

Safety and Effectiveness of Lesion Preparation Techniques in Complex & Calcified Femoropopliteal Lesions and Occlusions.

The PACSS Registry

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Endovascular Versus Surgical Treatment for All Comer Patients With Prosthetic Bypass Graft Occlusion: The Multicentre ENSUPRO Study

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VASCULAR
MEDICINE

Original Research Article

Atherectomy-assisted endovascular therapy versus open repair for atherosclerotic common femoral artery disease: The multicenter ARISTON study

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Lesion preparation techniques for femoropopliteal lesions

HIGHLIGHTS

- Endovascular treatment is the most common first-line option for femoropopliteal disease.
- Endovascular therapy includes the use of vessel preparation and definitive treatment tools.
- Our global algorithm highlights lesion-specific strategies and patient-centered approaches.
- Despite high agreement among experts, future RCTs are warranted in this emerging field.



Advantages of lesion preparation prior to endovascular repair:

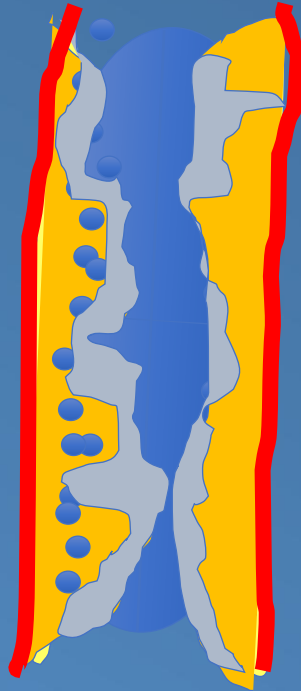
- Provide lumen gain without barotrauma
- Plaque and calcification burden reduction
- Vessel compliance can be modified / improved
- Reduce bail-out stenting rates
- Enhance drug delivery to the vessel wall
- Increase technical / procedural success rates



Atherectomy removes
atherosclerotic / calcific tissue
similar to surgical techniques,
resulting in
lumen gain without barotrauma



Facilitating low pressure balloon
angioplasty



Simultaneously increasing drug
delivery to the vessel wall



Decreasing the chance for
dissection,
avoiding additional stent
placement
'leave nothing behind'

RCTs with atherectomy

	Cochrane meta-analysis ¹	Meta-analysis by Wu et al ²	Meta-analysis by Abusnina et al ³
Number of patients	425	296	749
Adjunctive treatment	POBA or DCB	POBA or DCB	POBA or DCB
Bail-out stenting	↓ RR=0.26(0.09-0.74), p=0.001	↓ RR=0.15(0.07-0.32), p<0.001	↓ RR=0.32(0.21-0.48), p<0.001
Complication rates	↔ RR=0.69(0.28-1.68), p=0.41	NA	↔§ RR=1.08(0.31-3.79), p=0.91
Embolization rates	↔ RR=2.51(0.64-9.80), p=0.19	NA	↔ RR=1.66(0.58-4.78), p=0.34
Freedom from TLR at 12 months	↔ RR=0.59(0.25-1.42), p=0.24	↔ RR=0.68(0.25-1.82), p=0.44	↑* RR=0.59(0.40-0.85), p=0.005
Primary patency at 12 months	↔ RR=1.20(0.78-1.84), p=0.42	↔ RR=0.76(0.46-1.25), p=0.28	↔* RR=1.04(0.95-1.14), p=0.37
Mortality	↔ RR=0.50(0.10-2.66), p=0.42	↔ RR=0.32(0.09-1.12), p=0.07	↔ RR=1.29(0.54-3.05), p=0.57
Amputation rates	↔ RR=0.33(0.01-7.80), p=0.49	NA	↔ RR=0.38(0.13-1.13), p=0.08

NA indicates not available, POBA; plain old balloon angioplasty, DCB; drug-coated balloon angioplasty and RR, risk ratios.



RCTs with IVL

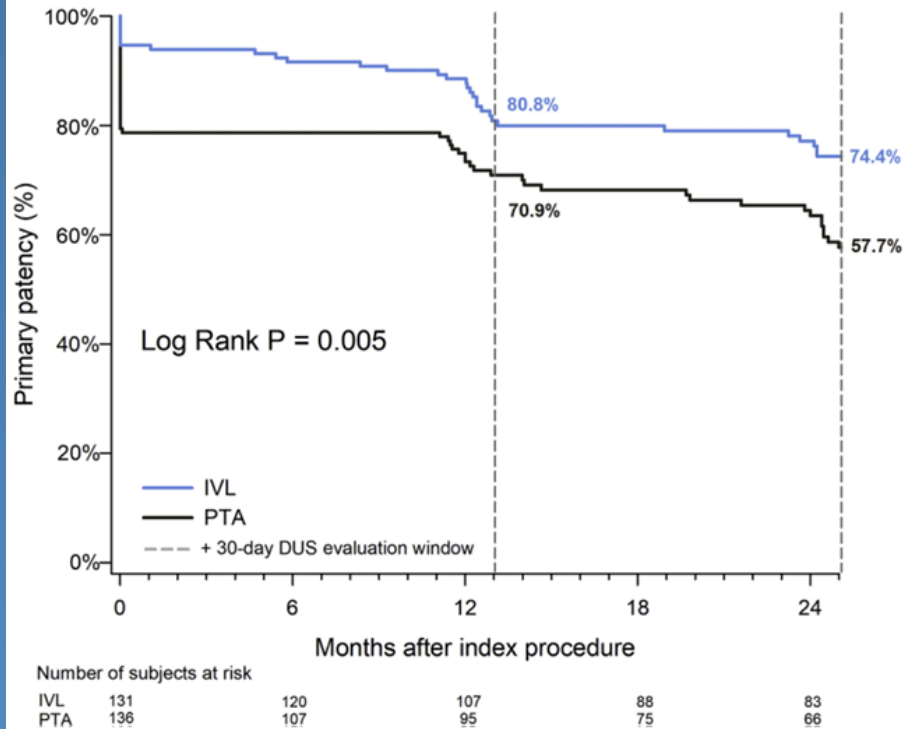


Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier estimate of primary patency through 2 years. Primary patency was significantly greater in the group receiving IVL treatment for lesion preparation than in the PTA group. Primary patency was defined as freedom from CD-TLR and freedom from restenosis by duplex ultrasound. Acute PTA failure requiring provisional stenting at any time during the procedure was counted as a loss of primary patency. CD-TLR, clinically driven target lesion revascularization; DUS, duplex ultrasound; IVL, intravascular lithotripsy; PTA, percutaneous transluminal angioplasty.



SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis of Vessel Preparation Techniques With Plain Balloon Angioplasty, Atherectomy, or Intravascular Lithotripsy Before Application of a Drug Coated Balloon to Treat Atherosclerotic Femoropopliteal Disease

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Conclusion: This review found that intravascular lithotripsy or atherectomy did not appear to incur a statistically significant advantage in freedom from target lesion revascularisation, major amputation, or mortality rate at one year. There was moderate certainty of evidence that bailout stenting is significantly reduced after vessel preparation with intravascular lithotripsy and atherectomy.



FIGURE 1 Delphi Consensus for the Lesion Preparation and Definitive Treatment Tools

	Lesion preparation					Definitive treatment				
	P/OBA	Atherectomy	Lithotripsy	Specialty balloons	Thrombectomy	DCB	BMS	Interwoven stents	DES	Covered stents
Mobile Segments: distal SFA & popliteal artery PACSS I-II (non-CTO)	1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (M)	1 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (M)	-1 (G)
Mobile Segments: distal SFA & popliteal artery PACSS III-IV (non-CTO)	-1 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (P)	-1 (G)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS I-II; intraluminal & fibrotic lesions	1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (G)	-1 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS I-II; fresh & organized thrombus	-2 (G)	-1 (G)	-2 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (M)	1 (G)	1 (G)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS I-II; subintimal passage	1 (G)	-2 (G)	-1 (G)	1 (M)	-2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (M)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS III-IV; Diffuse calcification	-1 (M)	2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS III-IV; Eccentric calcification	-1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (M)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)
Short <15 TASC A&B ; PACSS III-IV subintimal passage	1 (G)	-1 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (P)
Long >15 cm TASC C&D ; PACSS I-II; intraluminal passage	1 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (M)	1 (M)	-1 (M)	2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (M)
Long >15 cm TASC C&D ; PACSS I-II; subintimal passage	1 (G)	-2 (G)	-1 (G)	-1 (P)	-2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)
Long >15 cm TASC C&D ; PACSS III-IV; intraluminal passage	-1 (M)	2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	2 (G)	1 (M)
Long >15 cm TASC C&D ; PACSS III-IV; subintimal passage	1 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (G)	2 (G)	1 (G)	1 (M)
Short ISR non-CTO ; Tosaka I class	1 (G)	2 (G)	-2 (G)	1 (M)	-1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (G)	-1 (M)	-1 (M)	1 (M)
Long ISR and stent occlusions; Tosaka II-III class	-1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (G)	1 (M)	1 (G)	2 (G)	-1 (G)	-1 (M)	1 (M)	1 (G)

2 = strong recommendation

1 = Weak recommendation

-1 = Weak Warning

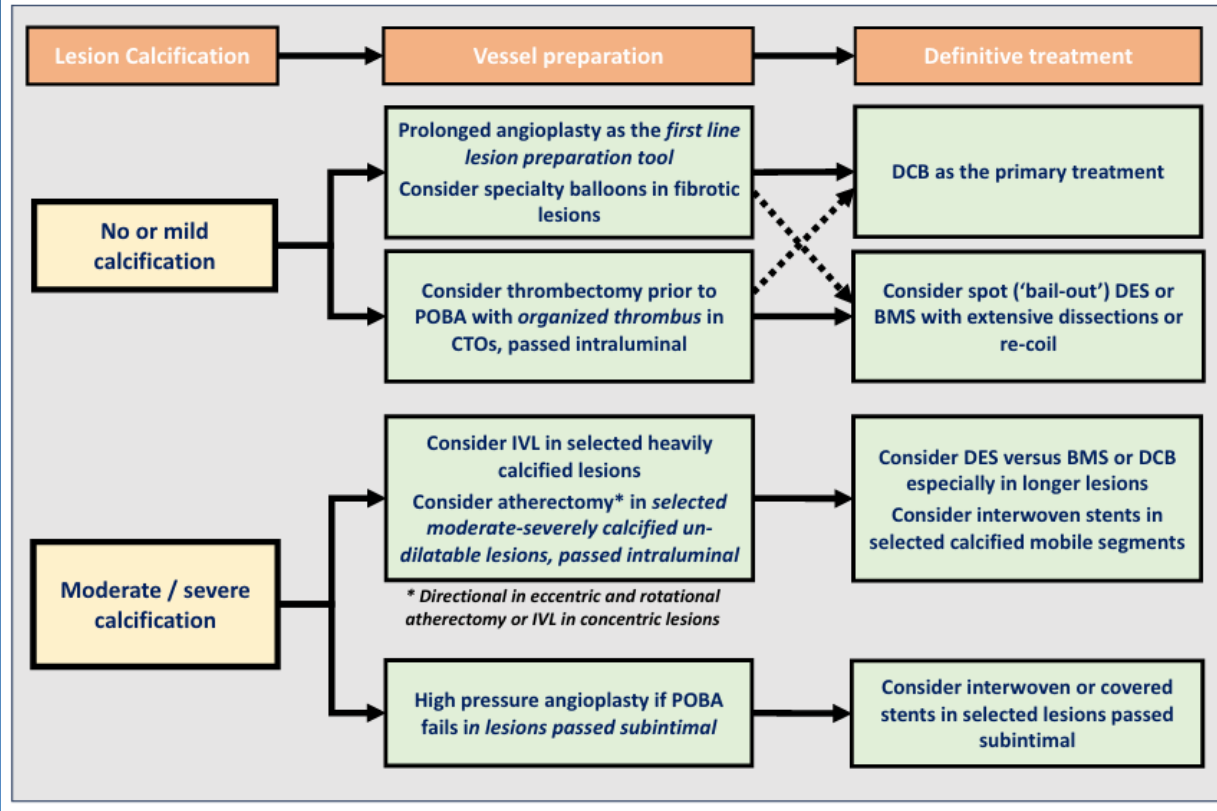
-2 = Strong warning

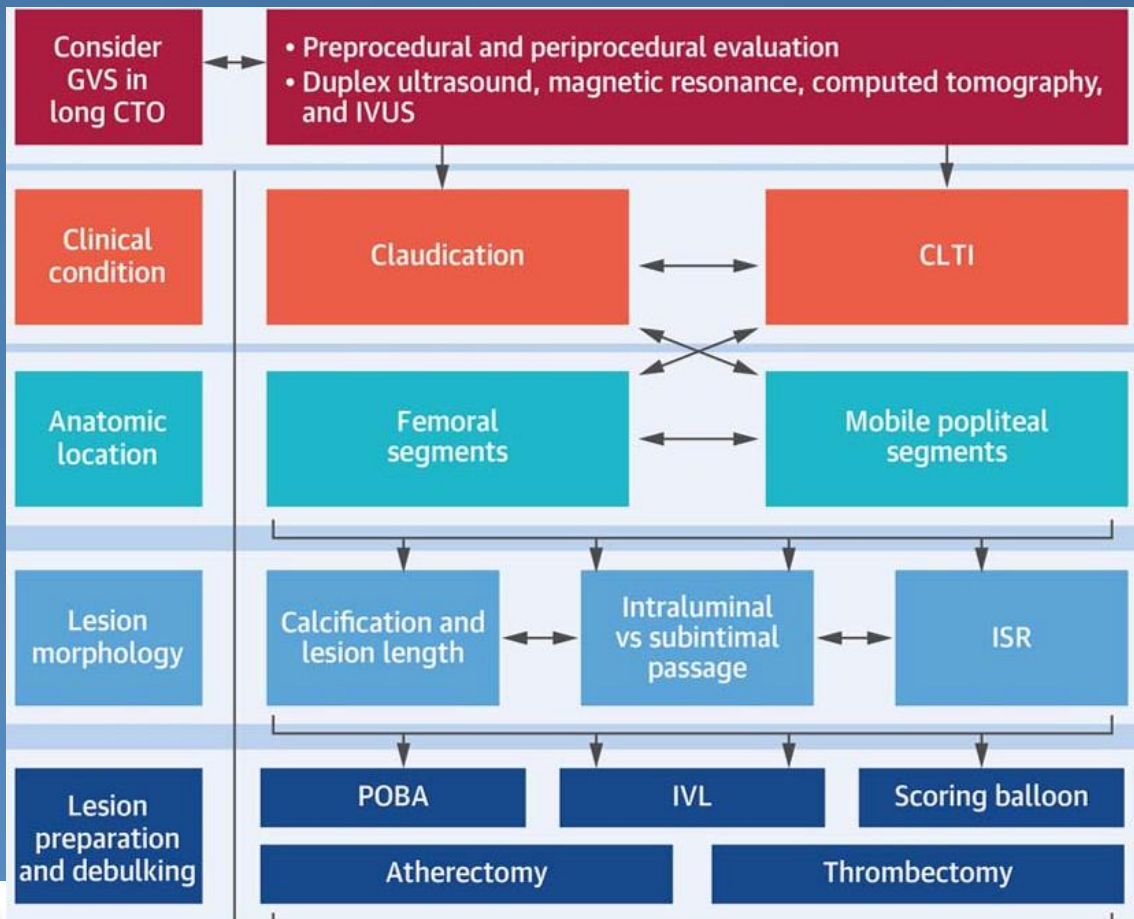
(G) for good agreement: 80-100%

(M) for moderate agreement: 60-79%

(P) for poor agreement: <60%

FIGURE 2 Lesion Preparation and Definitive Treatment Algorithm Based on Lesion-Specific Characteristics





Objective: To investigate the safety and effectiveness of the different lesion preparation technique in patients who are referred to endovascular revascularization due to chronic symptomatic PAD.

Safety (perforation, dissection, distal embolization) measure as well as limb outcomes (see below) will be systematically analyzed.

Matching will be performed based on lesion complexity by lesion length and calcification (PACSS).



Grade 0



Grade 1



< 5 cm

Grade 2



≥ 5 cm

Grade 3



< 5 cm

Grade 4



≥ 5 cm

**Target lesion
(PACSS)**

Grade 0: no visible calcification

Grade 1: unilateral calcification < 5 cm

Grade 2: unilateral calcification ≥ 5 cm

Grade 3: bilateral calcification < 5 cm

Grade 4: bilateral calcification ≥ 5 cm

Inclusion criteria

Study design: Multi-center, retrospective study.

Study population: All comers >18 years with symptomatic PAD.

Requirements:

1. Waived informed consent.
2. Symptomatic PAD Rutherford categories (RC) 2-5.
3. Femoropopliteal PACSS 2-4 lesions
4. Treatment with atherectomy (all devices allowed) versus IVL (all devices allowed) versus specialty balloons versus POBA.



Exclusion criteria:

1. Lesions with no or mild unilateral calcification (PACSS 0-2)
2. Asymptomatic PAD RC 0 or patients with large wounds RC6, indicating severe BTK disease.
3. Acute and subacute limb ischemia with presence of thrombus by angiography.
4. Technical failure of endovascular revascularization if crossing cannot be achieved by ante- or retrograde or re-entry devices and procedural failure in case of residual stenosis > 50% at the end of the procedure.



Outcome measures (12 months of follow-up):

- CD-TLR
- Restenosis by ABI or if available by duplex sonography.
- Minor or major above ankle amputation.
- Clinical improvement defined as cumulative improvement of 1 class by Rutherford scale.
- Wound healing (WIFI threatened limb score if available).

Statistical justification: Descriptive statistics. In addition, propensity matching will be assessed to adjust for any potential confounders using logistic regression models. Thus, case-controlled matching will be performed, including variables such as sex, age, lesion length, PACSS, RC, and number of BTK run-off vessels.



