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Hemorrhoid is associated with Increased Risk of Peripheral Artery Occlusive Disease: A 12-Year Nationwide Cohort Study

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Background: There is limited research on the relationship between hemorrhoid and the subsequent peripheral artery occlusive disease (PAOD) risk. Purpose: This study was conducted to evaluate the association between hemorrhoid and PAOD. Methods: Using the Taiwanese Longitudinal Health Insurance Database 2000 (LHID2000), we compared the incident PAOD risk between hemorrhoid and non-hemorrhoid cohorts. Cox proportional hazards regression was used to identify the hazard ratio (HR) of PAOD associated with hemorrhoid. Results: The adjusted hazard ratio (aHR) for PAOD in the hemorrhoid cohort was 1.16-fold higher than in the non-hemorrhoid cohort. Furthermore, among patients with hemorrhoids, female gender, older than 65 years and no comorbidity displayed significantly higher PAOD risk comparing with patients without hemorrhoids. Conclusions: A greater risk of developing PAOD in patients with hemorrhoids was demonstrated in this 12-year nationwide cohort study. Further large scale investigations are necessary to confirm the clinical significance of our finding and to explore the underlying mechanism.