

ABI-Q Examination

Purpose & Background

The ABI-Q™ procedure is a 1-2 minute exam to quickly and effectively assess the lower extremity arteries for peripheral artery disease. It utilizes PVR waveforms at both ankles.

The ABI-Q™ exam is a diagnostic test that examines arterial waveforms to determine the need for further vascular evaluation.

Opening the exam

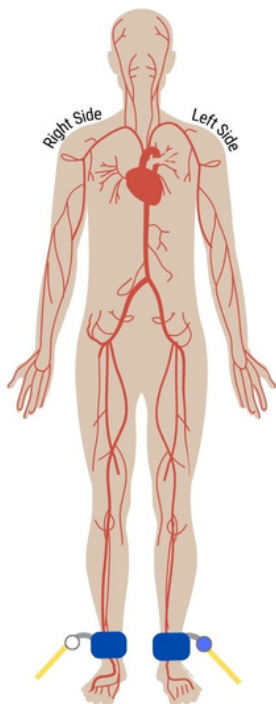
On the computer desktop, double click the simpleABI icon. When the program opens select *File*→*New*→*New ABI-Q Report*. The report will open and you can enter patient information, risk factors, symptoms, ICD codes, etc.

Attaching the cuffs

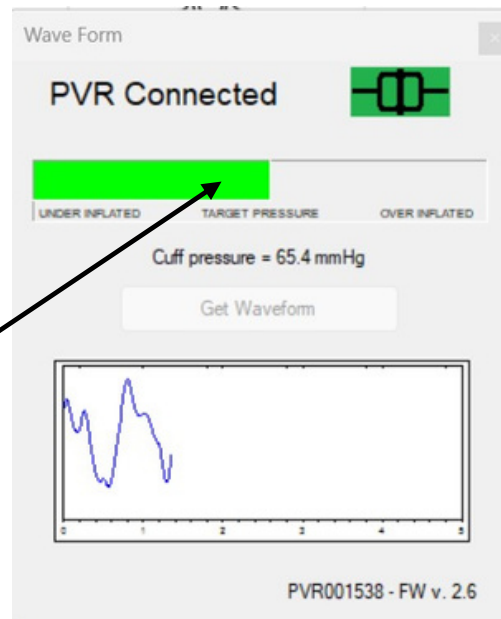
Have the patient lie down in the supine position relaxed, head and heels supported in a comfortably warm room. Wrap appropriately sized cuffs (usually 10 cm on the ankles). On the legs, have the patient place their feet flat on the table with knees bent as you apply the cuff above their ankle. Cuffs should fit snugly so that fingers should slide between the cuff and limb with difficulty. The lower edge of the ankle cuff should be about an inch above the top of the medial malleolus (ankle bone).

Obtain Waveforms

1. On the screen, click on the respective **Waveform Field** in the report associated with the patient's right side (the left side of the screen).
2. Tighten the thumb valve and inflate the cuff to about 80 mmHg pressure and then slowly deflate to about 65 mmHg and stop. You will see a visual guide bar on the screen above the **Get Waveform** button. The center section of the target pressure guide will turn green (if the guide is red, then pressure is too low or too high). When a constant green, click the **Get Waveform** button. **PVRs require patient cooperation; limb motion affects the waveform. Patients should be instructed not to move or talk during this test.** The waveform will appear and when complete the pop-up will disappear and the waveform will be present in the **Waveform Field** in the exam.



Visual Guide Bar



4. If you are not satisfied with the waveform, leave the cuff inflated (in the green) and click on the Waveform Field and then Get Waveform button again to overwrite the previous waveform.
5. When complete, release the air in the cuff.

Left Side

1. Move the hose to the leg ankle cuff and repeat the above steps.