



Suzanne Hargreaves has completed this personal reflection on **15/09/2023**

Paper: Summer 2023 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

Both papers were interesting to read.

Diabetics often develop PVD particularly in the crural vessels and due to calcification ABPI is an unreliable test so other ways of assessing the disease is beneficial to all involved in the patients care. The paper described how the maximal acceleration time can be used. It is an easy measurement to take as part of the standard duplex scan and easy reproducible to assess changes in the patients underlying PVD and assess if any intervention is needed. We have a surgeon who has an interest in this area and it is likely this may be introduced to our practice in the future. I plan to look at the settings of the machines we use and see for myself how this figure varies between normal subjects and those with PVD and/or diabetes. I am sure our surgeon is aware of this paper and I am sure it will lead to some interesting discussions and possible change in practice.

The second paper was about the management of GCA. At our centre we began ultrasound assessment of the temporal vessels several years ago and I was familiar with the some of the papers contents. It was interesting however to read more about the condition, epidemiology, pathophysiology and how it can present in different ways in different patients. I have personally found that some of the requests we receive do not appear to be valid as the ESR/CRP is not be raised. the paper went through all the different symptoms that can occur and this will be a useful reference for request and a paper I will be referring to on many occasions.