

Supplementary material

Supplementary Table 1. Search terms used to identify publications.

Topic	Search	Syntax*	Number of hits
PAD	S1	TI,AB("arterial obliteration" OR "arterial obliterative disease" OR "arteriosclerosis obliterans" OR "artery chronic occlusive disease" OR "artery obliterative disease" OR "artery occlusive disease" OR "artery peripheral occlusion" OR "atherosclerotic occlusion" OR "atherosclerosis obliterans" OR "atherosclerotic occlusion" OR "atherosclerotic occlusion of the peripheral vasculature" OR "atherosclerotic peripheral arterial insufficiency" OR "chronic arterial occlusion disease" OR "chronic artery obstruction" OR "chronic artery occlusion" OR "obliterating arteriosclerosis" OR "obliterating atherosclerosis" OR "obliterative arterial disease" OR "obliterative arteriosclerosis" OR "obliterative artery disease" OR "obliterative atherosclerosis" OR "obliterative vascular disease" OR "obstructive arterial disease" OR "obstructive artery disease" OR "obstructive vascular disease" OR "occlusive arterial disease" OR "occlusive artery disease" OR "occlusive vascular disease" OR "peripheral arterial disease" OR "peripheral arterial obstructive disease" OR "peripheral arterial occlusive disease" OR "peripheral arterial occlusive diseases" OR "peripheral artery disease" OR "peripheral artery obstruction" OR "peripheral artery obstructive disease" OR "peripheral artery occlusion" OR	40,082 [#]

Topic	Search	Syntax*	Number of hits
		"peripheral artery occlusive disease" OR "peripheral obliterative arterial disease" OR "peripheral obliterative vascular disease" OR "peripheral obstructive artery disease" OR "peripheral occlusive arterial disease" OR "peripheral occlusive disease" OR "vascular occlusive disease")	
	S2	MESH.EXACT("Peripheral Arterial Disease")	3960‡
	S3	EMB.EXACT("peripheral occlusive artery disease")	34,209#
	S4	S1 OR S2 OR S3	61,974#
Acute/symptomatic PAD	S5	TI,AB(acute OR symptomatic OR moderate OR severe OR procedure OR revascularization OR revascularisation OR endovascular OR surgery OR surgical OR amputation OR intervention OR claudication OR "critical limb ischemia" OR "ischemic rest pain" OR "ischaemic rest pain" OR "ischemic ulceration" OR "ischaemic ulceration")	10,300,980#
	S6	EMB.EXACT("leg revascularization")	2,566‡
	S7	S5 OR S6	10,301,410#
Epidemiology	S8	TI,AB(epidemiology OR incidence OR prevalence) OR EMB.EXACT("epidemiology") OR EMB.EXACT("incidence") OR EMB.EXACT("prevalence") OR MESH.EXACT("Epidemiology") OR MESH.EXACT("Incidence") OR MESH.EXACT("Prevalence") OR Registr*	4,164,283#

Topic	Search	Syntax*	Number of hits
	S9	S4 AND S7 AND S8	6666 [#]
Burden	S10	EMB.EXACT("mortality") OR EMB.EXACT("survival rate") OR MESH.EXACT("Mortality") OR MESH.EXACT("Survival Rate") OR TI,AB(burden) OR TI,AB(caregiver NEAR/5 burden) OR TI,AB(famil* NEAR/5 burden) OR TI,AB(mortality) OR TI,AB(survival rate) OR TI,AB(morbidit*) OR TI,AB(comorbidit*) OR TI,AB(societal NEAR/5 impact) OR MESH.EXACT("Risk Factors") OR EMB.EXACT("risk factor") OR (TI,AB(risk) AND TI,AB(factor*)) OR TI,AB(predispose*) OR (TI,AB(precipit*) AND TI,AB(factor*)) OR EMB.EXACT("disease predisposition") OR MESH.EXACT("Precipitating Factors") OR EMB.EXACT("physical activity") OR EMB.EXACT("physical activity, capacity and performance") OR ti,ab(physical pre/1 activity) OR EMB.EXACT("fatigue") OR MESH.EXACT("Fatigue") OR ti,ab(fatigue*)	5,487,648 [#]
	S11	S4 AND S7 AND S10	12,776 [#]
Treatment practice	S12	TI,AB((treatment AND guideline*) OR (treatment AND guidance) OR (care pathway*) OR (clinical NEAR/3 pathway*)) OR MB.EXACT("practice guideline") OR EMB.EXACT("clinical protocol") OR EMB.EXACT("clinical pathway") OR MESH.EXACT("Practice Guideline") OR MESH.EXACT("Guideline") OR MESH.EXACT("Clinical Protocols") OR MESH.EXACT("Critical Pathways") OR MESH.EXACT("Standard of Care") OR TI,AB("standard of care")	675,933 [#]

Topic	Search	Syntax*	Number of hits
	S13	S4 AND S7 AND S12	863 [‡]
Pathophysiology	S14	TI,AB(prognos*) OR EMB.EXACT("prognosis") OR MESH.EXACT("Prognosis") TI,AB(pathophysiolog*) OR TI,AB(physiopathology*) OR EMB.EXACT("pathophysiology")	2,026,498 [#]
	S15	S4 AND S7 AND S14	2,761 [‡]
TOTAL	S16	S9 OR S11 OR S13 OR S15	16,340 [#]
Constrain by article type	S17	S16 NOT (rtype.exact("Review" OR "Editorial" OR "Letter" OR "Note"))	13,428 [#]
AND constrain to English	S18	S16 AND la.exact("ENG")	14,037 [#]
AND constrain to January 2001- present*	S19	S16 AND yr(2008-2017)	9,980 [#]
All constraints added	S20	(S16 AND la.exact("ENG") AND yr(2008-2017)) NOT rtype.exact("Review" OR "Editorial" OR "Letter" OR "Note")	7,854 [#]
All constraints added	N/A	(S16 AND la.exact("ENG") AND yr(2008-2017)) NOT rtype.exact("Review" OR "Editorial" OR "Letter" OR "Note")	5,900 [‡]

*AB, search in abstract; kw, search in keywords; MESH, search as MESH term; TI, search in title; [#]the search was completed on 28 September 2016; [‡]duplicates were removed from the search in Embase/Medline but included in the result count; [§]duplicates were removed from the search in Embase/Medline and from the result count.

PAD indicates peripheral artery disease.