**A SIMPLE, FAST AND ACCURATE METHOD TO DETECT PERIPHERAL ARTERIAL DISEASE IN AN OFFICE SETTING**

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Objective: It is well known that peripheral artery disease (PAD) can increase the risk of heart attack or stroke, and that it is often unrecognized and untreated because more than 50% are asymptomatic. There is a need to quickly, easily and accurately detect patients with PAD in the office. The purpose of this study was to compare the sensitivity of such a method (FloChec System) (FCS), to the standard ankle-brachial index (ABI) Doppler system.

Methods: Twenty-seven affected limbs of 14 patients with known PAD were assessed with Doppler ankle-brachial index (ABI) and the FloChec system (FCS) after a light exercise protocol consisting of 50 dorsal flexions while supine. ABI measurements were made in accordance with standard vascular lab protocols. FCS measurements (digital ABI) were made bilaterally at index fingers and big toes. After the FCS measurement, a report was generated containing the digital metric. Threshold values of 0.9 were used for ABI and 0.92 for FCS. Measurements below these thresholds result in a positive finding considered to be significant for obstructive blood flow.

Results: The 27 limbs of 14 patients were included in the analysis. The sensitivity of the ABI test was 78% and was the same for the FCS. There was concordance of findings in both techniques in 23 of the 27 limbs or 85% of the studies.

Conclusions: The results of this study showed that the FloChec system and the ABI Doppler produce similar results in evaluation of vascular flow abnormalities.