomatic patients [9] which is similar to that found in our study where there was an association between presence of complications due to arterial insufficiency and chronic renal failure ( $p < 0.05$ ).

## Conclusion

In this research it is concluded that during March 2015 to March 2016 a total of 156 patients with a diagnosis of peripheral arterial insufficiency were found, with a frequency similar to reported in international literature. A total of 33 patients with amputation secondary to PAI were found with a prevalence of 21.2%, which is alarmingly high and different from what was reported at national level in Mexico; the development of other lines of investigation that allow us to know risk factors that influence for presenting complications in patients with PAI must be implemented.

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