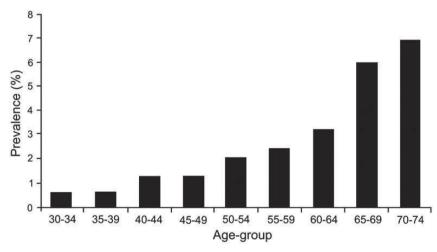
## Chapter 15

# SURGICAL TREATMENT OF FEMOROPOPLITEAL DISEASE: CURRENT APPROCHES

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#### Introduction

Peripheral arterial disease (PAD) is the preferred clinical term to explain stenotic, occlusive, and aneurysmal diseases of the aorta and its branch arteries. Peripheral arterial disease arises primarily as a result of atherosclerosis and thrombo-embolic pathophysiological processes that alter the normal structure and function of the aorta, its visceral arterial branches, and the arteries of the lower extremity (1). The prevalence of PAD has been increasing along with the increase of aged populations in most developed countries (2). PAD affects a large segment of the adult population, with an age- adjusted prevalence of 4% to 15%, affecting more than 5 million adults in the United States (3) and increasing up to 30% with age (Figure 1). Although the most common symptom of PAD is intermittent claudication only less than 20% of patients with PAD have typical symptoms of intermittent claudication i.e., legmuscle discomfort on exertion that is relieved by rest with in 10 minutes. More extreme presentations of PAD include rest pain, tissue loss, or gangrene; these limb-threatening manifestations of PAD are collectively termed critical limb ischemia (CLI).



**Figure 1:** Weighted mean prevalence of intermittent claudication (symptomatic PAD) in large population-based studies. Reproduced with permission from (2)

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