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Autoantibodies in Cases with Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms are Seldom and without Association with Progression Rate

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Introduction. Antibodies against *Chlamydia pneumoniae* are associated with the progression of abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAA), but cross-react with immunoglobulins in AAA walls indicating an autoimmune reaction.

Report. Of 82 men with a small AAA followed for 1–5 years, 17% (10–27%) had antibodies against immunoglobulin, 3.7% had antinuclear antibodies (ANA), 19.5% (11–30%) had antinuclear core antibodies (ANCA), 2.4% had anti-beta-2-gpI IgG and 3.7% antibodies against cardiolipin.

The presence of antibodies against immunoglobulin and ANCA were not correlated with expansion rate; 2.61 and 2.76 mm/year, respectively, compared to 2.40 and 2.39 mm/year annually among those without such antibodies.

Discussion. Known autoantibodies are seldomly present in AAA and seem not to influence the progression of AAA.

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Pancreaticoduodenal Artery Aneurysm Ruptured into Duodenum, Associated with Celiac Trunk Stenosis. Case Report and Review of Literature

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Pancreaticoduodenal artery (PDA) aneurysm associated with a celiac artery (CA) occlusion or stenosis is an uncommon event. We report the case of a 63-years old man who presented with acute abdominal pain radiating to the back. During the hospital stay, the patient had an episode of severe hematemesis. He had a gastroscopy and then a surgical exploration. However only with arteriography we found a PDA, which had ruptured into duodenum. The aneurysm was associated with a stenosis of the celiac trunk and was supplied by a dense network of collateral vessels from the SMA. The patient was successfully treated with embolization and was discharged on the 64th postoperative day. Short term and mid term follow-up was uneventful. This case shows the difficulty in diagnosing these rare events in time, indicating that

angiography is indispensable to establish a diagnosis and enable nonsurgical treatment.

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Rationing of Treatment for Varicose Veins and Use of New Treatment Methods: A Survey of Practice in the United Kingdom

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Introduction. This study aimed to document the extent of rationing of treatment for varicose veins in the United Kingdom (UK) national health services and the extent to which new treatments are being used.

Report. Completed questionnaires were received from 75% (307/411) vascular surgeons from all areas of the UK. 46% restricted access to treatment – 13% in the absence of local referral guidance. 76% would treat patients privately who did not fulfil their health service criteria. In the health service vs private practice, foam sclerotherapy was used by 28 vs 42; radiofrequency ablation by 8 vs 30; and laser ablation by 16 vs 22.

Discussion. Rationing of health service treatment for varicose veins is common in the UK. More explicit selection criteria are required for introduction of new treatments and reconfigured services.

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Popliteal Pseudoaneurysm as a Rare Complication of a Solitary Tibial Osteochondroma

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Osteochondromas are the most frequent benign bone tumours, seen in 1–2% of the population. Skeletal defects, neurological or vascular complications occur in 4% of osteochondromas. The case of a 14-year-old girl with a popliteal pseudoaneurysm was presented. We report our experience in the management of a popliteal pseudoaneurysm appearing as a result of popliteal artery wall injury caused by a tibial osteochondroma.

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