

SEATED ABI EXAM

An ABI exam is generally done with the patient supine, or laying down flat. However, in cases where it is difficult for the patient to lie down, it is possible to take an ABI in a position where the arm and ankle cuff are not at the same height. The following will correct for pressure differences of a seated ABI.

1. Perform the ABI while patient is seated. Feet should be flat at 90-degree angle on the floor or a platform – not dangling.
2. To determine the difference in height between the two cuffs, using a tape measure or yardstick, measure the distance in inches from the bottom of the arm cuff to the floor and also measure the distance in inches from the bottom of the ankle cuff to the floor. Next, subtract the ankle distance from the arm distance – this is the height difference between the cuffs.
3. Take the difference in inches determined in step 2 and multiply it by 2 – this is the correction factor.
4. Subtract the correction factor (calculated in step 3) from the ankle pressures measured performing the seated ABI and enter them into simpleABI software ankle fields.

An Example: A seated ABI is performed and the cuffs are determined to be 25 inches different in height. Therefore, the correction factor is 50 (25x2).

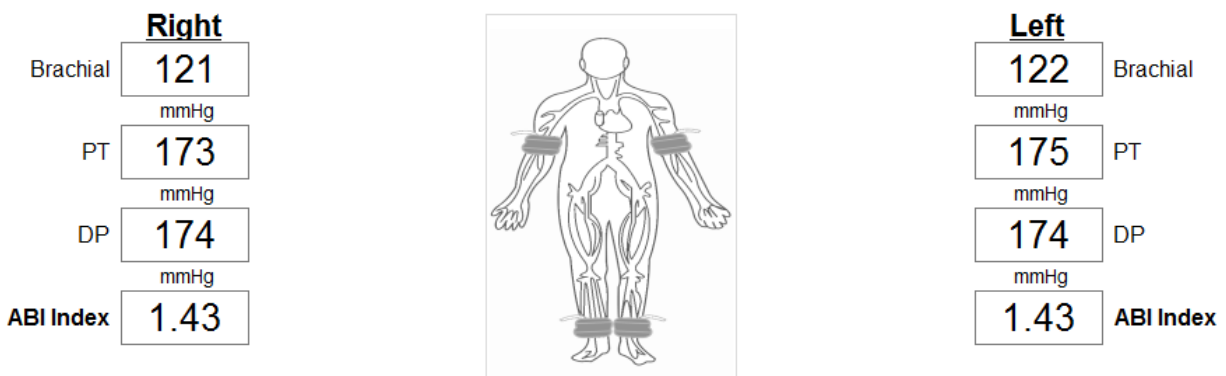


Figure 1 – Seated ABI Pressures

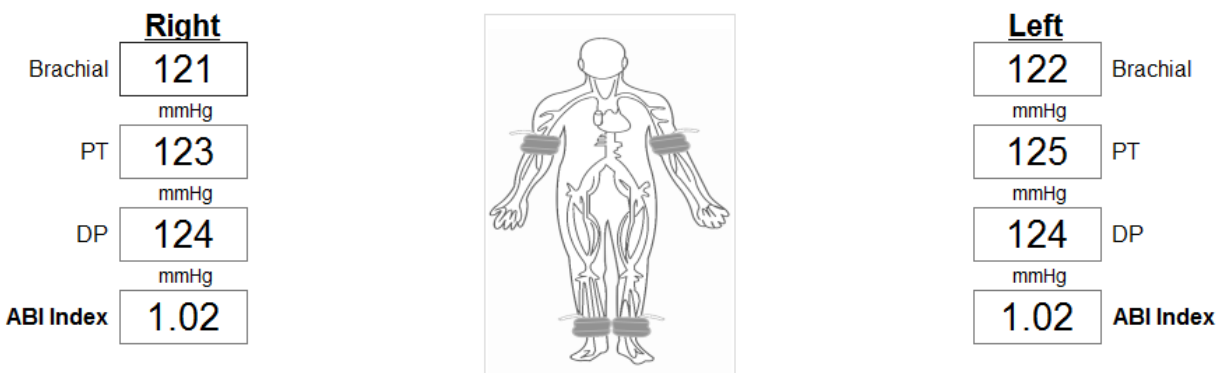


Figure 2 - After Correction

The ABI calculated will now have been adjusted for the fact that the cuffs were at different heights and you may use the normal guidelines to determine if the ABI is normal or abnormal.