1

00:00:00,720 --> 00:00:05,000

What tests can be used to diagnose lower extremity arterial diasease?

2

00:00:05,840 --> 00:00:09,260

A wide range of screening can be used to determine whether a lower limb

3

00:00:09,360 --> 00:00:13,660

artery disease has developed. Let's start with

4

00:00:13,760 --> 00:00:16,780

the physical examination, carried out by the doctor.

5

00:00:16,880 --> 00:00:20,460

You know, when you go to the doctor's office,

6

00:00:20,560 --> 00:00:24,380

the doctor very often palpates your pulse. This can be done

7

00:00:24,480 --> 00:00:29,260

not only by palpating the upper limbs to determine

8

00:00:29,360 --> 00:00:33,660

the heart rate, but also by palpating

9

00:00:33,760 --> 00:00:38,220

the lower limbs to see if there is good circulation in the arteries.

10

00:00:38,320 --> 00:00:43,580

So the doctor treating the patient, can already assess whether there is any

11

00:00:43,680 --> 00:00:47,660

abnormality in the pulse palpation by physical examination. Listening with

12

00:00:47,760 --> 00:00:53,900

a stethoscope is also a method of physical examination.

13

00:00:54,000 --> 00:00:57,340

The doctor listens whether they can hear any vascular murmur

14

00:00:57,440 --> 00:01:02,060

over the blood vessels. After all, we know that if there is

15

00:01:02,160 --> 00:01:06,460

a vascular murmur, which is very common for atherosclerosis,

16

00:01:06,560 --> 00:01:10,780

plaque formation may occur, because plaque changes the flow

17

00:01:10,880 --> 00:01:14,780

in the vascular system, and this turbulent flow can result in sound,

18

00:01:14,880 --> 00:01:21,340

which can be heard through the stethoscope. So there are

19

00:01:21,440 --> 00:01:24,700

several possibilities in the hands of the attending doctor to make a diagnosis

20

00:01:24,800 --> 00:01:30,220

without the use of instruments. In addition, if the suspicion persists,

21

00:01:30,320 --> 00:01:33,980

it is crucial to have further investigations ordered.

22

00:01:34,080 --> 00:01:38,700

The first test to be performed is the ankle-brachial index,

23

00:01:38,800 --> 00:01:44,700

which is essentially the ratio of the blood pressure readings in the lower limb

24

00:01:44,800 --> 00:01:48,860

to the upper limb, calculated by the doctor.

25

00:01:48,960 --> 00:01:53,020

This is the screening test for lower limb arterial disease.

26

00:01:53,120 --> 00:01:57,820

And of course imaging diagnostics can also be used for diagnosis,

27

00:01:57,920 --> 00:02:02,300

ultrasound scans can be used to look at the condition of the arteries,

28

00:02:02,400 --> 00:02:05,820

the condition of the arteries, and even more sophisticated

29

00:02:05,920 --> 00:02:10,220

tests can detect atherosclerosis,

30

00:02:10,320 --> 00:02:15,100

lower arterial disease, such as CT

31

00:02:15,200 --> 00:02:19,500

angiography or MR angiography.

32

00:02:19,600 --> 00:02:23,250

However, the latter are not used as

33

00:02:23,350 --> 00:02:25,260

screening tests, as they are mainly used

34

00:02:25,360 --> 00:02:29,180

as a further step in the planning of various

35

00:02:29,280 --> 00:02:32,640

reconstructive vascular operations.