

Special Issue

Treatment of Peripheral Vascular Disease – Present and Future

Message from the Guest Editors

At present, cardiovascular disease still takes the highest death toll worldwide. Peripheral artery disease (PAD) patients suffer from a particularly poor prognosis. With this knowledge, efforts to reduce ischemic events and improve cardiovascular outcomes have been the driving force behind cardiovascular research in recent decades. One central strategy to improve cardiovascular outcomes is lipid lowering. For the time being, the most important drugs to reduce cholesterol still are statins. Next to statins, PCSK-9 inhibitors have already shown their benefit in PAD. Alternatively, non-statin lipid-lowering therapy, i.e. ezetimibe or bempedoic acid has yet to prove its value beyond combination. Another important field in the treatment of peripheral arterial disease is by influencing platelet aggregation and coagulation. This remains of great importance especially before, during and after vascular intervention or surgery. Finally, anticoagulation management especially in secondary prophylaxis of deep vein thrombosis and pulmonary embolism is a challenging task, especially in situations with the rare thrombophilic predisposition.

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