

LETTERS

Don't forget peripheral arterial disease in diabetic foot osteomyelitis

Drs. Mutluoglu and Lipsky provide five things to know about an important and common affliction that can lead to severe illness and limb loss.¹ Number six should be to assess for peripheral arterial disease.

Ankle brachial index measurements are often falsely elevated (and so can appear falsely reassuring) in patients with diabetes. If you cannot confidently palpate pedal pulses, please call a vascular surgeon.

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Reference

1. Mutluoglu M, Lipsky BA. Diabetic foot osteomyelitis. *CMAJ* 2016;188:E535.

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