



Amanda Clark has completed this personal reflection on **08/02/2019**

Paper: Winter 2019 CPD Questions

Personal Reflection:

Description of the Learning -

2 research papers based on carotids have been read and the CPD questions answered.

Evaluation-

Of particular interest was the following -

The first paper on ICA branches mentions future research being needed to, amongst other things, recognise the importance of modifying the clamping technique during a CEA procedure when ICA branches have been identified. The need to identify the ICA branches on the duplex scan could become important and a requirement.

The second paper on carotid stenting was also interesting. Currently only CEAs are performed in our Trust. The recommended timing of the both procedures is very relevant when it comes to our waiting times for the scan.

Conclusion & Action Plan-

In the past, I have identified ICA branches but not reported on it. I will start to look for them, especially when a patient has a $>70\%$ ICA stenosis, and mention it on the report.

Fortunately, I am aware of the importance of an early diagnosis and intervention of any severe disease of $>70\%$ in the ICA for TIA & AF patients so always endeavour to see these patients as soon as possible. We have set-up a 1 stop clinic with the Stroke Team with this in mind.