



Simon Hartley has completed this personal reflection on **13/04/2022**

Paper: Winter 2021/2022 CPD questions

Personal Reflection:

I found several of the multiple choice questions difficult to answer accurately. The authors of the first article implied, but did not state directly (as required by the question) that a particular finding (re. pain and compression status) reached statistical significance, instead indicated not reaching 'clinical significance', and the answer given relied on my best guess at the significance of a p-value. Similarly, inference was required in order to assess the authors' statements re. PAD severity and BMI as the article did not directly refute or support the possible multiple choice answers.

The first article came down firmly on the 'no benefit to compression post EVLT/RF side'. The relevance of this finding to ultrasound practice in Sheffield is questionable, but could point to an interesting research project. Initially, EVLT patients were enrolled on a follow-up study, but no results were forthcoming, and recruitment was not continued with. Anecdotally, and based on a biased selection of patients returning for u/s scan after EVLT, either due to perceived continuation of symptoms, or acute pain following treatment (via A&E), EVLT with or without compression stockings, is a painful experience for the patients. Standard protocol here is for 6/52 compression post-treatment, but many patients appear not to persist with compression due to discomfort.

Action plan: to chase Sheffield EVLT results.