

Quickie Reference for interpret Peripheral Vascular Studies

Remember this examination should be performed bilaterally.

Pulse Volume Recording

Measures the changes in limb diameter during the cardiac cycle

None Obstruction	Triphasic flow pattern
Mild Obstruction	Loss of Multiphase
Moderate Obstruction	Monophasic Height Loss Rounded Peak
Severe Obstruction	Height Loss Rounded Peak

Ankle/Brachial Index

Comparison of the Ankle pressure to the Brachial pressure

Normal ABI greater than .96

Abnormal .95 - .71 mild
 .70 - .30 moderate
 .30 - 0.0 severe

Segmental Rules

Comparison of pressures with adjacent cuffs

1. 20mm - 30mm of pressure is the maximum variance between adjacent cuffs and opposite cuffs at the same level.
2. The upper Thigh pressure should be at least 10mm greater than the brachial pressure.
3. A pressure drop of 30 mm should not be exceeded from thigh to ankle.
4. A decrease in pressure that does not conform to the above guidelines indicates a possible stenosis below the cuff.
5. An increase in pressure that not conforms to the above guidelines indicates a possible increase vessel calcification below the cuff.

Toe/Brachial pressure $>.75$ Brachial pressure

Penile/Brachial pressure $>.75$ Brachial pressure

Special Note *in patients with heavily calcified vessels the pressure indexes can not be 100% reliable.*

Special Note *in patients with venous obstruction or right sided heart failure may demonstrate loss of multiphase, monophasic height loss and/or Rounded Peak.*

Special Note *examination with systemic problem should have equivalent results bilaterally.*