

**MHIF FEATURED STUDY:**

# Rhapsody

**OPEN AND ENROLLING:**  
Please Refer Patients!

<b>CONDITION:</b> Pericarditis	<b>PI:</b> David Lin, MD	<b>RESEARCH CONTACT:</b> Christine Majeski <a href="mailto:Christine.Majeski@allina.com">Christine.Majeski@allina.com</a>   <a href="tel:612-863-3546">612-863-3546</a>	<b>SPONSOR:</b> Kiniksa Pharmaceuticals
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**DESCRIPTION:**

First multinational, phase 3, double-blinded, placebo-controlled, randomized withdrawal, study assessing the efficacy of riloncept, an interleukin 1 alpha and beta receptor decoy, in the treatment of recurrent pericarditis.

**CRITERIA LIST/ QUALIFICATIONS:**

Inclusion

Diagnosis of recurrent pericarditis

Exclusion

- Pericarditis secondary to specific prohibited etiologies, including tuberculosis (TB); neoplastic, purulent, or radiation etiologies
- Post-thoracic blunt trauma (e.g., motor vehicle accident)
- Myocarditis
- Systemic autoimmune diseases with exception of Still’s disease, pregnancy, hx HIV, prednisone > 60 mg/day, positive Hep B or C, serious infection

**MHIF was first in the world to enroll in this trial and has 4 subjects enrolled out of the 9 in the world. Pericarditis patients are experiencing significant benefits and most often have no chest pain after starting this medication.**

**Minneapolis Heart Institute Grand Rounds**  
**Monday, April 15, 2019**

**Update in CTO PCI**

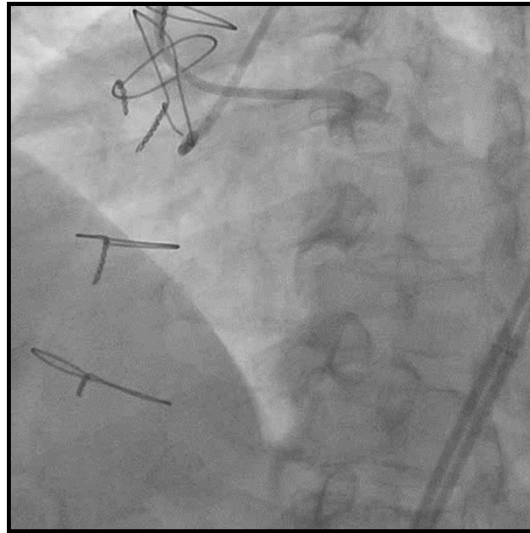
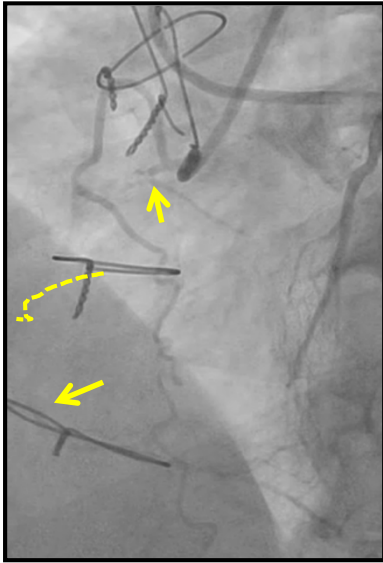
**Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD**



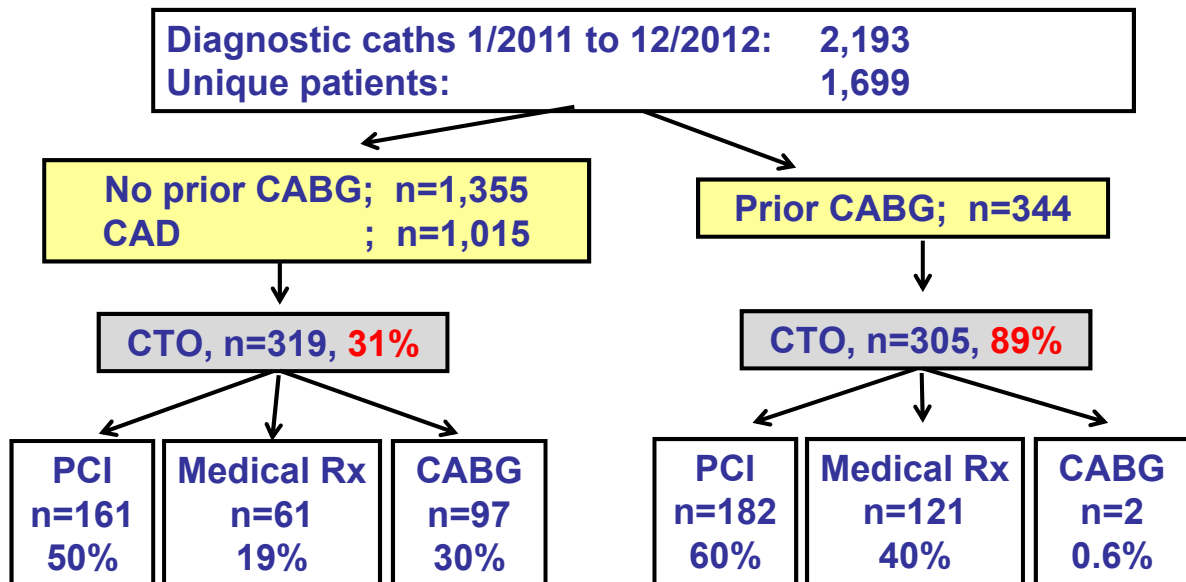
**Disclosures**

- **Consulting/speaker honoraria: Abbott Vascular, American Heart Association (associate editor Circulation), Boston Scientific, Cardiovascular Innovations Foundation (Board of Directors), CSI, Elsevier, GE Healthcare, IntraRedx, Medtronic**
- **Research support: Regeneron, Siemens**
- **Shareholder: MHI Ventures.**
- **Board of Trustees: Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions**

**CTO: occlusion in the coronary artery with TIMI 0 flow of  $\geq 3$  months duration**



**Dallas VAMC: CTO prevalence and revascularization**



*Jeroudi O et al. Catheter Cardiovasc Interv 2014;84:637-43.*

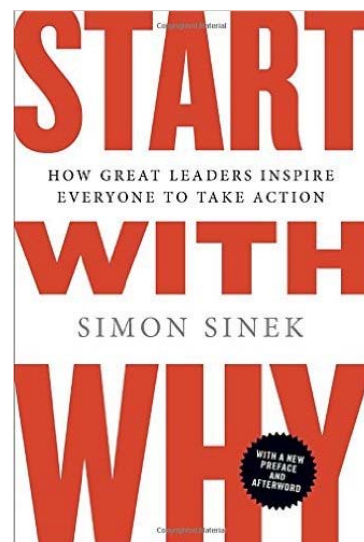
**CTO Corner**

Insights into the expanding field of chronic total occlusion interventions.

# THE **WHY** AND HOW OF CTO INTERVENTIONS

by Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD

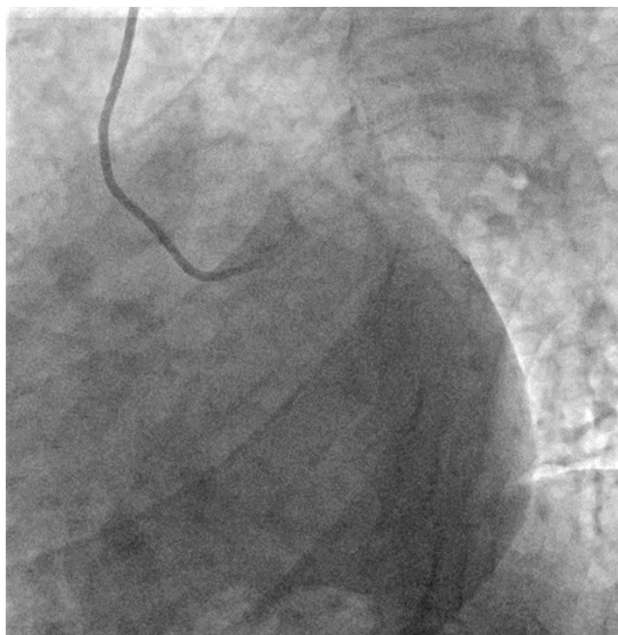
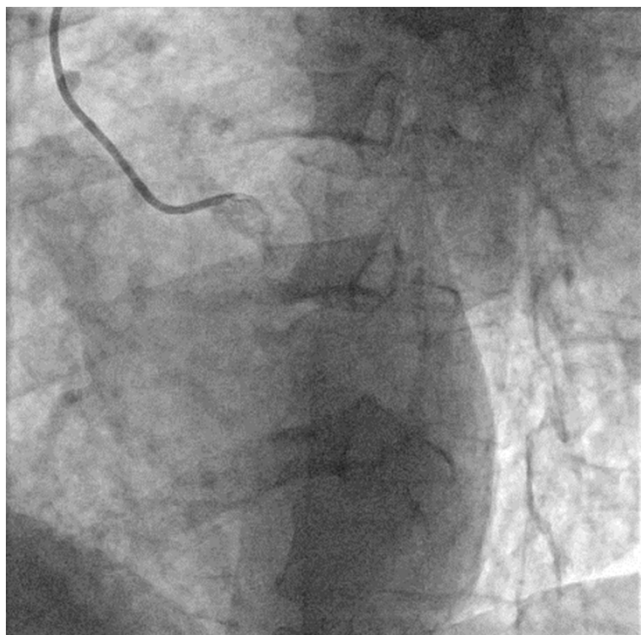
38 **Cardiology**today**Intervention** | January/February 2012



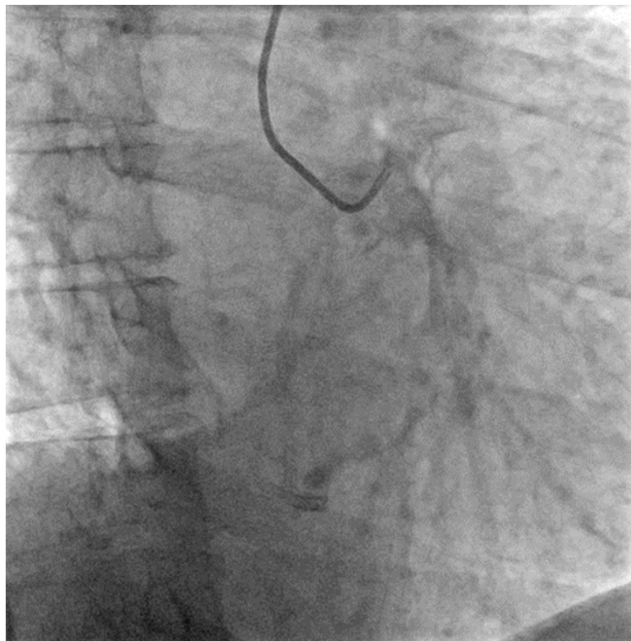
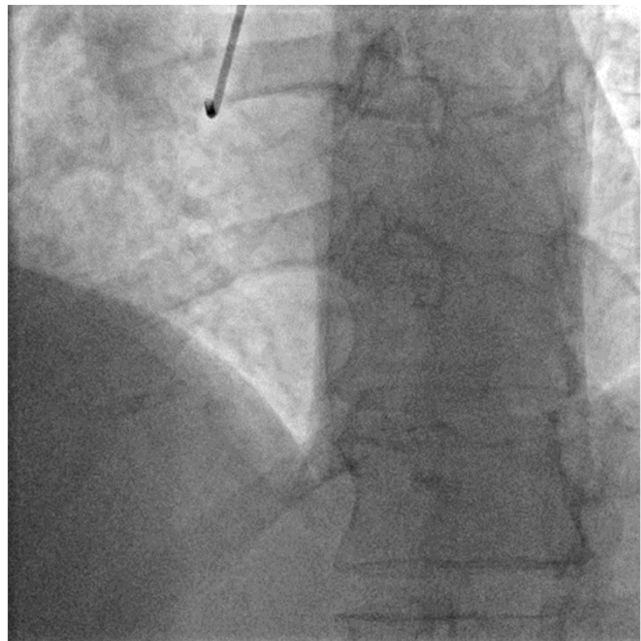
# Case 1



**55-year-old diabetic. EF=26% Referred for Circ CTO PCI**



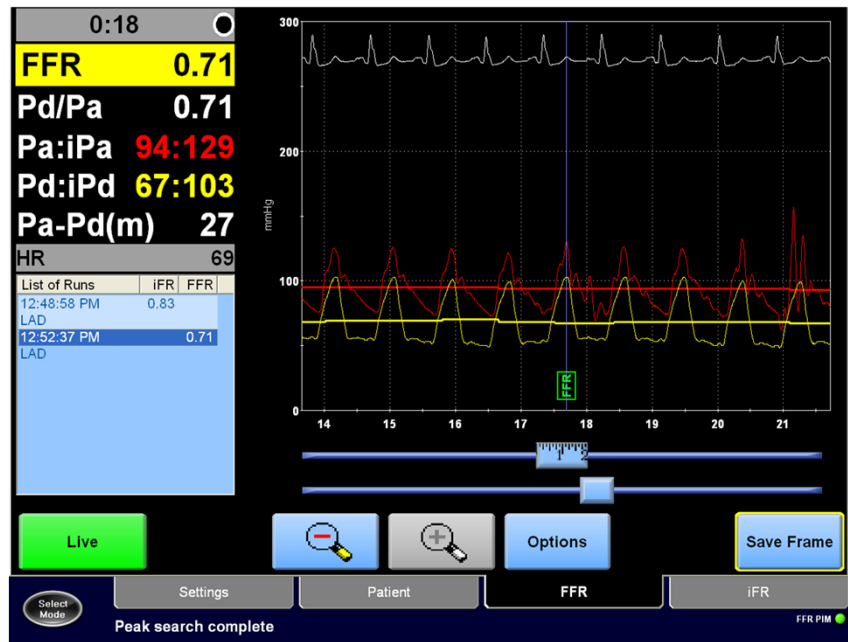
**Referred for circ CTO PCI**

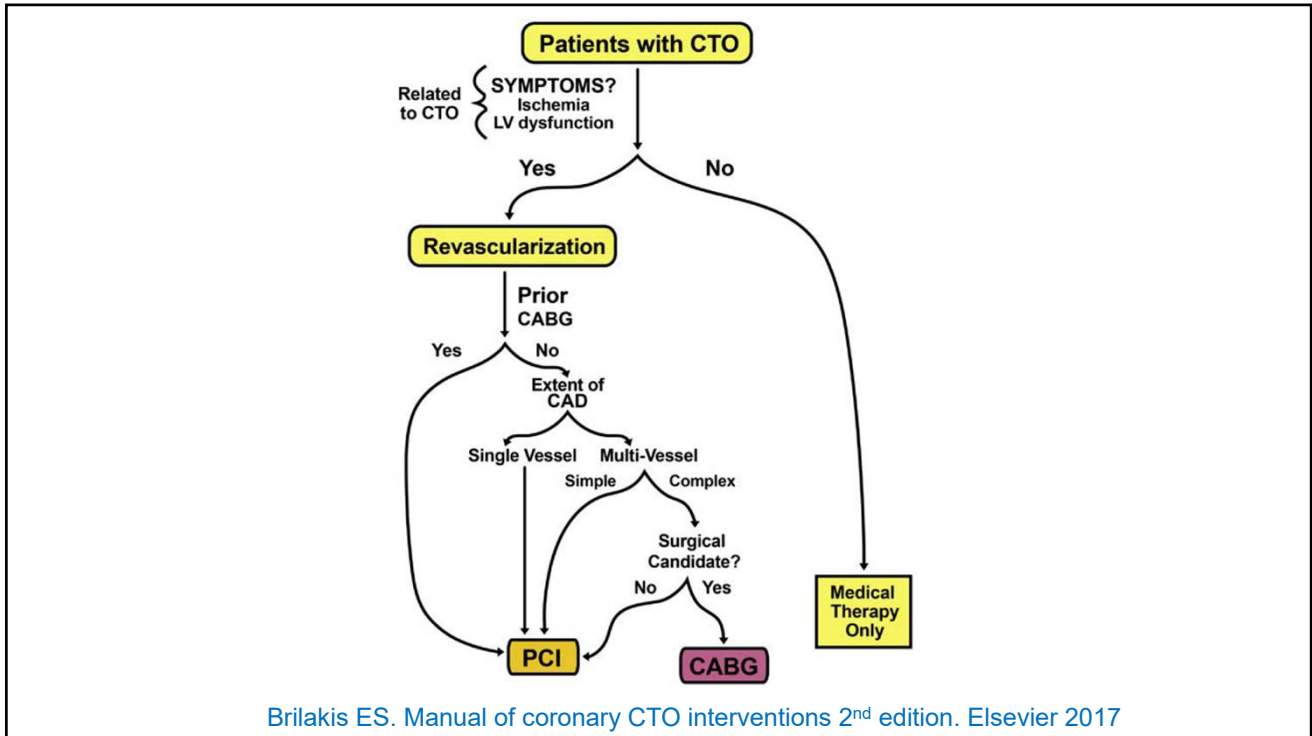


# iFR



# FFR





# Case 2

Patient testimonial after CTO PCI



When should CTO PCI be done?

JACC: CARDIOVASCULAR INTERVENTIONS  
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VOL. 11, NO. 7, 2018

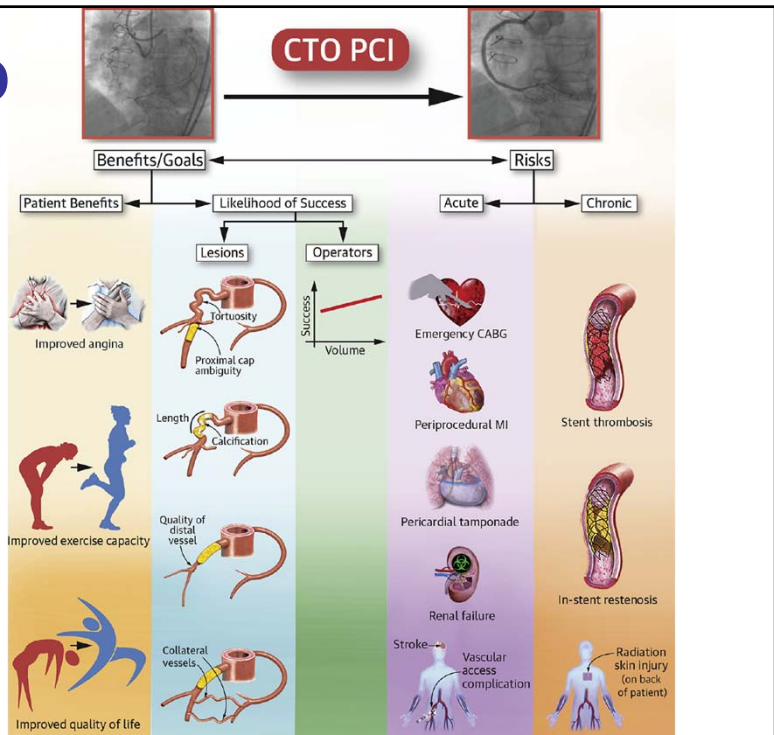
STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEW

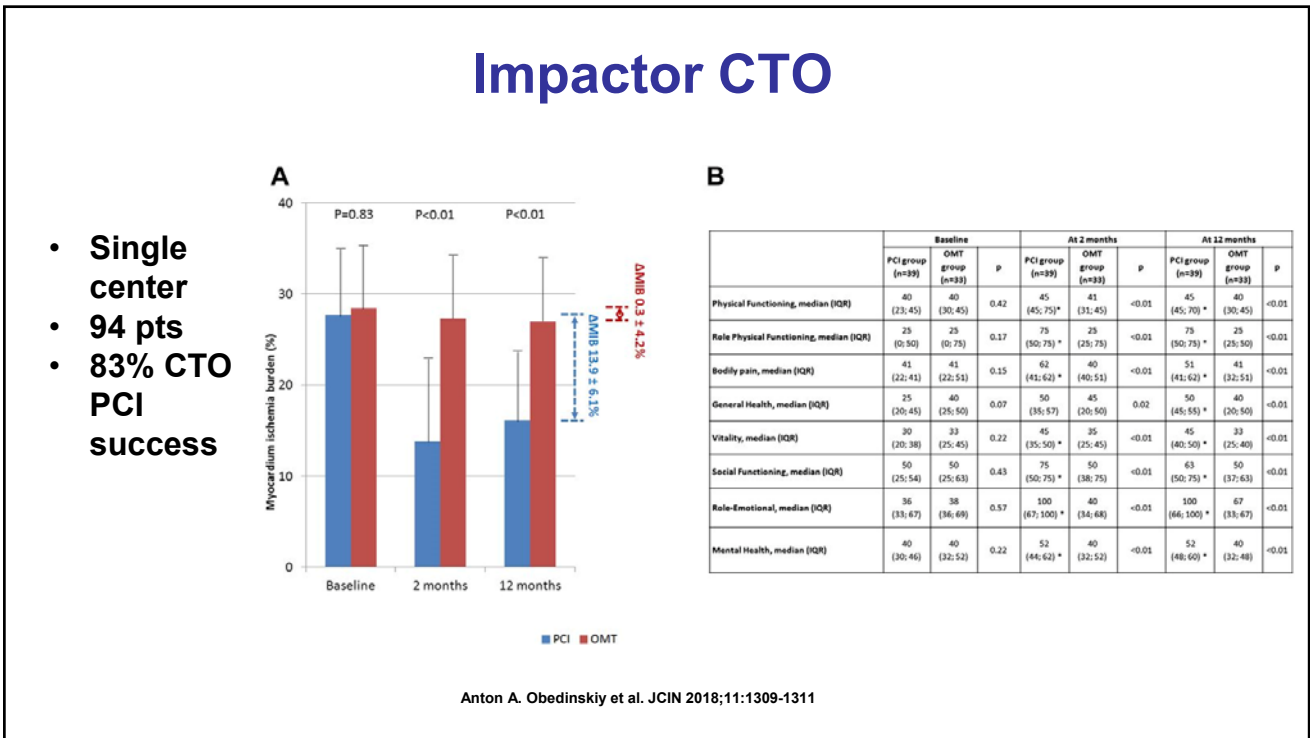
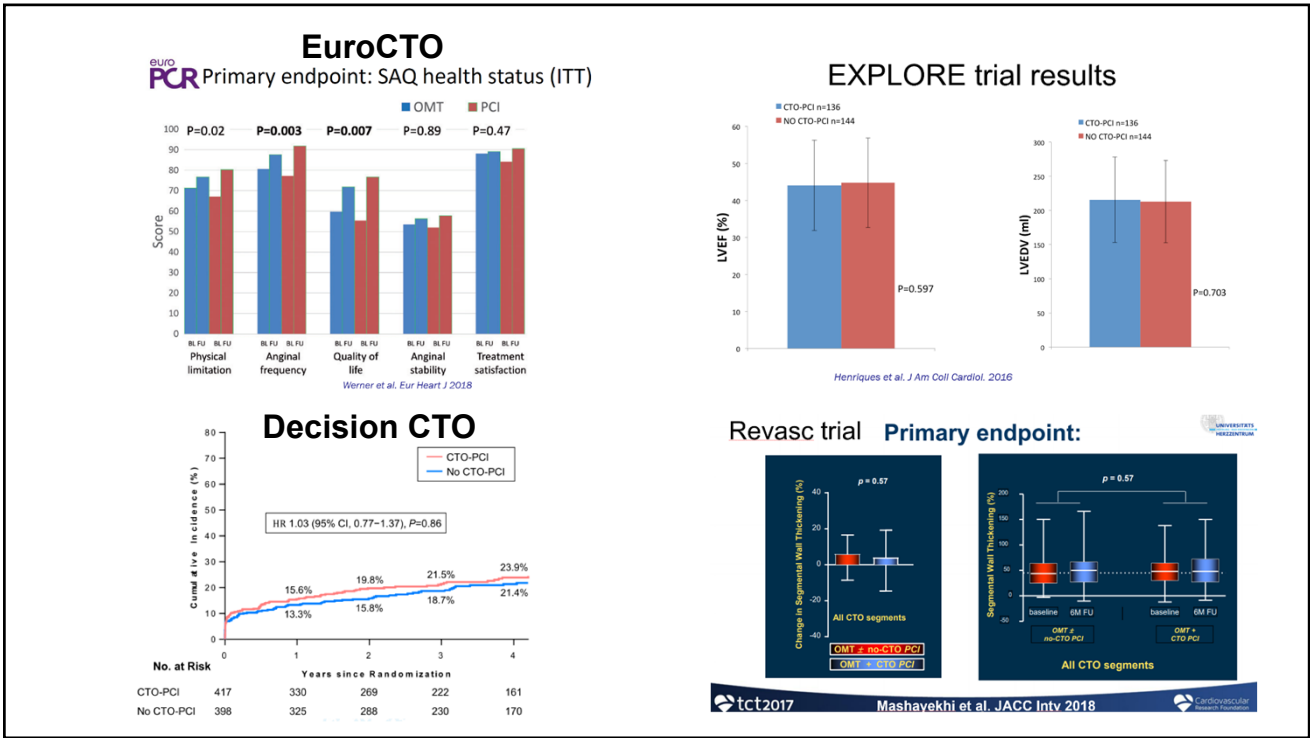
Update in the Percutaneous Management of Coronary Chronic Total Occlusions

Peter Tajiri, MD,<sup>1,2</sup> M. Nicholas Burke, MD,<sup>3</sup> Dimitri Kampalotis, MD, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Khaldoun Alswad, MD,<sup>2</sup> Gerald S. Werner, MD,<sup>4</sup> Lorenzo Azzalini, MD, PhD,<sup>5</sup> Mauro Carino, MD,<sup>6</sup> Mitul Patel, MD,<sup>6</sup> Kambis Mashayekhi, MD,<sup>6</sup> Mohaned Egred, MD,<sup>6</sup> Oleg Krestyaninov, MD,<sup>6</sup> Dmitrii Khelinskii, MD,<sup>6</sup> William J. Nicholson, MD,<sup>6</sup> Imre Ungi, MD, PhD,<sup>6</sup> Alfredo R. Galassi, MD,<sup>6</sup> Subhash Banerjee, MD,<sup>10</sup> Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD<sup>10</sup>

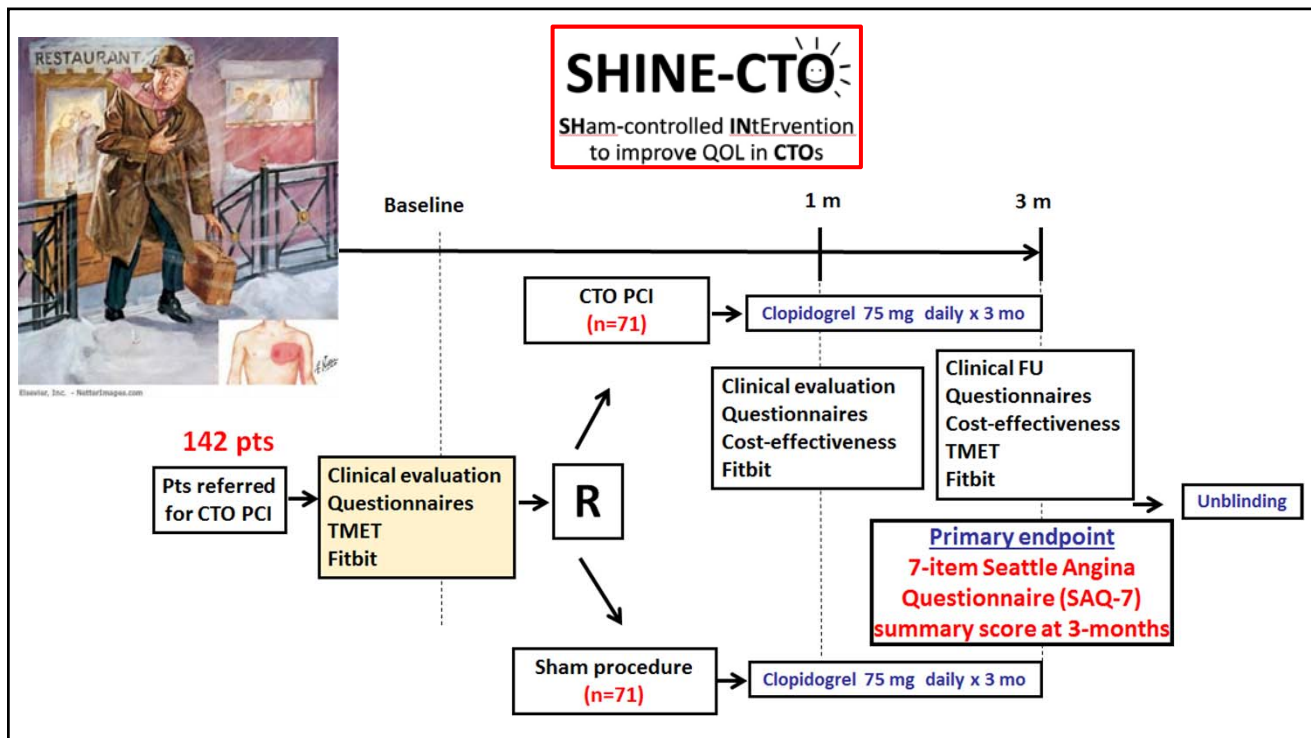
ABSTRACT

Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) for chronic total occlusions (CTOs) has been rapidly evolving during recent years. With improvement in equipment and techniques, high success rates can be achieved at experienced centers, although overall success rates remain low. Prospective, randomized-controlled data regarding optimal use and indications for CTO PCI remain limited. CTO PCI should be performed when the anticipated benefit exceeds the potential risk. New high-quality studies of the clinical outcomes and techniques of CTO PCI are needed, as is the expansion of expert centers and operators that can achieve excellent clinical outcomes in this challenging patient and lesion subgroup. In the current review the authors summarize the latest publications in CTO PCI and provide an overview of the current state of the field. (J Am Coll Cardiol Intv 2018;11:615-25) © 2018 The American College of Cardiology Foundation. Published by Elsevier. All rights reserved.







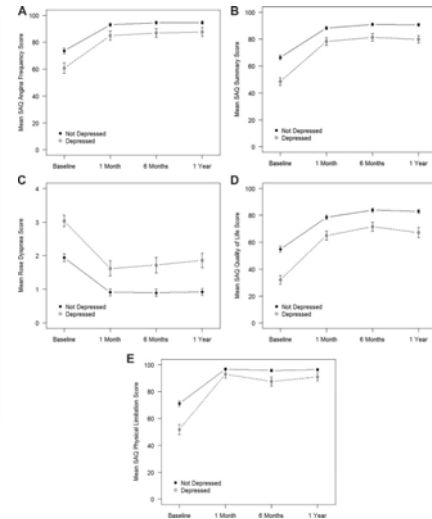
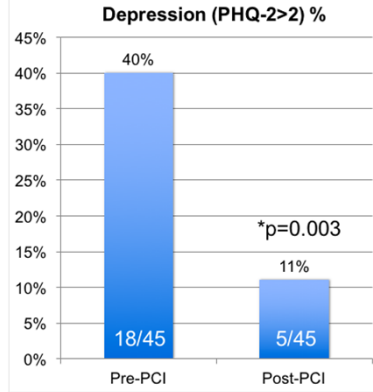
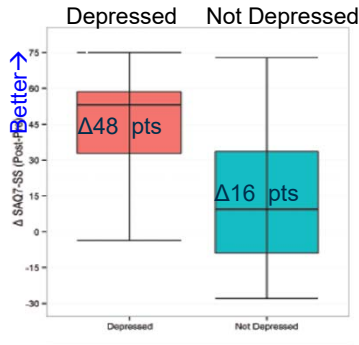


## 7 Global Principles for CTO PCI

1. **Principal indication: to improve symptoms**
2. **Dual angiography + careful angiographic review**
3. **Use of microcatheter for guidewire support**
4. **4 CTO crossing strategies: AWE, ADR, RWE, RDR**
5. **Change increases likelihood of success**
6. **CTO PCI should be done at experienced-well equipped centers**
7. **Stent deployment should be optimized**

101 operators - 50 countries – Circulation 2019; in press

## Effects of CTO PCI on QoL in Depressed and Non-Depressed Patients

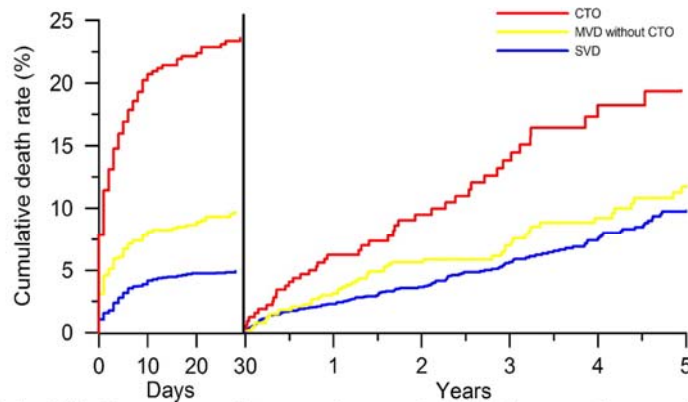


- Following CTO PCI, depressed patients experienced ~3x the angina benefit as not depressed patients
- CTO PCI patients have 3-fold less depression at 1 month

Bruckel et al, J Invasive Cardiol 2016

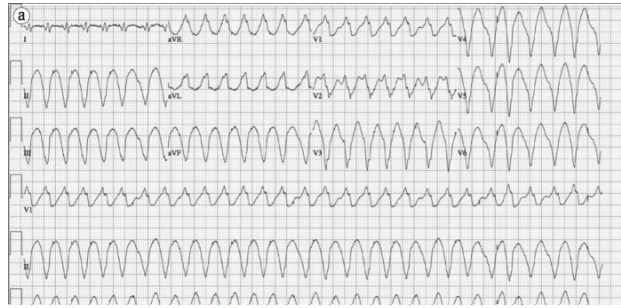
Robert W. Yeh et al. JGIN 2019; j.jcin.2018.12.029

## Impact of CTO on outcomes post STEMI



Number at Risk	0	30	1	2	3	4	5
SVD	2114	2010	1852	1361	1010	665	436
MVD no CTO	741	669	617	419	320	240	184
CTO	420	320	285	196	138	89	61

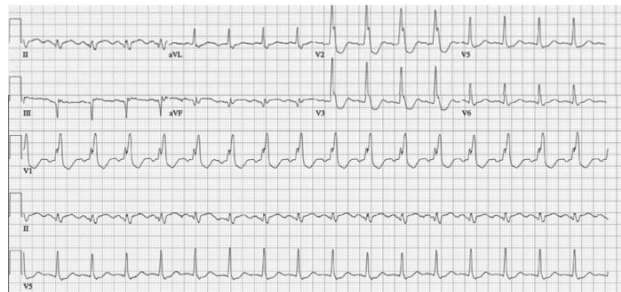
Claessen, B. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol Intv 2009;2:1128-1134



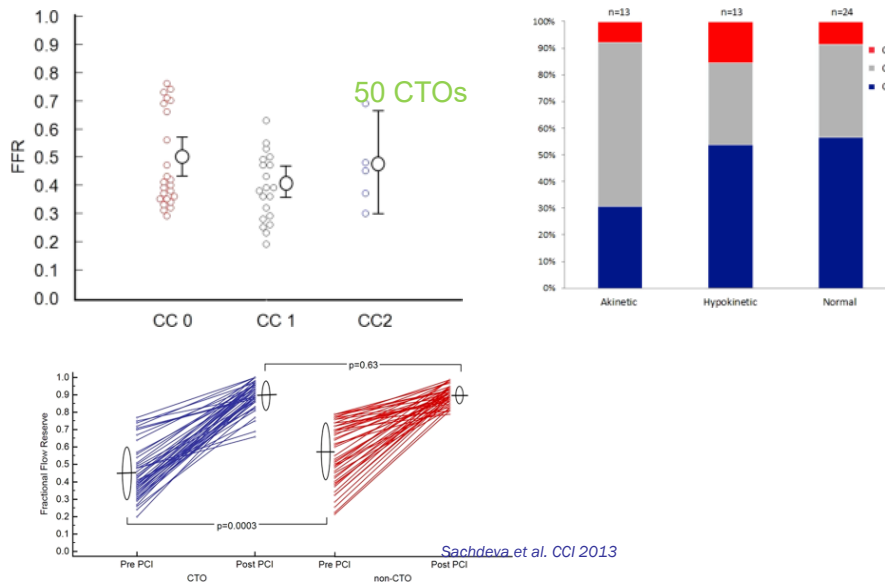
## Ventricular tachycardic storm with a chronic total coronary artery occlusion treated with percutaneous coronary intervention

Timothy A. Mixon, MD

Proc (Bayl Univ Med Cent)  
2015;28(2):196–199



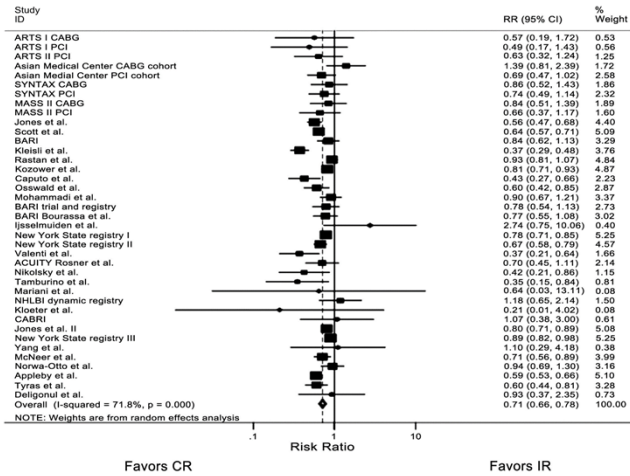
## The myocardium supplied by a chronic total occlusion is a persistently ischemic zone





## Complete vs. incomplete revascularization

89,883 Patients



12,259 out of 89,883 (13%) died during follow up.

Mortality benefit in patients treated with CABG (RR 0.70; 95% CI:0.61-0.80, p<0.001) and PCI (RR 0.72, 95% CI:0.64-0.81, p<0.001).

Mortality benefit did not vary with definition of CR.

**RR = 0.71 [0.65-0.77], p<0.001 .**

Garcia S, Sandoval Y, Roukoz H, Adabag S, Canoniero M, Yannopoulos D, Brilakis ES. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2013;62:1421-1431

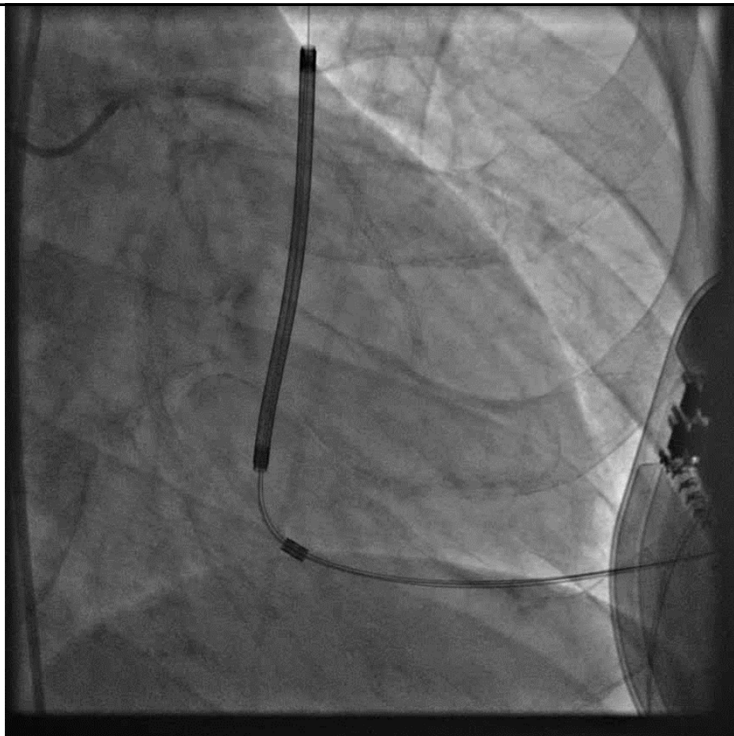
# Case 3

## History

- 61-year-old man with NSTEMI
- History of DM, HTN, dyslipidemia, PVD
- 3-vessel disease - turned down for CABG
- s/p LAD and Cx OM PCI (6 years prior)
- ICD implantation for secondary prevention (May, 2016)
- Echocardiography: severely depressed LV systolic function (EF: 24%), hypokinetic anterior septum, akinetic basal posterior, posterolateral and mid inferior segments

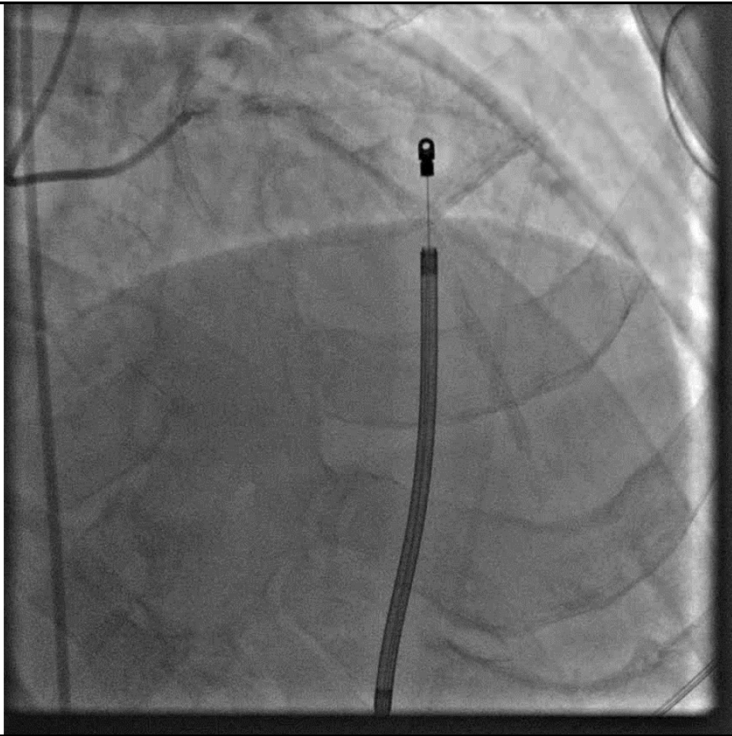
**Baseline**

**Cx CTO**

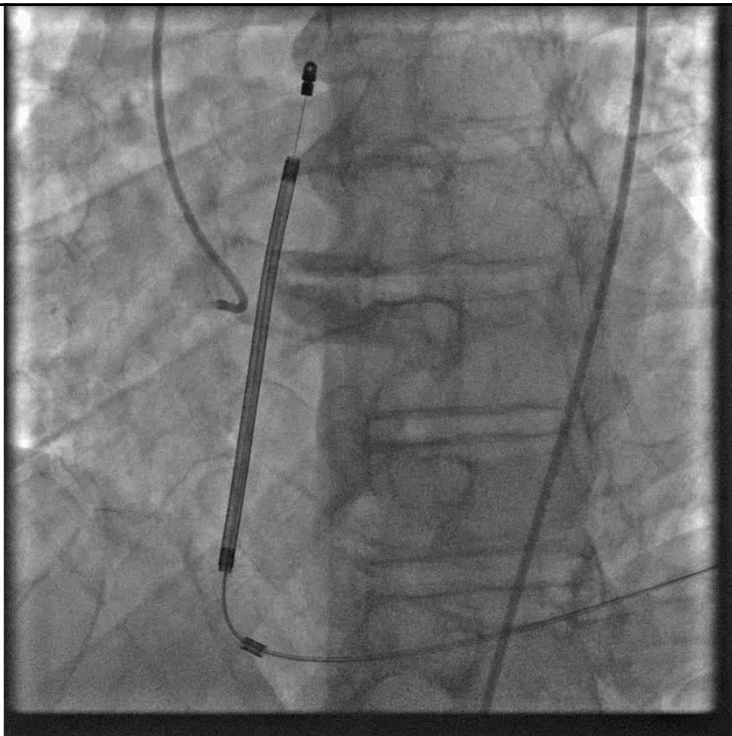


**Baseline**

**LM-LAD  
ISR**



**RCA**



## EXPLORE trial design

- **Patients**

Patients with STEMI treated with pPCI and with a non-infarct related CTO.

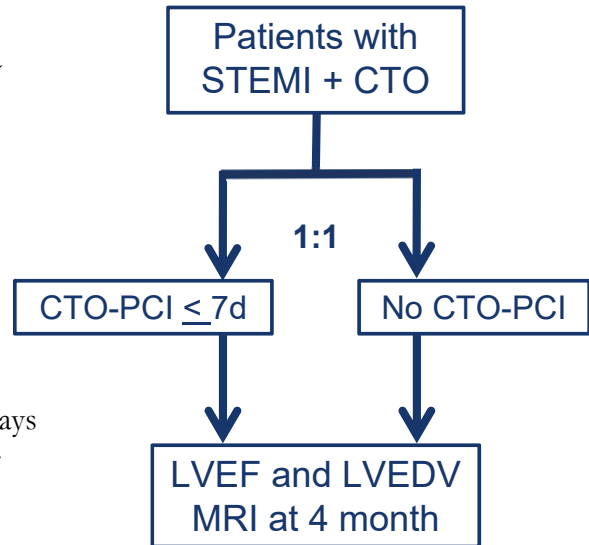
- **Design**

Global, multi-center, randomized, prospective two-arm trial with either CTO PCI or no CTO intervention after STEMI.

Blinded evaluation of endpoints.

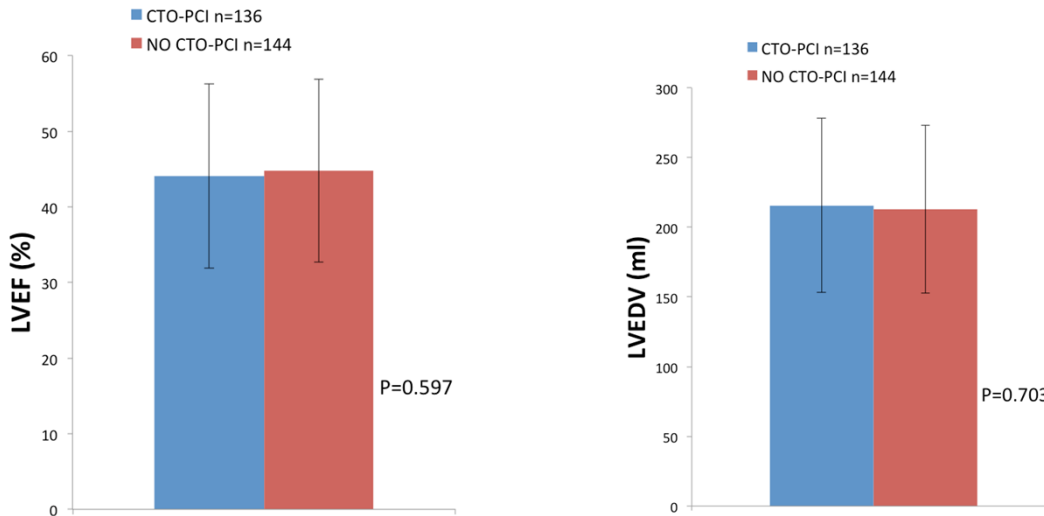
- **Objective**

To determine whether PCI of the CTO within 7 days after STEMI results in a higher LVEF and a lower LVEDV assessed by MRI at 4 months



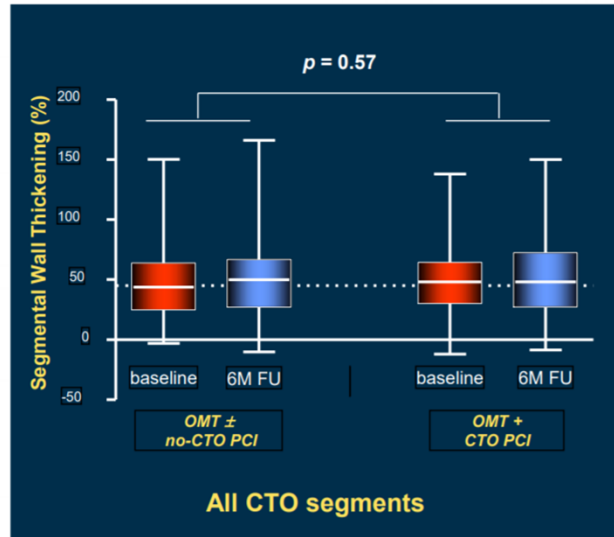
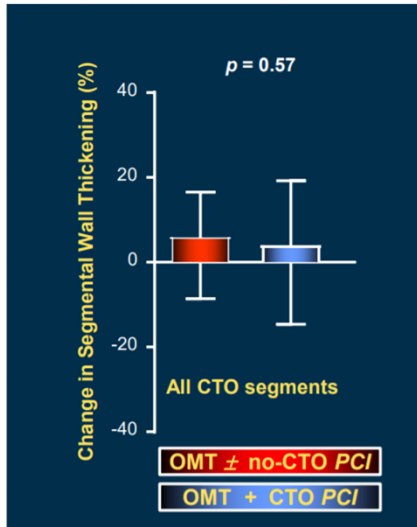
*Henriques et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016*

## EXPLORE trial results

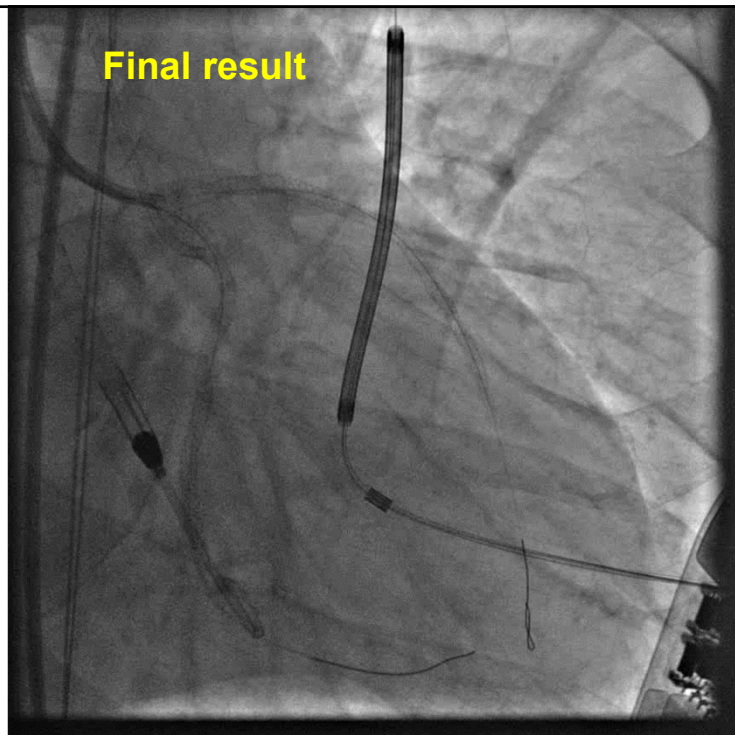


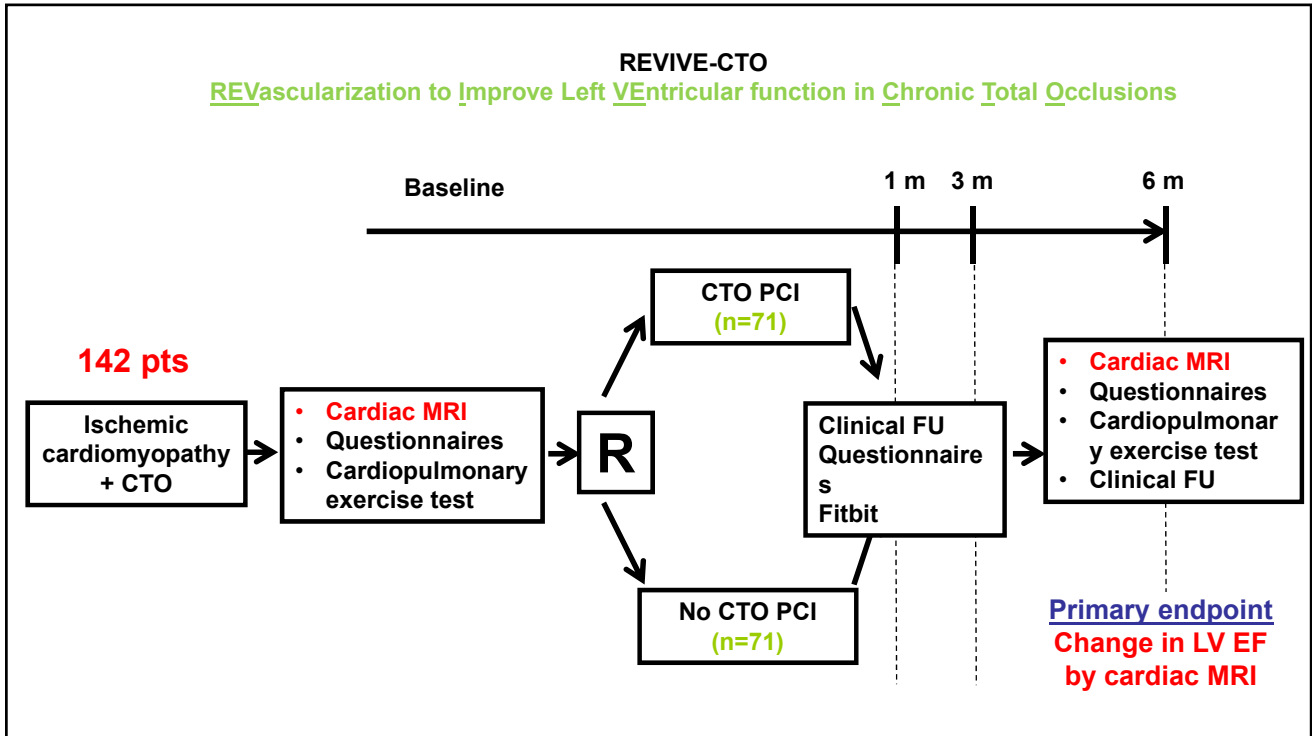
*Henriques et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016*

# Revasc trial Primary endpoint:



EF  
improved to  
45% 3  
months  
later

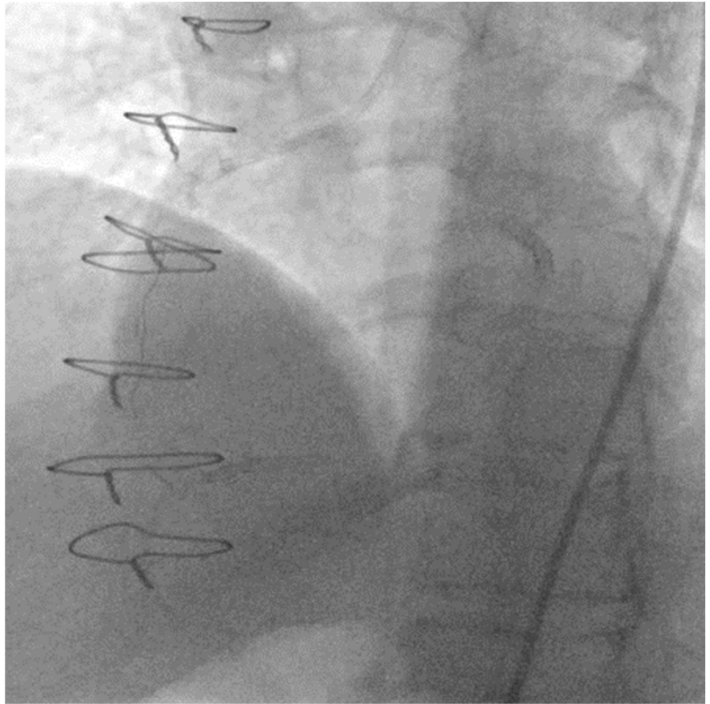




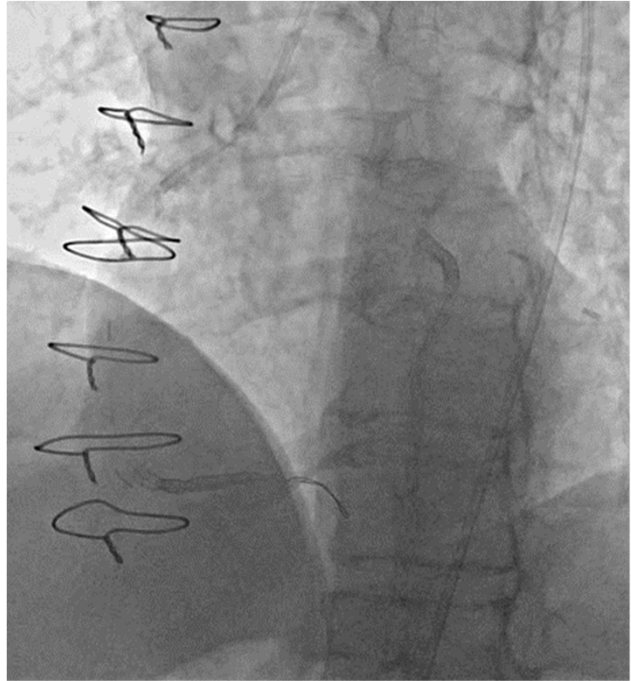
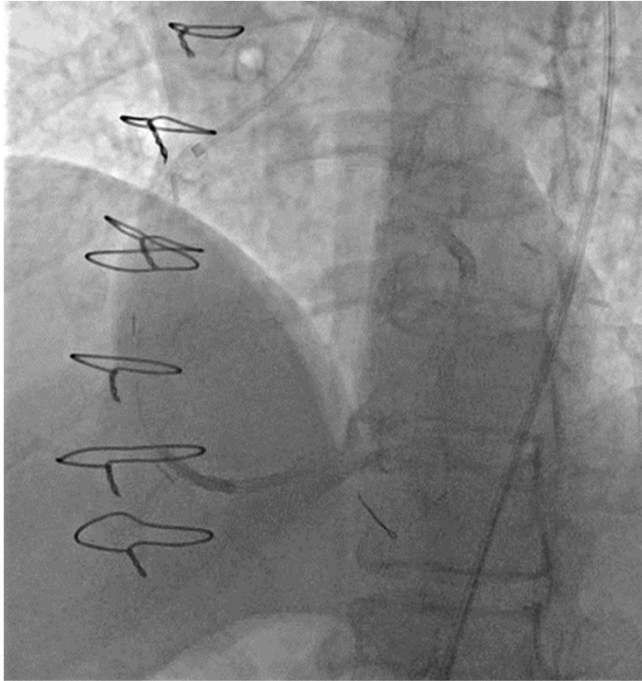
# Case 4

**81-year-old woman  
with non-NSTEMI**

**Occluded SVG-  
RCA**



**Stent under-expansion despite high pressure balloon inflations**

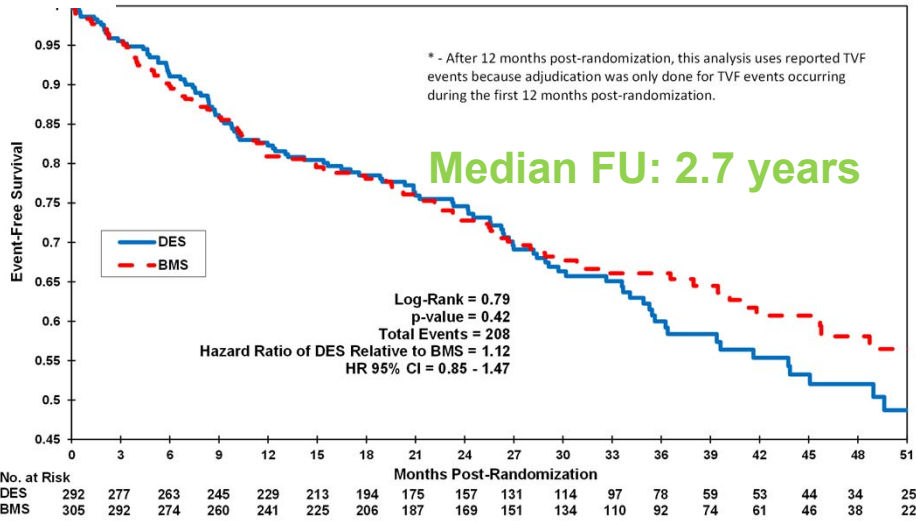




## SVGs have poor long-term outcomes



### Target vessel failure



Brilakis et al. Lancet 2018

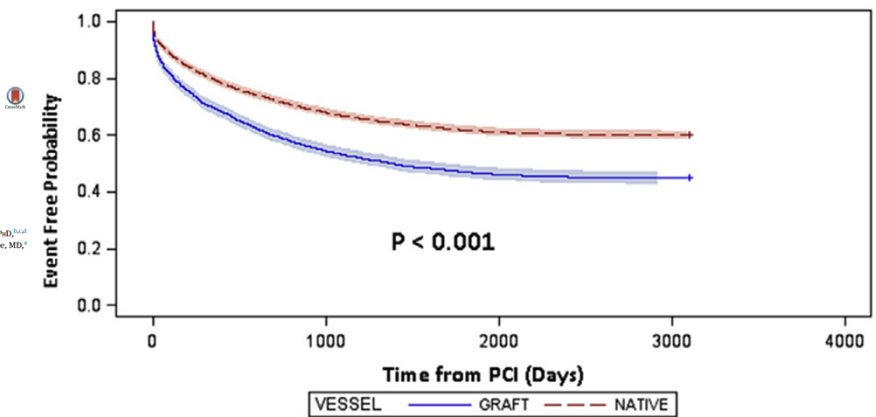
## Native coronary PCI better than SVG PCI

### E Death or MI or Revascularization

CLINICAL RESEARCH  
CORONARY

Percutaneous Coronary Intervention in Native Coronary Arteries Versus Bypass Grafts in Patients With Prior Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Surgery  
Insights From the Veterans Affairs Clinical Assessment, Reporting, and Tracking Program

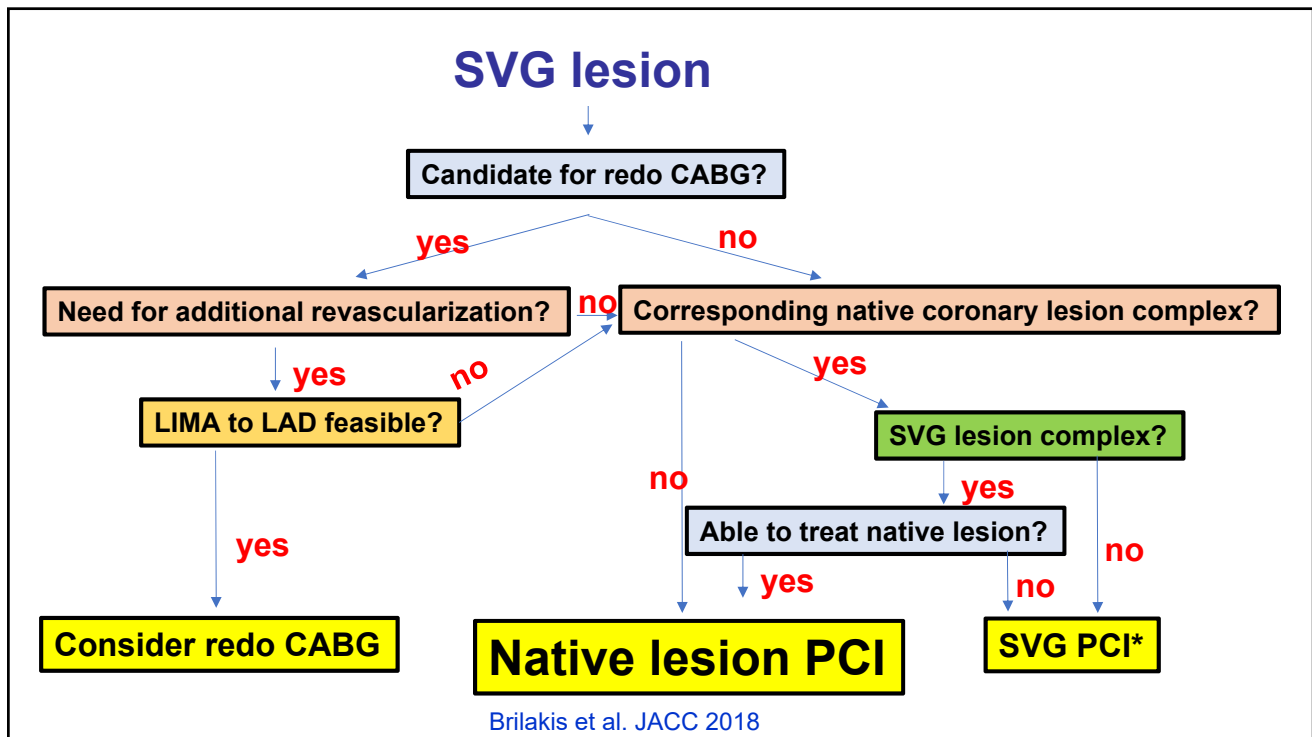
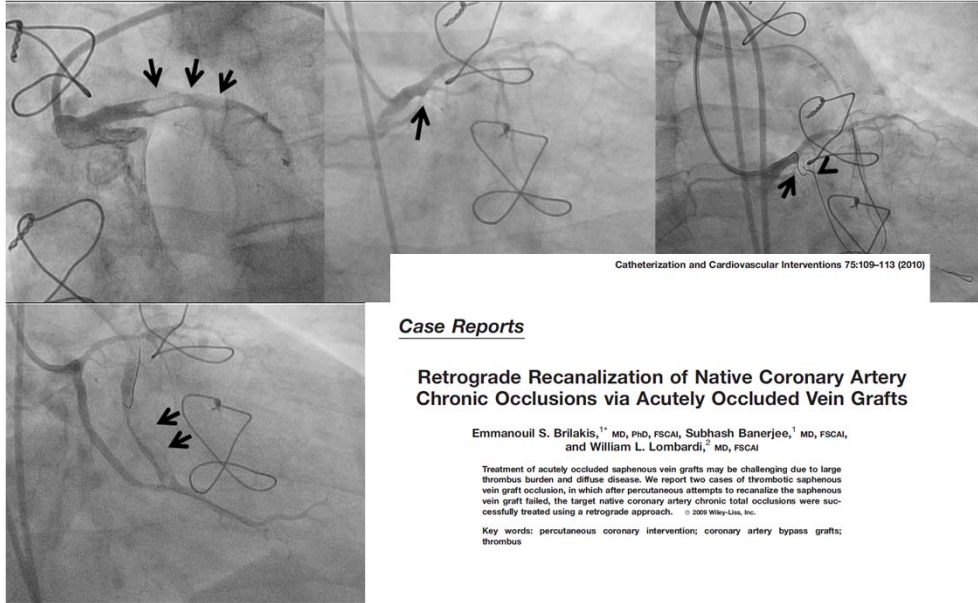
Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Colin L. O'Donnell, MS,<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> William Freray, MD,<sup>5</sup> Elin J. Armstrong, MD, PhD,<sup>1,4</sup> Thomas Tsai, MD, MS,<sup>1,6,7</sup> Thomas M. Maddou, MD, MS,<sup>1,8,9</sup> Mary E. Plomondon, PhD,<sup>1,10</sup> Subhash Banerjee, MD,<sup>1</sup> Sunil V. Rao, MD,<sup>1</sup> Santiago Garcia, MD,<sup>1</sup> Brahmajee Nallamothu, MD,<sup>1</sup> Kendrick A. Shunk, MD, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Kretton Mavromatis, MD,<sup>1</sup> Gary K. Grunwald, PhD,<sup>1,11</sup> Deepak L. Bhatt, MD, MPH<sup>1</sup>



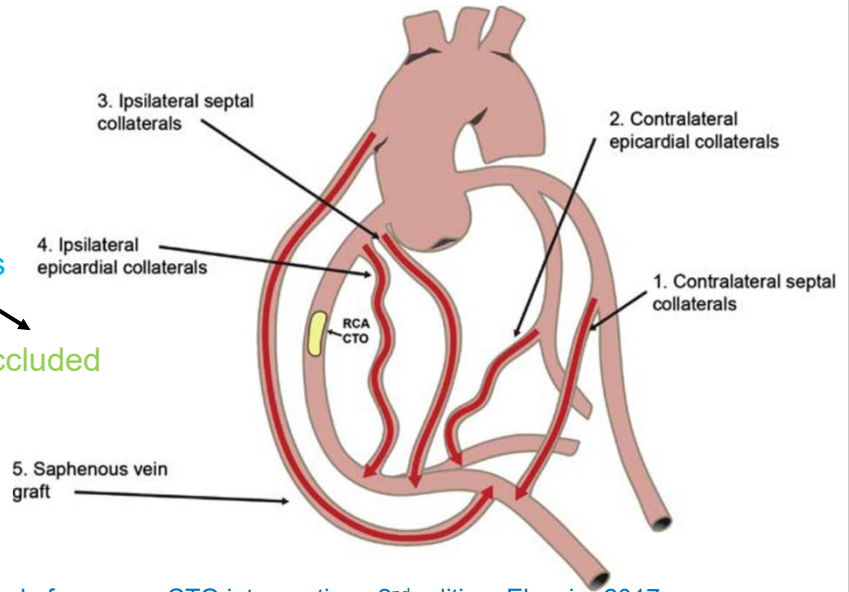
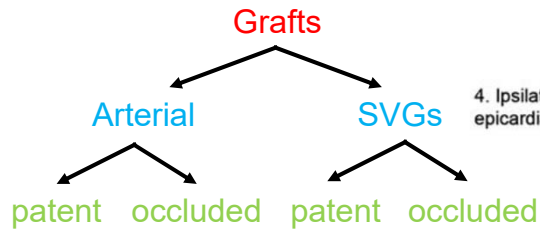
	0	1000	2000	3000	4000
GRAFT	3562	1939	1643	1596	0
NATIVE	7453	5067	4548	4473	0



## 2010: The “future”: treat native coronary instead of SVG?

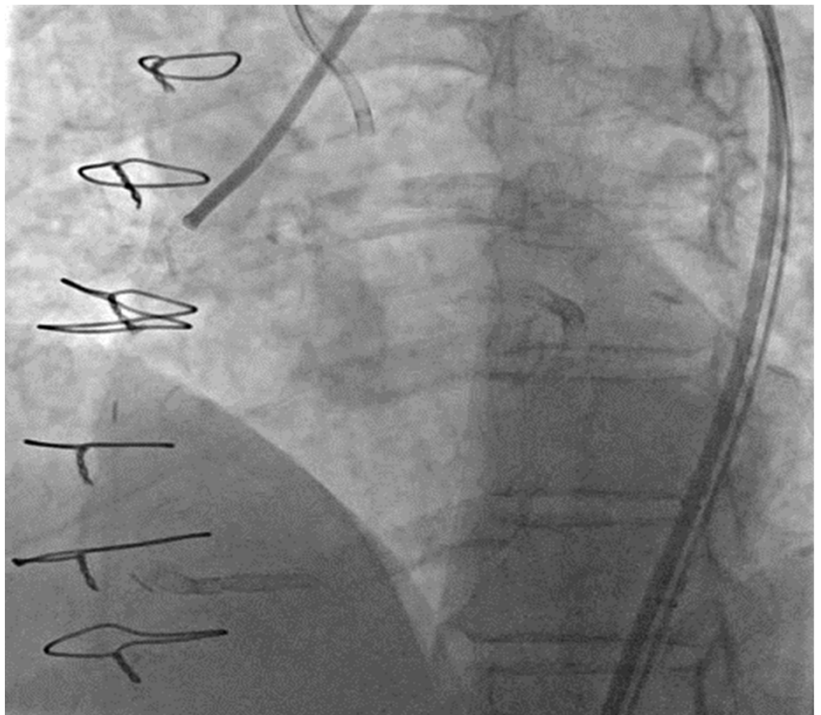


## Additional options = Grafts



Brilakis ES. Manual of coronary CTO interventions 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Elsevier 2017

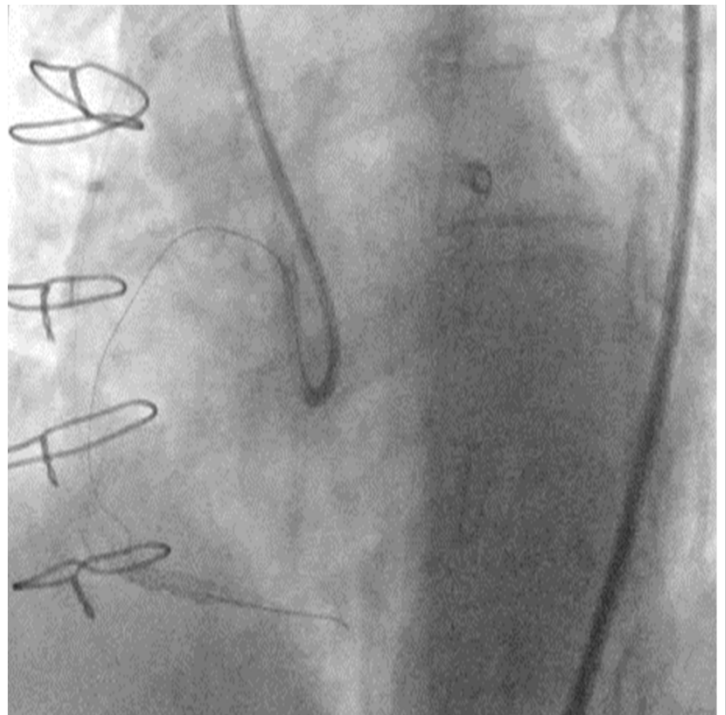
**3 weeks later**



## CT-angio

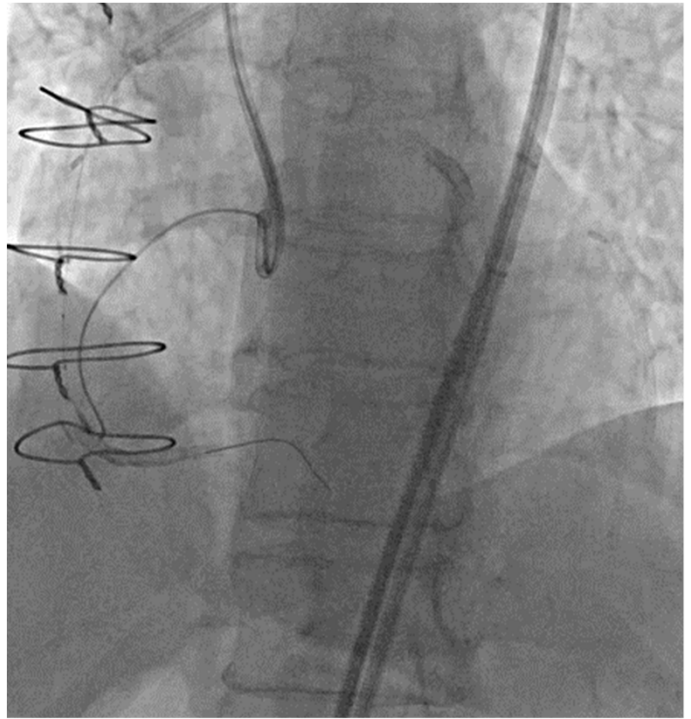


## Antegrade wire escalation

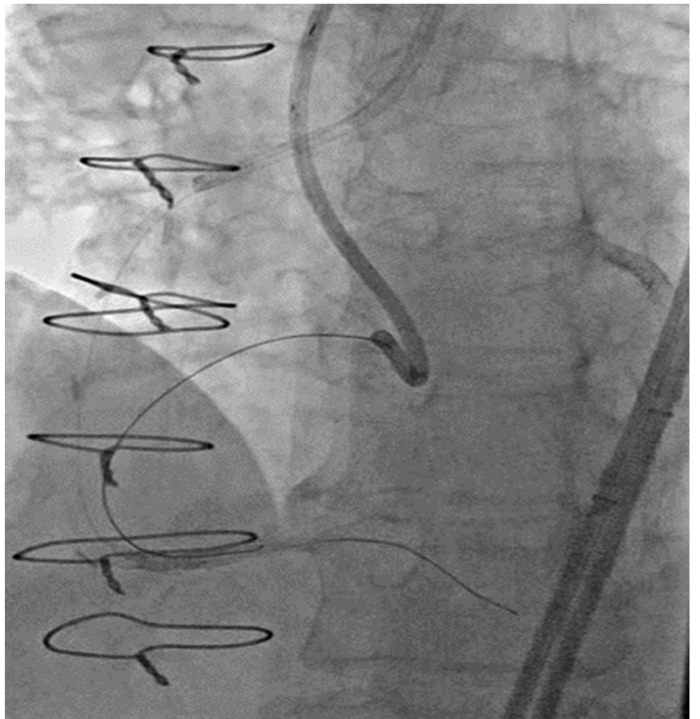


**Unable to cross through  
prior stent**

- **Hornet 14**
- **Pilot 200**
- **Gaia 2nd**
- **Gaia 3rd**

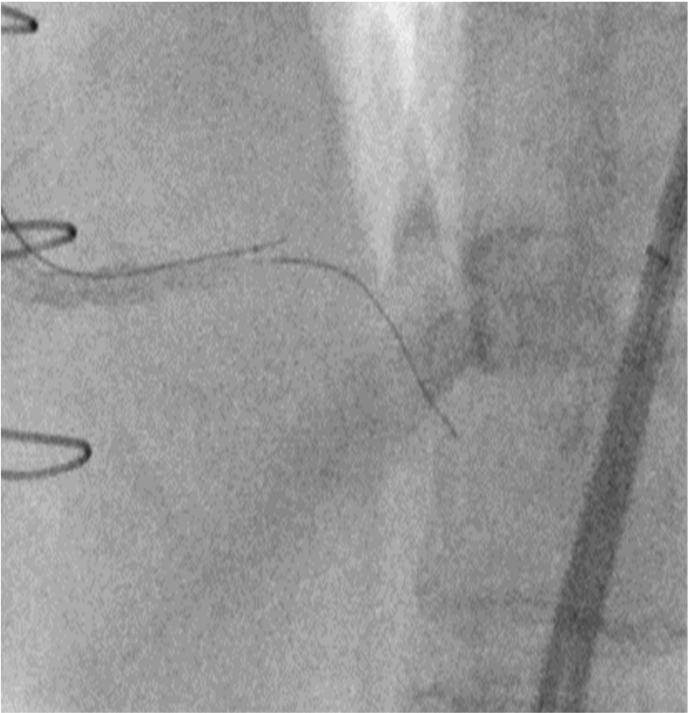


**Pilot 200 subintimal  
(sub-stent) followed by  
Corsair**



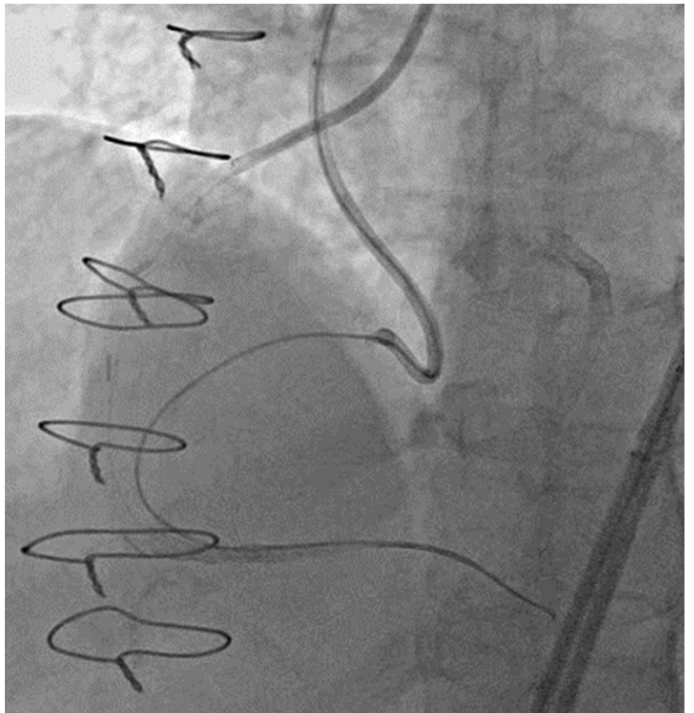


**Stingray wire**  
↓  
**re-enter distal true lumen**  
↓  
**exchanged for Pilot 200**  
**“Stick and swap”**



This panel contains a vertical sequence of text instructions on the left and a corresponding fluoroscopic image on the right. The text, in blue, describes the 'stick and swap' technique: starting with a 'Stingray wire', it is used to 're-enter distal true lumen', and is then 'exchanged for Pilot 200'. The image on the right shows a thin, dark wire (the Stingray) positioned within a vessel lumen, with a thicker, darker line representing the vessel wall or another wire.

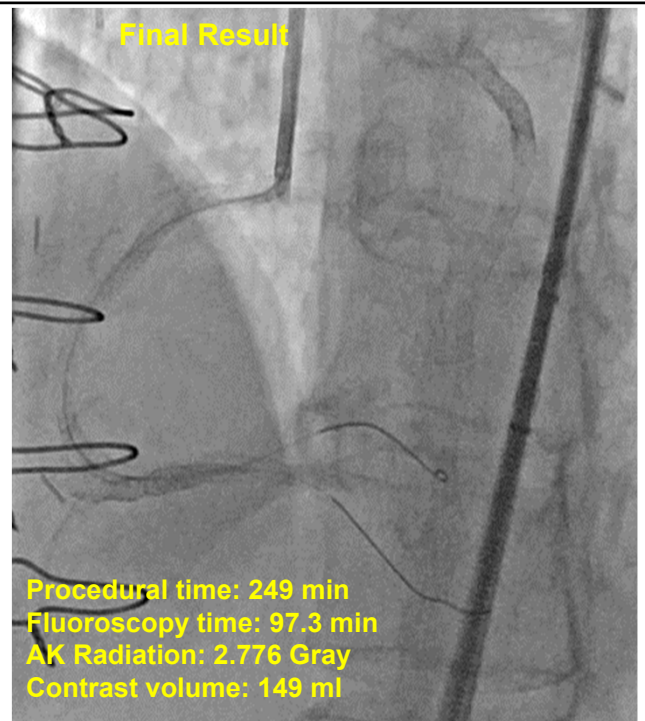
**Pilot 200 into true lumen**



This panel features the text 'Pilot 200 into true lumen' in blue on the left, and a fluoroscopic image on the right. The image shows a thicker wire (the Pilot 200) successfully positioned within the vessel lumen, demonstrating the result of the 'stick and swap' technique. The vessel lumen is clearly visible as a dark space, and the wire is a distinct, thicker line.

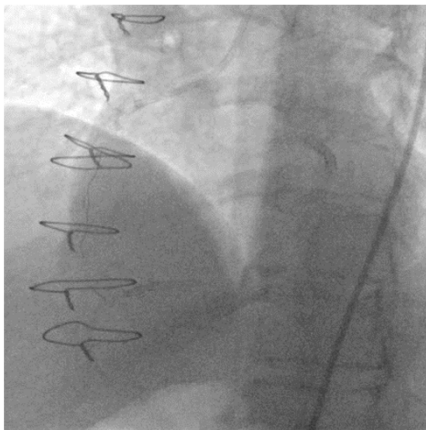
## Conclusions

- Native coronary artery PCI is preferred to SVG PCI (esp after SVG occlusion), if feasible
- Treating ISR CTOs: sub-stent crossing, re-entry, and crushing stents
- Balloon undilatable lesion: subintimal crossing can provide effective treatment

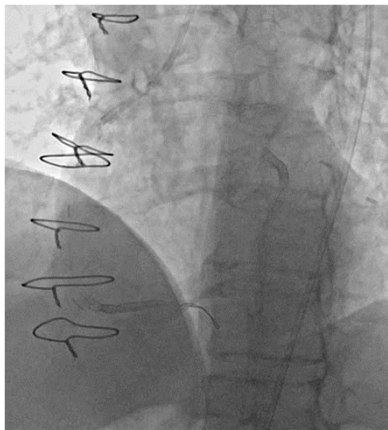


## “Staged SVG revascularization”

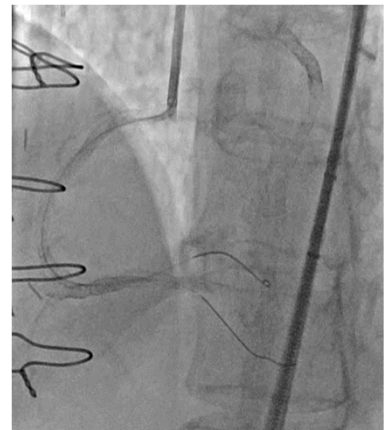
Acute SVG failure



Stage 1  
SVG PCI



Stage 2  
Native coronary PCI

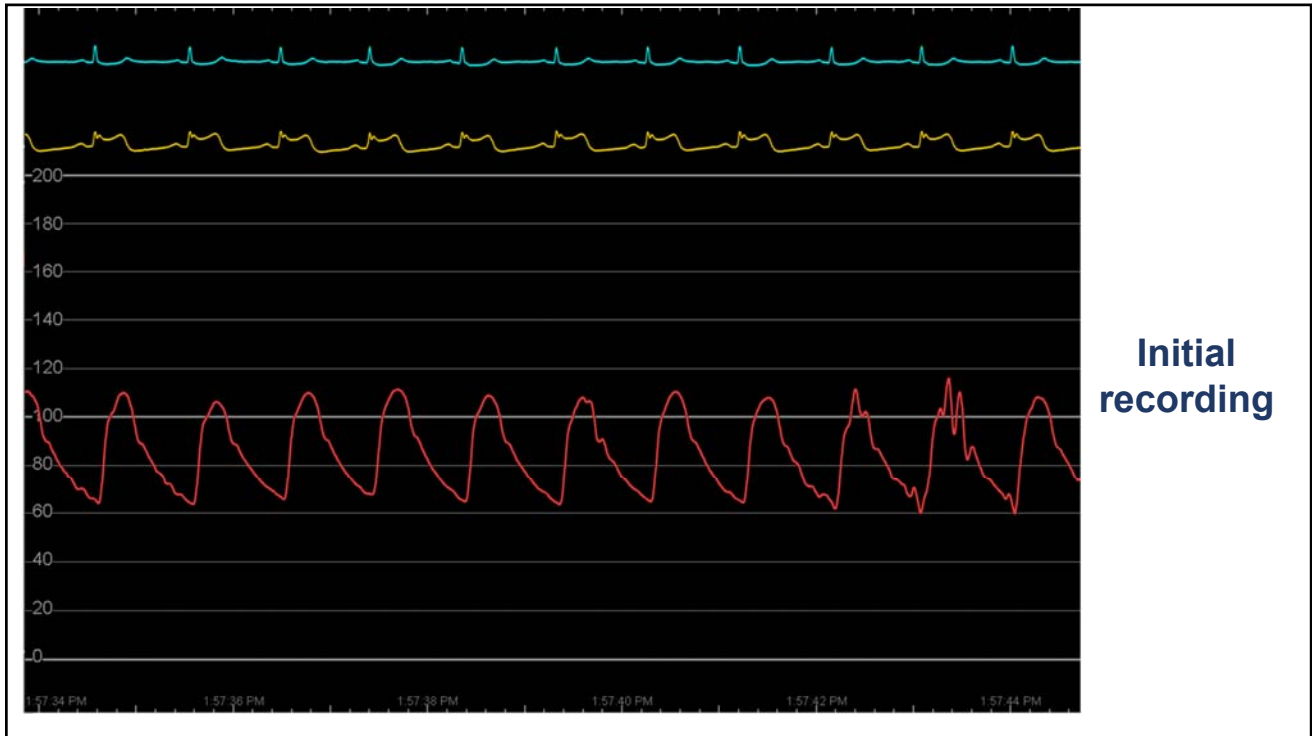


Xenogiannis I et al. Catheter Cardiovasc Interv 2018

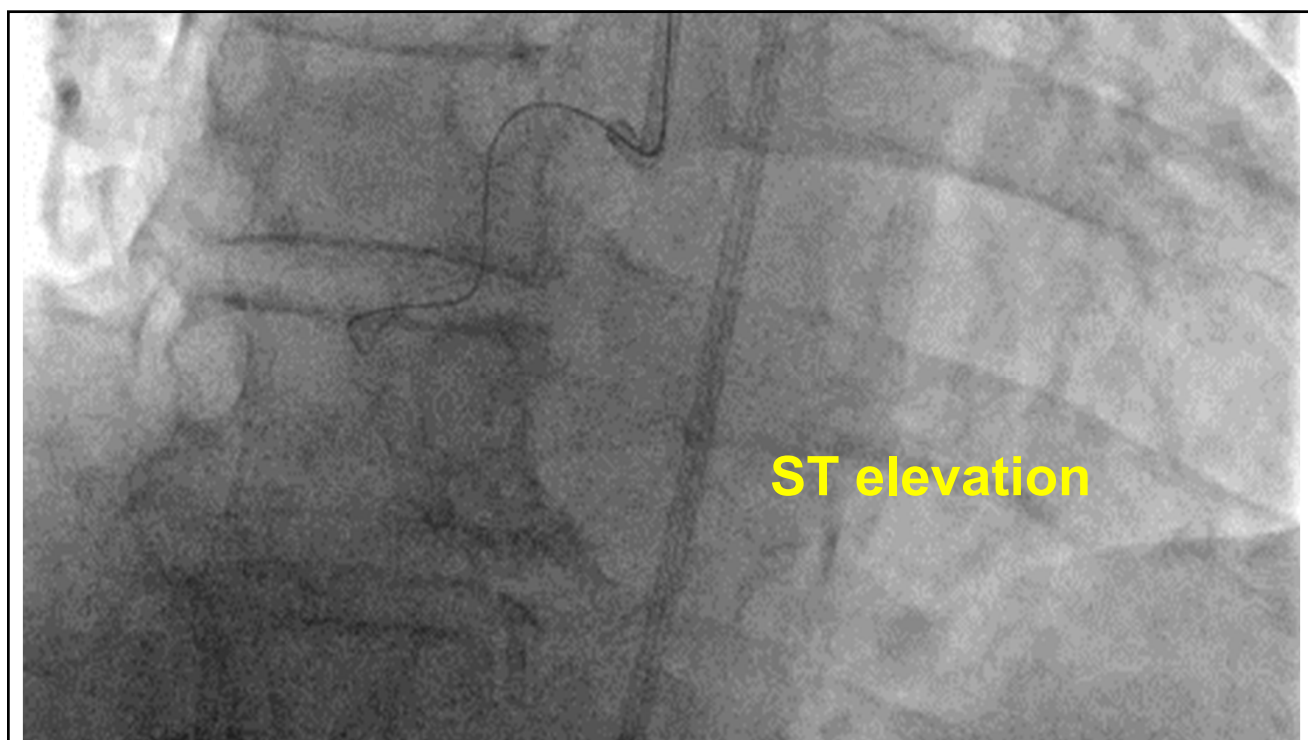
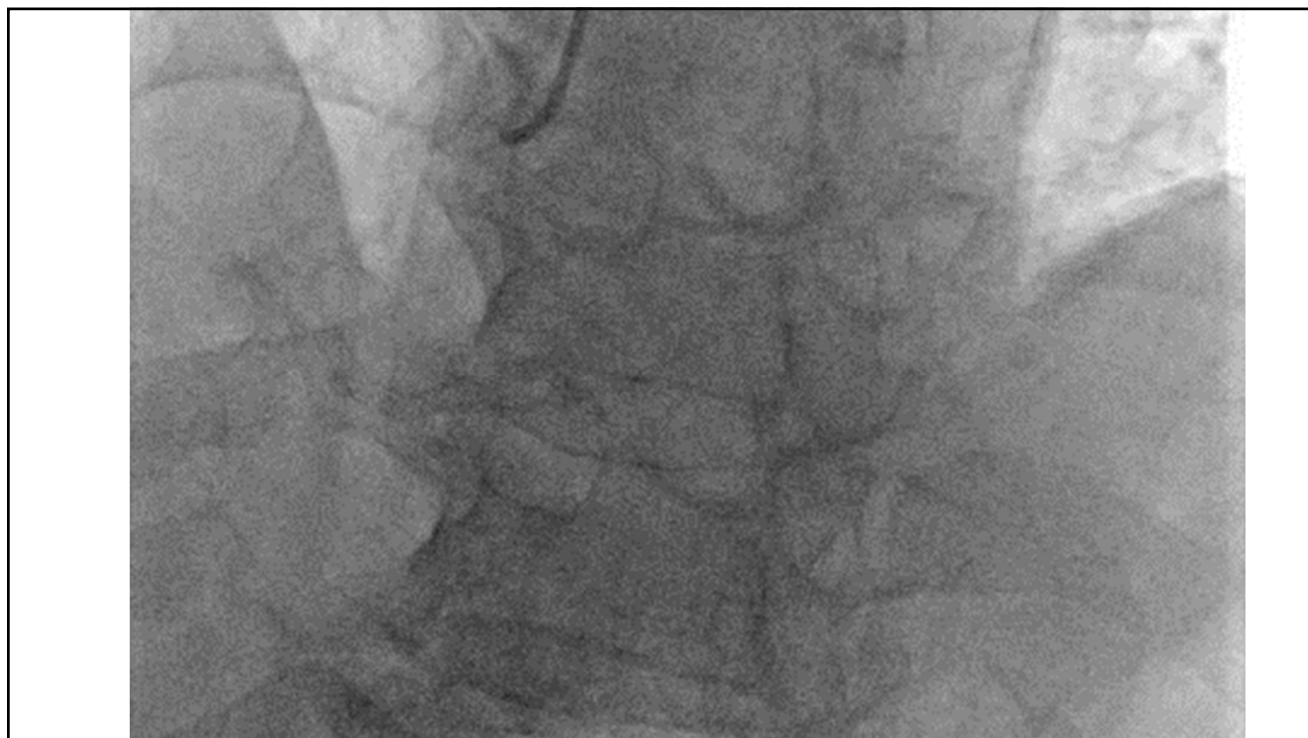
# Case 5

## History

- **70-year-old man presented to ED with acute substernal pain**
- **ECG: inferior STEMI**
- **CAD (PCI 20 years prior), DM type II, HTN, dyslipidemia**
- **Driven to cath lab for primary PCI**







**Change to right femoral access**



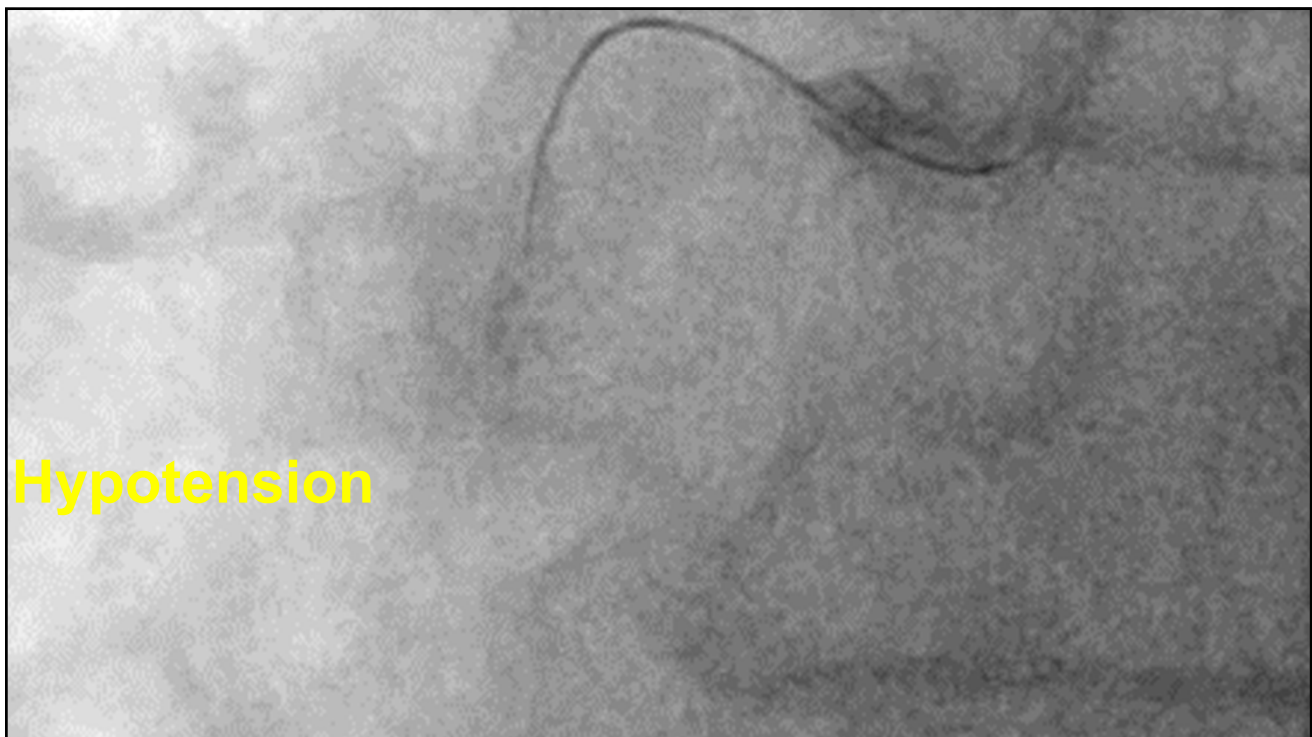
**Difficulty to pass external iliac due to aneurysm**



**Access was lost**

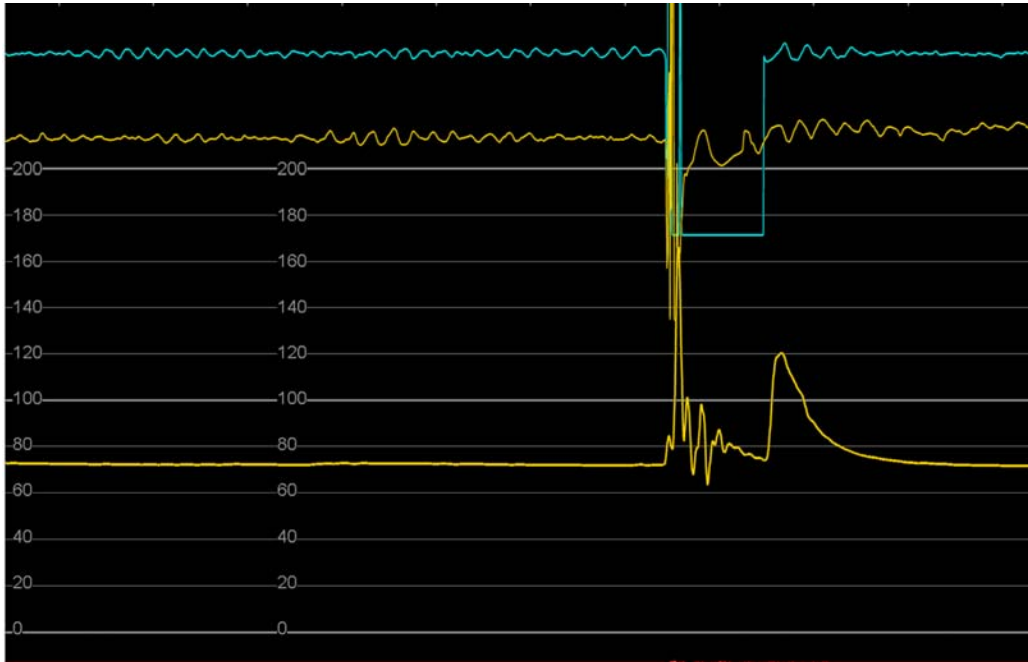
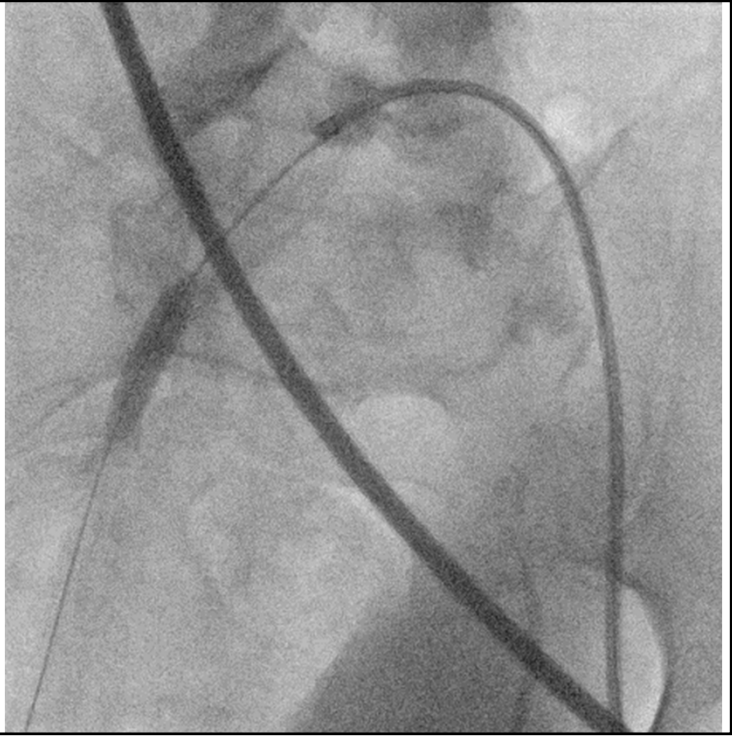


**Manual pressure over RFA, access through LFA**

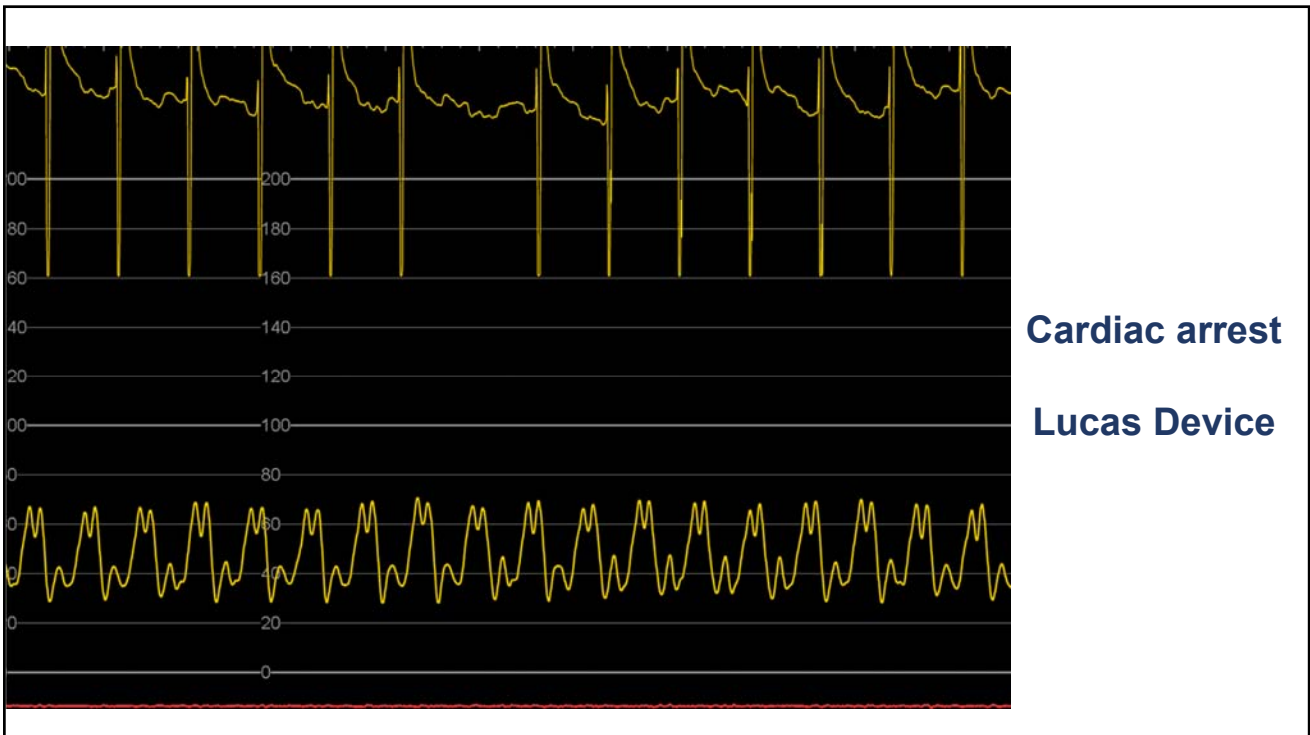
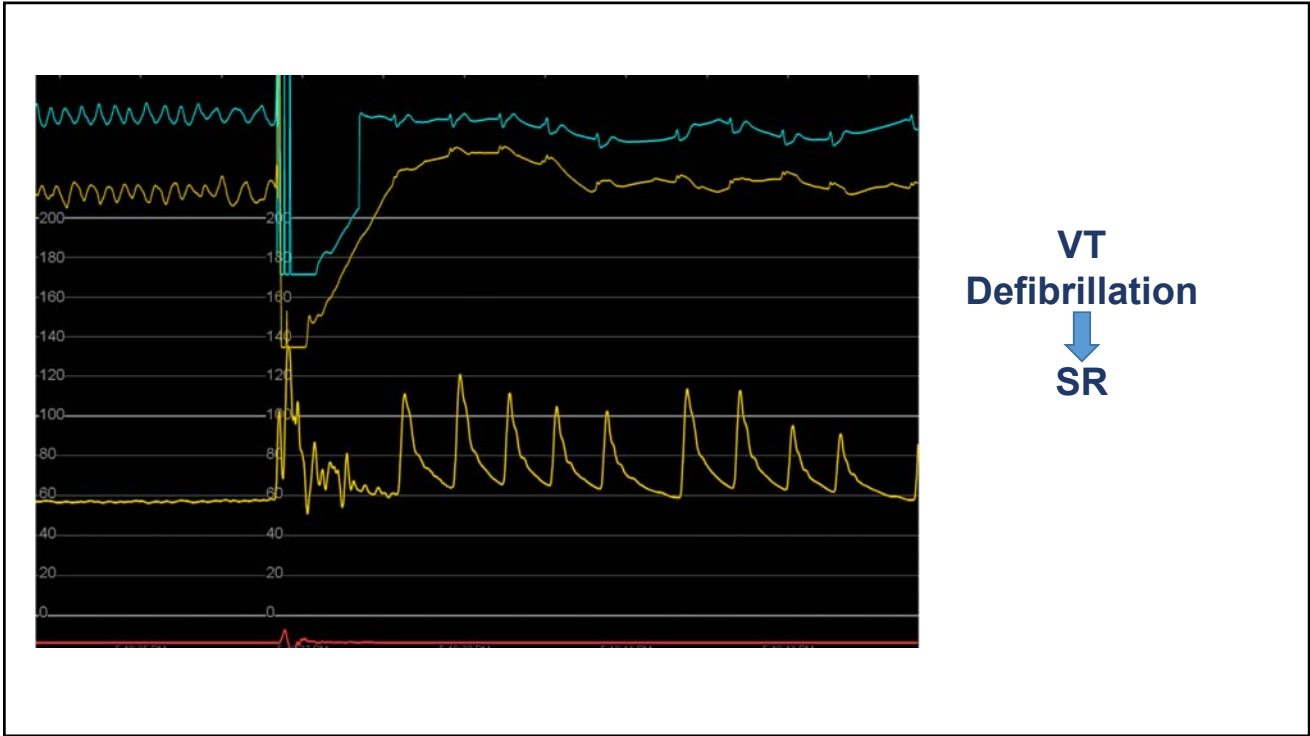


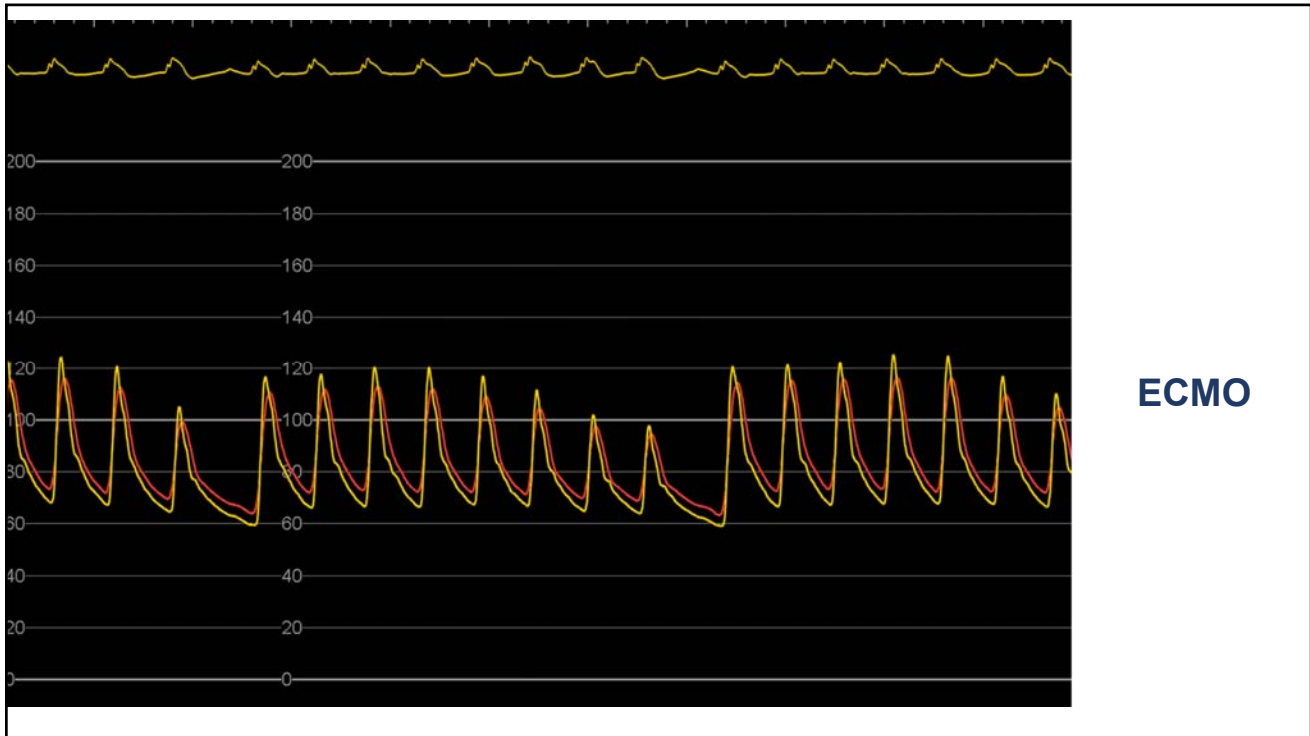


**8x20 mm balloon**



**VF**  
**Defibrillation**  
↓  
**VF**





**IV fluids, noradrenaline, adrenaline and RBC transfusion**



**Vascular surgeons were notified**

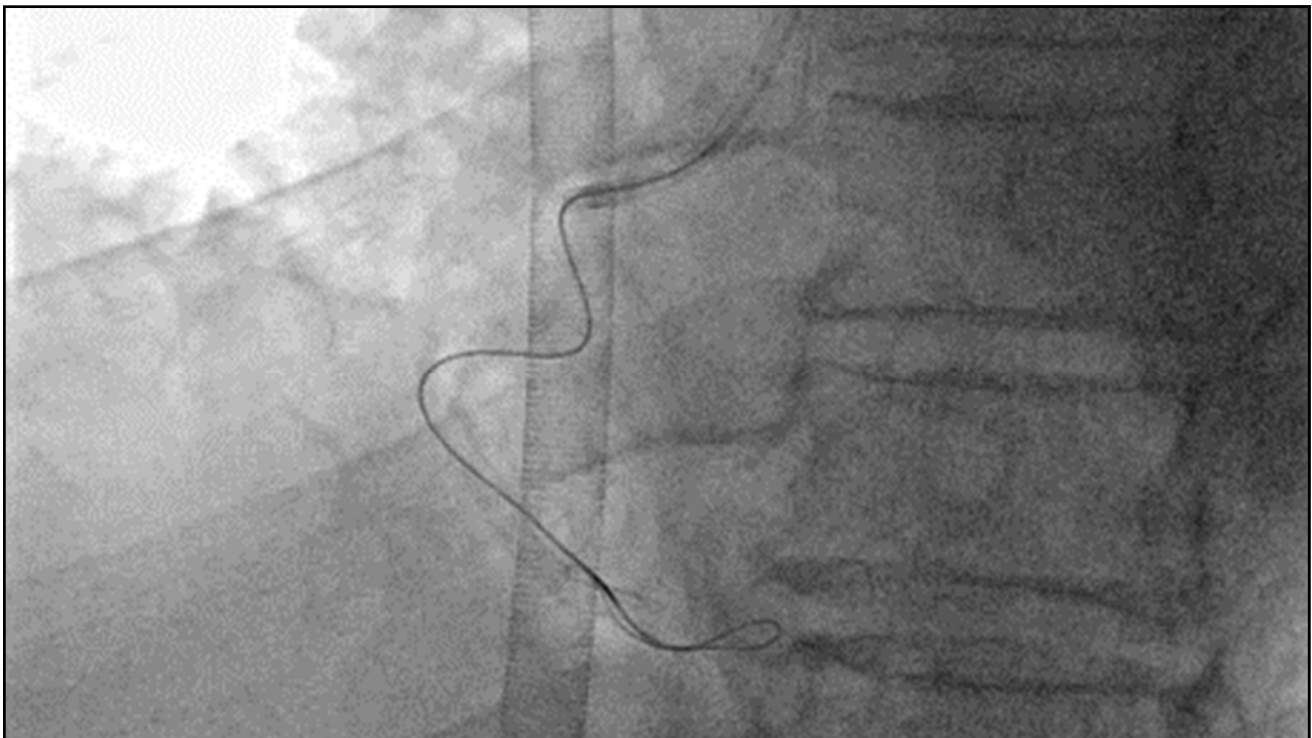
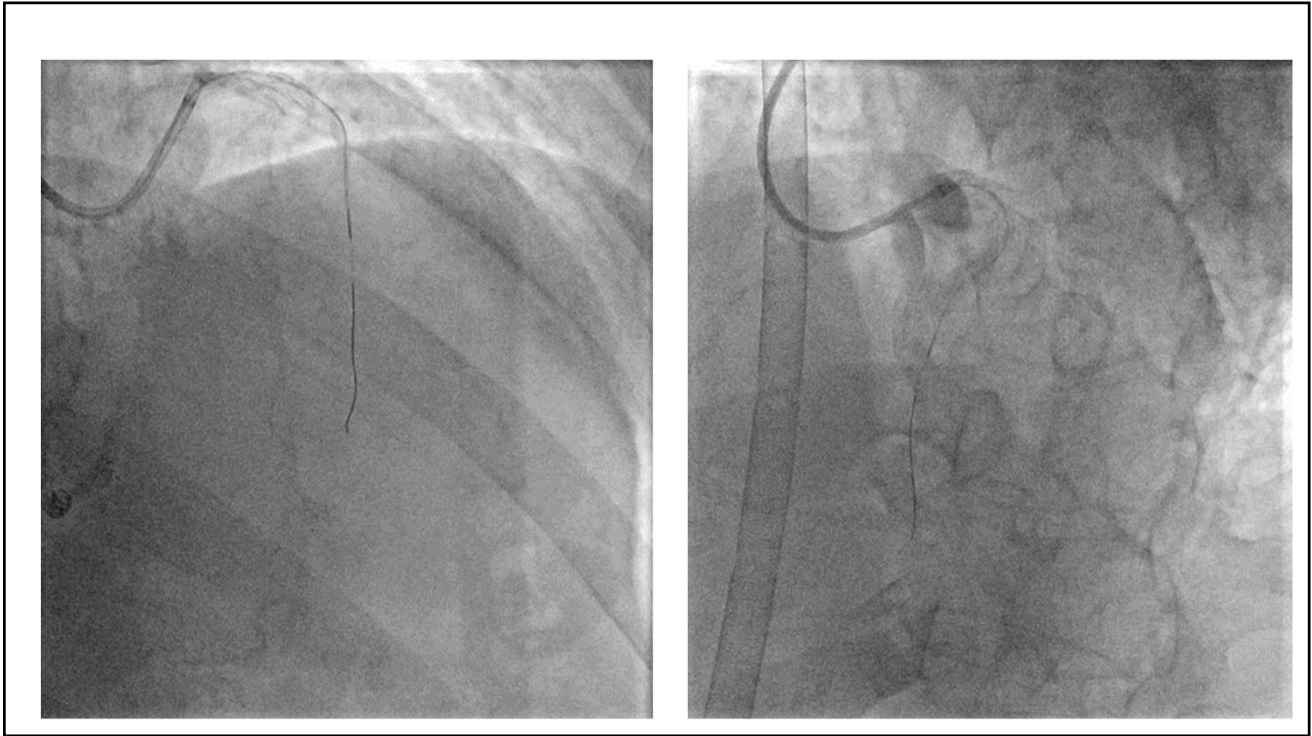


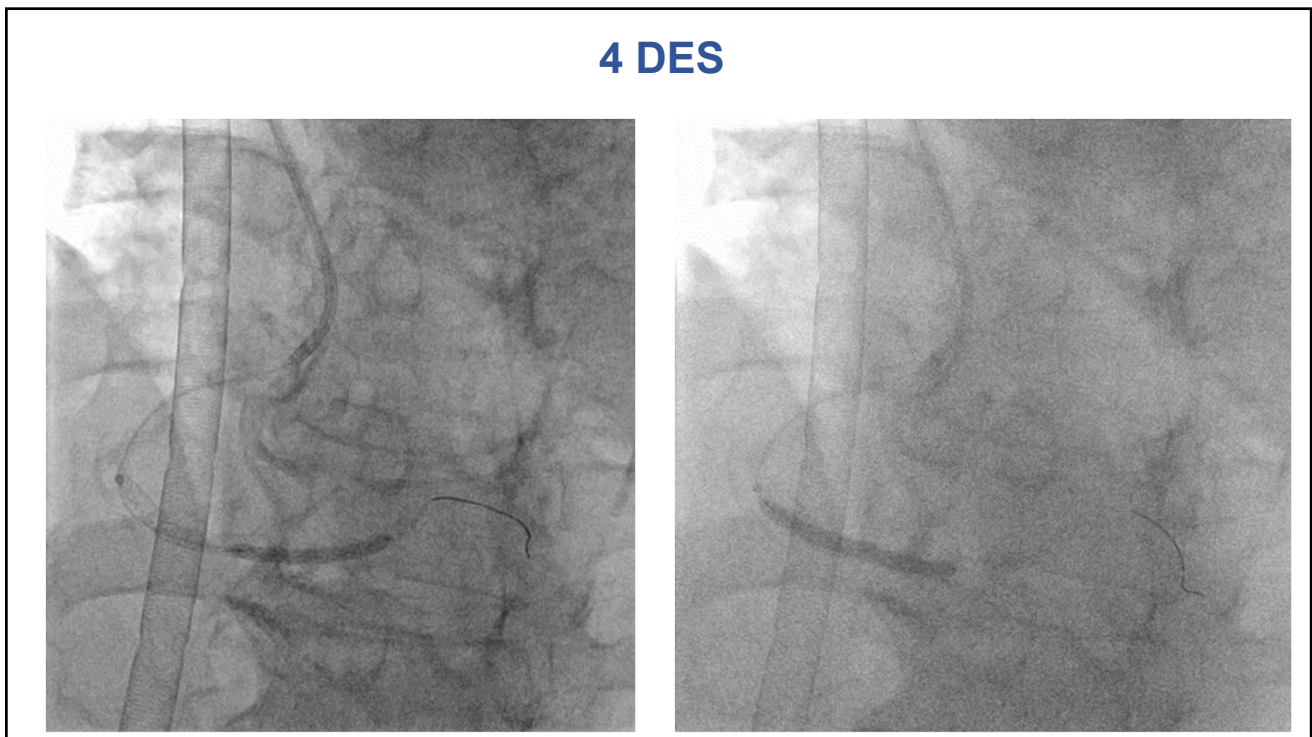
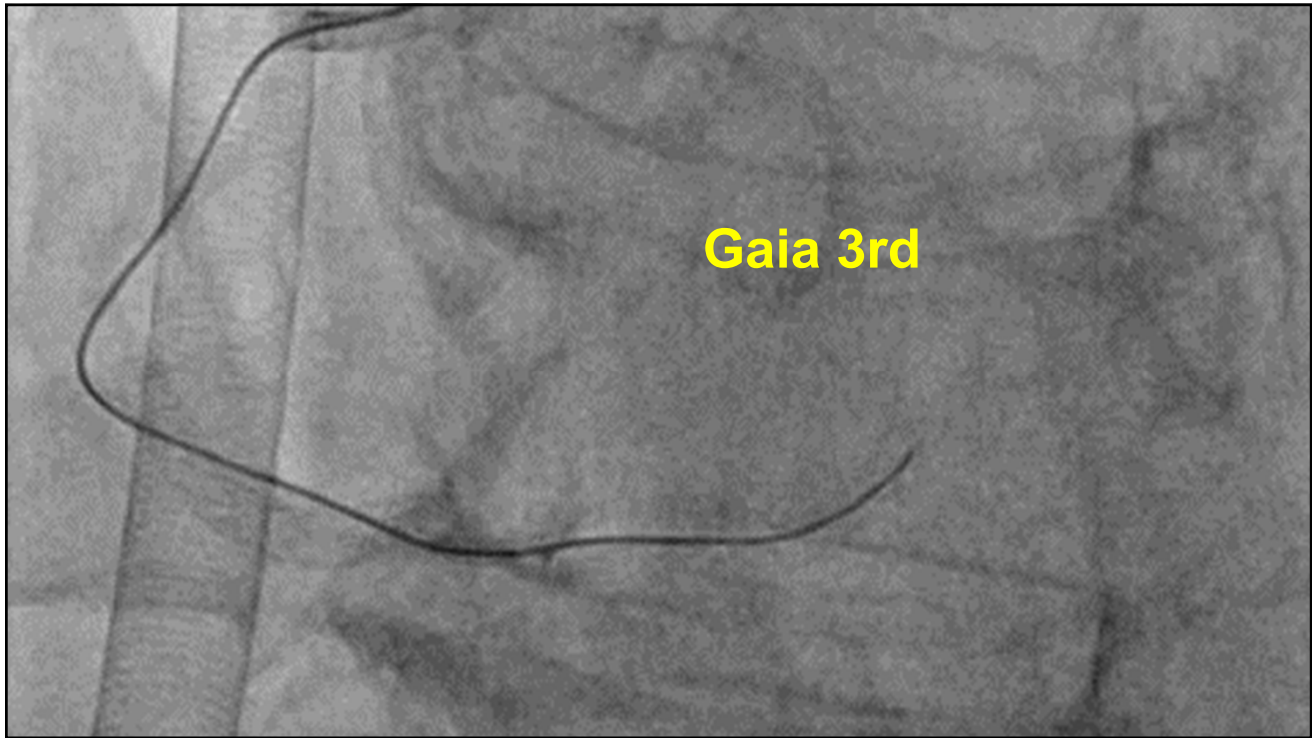
**Suddenly the patient collapsed => Cardiac arrest (VF)**



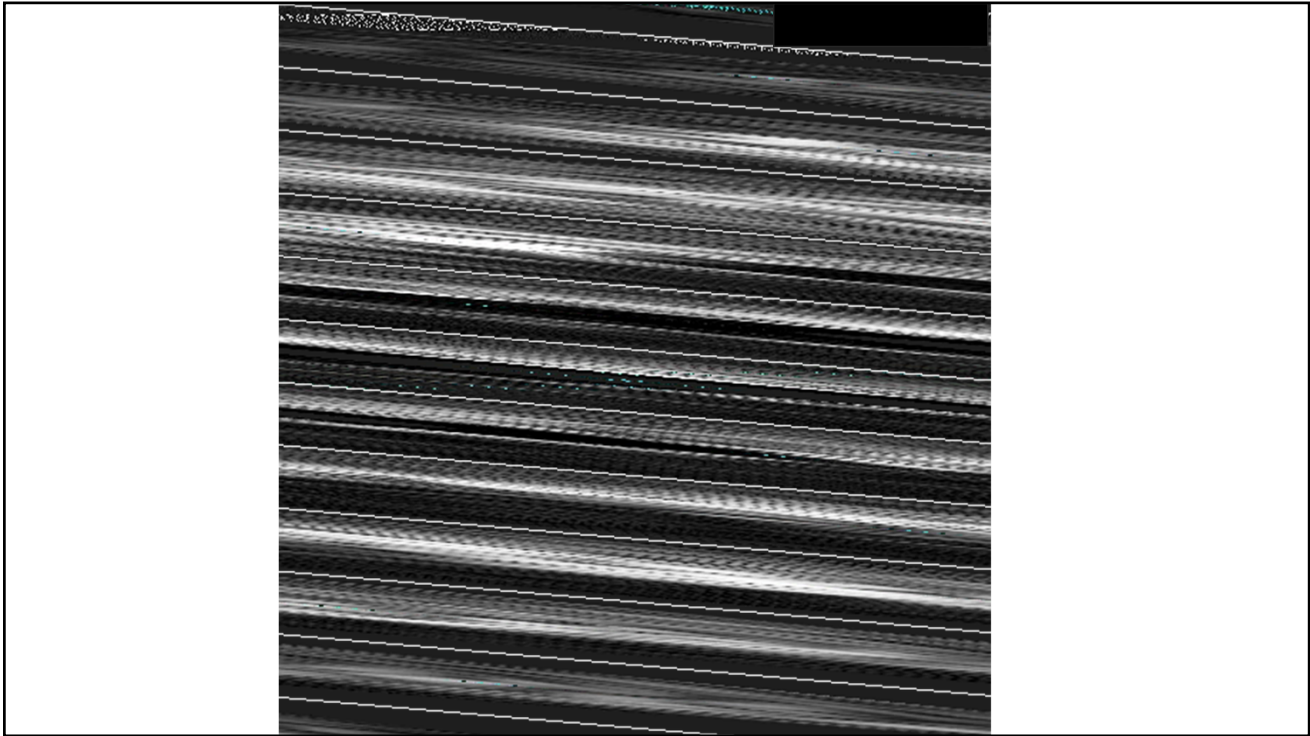
**CPR, Lukas device, Defib, intubation, VA-ECMO**



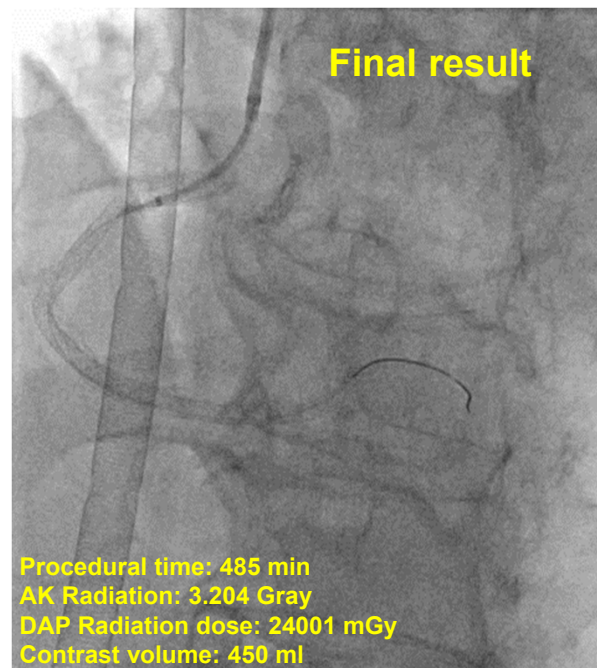






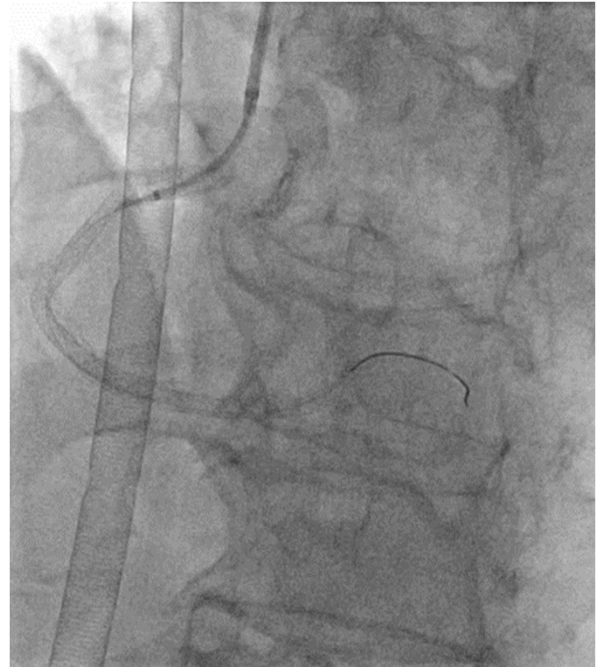


- The patient was transferred intubated, in critical condition to the ICU
- Developed AKI and acute hypoxemic encephalopathy
- VA-ECMO was decannulated 2 days later
- Discharged after 17 days and referred to a rehabilitation center



## Conclusions

1. Acute vessel closure can be a lethal complication
2. Indented bladder sign: retroperitoneal hematoma
3. VA-ECMO for cardiac arrest
4. ADR for acute vessel closure
5. Collaboration key to success!






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DOI: 10.1002/ccd.27868

WILEY

### CASE REPORT

## Use of chronic total occlusion percutaneous coronary intervention techniques for treating acute vessel closure

Arslan Shaukat MD  | Michael Mooney MD | M. Nicholas Burke MD  |  
Emmanouil S. Brilakis MD, PhD 

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#### Correspondence

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Email: esbrilakis@gmail.com

#### Abstract

Acute vessel closure due to dissection is a known complication of percutaneous coronary intervention and can be challenging to treat, especially if guidewire position is lost. Re-entering into the distal true lumen is commonly done during chronic total occlusion interventions, as part of antegrade dissection strategies. We report two cases of acute vessel closure and guidewire position loss in which the Stingray LP system was successfully used to advance a guidewire into the distal true lumen and recanalize the occluded vessel.

#### KEYWORDS

complications, coronary aneurysm/dissection/perforation, coronary artery disease, PCI

**CTO Corner**

Insights into the expanding field of chronic total occlusion interventions.

# THE WHY AND HOW OF CTO INTERVENTIONS

by Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD

38 **Cardiology**todayIntervention | January/February 2012

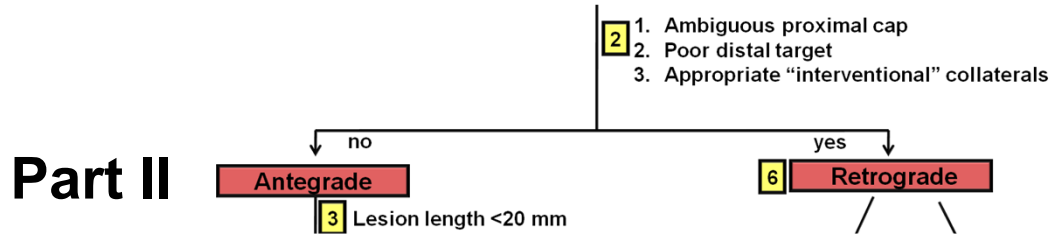
## Hybrid CTO crossing algorithm

### Part I

1 Dual injection

*Brilakis, Grantham, Rinfret, Wyman, Burke, Karpaliotis, Lembo, Pershad, Kandzari, Buller, De Martini, Lombardi, Thompson. JACC Intv 2012*

## Hybrid CTO crossing algorithm



## Studying the CTO

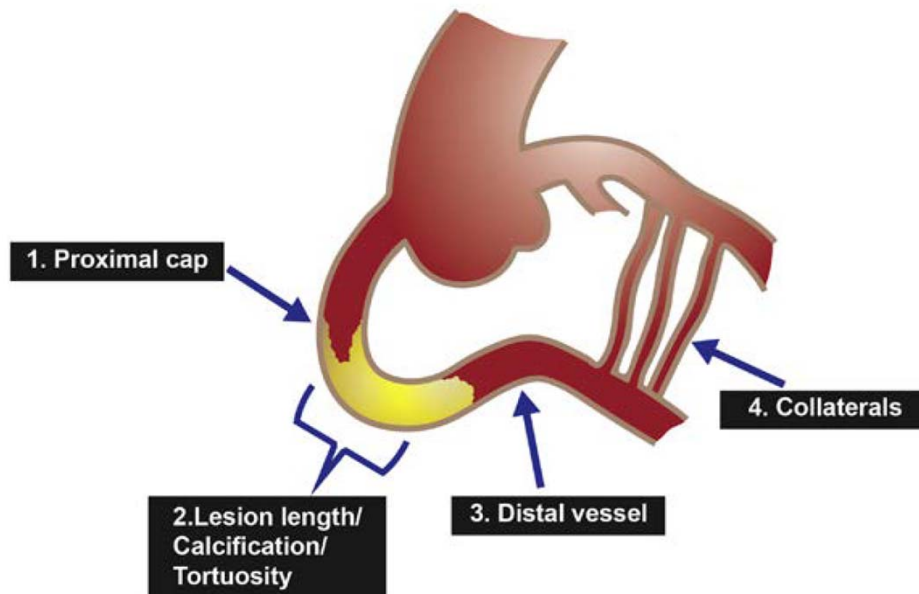
1. By whom?
2. How long?
3. How?

**Entire cath team**  
**15-30 min**  
**4 characteristics**



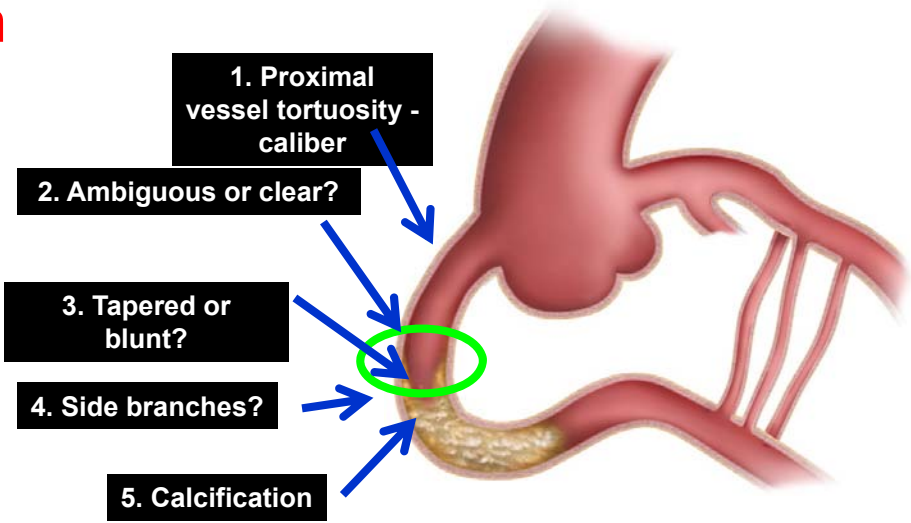
*Brilakis, Grantham, Rinfret, Wyman, Burke, Karpaliotis, Lembo, Pershad, Kandzari, Buller, De Martini, Lombardi, Thompson. JACC Intv 2012*

## Angiographic review: 4 key components

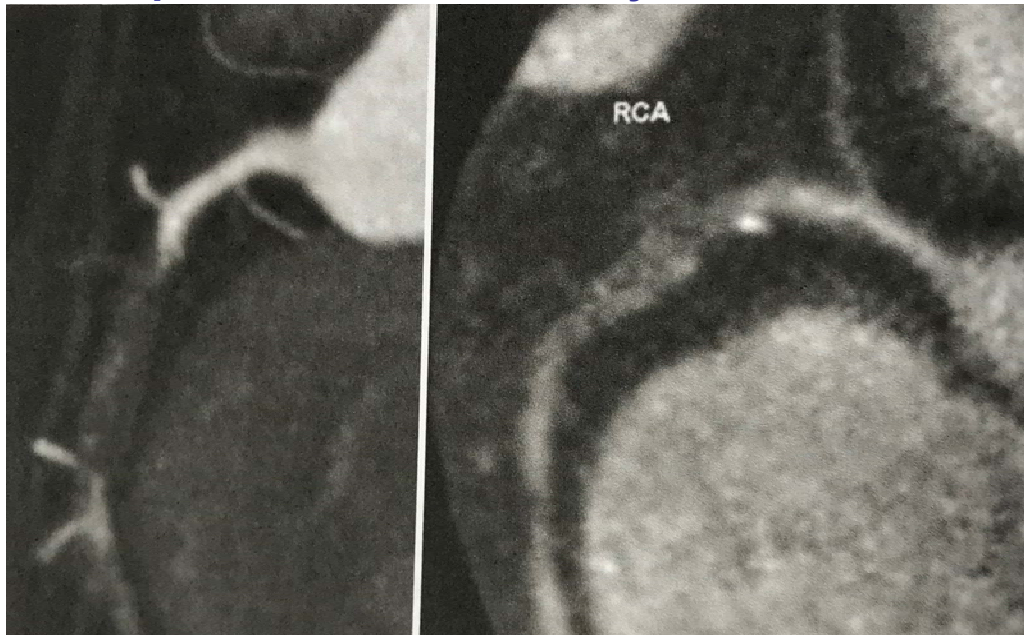


## Studying the lesion

### 1. Proximal cap



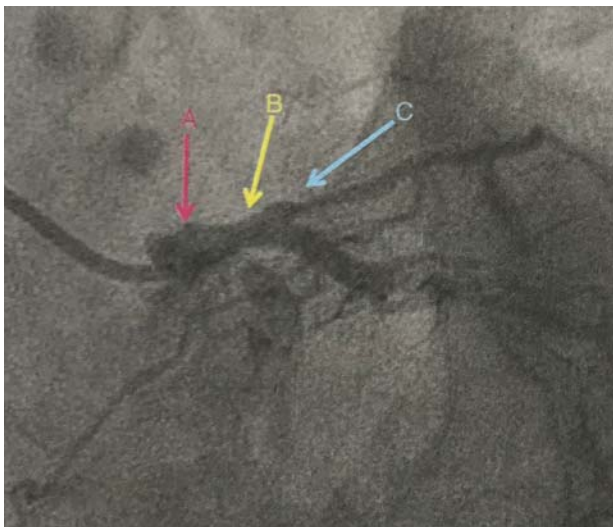
## Which proximal vessel would you rather have?



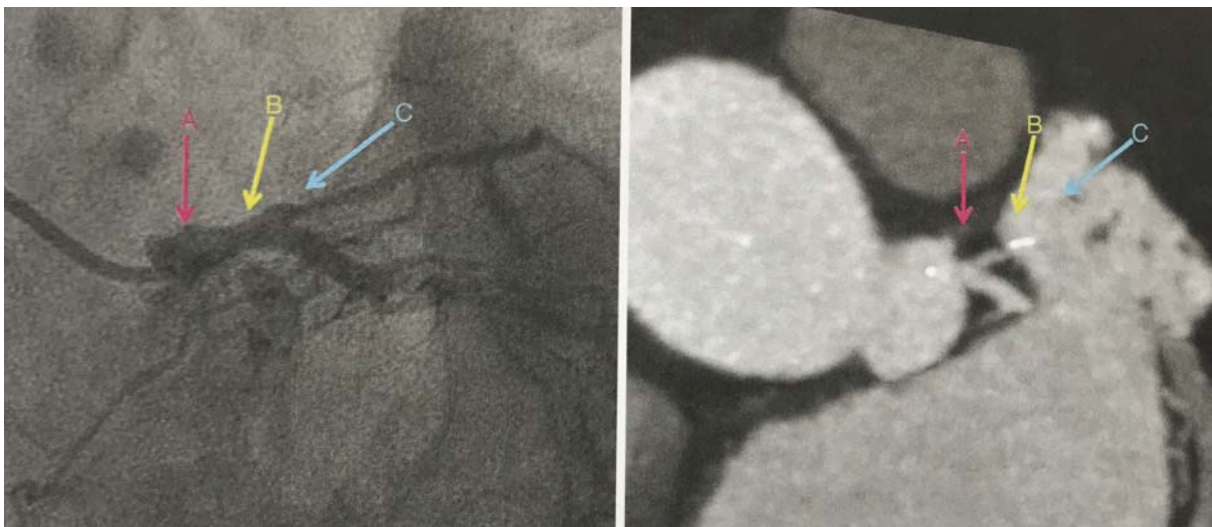
Jang Y. PCI for CTO. Springer 2019



### Where is the proximal cap?

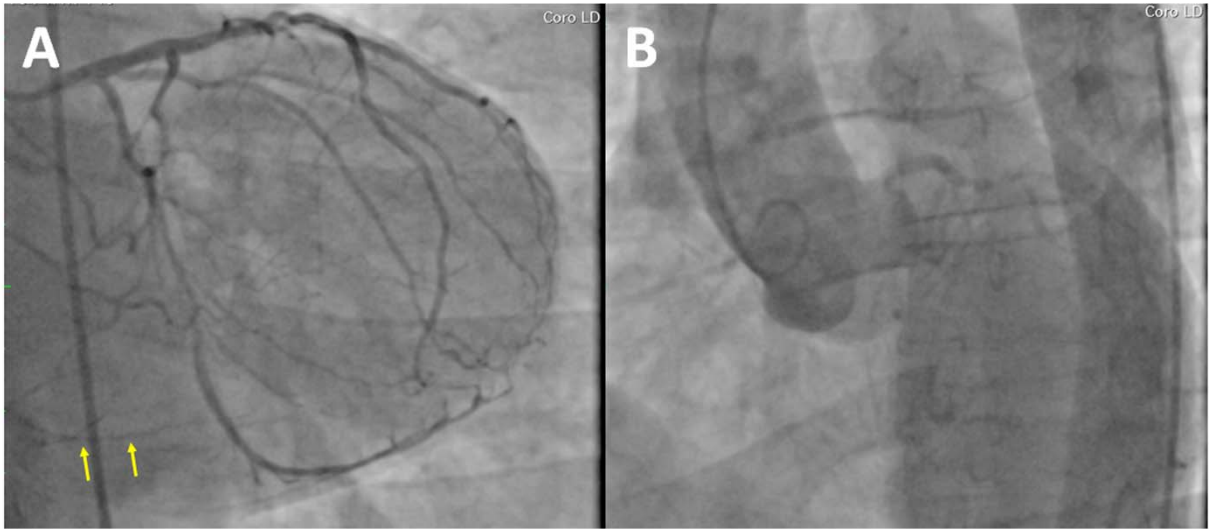


Jang Y. PCI for CTO. Springer 2019



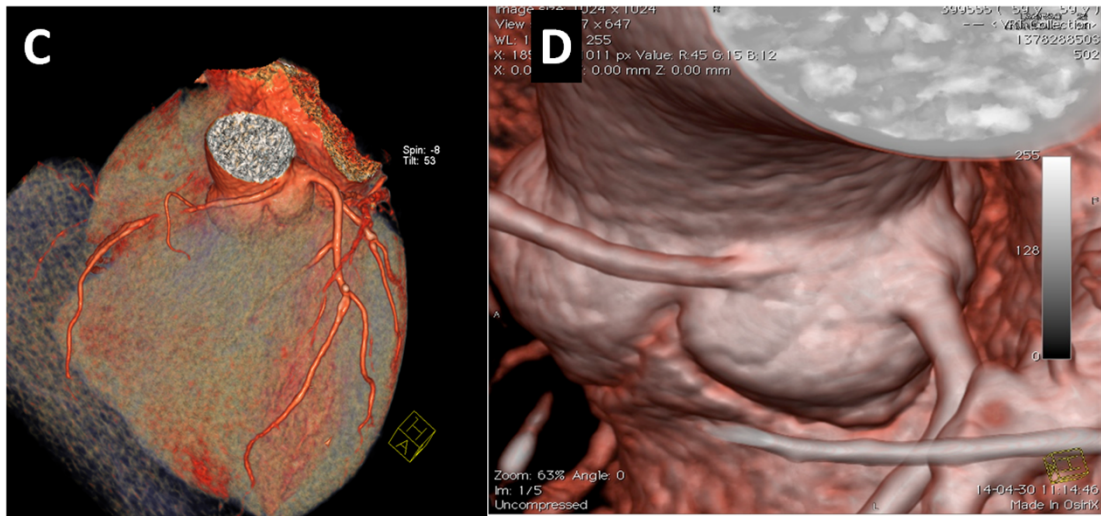
Jang Y. PCI for CTO. Springer 2019

## Flush RCA CTO?



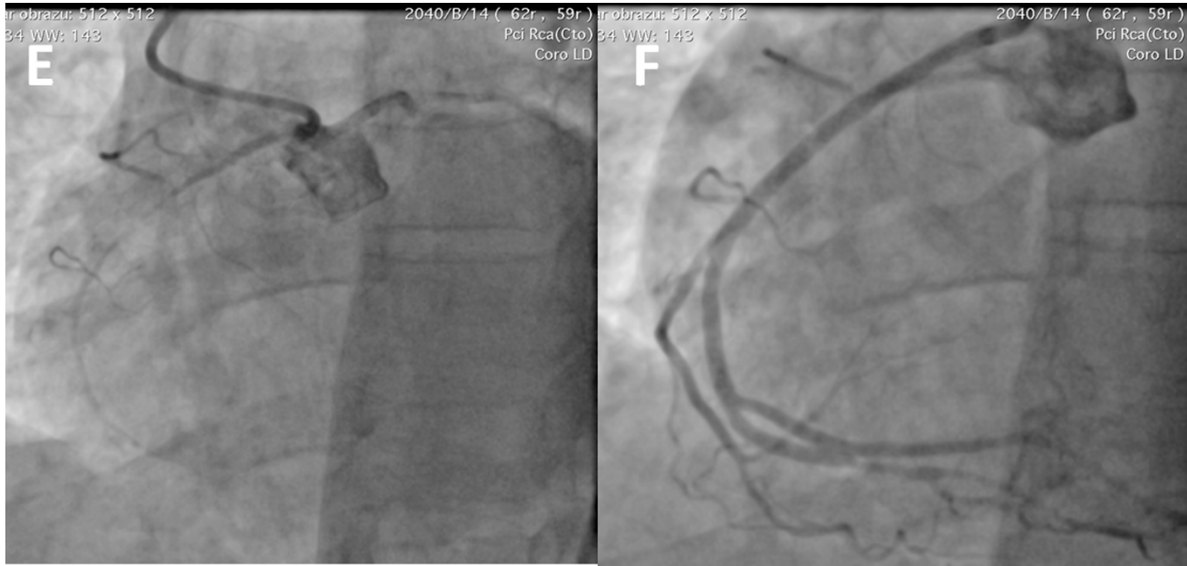
Brilakis ES. Manual of coronary CTO interventions. Elsevier 2017  
courtesy Leszek Bryniarski, MD

## Flush RCA CTO?



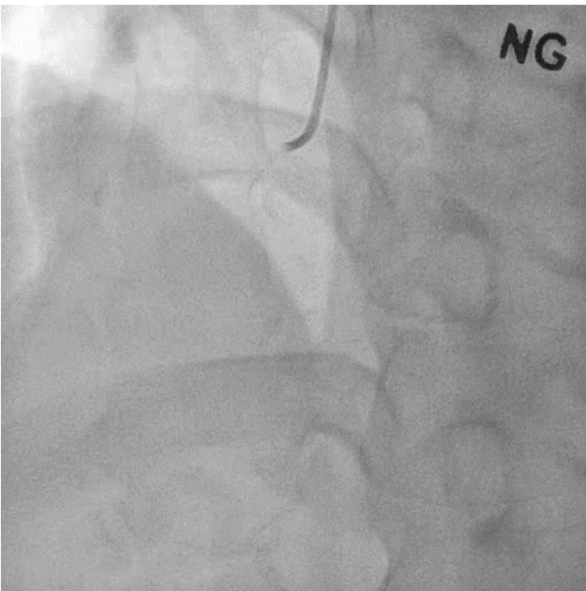
Brilakis ES. Manual of coronary CTO interventions. Elsevier 2017  
courtesy Leszek Bryniarski, MD

## Flush RCA CTO?

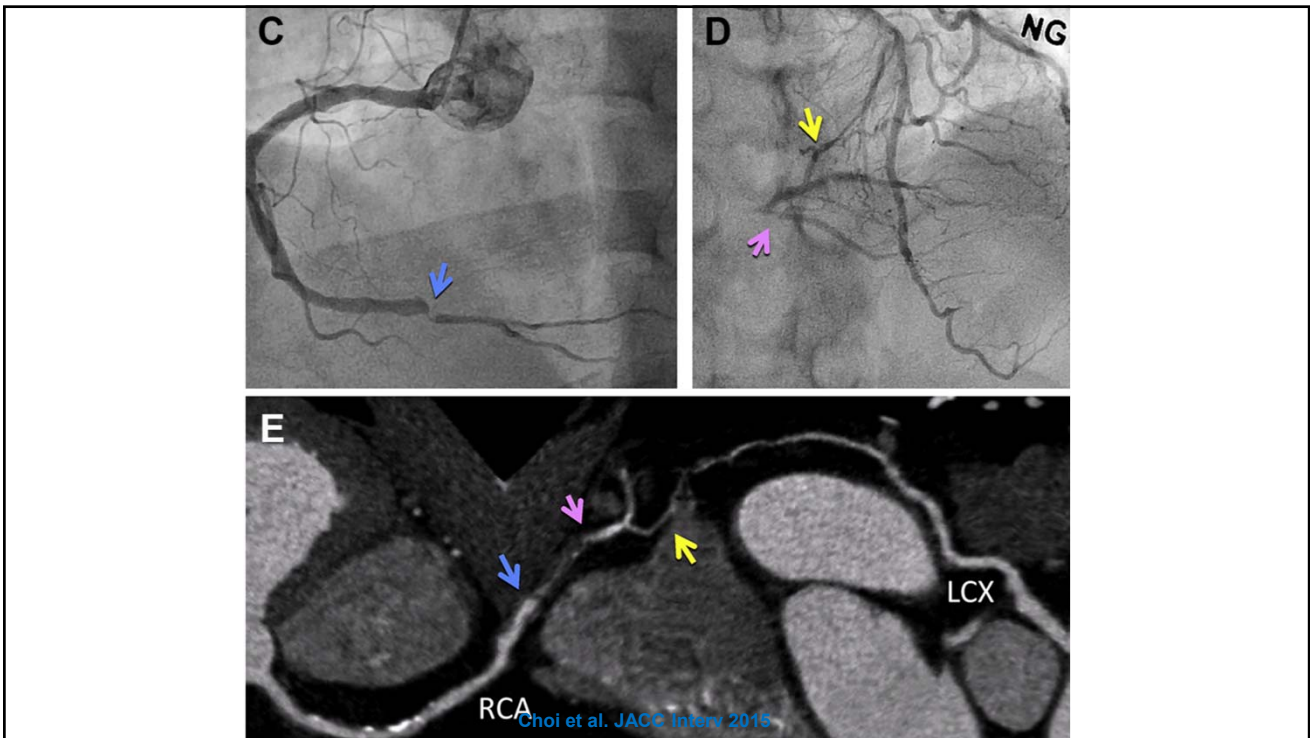
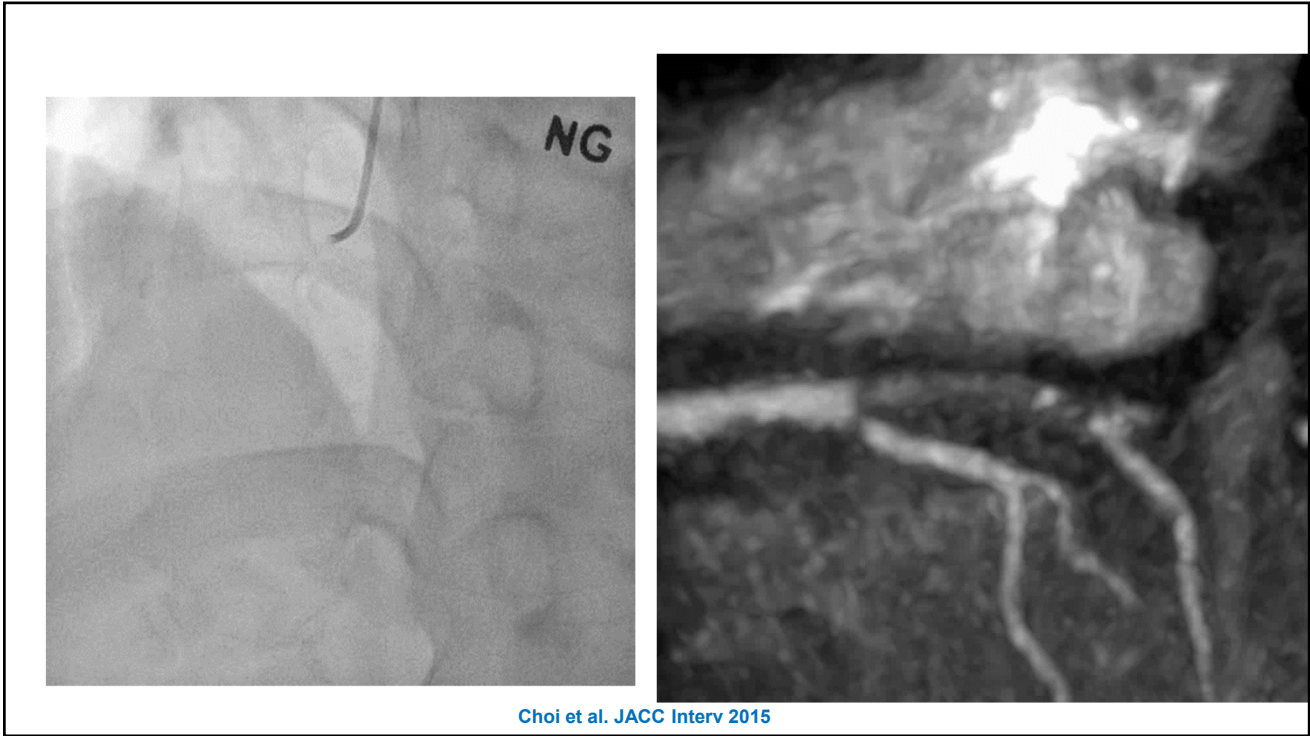


Brilakis ES. Manual of coronary CTO interventions. Elsevier 2017  
courtesy Leszek Bryniarski, MD

## Where is the proximal cap?



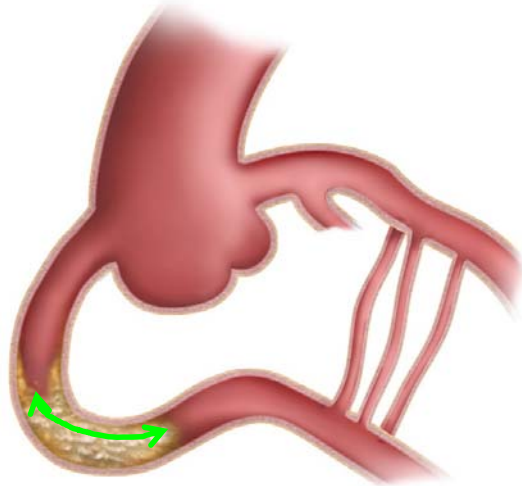
Choi et al. JACC Interv 2015



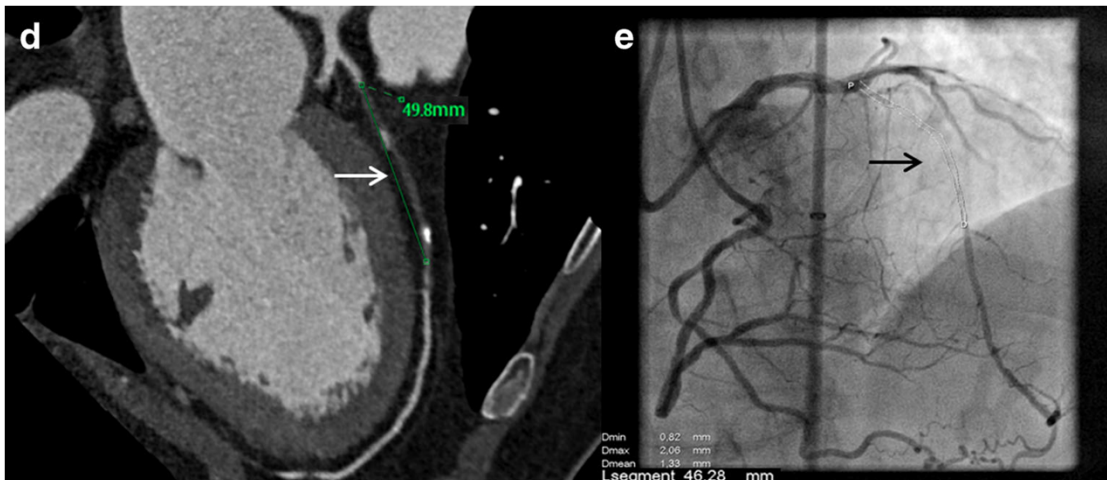


## Studying the lesion

### 2. Lesion length – tortuosity - composition



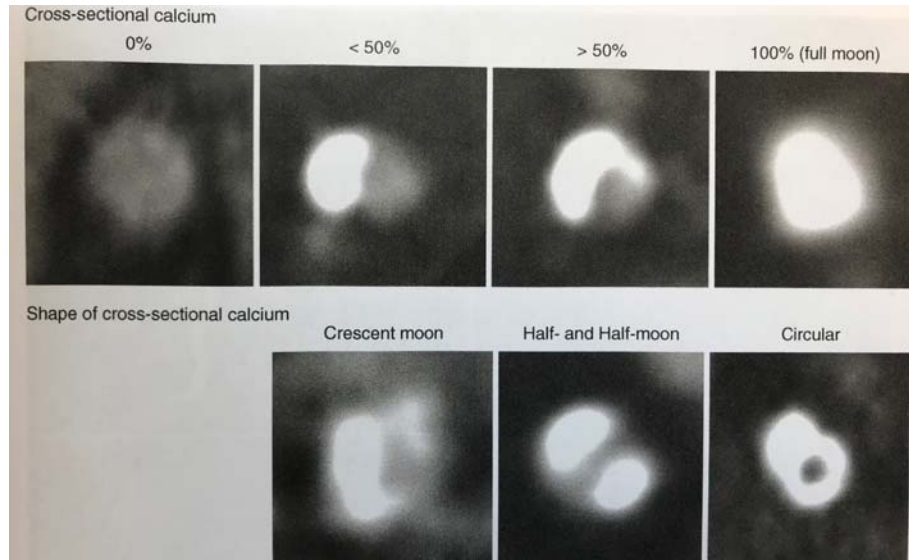
### Lesion length



Stuijzand WJ. et. al. Curr Cardiovasc Imaging Rep 2015



## Calcification

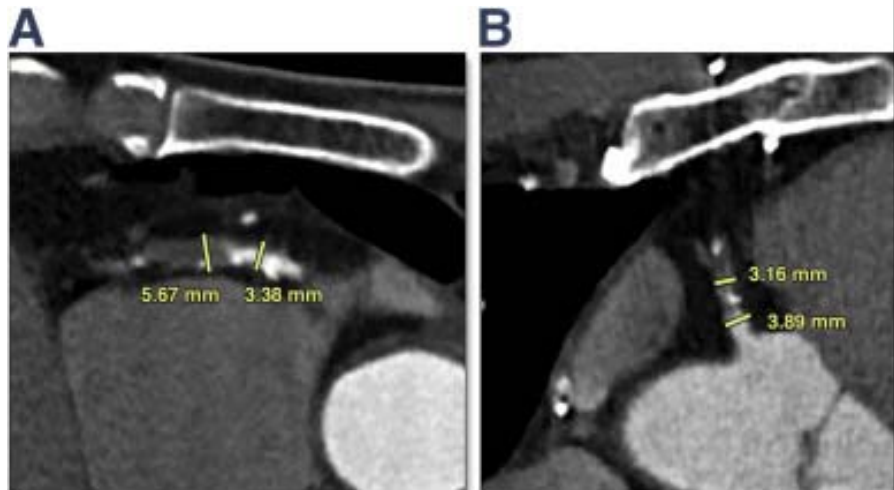


Jang Y. PCI for CTO. Springer 2019

## Predictors of antegrade failure

- Length >32 mm
- Ostial or bifurcation lesions
- Negative remodeling

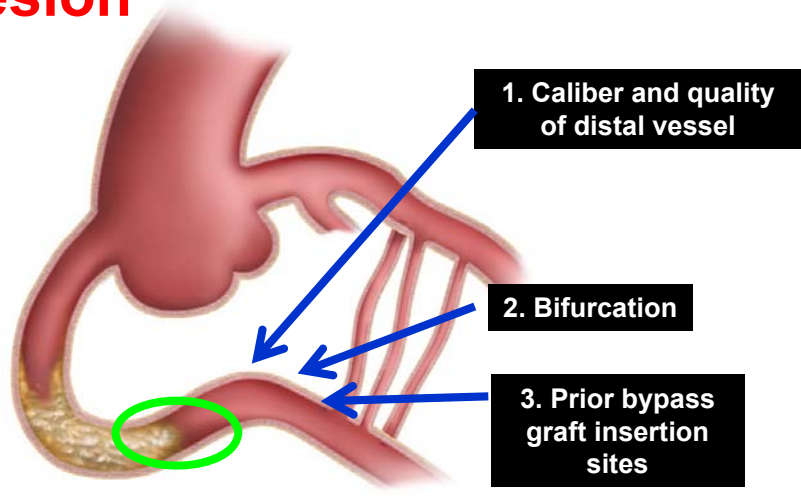
## Remodeling



Luo et al. JACC CV Imaging 2015

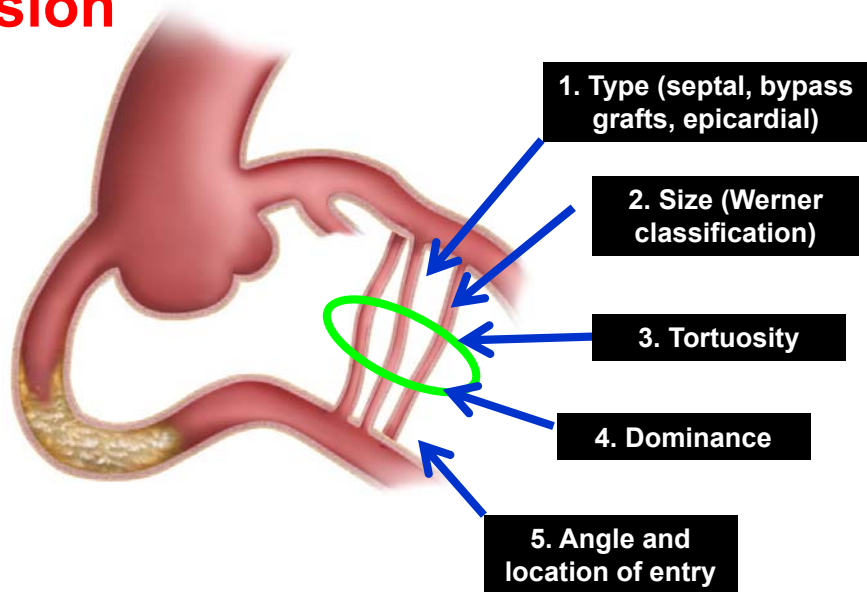
## Studying the lesion

### 3. Distal vessel



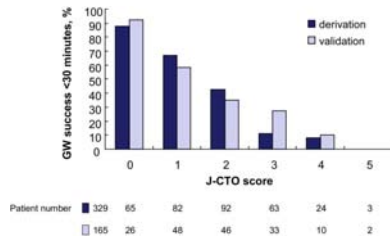
## Studying the lesion

### 4. Collaterals



# J-CTO Score

494 native CTO lesions  
Crossing within 30 minutes

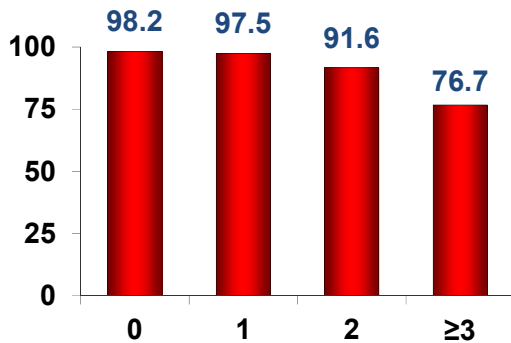


Morino, Y. et al. JACC Intv 2011;4:213-221

Variables and definitions		
<b>Tapered</b> 	<b>Blunt</b> 	<b>Entry shape</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Tapered (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Blunt (1) point
<b>Calcification</b> 		Regardless of severity, 1 point is assigned if any evident calcification is detected within the CTO segment. <b>Calcification</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Absence (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Presence (1) point
<b>Bending &gt;45degrees</b> 		One point is assigned if bending > 45 degrees is detected within the CTO segment. Any tortuosity separated from the CTO segment is excluded from this assessment. <b>Bending &gt;45°</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Absence (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Presence (1) point
<b>Occlusion length</b> 		Using good collateral images, try to measure "true" distance of occlusion, which tends to be shorter than the first impression. <b>Occl.Length</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <20mm (0) <input type="checkbox"/> ≥20mm (1) point
<b>Re-try lesion</b> Is this Re-try (2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt) lesion ? (previously attempted but failed)		<b>Re-try lesion</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (1) point
<b>Category of difficulty (total point)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> easy (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate (1) <input type="checkbox"/> difficult (2) <input type="checkbox"/> very difficult (≥3)		<b>Total</b> points



## PROGRESS CTO score



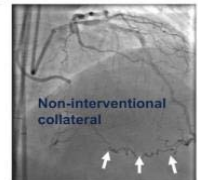
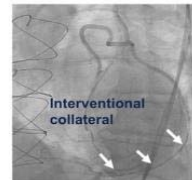
Christopoulos, Kandzari, Yeh, Jaffer, Karpaliotis, Wyman, Alaswad, Lombardi, Grantham, Moses, Christakopoulos, Tarar, Rangan, Lembo, Garcia, CIPHER, Thompson, Banerjee, Brilakis. JACC Intv 2016;9:1-9

Proximal cap ambiguity (1 point)



Poor cap visualization or absence of clearly tapered stump

Absence of "interventional" collaterals (1 point)

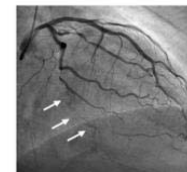


Moderate/severe tortuosity (1 point)



2 bends >70 degrees or 1 bend >90 degrees

Circumflex CTO (1 point)



## Choose the CTO lesions you attempt wisely...

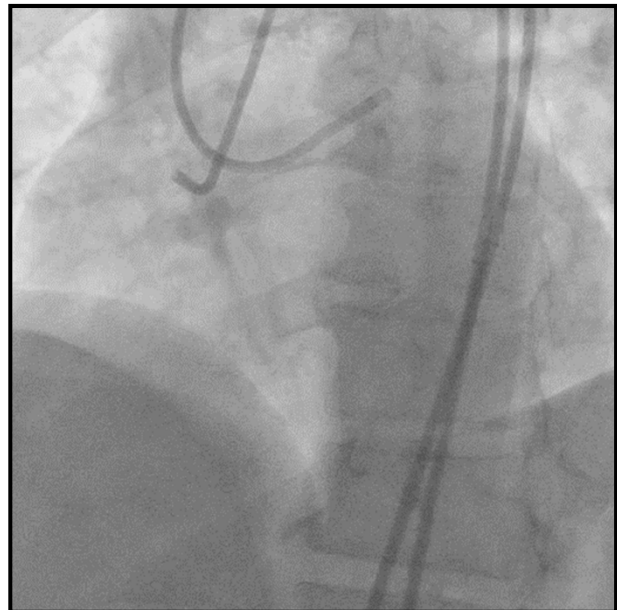
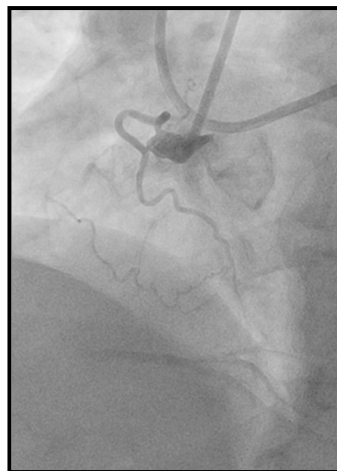
**Early:** J-CTO 0-1

**Next:** J-CTO 2

**Later:** J-CTO  $\geq 3$

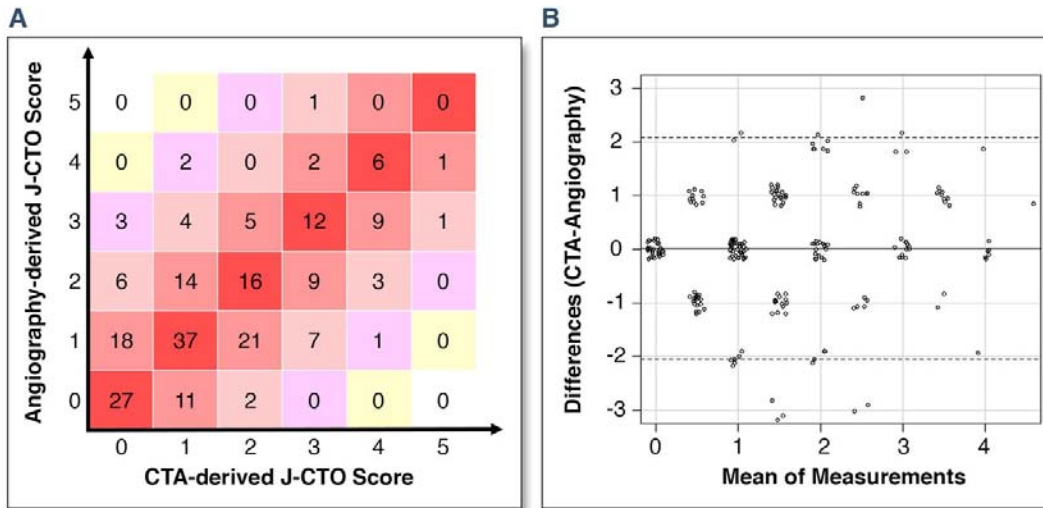
### Dual injection

<b>Entry shape</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tapered (0)	<b>1</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Blunt (1)	
point	
<b>Calcification</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Absence (0)	<b>0</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Presence (1)	
point	
<b>Bending &gt;45°</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Absence (0)	<b>1</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Presence (1)	
point	
<b>Occl.Length</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <20mm (0)	<b>1</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> $\geq 20$ mm (1)	
point	
<b>Re-try lesion</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> No (0)	<b>0</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (1)	
point	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
points	



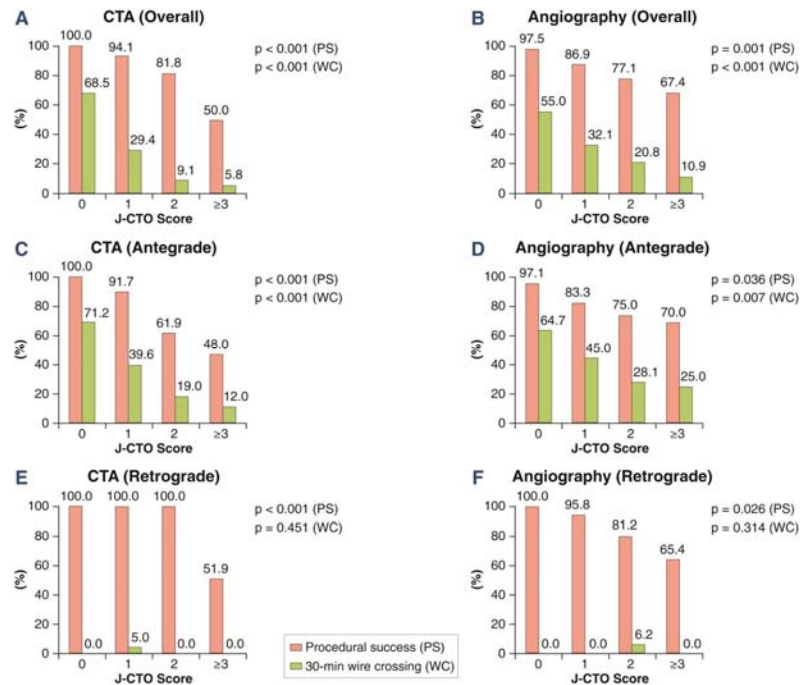
## CCTA vs angiography J-CTO score

218 CTO PCIs in 205 pts - 45% equal - 30% higher – 25% lower



Fujino et al. JIMG 2018;11:209-217

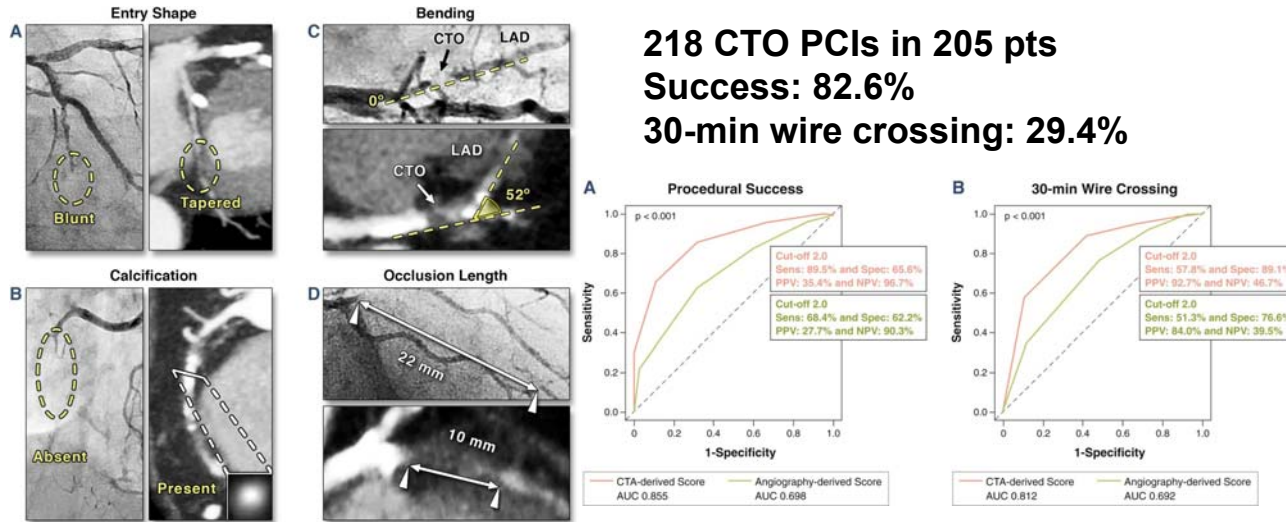
218 CTO PCIs in 205 pts  
**Success: 82.6%**  
**30-min wire crossing:**  
**29.4%**



Fujino et al. JIMG 2018;11:209-217



## CCTA vs angiography J-CTO score



Fujino et al. JIMG 2018;11:209-217

JACC: CARDIOVASCULAR INTERVENTIONS  
 © 2015 BY THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY FOUNDATION  
 PUBLISHED BY ELSEVIER INC.

VOL. 8, NO. 2, 2015  
 ISSN 1936-8798/\$36.00  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcin.2014.07.031>

# Coronary Computed Tomographic Prediction Rule for Time-Efficient Guidewire Crossing Through Chronic Total Occlusion







Insights From the CT-RECTOR Multicenter Registry (Computed Tomography Registry of Chronic Total Occlusion Revascularization)


Maksymilian P. Opolski, MD,\*† Stephan Achenbach, MD,‡ Annika Schuhbäck, MD,‡ Andreas Rolf, MD,\* Helge Möllmann, MD,\* Holger Nef, MD,§ Johannes Rixe, MD,§ Matthias Renker, MD,§ Adam Witkowski, MD,† Cezary Kepka, MD,|| Claudia Walther, MD,\* Christian Schlundt, MD,‡ Artur Debski, MD,† Michal Jakubczyk, MSc,¶ Christian W. Hamm, MD\*§

### CT-RECTOR Score Calculator

**Predictors Definitions**

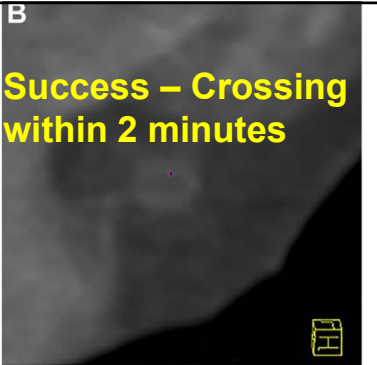
<p><b>Multiple Occlusion</b></p>  <p>Presence of <math>\geq 2</math> complete interruptions of the contrast opacification separated by contrast-enhanced segment of <math>\geq 5</math> mm.</p>	<p><b>Multiple Occlusion</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Blunt Stump</b></p>  <p>Absence of any tapered stump at the entry or exit site.</p>	<p><b>Blunt Stump</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Severe Calcification</b></p>  <p>Presence of any calcium involving <math>\geq 50\%</math> of the vessel cross-sectional area at the entry or exit site or within the occlusion route.</p>	<p><b>Severe Calcification</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math></b></p>  <p>Presence of any bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math> at the entry or exit site or within the occlusion route.</p>	<p><b>Bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math></b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Second Attempt</b></p> <p>Previously failed PCI at CTO</p>	<p><b>Second Attempt</b></p> <p>■ Yes (1) ■ No (0)</p>
<p><b>Duration of CTO</b></p> <p>Duration of CTO <math>\geq 12</math> months or unknown</p>	<p><b>Duration of CTO</b></p> <p>■ Yes (1) ■ No (0)</p>
<p><b>Difficulty Group</b></p> <p>■ Easy (0)    ■ Difficult (2) ■ Intermediate (1)    ■ Verv Difficult (23)</p>	<p><b>Total Score</b></p> <p>■</p>

**A**

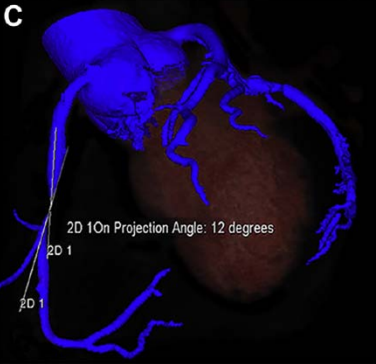


**B**

Success – Crossing within 2 minutes

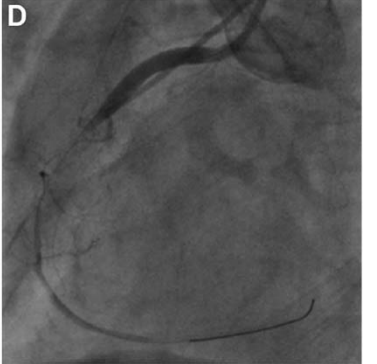


**C**







2D 1On Projection Angle: 12 degrees

**D**




### CT-RECTOR Score Calculator

**Predictors Definitions**

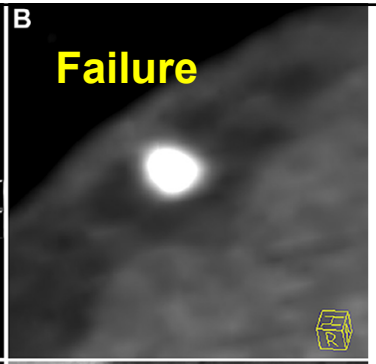
<p><b>Multiple Occlusion</b></p>  <p>Presence of <math>\geq 2</math> complete interruptions of the contrast opacification separated by contrast-enhanced segment of <math>\geq 5</math> mm.</p>	<p><b>Multiple Occlusion</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Blunt Stump</b></p>  <p>Absence of any tapered stump at the entry or exit site.</p>	<p><b>Blunt Stump</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Severe Calcification</b></p>  <p>Presence of any calcium involving <math>\geq 50\%</math> of the vessel cross-sectional area at the entry or exit site or within the occlusion route.</p>	<p><b>Severe Calcification</b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math></b></p>  <p>Presence of any bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math> at the entry or exit site or within the occlusion route.</p>	<p><b>Bending <math>\geq 45^\circ</math></b></p> <p>■ Presence (1) ■ Absence (0)</p>
<p><b>Second Attempt</b></p> <p>Previously failed PCI at CTO</p>	<p><b>Second Attempt</b></p> <p>■ Yes (1) ■ No (0)</p>
<p><b>Duration of CTO</b></p> <p>Duration of CTO <math>\geq 12</math> months or unknown</p>	<p><b>Duration of CTO</b></p> <p>■ Yes (1) ■ No (0)</p>
<p><b>Difficulty Group</b></p> <p>■ Easy (0)    ■ Difficult (2) ■ Intermediate (1)    ■ Verv Difficult (23)</p>	<p><b>Total Score</b></p> <p>■</p>

**A**

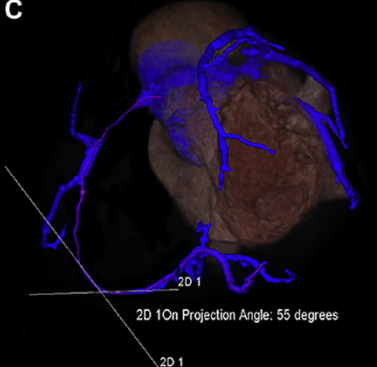


**B**

Failure

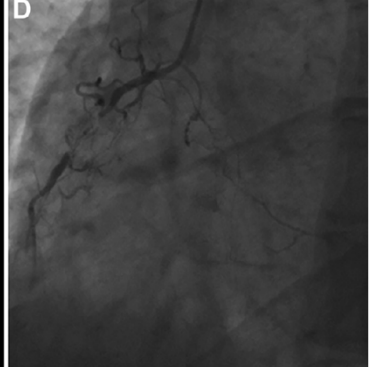


**C**



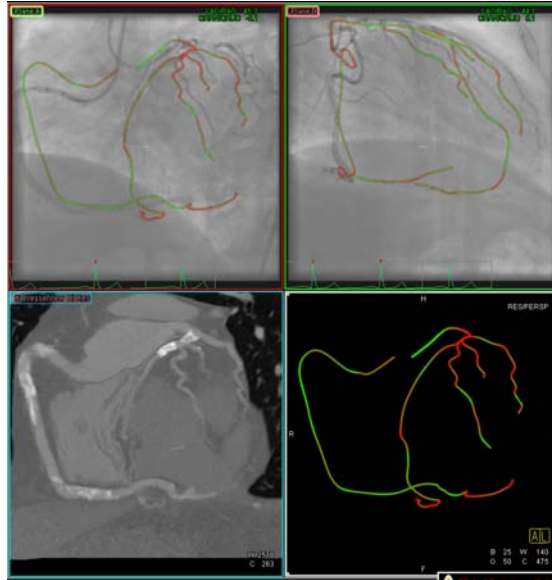
2D 1On Projection Angle: 55 degrees

**D**



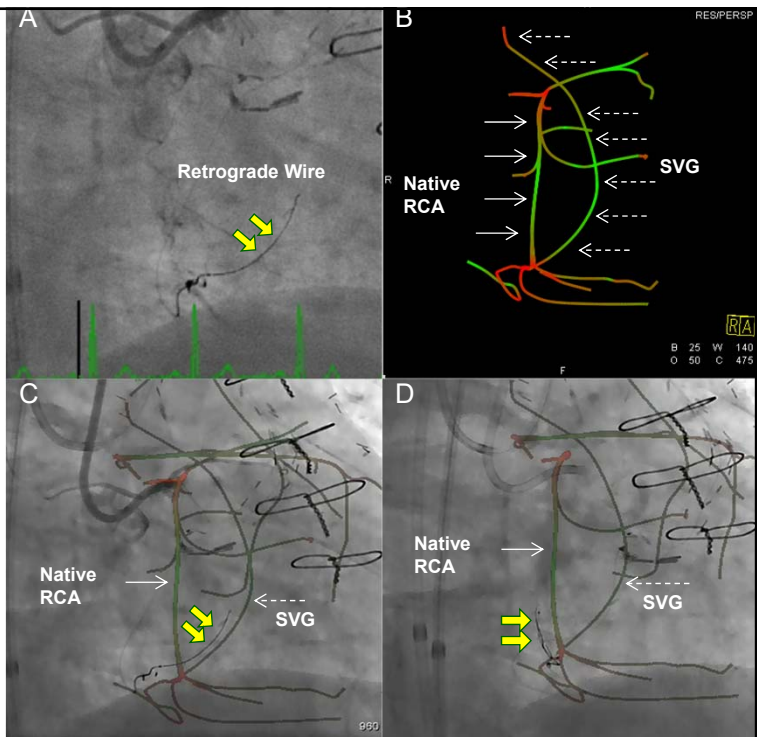
## Real time CCTA fusion

- Centerlines are displayed. Coloring indicates degree of foreshortening (green=low, red=high)
- Calcification can be toggled on and off
- Individual vessel centerlines can be toggled on or off



Ghoshhajra, ...., Jaffer. European Radiology 2016

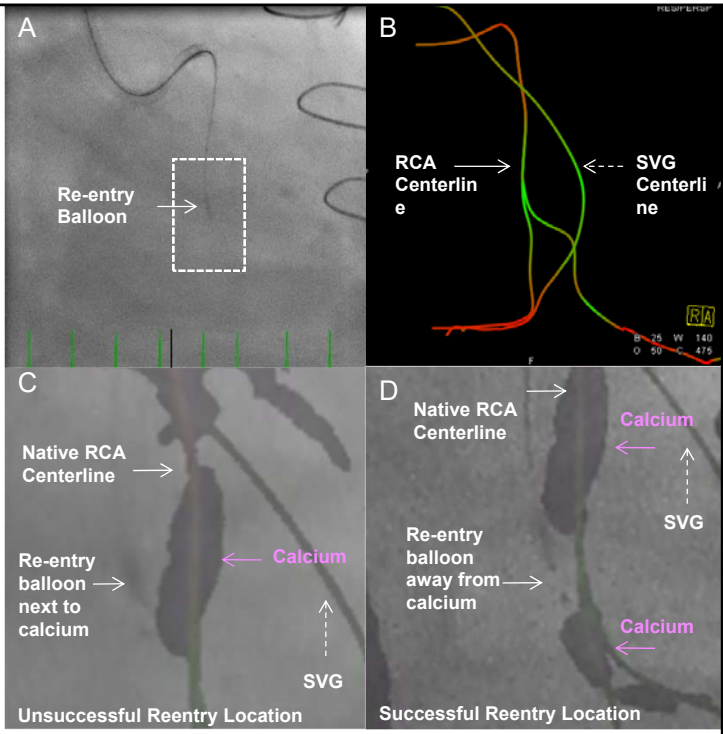
Where is the retrograde wire?



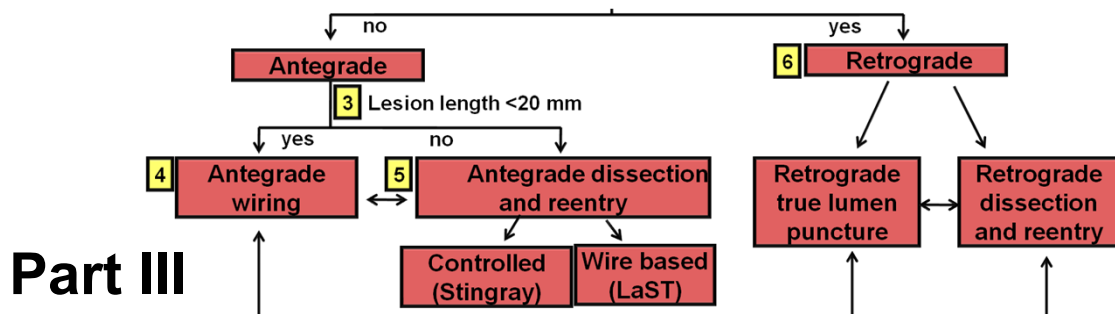
Ghoshhajra, ...., Jaffer. European Radiology 2016

## Failed re-entry Why?

Ghoshhajra, ....., Jaffer. *European Radiology* 2016

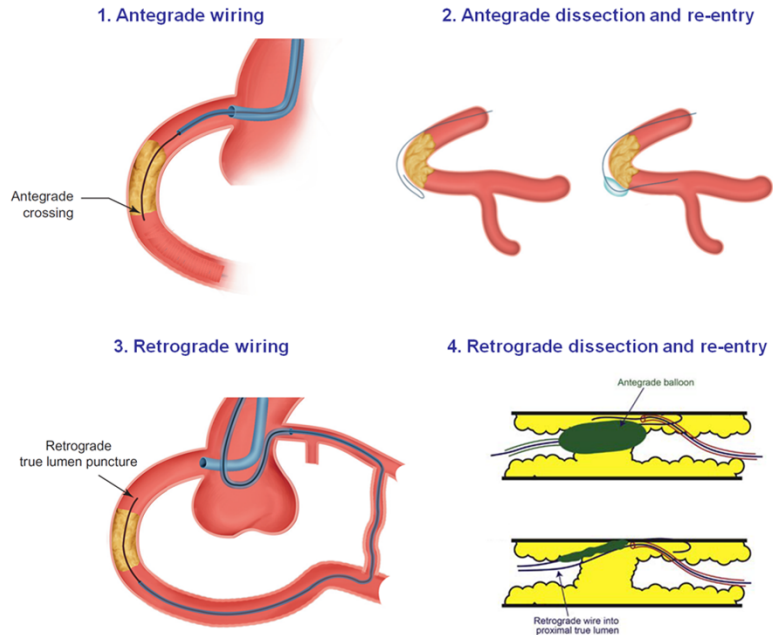


## Hybrid CTO crossing algorithm



Brilakis, Grantham, Rinfret, Wyman, Burke, Karpaliotis, Lembo, Pershad, Kandzari, Buller, De Martini, Lombardi, Thompson. *JACC Intv* 2012

**All crossing strategies have a role**

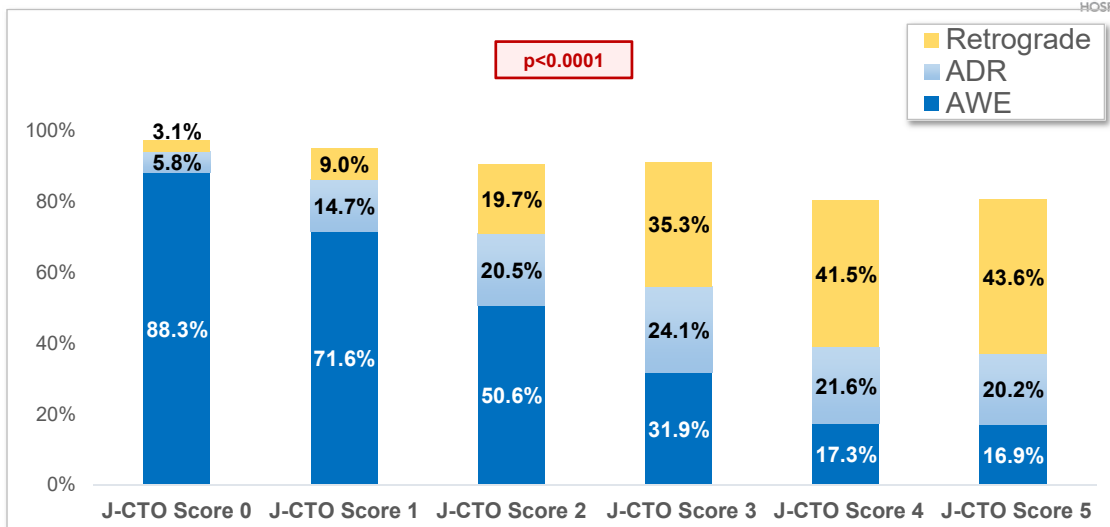


**PROspective Global RegiStry for the Study of CTO interventions**

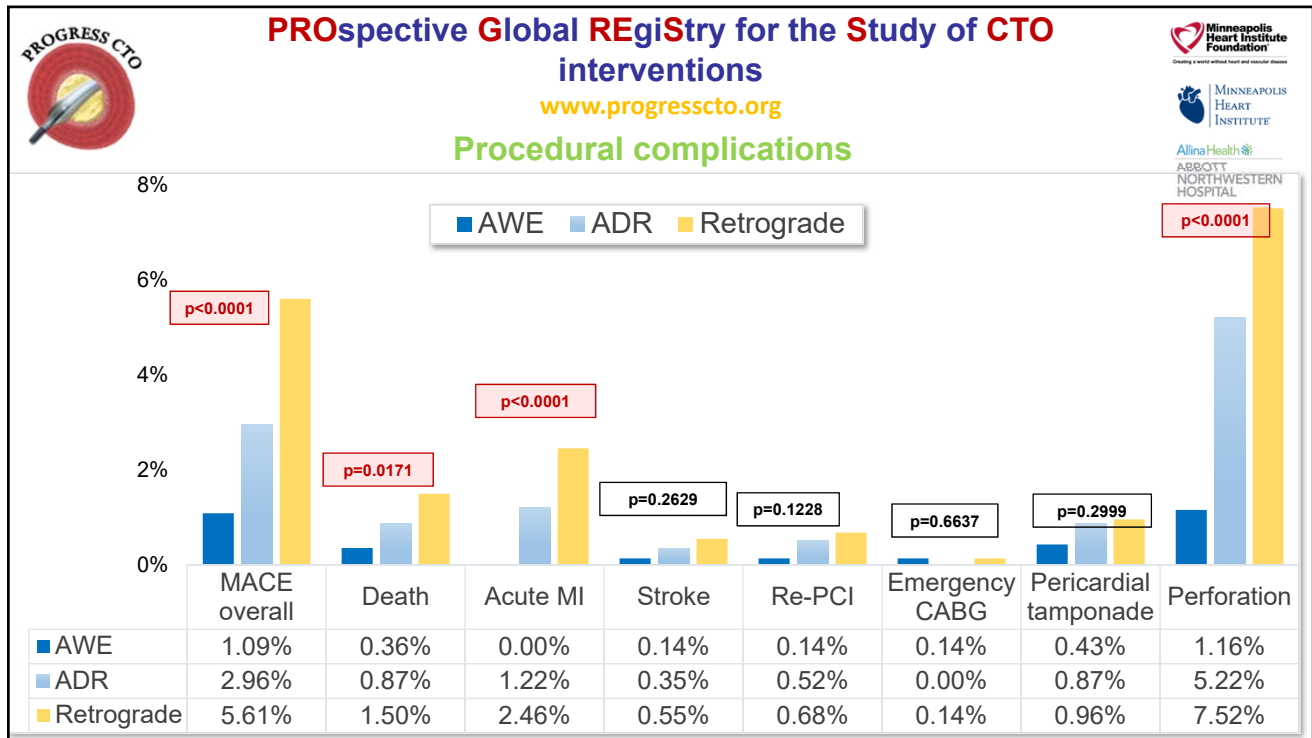
[www.progresscto.org](http://www.progresscto.org)



**Successful crossing strategy stratified by J-CTO score**







## Hybrid CTO crossing algorithm

### Part IV

7 Switch Strategy

*Brilakis, Grantham, Rinfret, Wyman, Burke, Karpaliotis, Lembo, Pershad, Kandzari, Buller, De Martini, Lombardi, Thompson. JACC Intv 2012*

## 7 Global Principles for CTO PCI

1. Principal indication: to improve symptoms
2. Dual angiography + careful angiographic review
3. Use of microcatheter for guidewire support
4. 4 CTO crossing strategies: AWE, ADR, RWE, RDR
5. Change increases likelihood of success
6. CTO PCI should be done at experienced-well equipped centers
7. Stent deployment should be optimized

101 operators - 50 countries – Circulation 2019; in press

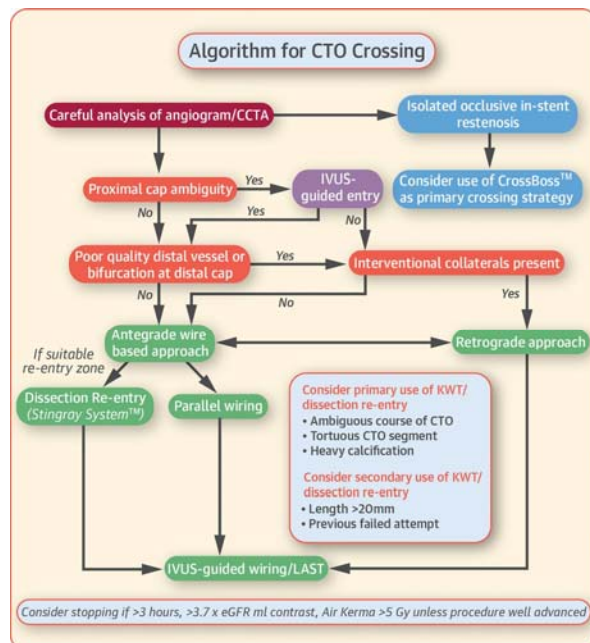
### STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEW

## A New Algorithm for Crossing Chronic Total Occlusions From the Asia Pacific Chronic Total Occlusion Club

Scott A. Harding, MD,<sup>a</sup> Eugene B. Wu, MD,<sup>b</sup> Sidney Lo, MBBS,<sup>c</sup> Soo Teik Lim, MD,<sup>d</sup> Lei Ge, MD,<sup>e</sup> Ji-Yan Chen, MD,<sup>f</sup> Jie Quan, MD,<sup>g</sup> Seung-Whan Lee, MD, PhD,<sup>h</sup> Hsien-Li Kao, MD,<sup>i</sup> Etsuo Tsuchikane, MD, PhD<sup>j</sup>

### ABSTRACT

Although the hybrid chronic total occlusion (CTO) algorithm had many excellent recommendations, there has been infrequent adoption in the Asia Pacific region. The Asia Pacific CTO club propose an algorithm for case selection based on the Japan-CTO score and a new CTO algorithm, which is applicable globally. This algorithm allows for differing skill sets and equipment availability and contains practical teaching for CTO percutaneous coronary intervention. Similar to the hybrid algorithm there are 3 main questions that determine whether the primary approach is antegrade or retrograde: 1) is there proximal cap ambiguity; 2) is the distal vessel of poor quality; and 3) are there interventional collaterals present. In contrast to the hybrid algorithm occlusion length alone does not determine the choice of either a wire escalation strategy or a dissection re-entry strategy. Rather a combination of factors including ambiguity of the vessel course, severe calcification, tortuosity, length, and previous failure are used to determine this. The role of intravascular ultrasound-guided entry to overcome proximal cap ambiguity and the CrossBoss catheter in occlusive in-stent restenosis are highlighted in the algorithm. Both the parallel wire technique and dissection re-entry with the Stingray system have been included as options when the initial antegrade wire passage fails. Intravascular ultrasound-guided wiring along with limited subintimal tracking and re-entry are included as final options in the algorithm. Finally, the algorithm incorporates guidance on when to stop the procedure. It is hoped that this algorithm will serve as the basis for future CTO percutaneous coronary intervention proctoring and training. (J Am Coll Cardiol Intv 2017;10:2135-43) © 2017 by the American College of Cardiology Foundation.



Scott A. Harding et al. J CIN 2017;10:2135-2143

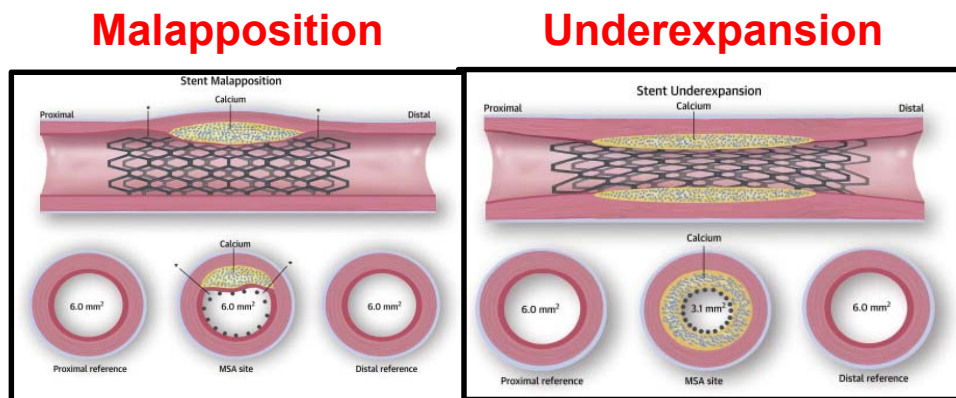


## 7 Global Principles for CTO PCI

1. Principal indication: to improve symptoms
2. Dual angiography + careful angiographic review
3. Use of microcatheter for guidewire support
4. 4 CTO crossing strategies: AWE, ADR, RWE, RDR
5. Change increases likelihood of success
6. CTO PCI should be done at experienced-well equipped centers
7. **Stent deployment should be optimized**

101 operators - 50 countries – Circulation 2019; in press

### Expand the stent!

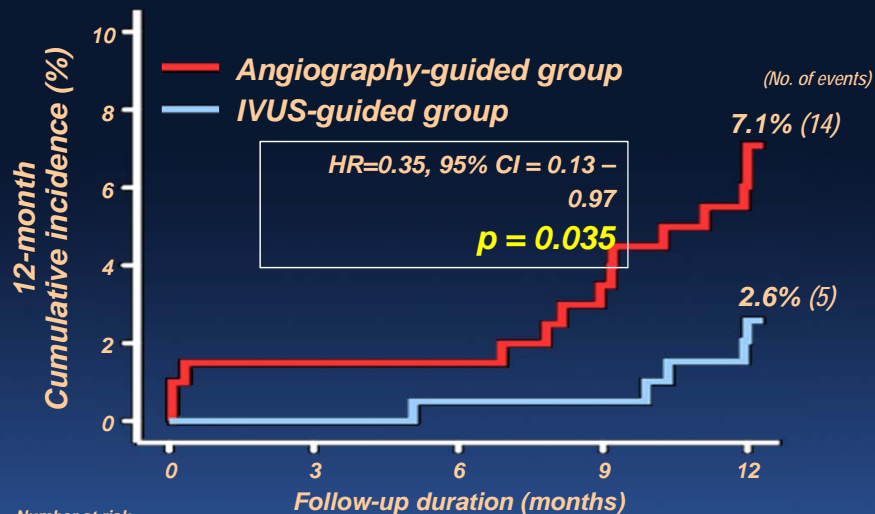


Mintz et al. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2014;64:207-222

## Stent patency rates in CTO PCI

Author	Year	Stent	n	FU angio time	Prior CABG	Total stent length (mm)	In-stent restenosis (%)	In-segment restenosis (%)	TLR (%)	TVR (%)
PRISON II	2006	SES	100	6 months	3	32±15	7	11	4	8
ACROSS-TOSCA 4	2009	SES	200	6 months	8.5	45.9 (30.2, 62.1)	9.5	12.4	9.8	11.4
GISSOC II	2010	SES	78	8 months	6.7	41±18	8.2	9.8	8.1	14.9
CIBELES	2012	SES	101	9 months	4	47±24		10.5		11.6
		EES	106	9 months	4.7	50±23		9.1		7.9
ACE-CTO	2012	EES	100	8 months	27	85±34	45	45	40	43

## IVUS-CTO: Primary endpoint (Cardiac death, MI, TVR)



Number at risk	0	3	6	9	12
Angiography-guided	201	198	198	179	179
IVUS-guided	201	198	198	186	186

Kim et al. Circ Cardiovasc Interv. 2015;8:e002592



**PROGRESS CTO**  
NCT02061436

**International sites:**

- Meshalkin Novosibirsk Research Institute, Russian Republic  
*O. Krestyaninov, D. Khelmskii*
- Kogialeneio-Benakeio Hellenic Red Cross, Greece  
*M. Koutouzis, Y. Tsiakoutis*
- Henry Dunant Heart Hospital, Greece  
*V. Tzifos, A. Kolyviras, D. Damaskos*
- St. Boniface General Hospital, Canada  
*B. Elbarouni, M. Love*
- St. George Hospital University Medical Center, Lebanon  
*A. Maalouf, F. A., Jaoudeh, N.A. Rafeh*

**Funding:** Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation

**41 Sites – Study PI: E. S. Brilakis – National Coordinator: B.V. Rangan – Database Manager: I. Xenogiannis**

**PROSpective Global RegiSty for the Study of CTO interventions**  
[www.progresscto.org](http://www.progresscto.org)

**5/2012 to 11/2018**  
**25 centers, 4,410 lesions**  
**Technical success: 86%**  
**Major complications: 2.3%**  
(composite of 0.44% mortality, 0.84% MI, 0.81% pericardiocentesis, 0.23% stroke, 0.12% CABG, 0.28% re-PCI)

**Successful technique**

**Applied techniques**

**Applied techniques data:**

Technique	Applied (%)
AWE	84%
ADR	28%
Retrograde	35%

**Successful technique data:**

Technique	Successful (%)
AWE	56%
Retrograde	25%
ADR	19%

**Study Sites:**

- Appleton Cardiology, WI
- Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital, TX
- Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, MA
- Columbia University, NY
- Central Arkansas VAMC, AR
- Cleveland Clinic, OH
- Dallas VAMC/UTSW, TX
- Emory University Hospital, GA
- Henry Ford Hospital, MI
- Kogialeneio-Benakeio Hellenic Red Cross General Hospital of Athens, Athens, Greece
- Maimonides Medical Center, NY
- Massachusetts General Hospital, MA
- Medical Center of the Rockies, CO
- Minneapolis VAMC, MN
- Minneapolis Heart Institute, MN
- Meshalkin Novosibirsk Research Institute, Novosibirsk, Russia
- PeaceHealth St. Joseph MC, WA
- Piedmont Heart Institute, GA
- San Diego VAMC and UCSD, CA
- St Luke's Mid America Heart Institute, MO
- The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano, TX
- Torrance Medical Center, CA
- Tristar Centennial Medical Center, TN
- UPMC Medical Center, PA
- Wellstar Health System, GA

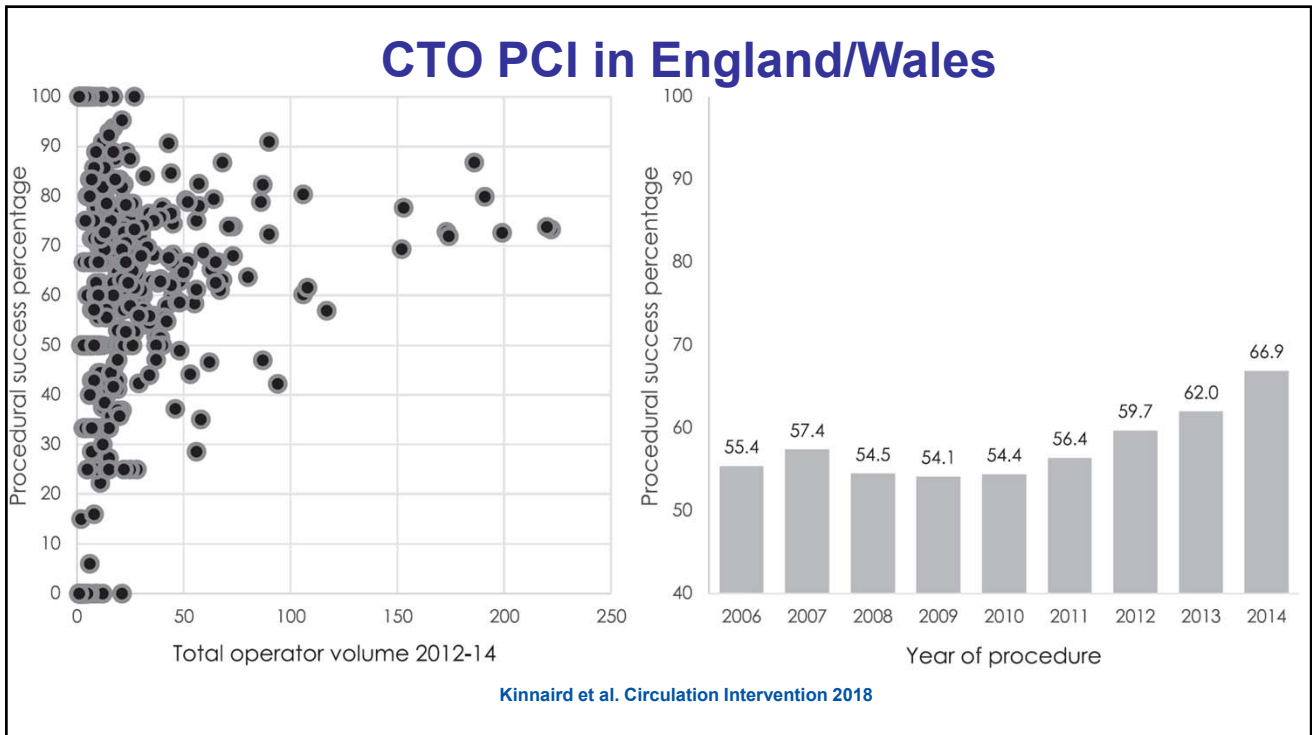
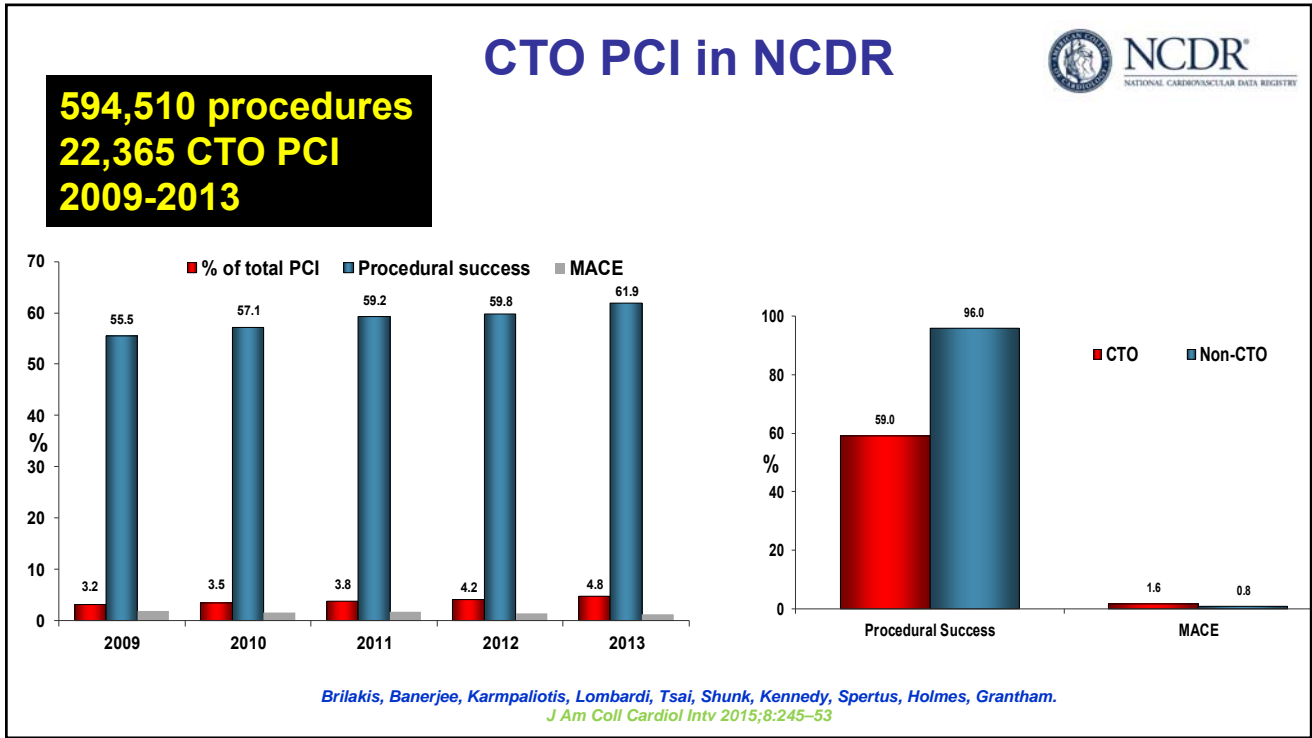
## CTO PCI: success and complications

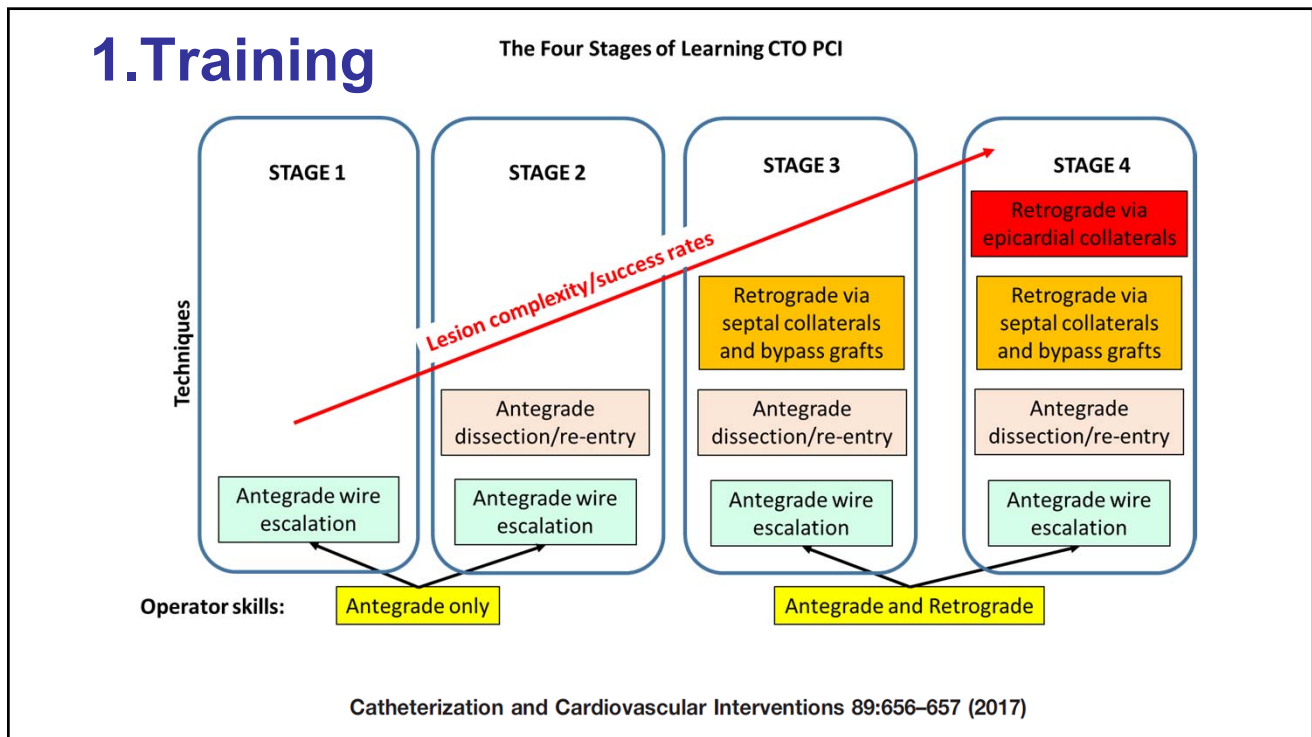
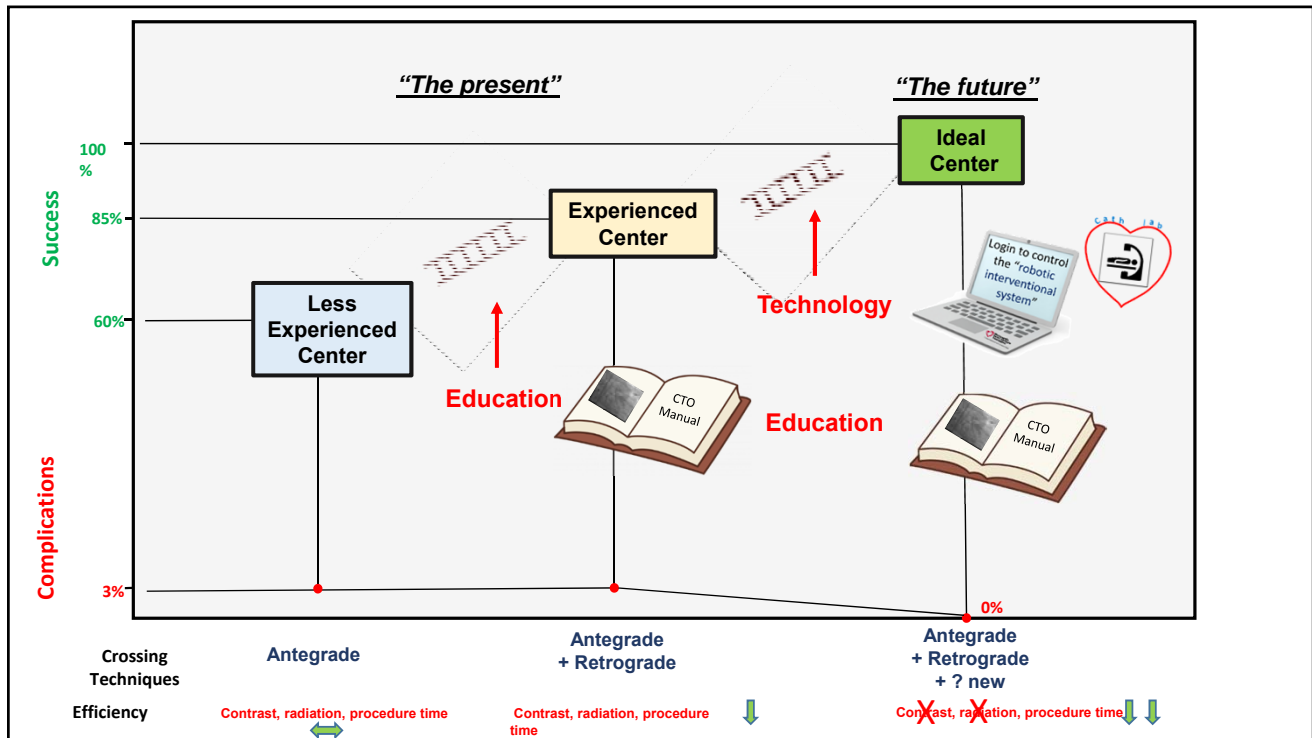
First Author	Study Period	Centers	Cases	Technical Success	Procedural Success	Overall MACE	Death	Acute MI	Stroke	TVR	Tamporade	
Konstantinidis	EURO-CTO registry	2008-2015	53	17,626	85%	—	0.6%	0.2%	—	—	—	0.4%
Habara	Japanese Retrograde Summit Registry	2012-2013	56	3,229	—	88%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	—	0.3%
Tajti	PROGRESS-CTO	2012-2017	20	3,055	87%	85%	3.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%
Wilson	UK Hybrid	2012-2014	7	1,156	90%	—	1.6%	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0.0%	0.7%
Maeremans	RECHARGE	2014-2015	17	1,253	89%	86%	2.6%	0.2%	0.2%	2.2%	0.1%	1.3%
Sapontis	OPEN CTO	2013-2017	12	1,000	86%	85%	7.0%	0.9%	2.6%	0.0%	0.1%	—

# CTO SUMMIT 2019

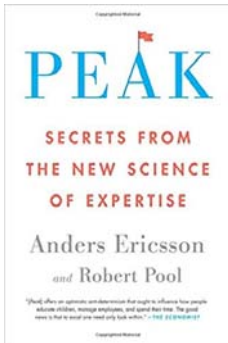
Turin, April 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 2019

**Success: 12 of 12**  
**Complications: none**





**Naive practice**



**Purposeful practice**

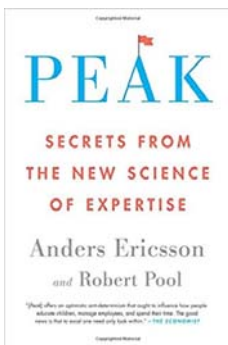
1. Goals
2. Challenge
3. Focused
4. Monitor progress
5. Motivated



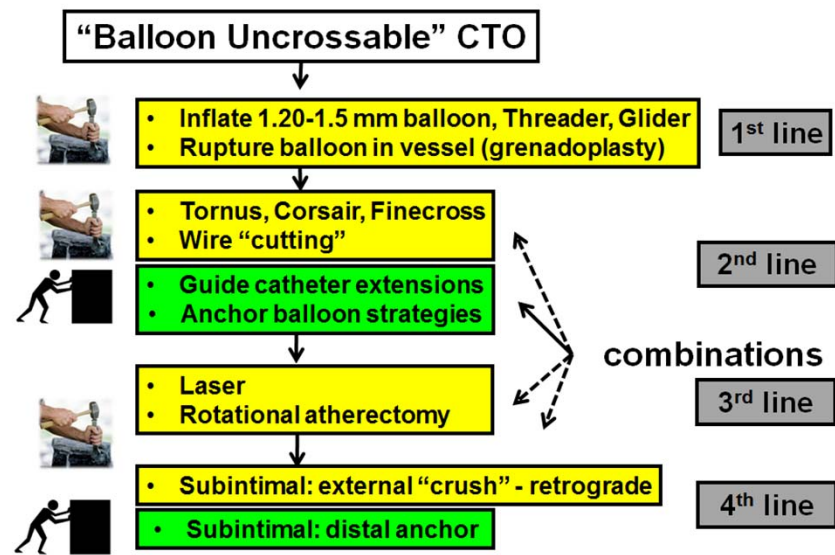
**Deliberate practice**

- Purposeful +
1. Well established field
  2. Teacher

**Mental representations**



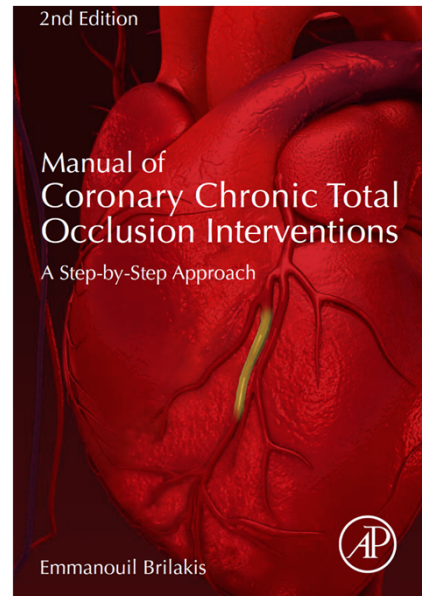
**Approach to “balloon uncrossable” CTO**





## How to learn CTO PCI

1. Books
2. Journals
3. Online
4. Courses
5. Proctoring
6. Doing
7. Community
8. Participating in studies
9. Keep track of outcomes
10. Publish



[www.progresscto.org](http://www.progresscto.org)  
[www.ctomanual.org](http://www.ctomanual.org)

### Percutaneous Coronary Intervention Manual

CASE LIBRARY
CONTACT

Use keywords to search for various types of procedures

search by keyword

Showing 1-25 of 50 [add filters](#) 25 per page Page 1 of 2

YOUTUBE link	Procedure details
<p><b>Case 1</b>  <b>Guide extension for visualization and equipment delivery</b></p> <p>Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD                      Peter Tajti, MD                      Minneapolis Heart Institute</p>	<p>PCI of a dominant mid circumflex bifurcation lesion, illustrating use of a guide catheter extension for both enhancing visualization and facilitating delivery of balloons and stents.</p>
<p><b>Case 2: What to do when you cannot engage the PCI target vessel</b></p> <p>Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD                      Peter Tajti, MD                      Minneapolis Heart Institute</p>	<p>This is a case of severe proximal left main and circumflex lesion that was very challenging to treat due to difficulty engaging the left main with a guide catheter. Several guide catheters were used without success (including EBU 3.5, EBU 3.75, Ikaui Le 3.5, AL 0.75). An anchor wire and dual lumen microcatheter (Twin Pass Torque) were also used without success. Wiring was eventually successful using an AL 0.75 guide catheter and a Fielder FC guidewire over a Finewire microcatheter allowing successful treatment of the lesion.</p>

### Manual of coronary CTO interventions

CTO CASES
HOW TO
CTO WEBCASTS
CTO SCORES
CONTRIBUTORS
HYBRID ALGORITHM

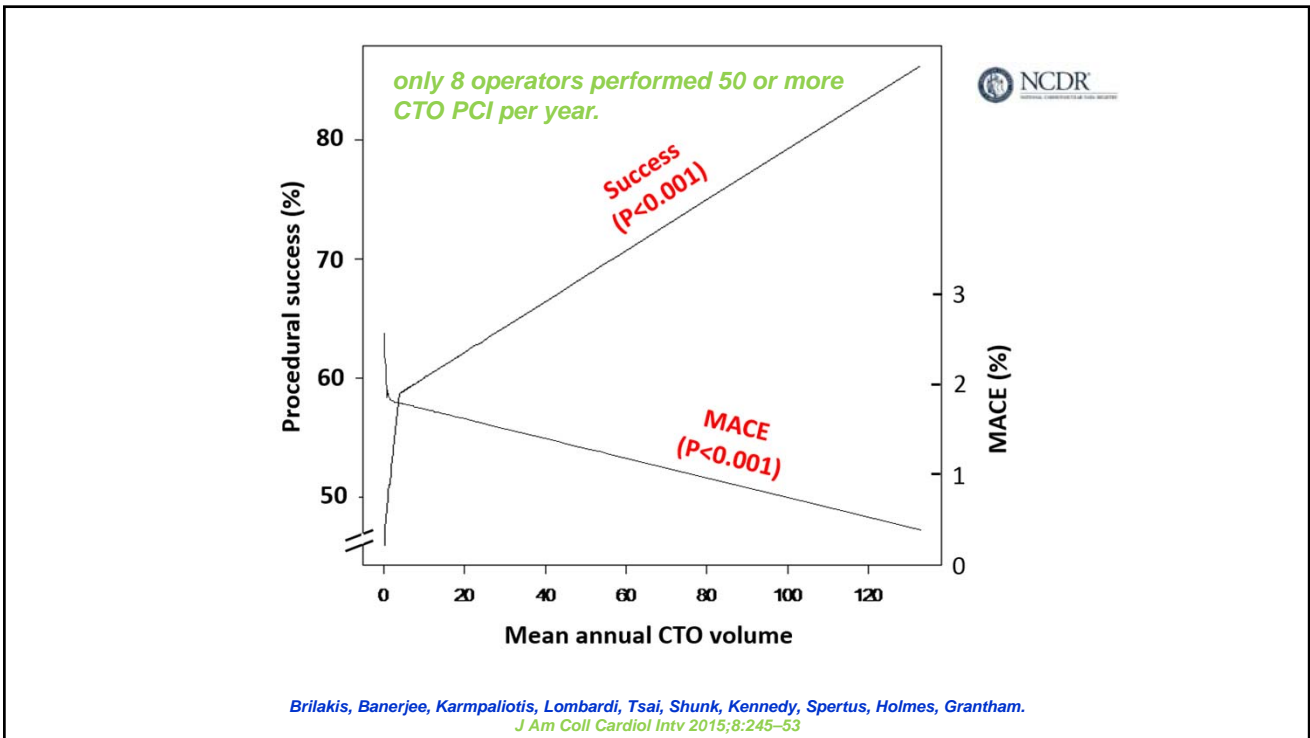
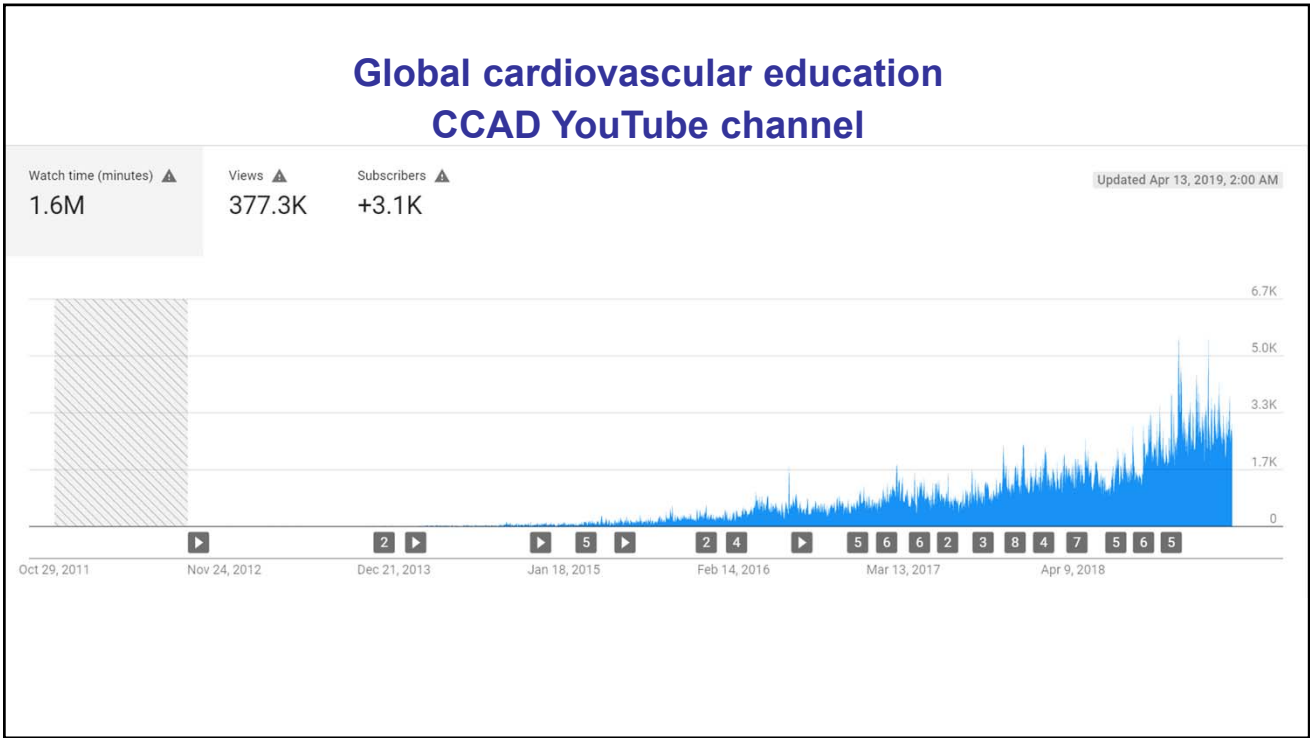
#### CTO Case Database

Use keywords to search for various types of CTO procedures

search by keyword

Showing 1-10 of 120 [add filters](#) Page 1 of 12

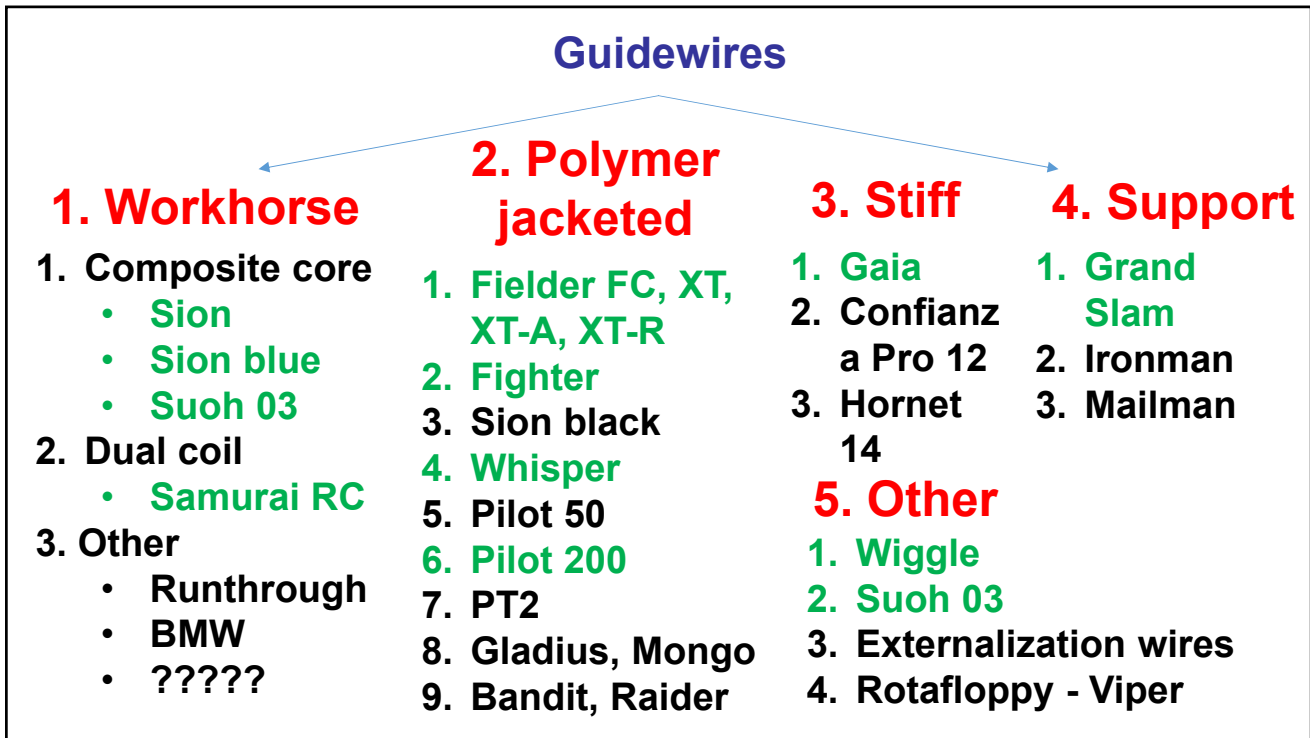
Video	Procedure details
<p><b>Case 120: Manual of CTO Interventions: retrograde-facilitated ADR</b></p> <p>Peter Tajti, MD                      Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD                      Minneapolis Heart Institute</p>	<p>Antegrade crossing attempts of a right coronary artery chronic total occlusion with proximal cap ambiguity failed, despite using multiple angiographic projections. A Gion guidewire successfully crossed a septal collateral, but microcatheters could not cross. The retrograde wire was used as marker for the antegrade crossing attempts. A Fielder XT wire was knuckled and advanced subintimally to the mid RCA. Because a retrograde microcatheter could not be advanced through the septal collateral, reverse CART could not be performed. Instead, we advanced a Stingray balloon over the antegrade guidewire and successfully re-entered into the distal true lumen using the double blind stick and swap technique.</p>
<p><b>Case 119: Manual of CTO Interventions: epicardial perforation</b></p> <p>Peter Tajti, MD                      Emmanouil S. Brilakis, MD, PhD                      Minneapolis Heart Institute</p>	<p>A patient presented with single vessel disease (mid circumflex CTO due to jailing of the dominant circumflex by a stent previously deployed into the obtuse marginal branch). Retrograde crossing via septal collaterals failed. Retrograde crossing via a tortuous epicardial collateral from the first obtuse marginal branch also failed and caused perforation of the epicardial collateral. IVUS-guided crossing attempts also failed. After removal of the guidewire and microcatheter, heparin was reversed with protamine, achieving sealing of the epicardial collateral perforation, as confirmed by intravenous administration of echo contrast (Definity).</p>



## 2. Technology

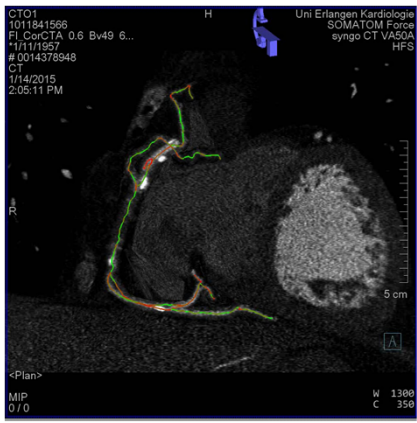
1. Sheaths
2. Guides
3. Microcatheters
4. Guidewires
5. Dissection/re-entry
6. Snares
7. “Balloon Uncrossable” equipment
8. Intravascular Imaging - physiology
9. Complication management
10. Radiation protection
11. Balloons and Stents
12. Hemodynamic support
13. Contrast management

A. NEW “Big”	B. NEW “Small”	C. Angulated	D. Dual lumen NEW	E. Plaque modification
Mamba Teleport Control M-Cath	Mamba Flex Teleport		Sasuke NHancer Rx ReCross	
<b>Microcatheter classification</b>				
<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>EXISTING</b>
Corsair Pro Turnpike Turnpike Spiral Nhancer Pro X	Caravel Turnpike LP FineCross MicroCross 14	SuperCross Venture	FineDuo Crusade Twin-Pass Torque & Twin-Pass	Tornus Turnpike Gold
<small>Vemou E. et al. Expert Rev Med Devices 2019; in press</small>				



## Upcoming techniques/devices

Guidance

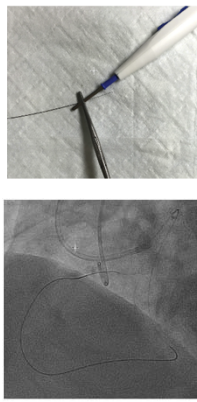


Penetration

IMAGES IN INTERVENTION


**E-CART (ElectroCautery-Assisted Re-enTry) of an Aorto-Ostial Right Coronary Artery Chronic Total Occlusion**  
First-in-Man

William Nicholson, MD,<sup>1,2</sup> James Harvey, MD, MSc,<sup>1,2</sup> Rajiv Dhawan, MD<sup>1</sup>




Distal crossing tip of the guidewire was engaged in cutting mode at 50 W for a 1-s burst, with immediate unimpeded crossing into the lumen of the aorta.

Soundbite system



PlasmaWire System



RetroVascular, Inc.

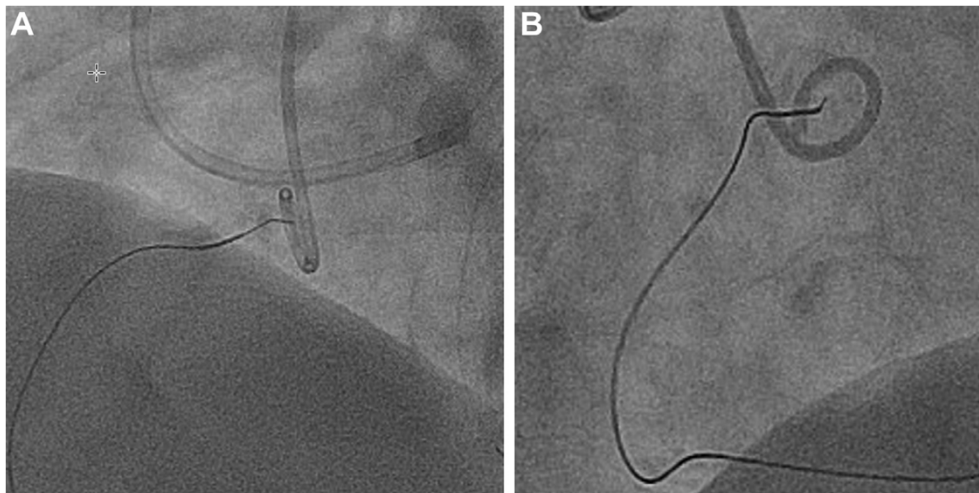
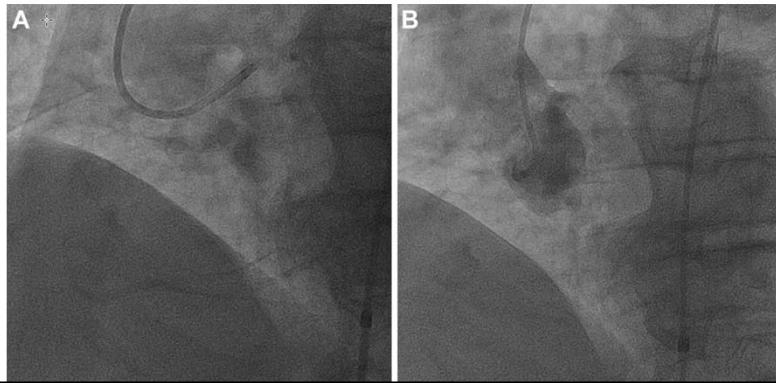
- \* The PlasmaWire System consists of an RF Generator (RFG), Connector Cable and two 0.014" RF wires (PlasmaWire).
- \* Two, independently steerable PlasmaWires act as electrodes to form a bipolar arrangement for precise directional ablation.

IMAGES IN INTERVENTION

# E-CART (ElectroCautery-Assisted Re-enTry) of an Aorto-Ostial Right Coronary Artery Chronic Total Occlusion First-in-Man

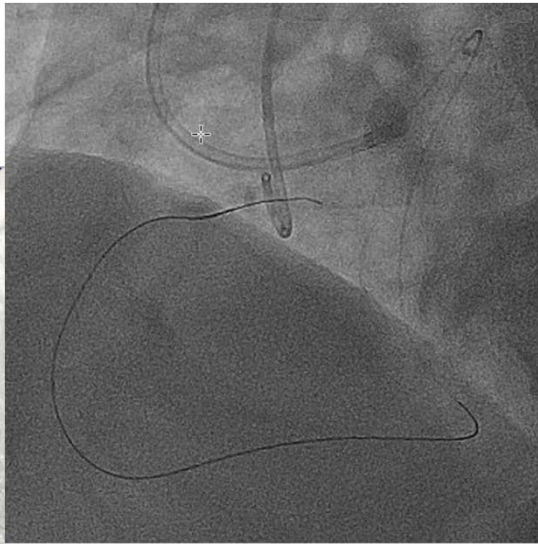
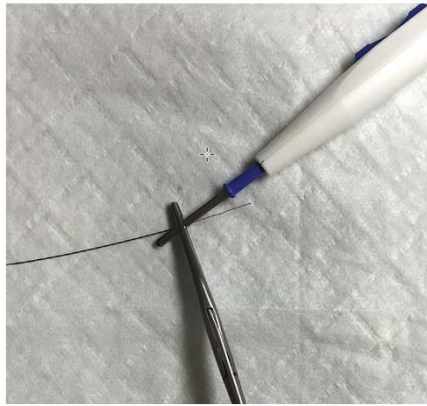


William Nicholson, MD,<sup>a,b</sup> James Harvey, MD, MSc,<sup>a,b</sup> Rajiv Dhawan, MD<sup>c</sup>



Nicholson et al. JACC Cardiovasc Interv 2016;9:2356-8.





Distal crossing tip of the guidewire was energized in cutting mode at 50 W for a 1-s burst, with immediate unimpeded crossing into the lumen of the aorta.

**Nicholson et al. JACC Cardiovasc Interv 2016;9:2356-8.**

## Coronary calcification

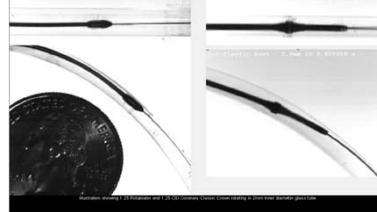


## Orbital Atherectomy Mechanism of Action



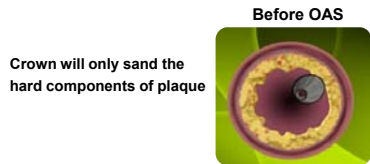
### Differential Sanding:

- 30 micron diamond coating
- Bi-directional sanding, eccentric mounted crown
- Healthy elastic tissue flexes away minimizing damage to the vessel



### Centrifugal Force:

- 360° crown contact designed to create a smooth, concentric lumen
- Allows constant blood flow and particulate flushing during orbit
- Increasing speed increases orbital diameter
- Ability to treat multiple vessel diameters with one crown
- Treat large vessels through 6 French

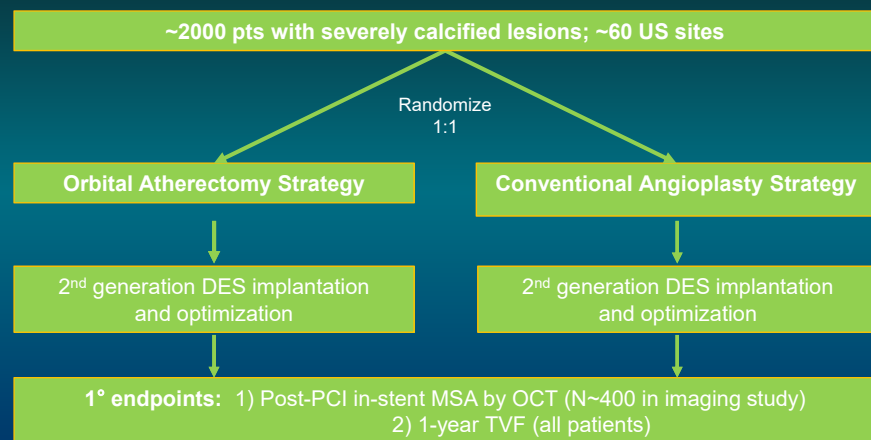


**Primary Endpoints**  
**Imaging** - In-stent minimal cross-sectional area as assessed at the conclusion of the procedure in the imaging cohort.  
**Clinical** - 1-year TVF (defined as the composite of cardiac death, target vessel related myocardial infarction, or clinically driven target vessel revascularization).



## ECLIPSE trial

Evaluation of Treatment Strategies for Severe CaLcific Coronary Arteries: Orbital Atherectomy vs. Conventional Angioplasty Prior to Implantation of Drug Eluting Stents

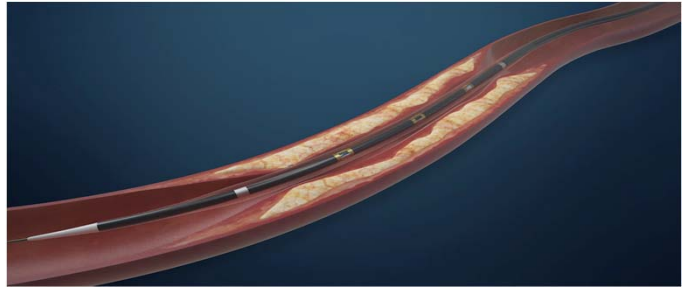


Principal Investigators: Philippe G n reux, Ajay Kirtane; Study chairman: Gregg W. Stone  
 Sponsor: Cardiovascular Systems, Inc.

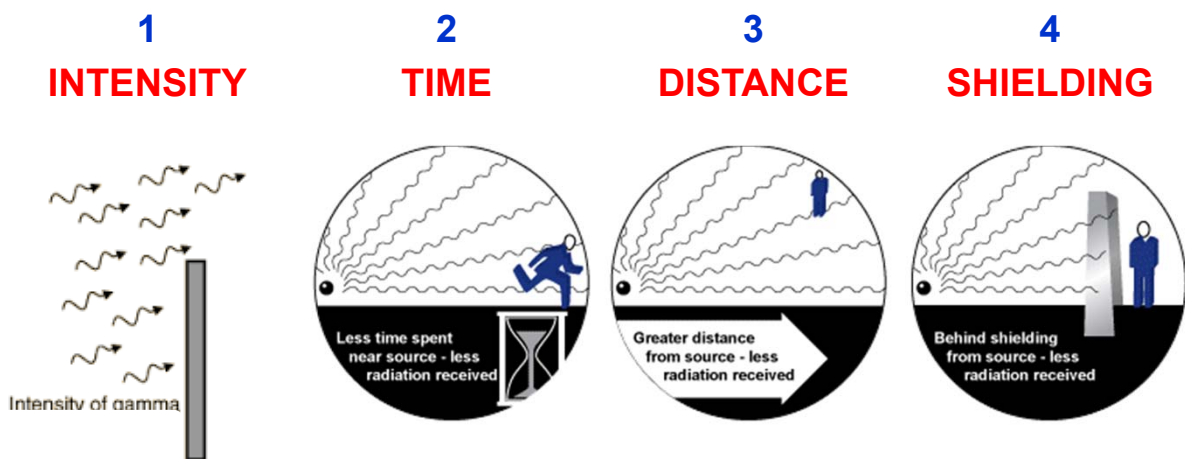
## Coronary Lithoplasty: A Novel Treatment for CAC



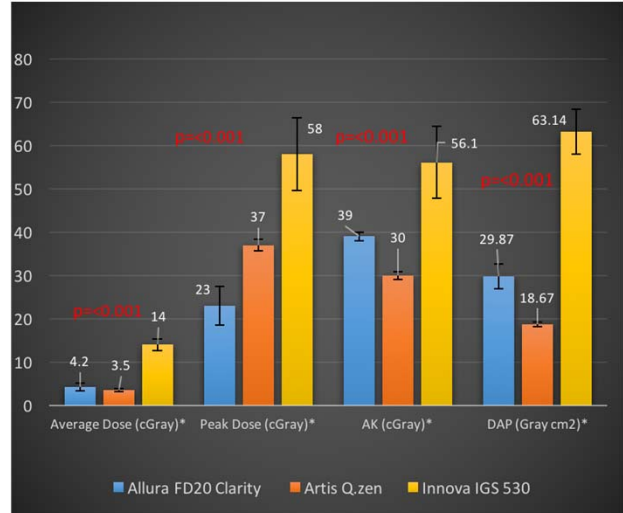
- Based on 30 years of Lithotripsy technology
- Constant, ultra-low pressure
- Sonic pressure waves emitted
  - Circumferential, unfocused
  - 1 pulse/second
  - Pulse exceeds 50 atm
- Sonic pressure waves crack calcium



## How can you reduce radiation dose?



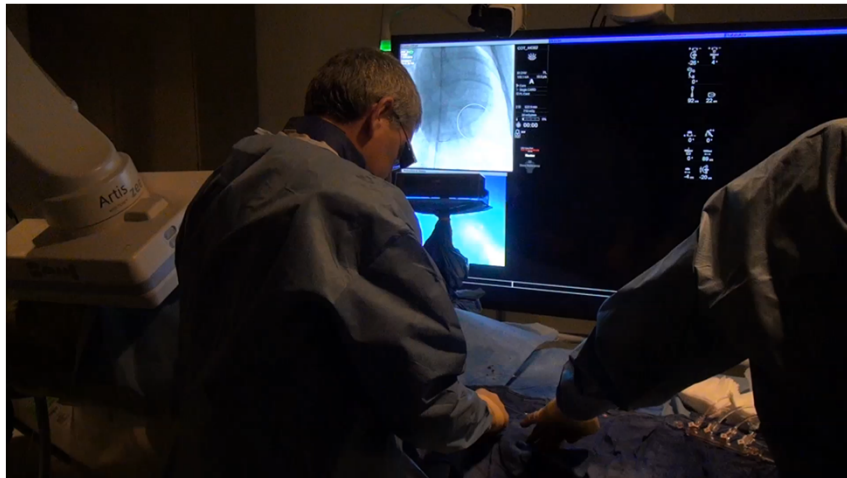
## Impact of X-ray machine



### Anthropomorphic phantom

Martinez-Parachini R et al. ACC 2017

## ControlRad System



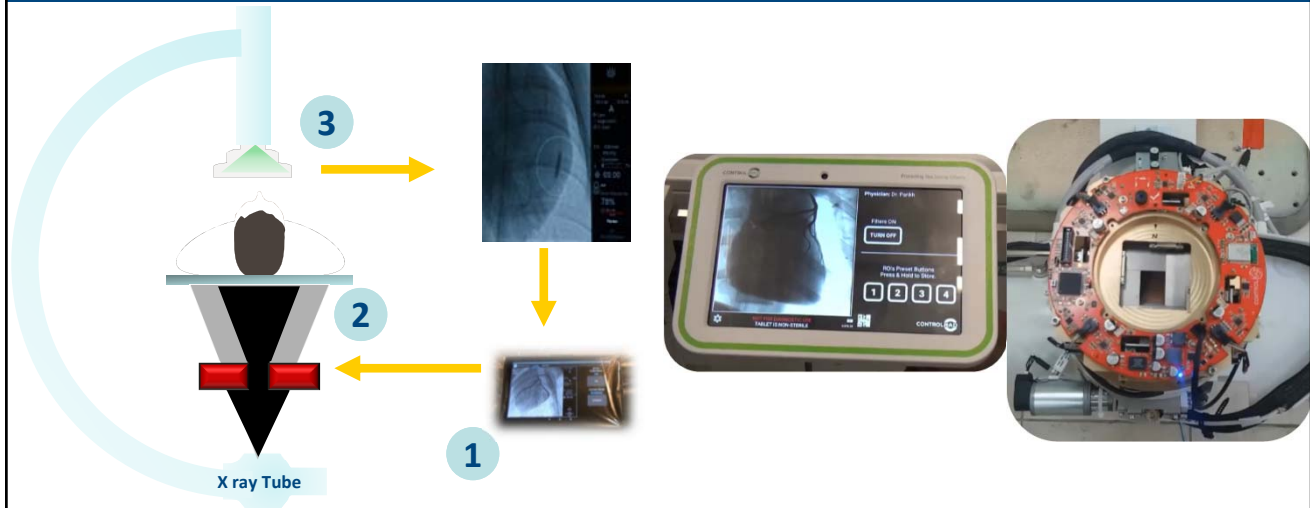
- 75% dose reduction to medical staff
- No impact to workflow or image quality

Med. Phys. 43 (3), March 2016



# ControlRad Eye-Tracker moves Region-of-Interest (ROI) in Real-Time

ControlRad is an integrated system that optimizes the X-ray beam to deliver the highest image quality inside the ROI while maintaining appropriate resolution in the periphery



HEALTH CARE CARDIOVASCULAR INTERVENTION CHRONIC TOTAL OCCLUSION

Healio Cardiologytoday's Intervention

NEWS MEETING CALENDAR BOOKS JOBS

All News Video Opinion In the Journals Meeting News Resource Centers Learn the Heart Current Issues

Healio Cardiovascular Intervention Chronic Total Occlusion

CTO CORNER

### Hiking and CTO PCI: Lessons Learned

Cardiology Today's Intervention, March/April 2019  
 Contributor: S. Bravakos, MD, FJCC

One might not think there are many similarities between hiking and chronic total occlusion PCI, but a recent family trip led me to think there are many lessons about hiking that can also apply to CTO PCI.

To celebrate the new year, my family took a trip to Arizona to visit Phoenix, Sedona and the Grand Canyon. We arrived at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon during a blizzard, wondering to ourselves why we had traveled from Minneapolis to see more snow. We made the most of it, hiking 3 miles down the Bright Angel trail the first day and 3 miles down the South Kaibab trail the following day, which was no small task with a 6-year-old and an 8-year-old. Thankfully, we were prepared with snow pants and boots and bought boot chains that helped prevent slipping on the trails. From there, we drove to Sedona, where we hiked several trails in Red Rock Country, many of which were also covered in snow and ice. Thankfully, we had a great time with no accidents.

This trip led me to make comparisons between hiking and CTO PCI in the lab.

**1. Always Be Prepared**

Our first day in the Grand Canyon, we brought two water bottles. We realized a couple hours into hiking that only one of them was in our backpack; we forgot the other one at the cabin. Similarly, planning is key for CTO PCI. For example, if you are planning to do a retrograde case, make sure you have an externalization guidewire before you start the case. When you anticipate difficulty with support, make sure you use an 8F guide upfront. You can never do enough planning. Be sure to write a procedural plan first. An equipment checklist can go a long way when doing a challenging case.

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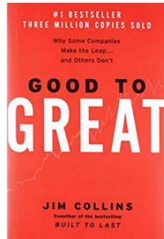
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## Many unanswered questions....

### Patient questions

1. How will I feel afterwards?
2. Will I live longer?
3. What is the likelihood of success?
4. What is the likelihood of complications?
5. Will I die during the procedure?



### MD questions

1. What strategy is most likely to be successful?
2. Which strategy should be avoided?
3. How long should I try a strategy before switching?
4. When should I stop?
5. Which is the best way to learn CTO PCI?

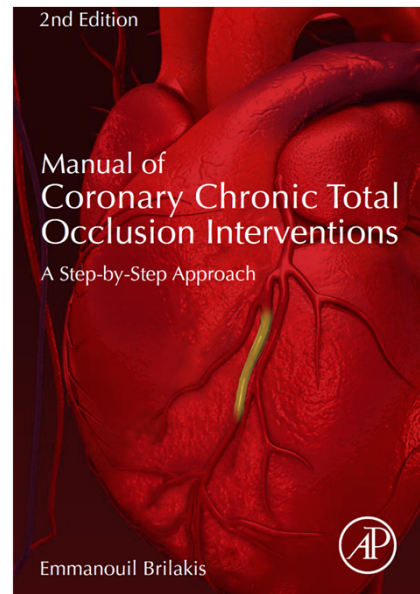
### Payor/hospital questions

1. What is the cost-effectiveness of CTO PCI?
2. Which centers should be performing CTO PCI?
3. Have CTO PCI outcomes been improving over time?

## Conclusions

### CTO PCI

- CTO PCI: revascularization tool
- RCTs: important limitations
- Good results at experienced centers
- Poor results overall
- Key indication: Symptom Improvement
- Risk/benefit ratio key for pursuing CTO PCI
- Global consensus reached
- Need for more specialized experts and dedicated operators



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