IMAGE

Maximising the Patency of a Popliteal Endoprosthesis Despite Multiple Challenges

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An 82 year old male presented eight years after left popliteal endovascular aneurysm repair (PEVAR) for a 58 mm popliteal artery aneurysm (PAA) using 10 mm Viabahn endoprostheses (WL Gore and Associates, Flagstaff, USA). He had undergone prior contralateral bypass for chronic limb threatening ischaemia due to an occluded PAA in 2010 (patent). He took up cycling after this, resulting in multiple redo PEVAR episodes to treat migration (2011, stent graft extension) and fracture (2014, relined), with eventual graft failure and fractures with no endoleak noted (Fig. 1), diagnosed when he presented with left calf pain (deep vein thrombosis excluded). Throughout there was continued PAA shrinkage (currently 47 mm). As there was now new PAA formation distal to the distal landing zone of the stent graft, this was treated with a reversed great saphenous vein bypass graft which remains patent at six months. This report indicates that PEVAR endografts can be maintained for a reasonably long time despite repeated complications.



Figure 1. Volume-rendered computed tomography scan reconstruction showing the complications with the PEVAR endoprosthesis: multiple fractures and kinking.

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