

Risk factors for 30-day unplanned readmission following infrainguinal endovascular interventions



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CME Activity

Purpose or Statement of Need The purpose of this journal-based CME activity is to enhance the vascular specialist's ability to diagnose and care for patients with the entire spectrum of circulatory disease through a comprehensive review of contemporary vascular surgical and endovascular literature.

Learning Objectives At the end of this activity, participants should

 Predict which patients who undergo an endovascular procedure for CLI are likely to require readmission to the hospital and to develop strategies to prevent readmission.

Target Audience This activity is designed for vascular surgeons and individuals in related specialties.

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Unplanned hospital readmissions following surgical interventions are associated with adverse events and contribute to increasing health care costs. Despite numerous studies defining risk factors following lower extremity bypass surgery, evidence regarding readmission after endovascular interventions is limited. This study aimed to identify predictors of 30-day unplanned readmission following infrainguinal endovascular interventions.

Methods: We identified all patients undergoing an infrainguinal endovascular intervention in the targeted vascular module of the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program between 2012 and 2014. Perioperative outcomes were stratified by symptom status (chronic limb-threatening ischemia [CLI] vs claudication). Patients who died during index admission and those who remained in the hospital after 30 days were excluded. Indications for unplanned readmission related to the index procedure were evaluated. Multivariable logistic regression was used to identify preoperative and in-hospital (during index admission) risk factors of 30-day unplanned readmission.

Results: There were 4449 patients who underwent infrainguinal endovascular intervention, of whom 2802 (63%) had CLI (66% tissue loss) and 1647 (37%) had claudication. The unplanned readmission rates for CLI and claudication patients were 16% (n = 447) and 6.5% (n = 107), respectively. Mortality after index admission was higher for readmitted patients

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compared with those not readmitted (CLI, 3.4% vs 0.7% [P < .001]; claudication, 2.8% vs 0.1% [P < .01]). Approximately 50% of all unplanned readmissions were related to the index procedure. Among CLI patients, the most common indication for readmission related to the index procedure was wound or infection related (42%), whereas patients with claudication were mainly readmitted for recurrent symptoms of peripheral vascular disease (28%). In patients with CLI, predictors of unplanned readmission included diabetes (odds ratio, 1.3; 95% confidence interval, 1.01-1.6), congestive heart failure (1.6; 1.1-2.5), renal insufficiency (1.7; 1.3-2.2), preoperative dialysis (1.4; 1.02-1.9), tibial angioplasty/stenting (1.3; 1.04-1.6), in-hospital bleeding (1.9; 1.04-3.5), in-hospital unplanned return to the operating room (1.9; 1.1-3.5), and discharge other than to home (1.5; 1.1-2.0). Risk factors for those with claudication were dependent functional status (3.5; 1.4-8.7), smoking (1.6; 1.02-2.5), diabetes (1.5; 1.01-2.3), preoperative dialysis (3.6; 1.6-8.3), procedure time exceeding 120 minutes (1.8; 1.1-2.7), in-hospital bleeding (2.9; 1.2-7.4), and in-hospital unplanned return to the operating room (3.4; 1.2-9.4).

Conclusions: Unplanned readmission after endovascular treatment is relatively common, especially in patients with CLI, and is associated with substantially increased mortality. Awareness of these risk factors will help providers identify patients at high risk who may benefit from early surveillance, and prophylactic measures focused on decreasing post-operative complications may reduce the rate of readmission. (J Vasc Surg 2017;65:484-94.)

Unplanned readmissions following surgical intervention are associated with poor outcomes and additional health care costs.¹ In 2004, it was estimated that the costs of potentially avoidable rehospitalizations were as high as \$17.4 billion among Medicare beneficiaries.² Consequently, several regional and national initiatives began focusing on this issue.^{3,4} The federal government also made this issue a priority with the Hospital Readmission Reduction Program, introduced in 2012 as a part of the Affordable Care Act, which was initiated to impose financial penalties against hospitals with excessive readmissions within 30 days of discharge for Medicare beneficiaries. An algorithm was developed to omit planned readmissions from the penalty calculation; however, hospitals are accountable for all-cause unplanned readmissions, including those not related to the initial admission. Whereas the readmission rates nationwide remained stable between 2007 and 2011, after initiation of this policy, rates declined slightly by 0.5%.⁵ Within this Act, conditions known to have a particularly high risk of readmission (myocardial infarction, heart failure, and pneumonia) were identified as target areas, with vascular procedures a likely target in the near future. Subsequently, the readmission rate continued to decline in 2015 for both targeted and nontargeted conditions, with 17.8% and 13.1% of all Medicare beneficiaries readmitted within 30 days, respectively.⁶

Readmission following vascular surgery is higher than for other major operations, with prior reports citing a range of 18% to 24% compared with 10% for general, bariatric, and colorectal surgery.^{1,2} Among vascular surgery patients, those undergoing lower extremity open or endovascular procedures have among the highest risk for readmission with a reported rate of 23%, third only to congestive heart failure and psychoses. Previous studies have identified several risk factors following infrainguinal bypass surgery, including age, diabetes, renal insufficiency, chronic limb-threatening ischemia (CLI), return to the operating room during the index admission, and longer hospital stay.⁷⁻¹² Despite that endovascular procedures are now the most commonly used method for lower extremity revascularization, predictors of readmission after infrainguinal endovascular intervention are limited.^{13,14} Although Davenport et al¹⁵ analyzed readmission data for both open and endovascular interventions, no predictors specific to endovascular procedures were identified. In addition, Vogel et al¹⁶ evaluated outcomes in only a limited set of patients who underwent tibioperoneal angioplasty for CLI in the U.S. Medicare population.

Therefore, the purpose of this study was to assess the incidence of 30-day unplanned readmission following infrainguinal endovascular intervention and to identify preoperative and in-hospital risk factors using a large national representative clinical registry.

METHODS

Data source. Patients were identified using the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) targeted vascular module. NSQIP is a prospective clinical registry of surgical perioperative outcomes collected nationwide for the purpose of quality assessment and improvement. The registry consists of patient demographic, operative, and postoperative variables up to 30 days after surgery. The targeted vascular module contains additional detailed anatomic and intraoperative characteristics as well as procedure-related outcomes from 83 participating sites. According to NSQIP protocol, trained clinical nurses first identify surgical procedures by reviewing operative case logs, then collect data and categorize these procedures using Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes. Although not all cases are included, a systematic sampling system was developed by NSQIP to select cases and to prevent bias in selection. Data collection and quality control have been validated by annual audits and previous reports.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ In 2011, NSQIP began collecting 30-day readmission events; however, the time to readmission, indication, and whether the readmission was related to the principal procedure became available only in 2012. Therefore, the data were Download English Version:

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