

Michelle Cooper has completed this personal reflection on 07/09/2022

Paper: Summer 2022 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

Description of the learning: questions based on two research papers, 1. Ultrasound screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm in high-risk women (Duncan et al), 2. Popliteal artery aneurysm in women (Ravn et al).

Evaluation and analysis.

Paper 1. AAA prevalence in women is low amongst high-risk women (current/ex smokers, history of coronary artery disease). Screening uptake was lowest amongst those at highest risk for AAA. Screening for AAA in high-risk women is unlikely to be beneficial.

Paper 2. Evaluating popliteal artery aneurysm prevalence in women is difficult due to the low prevalence in women, and therefore a low sample size. PAs become symptomatic in women at a smaller size than men, and the disease is less often bilateral in women. This suggests that intervention in women should be considered at a smaller size than in men, <20mm was proposed by the paper.

Conclusion.

Paper 1. Screening for AAA in high-risk women is unlikely to be beneficial.

Paper 2. Popliteal aneurysm surgery in women should be considered at a smaller size than in men, <20mm was proposed by the paper.