Reviewer’s report

Title: The association of biomarkers of iron status with peripheral arterial disease in US adults

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Reviewer: Julia Chackathayil

Reviewer’s report:

Authors Menke et al, present an interesting paper on the modest association of biomarkers of iron status with peripheral artery disease, amongst those with high cholesterol levels. This study adds to the existing epidemiological studies investigating the role of iron in peripheral artery disease.

Minor comments

Abstract section:
1) The clinical implication of measuring ferritin/ transferrin saturation in peripheral arterial disease is required in the background.
2) In the results, the second sentence is too long; it may be easier for a reader to understand if the sentences are shorter.

Manuscript
3) Page 6 Methods: peripheral arterial disease- why was an ABI <0.9 used to define peripheral artery disease? Is this according to the current guidelines?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests