LOW FLOW LOW GRADIENT AORTIC STENOSIS

HOW MANY DISEASES ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?



BACKGROUND

THE LV's RESPONSE TO PRESSURE OVERLOAD IS WANTONLY CAPRICIOUS.









$\sigma = P x r / 2th$





Carabello BA, Green LH, Gross W, et al. Hemodynamic determinants of prognosis of aortic valve replacement in critical aortic stenosis and advanced congestive heart failure. Circulation 1980;62:42-48.

CARABELLO et al CIRC 1980



80 Y/O WOMAN

CLASS III Sx OF DYSPNEA

• 3/6 SEM; DELAYED CAROTIDS

ABSENT A₂





• 1.7 cm LV WALL

• EF 0.62

• MEAN GRADIENT 24 mm Hg

• AVA 0.8 cm²



CONCENTRIC REMODELING WITHOUT LVH



• SMALL THICK VENTRICLES

• NO ROOM FOR THE BLOOD

• LOW STROKE VOL, NL EF

LOW GRADIENT



WHY CAUSES THIS HETEROGENEITY IN RESPONSE ?

STENOSIS SEVERITY ?

PATIENT FACTORS (BODY HABITUS, ACTIVITY etc?

RATE OF ORIFICE NARROWING ?

GENETIC BACKGROUND ?



CANINE MODEL OF AS

• CONTROLLABLE AORTIC BAND

DOGS OUTWARDLY SIMILAR

• BROWN, MALE, 25 kg







ael



IS LVH GOOD OR BAD







WELL-KNOWN

LVH INCREASES MORTALITY, ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF ISCHEMIA



DUNCAN et al ATS 2008

AVR MORTALITY

- CONC GEO NO CONC GEO
- 38/964 (3.9%) 18/964 (1.9%)

- MORBIDITY
- 33/964 (3.4%)

17/964 (1.8%)



	Total "tight" TAC	l day survival	3 day survival	7 day survival
NTG littermates (of 5x-RGS4-myc mice)	9	8 (89%)	7 (78%)	7 (78%)
NTG C57BL * SJL	48	41 (85%)	30 (63%)	30 (63%)
5x-RGS4-myc	18	6 (33%)	2 (11%)	2(11%)
8x-RGS4-myc	14	2 (14%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)



Rogers et al JCI 1999



WHAT IS SEVERE AS

WHEN YOU FIND OUT YOU TELL ME



SEVERE AS

1/4/40

 \mathbf{O}



1.0

WIGGERS EXPERIMENTS IN RUBBER TUBES, CIRCA 1938





Beth Israel

40 mm Hg

• 1998 ACC/AHA GUIDELINES: 50 mm Hg





AND THEN THERE IS INDEXING





REEVES et al J APPL PHYS 1961



AS HAS CHANGED

AND WE CHANGED IT









Figure 28.7 Left ventricular (LV) and femoral artery (FA) pressure tracings in a patient with severe aortic stenosis (aortic valve area 0.4 cm²). During pullback of the retrograde catheter from LV to ascending aorta, the peak systolic femoral artery pressure can be seen to increase (ΔP) by approximately 20 mm Hg. This sign is seen only in patients with aortic valve areas <0.6 cm². The mechanism of this phenomenon is believed to be partial obstruction of an already narrowed aortic orifice by the retrograde catheter and relief of this obstruction with catheter withdrawal. (From Carabello BA, et al. Changes in arterial pressure during left heart pullback in patients with aortic stenosis. *Am J Cardiol* 1979;44:424.)

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- Velocity increases as blood passes through the stenosis
- Pressure Gradient = $4V^2$










TAKING CARE OF THE LOW GRADIENT LOW FLOW SEVERE AS PATIENT

• 1. THE DEFINITION OF SEVERE IS SHAKY

• 2. THE RESPONSE OF THE LV IS MANIFOLD

 3. IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT ALL



72 Y/O MAN

• DYSPNEA WALKING 50 ft. TO GET THE NEWSPAPER IN THE MORNING

• 3 PILLOW ORTHOPNEA

• WITHOUT SYNCOPE OR ANGINA



PE

- BP 110/80 P84
- EST CVP: 10 cm H₂O
- BILAT BASILAR RALES
- 2/6 MID-LATE PEAKING SEM
- CAROTIDS WEAK, ? DELAYED



ECHO

- EF 0.22
- Pk JET vel 2.8 m/sec
- MEAN GRADIENT 22 mm Hg
- AVA 0.9 cm²
- DIMENSIONLESS INDEX 0.27





CARABELLO etl al CIRC, 1980



SMITH et al Circulation 1978







CONNOLLY et al CIRCULATION; 2000



WHO'S GOING TO DIE?; WHO'S GOING TO GET BETTER?



Beth Israel

NOT VERY WORRIED ABOUT THE 35/40 PATIENT





Patient Survival (%)



Follow-up (months)

Kaplan-Meier survival estimates by group and treatment.

Monin J-L, Quere J-P, Monchi M, et al. Low-gradient aortic stenosis: operative risk stratification and predictors for long-term outcome: a multicenter study using dobutamine stress hemodynamics. Circulation 2003;108:319-324.





72 Y/O MAN

• DYSPNEA WALKING 50 ft. TO GET THE NEWSPAPER IN THE MORNING

• 3 PILLOW ORTHOPNEA

• WITHOUT SYNCOPE OR ANGINA



• NEGATIVE INJOTROPIC RESERVE





Le Ven et al JACC '13

INFUSION OF SNP AT 25 mcg/min



	REST	SNP
MAP mmHg	68	62
CO l/min	3.5	5.0
MG mm Hg	20	19
AVA cm ²	0.8	1.2



FOUGERES et al EUR HJ 33:2426, 2012

80 Y/O WOMAN

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ABSENT A₂





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NORMAL EF BUT NOT NORMAL SYSTOLIC FUNCTION



NORMAL SARCOMERE SHORTENING IS 0.10-0.12%

NORMAL EF IS 0.60





• SUBNORMAL SARCOMERE SHORTENING CAN STILL YIELD A NORMAL EF





SEVERE LOW GRADIENT NL EF AS

TALK ABOUT APPLES AND FREIGHT TRAINS



STUDY MISCONSTRUCTIONS

COMPARING SYMPTOMATIC TO
ASYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS

 ADMIXING CAD AND THOSE WITH CLEAN CORONARIES

• USING AVA ALONE TO DEFINE AS



DOES THE Pt REALLY HAVE SEVERE AS TO BEGIN WITH





Figure 1. Individual and median changes in mean Doppler gradient (A) and peak aortic jet velocity (B) showing significant increase for both parameters compared to baseline (p &It;0.001). Dark solid lines represent median changes.

Christophe Tribouilloy, Dan Rusinaru, Vincent Charles, Jamila Boulif, Frédéric Maes, Franck Lévy, Agnès Pasquet, Sylvestre Maréchaux, Jean-Louis Vanoverschelde

Progression of Low-Gradient, Low-Flow, Severe Aortic Stenosis With Preserved Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction

The American Journal of Cardiology, Volume 116, Issue 4, 2015, 612–617

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amjcard.2015.05.023



Figure 3. Kaplan-Meier survival curves comparing cardiovascular survival in patients with mild or no AS (short dashed line), moderate AS (medium dashed line), severe paradoxical LG-AS (dashed and dotted line), and severe HG-AS (solid line). Numbers at bottom i...

Nawel Rezzoug, Bert Vaes, Agnès Pasquet, Bernhard Gerber, Christophe de Meester, Gijs Van Pottelbergh, Wim Adriaensen, Catharina Matheï, Jan DeGryse, Jean-Louis Vanoverschelde

Prevalence and Prognostic Impact of Valve Area—Gradient Patterns in Patients ≥80 Years With Moderate-to-Severe Aortic Stenosis (from the Prospective BELFRAIL Study)

The American Journal of Cardiology, Volume 116, Issue 6, 2015, 925–932

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amjcard.2015.05.062

MODERATE AS USING ONLY AVA FOR DEFINITION

• ALL AS IS NOT ALIKE



IT'S ALL GOT TO FIT

- PHYSICAL EXAM
- AVA,JET
- VALVE MOVEMENT
- CALCIFICATION



Beth Israel



Figure 1. Distribution of Aortic Valve Calcification by Sex in the Various AS GroupsConcordant grading-moderate aortic stenosis (AS), discordant grading with low mean gradient (MG), discordant grading with high MG, and concordant grading-severe AS; x-axis in b...

Marie-Annick Clavel, David Messika-Zeitoun, Philippe Pibarot, Shivani R. Aggarwal, Joseph Malouf, Phillip A. Araoz, Hector I. Michelena, Caroline Cueff, Eric Larose, Romain Capoulade, Alec Vahanian, Maurice Enriquez-Sarano

The Complex Nature of Discordant Severe Calcified Aortic Valve Disease Grading : New Insights From Combined Doppler Echocardiographic and Computed Tomographic Study

Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Volume 62, Issue 24, 2013, 2329–2338

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2013.08.1621
YOU CAN NEVER COMPARE
 ASYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS TO
 SYMPTOMATIC PATIENTS NO
 MATTER WHAT THE AVA





LOW FLOW, LOW GRADIENT SEVERE AS IS REAL



Kaplan–Meier all-cause mortality analysis to 2 years is shown for patients with low flow (LF) vs normal flow (NF; A), LF with low ejection fraction (LEF) vs normal ejection fraction (NEF; B), and LF with LEF and low gradient (LG) vs normal gradient (NG; C).



Herrmann H C et al. Circulation. 2013;127:2316-2326



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Figure 4. Baseline and 9-Month Follow-Up of Mitral Ring Displacement Data According to the 4 Groups StudiedPatients with moderate AS showed higher values both at baseline and follow-up compared with patients with low-gradient AS, irrespective of ejection fract...

Sebastian Herrmann, Stefan Störk, Markus Niemann, Volkmar Lange, Jörg M. Strotmann, Stefan Frantz, Meinrad Beer, Stefan Gattenlöhner, Wolfram Voelker, Georg Ertl, Frank Weidemann

<img height="20" border="0" style="vertical-align:bottom" width="39" alt="CME article" title="CME article"
src="http://eresources.library.mssm.edu:3160/content/image/1-s2.0-S073510971101566X-cme_o.gif">LOW-Gr
Valve Stenosis : Myocardial Fibrosis and Its Influence on Function and Outcome
Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Volume 58, Issue 4, 2011, 402–412

Mount Sinai Beth Israel

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2011.02.059



Dweck et al JACC 2011





Figure 3 Kaplan-Meier Curves of Overall Survival According the Group of Patients and Type of Treatment Kaplan-Meier curves of overall survival according the group of patients and type of treatment: AVR versus Conservative (Cons). Abbreviations a...

Marie-Annick Clavel, Jean G. Dumesnil, Romain Capoulade, Patrick Mathieu, Mario S?n?chal, Philippe Pibarot

Outcome of Patients With Aortic Stenosis, Small Valve Area, and Low-Flow, Low-Gradient Despite Preserved Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction

Journal of the American College of Cardiology Volume 60, Issue 14 2012 1259 - 1267

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2011.12.054



Figure 6. Kaplan-Meier survival plot for overall survival of the three different groups. Note the worst survival in AS patients with LF/LG physiology.

Sebastian Herrmann, Bastian Fries, Dan Liu, Kai Hu, Stefan Stoerk, Wolfram Voelker, Catharina Ruppert, Kristina Lorenz, Georg Ertl, Frank Weidemann

Differences in Natural History of Low- and High-Gradient Aortic Stenosis from Nonsevere to Severe Stage of the Disease

Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography, 2015, Available online 28 August 2015

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.echo.2015.07.016



Figure 2. Kaplan-Meier Curves for Clinical Outcomes According to Assigned Treatment ModalityKaplan-Meier analysis of death (A) and cardiovascular death (B) at 1 year according to the assigned treatment modality. Abbreviations as in Figure 1.

Crochan J. O'Sullivan, Lars Englberger, Nicola Hosek, Dik Heg, Davide Cao, Giulio G. Stefanini, Stefan Stortecky, Steffen Gloekler, Ernest Spitzer, David Tüller, Christoph Huber, Thomas Pilgrim, Fabien Praz, Lutz Buellesfeld, Ahmed A. Khattab, Thierry Carrel, Bernhard Meier, Stephan Windecker, Peter Wenaweser Clinical Outcomes and Revascularization Strategies in Patients With Low-Flow, Low-Gradient Severe Aortic Valve Stenosis According to the Assigned Treatment Modality

JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions, Volume 8, Issue 5, 2015, 704–717

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcin.2014.11.020



Figure 4. Kaplan-Meier Curves for Clinical Outcomes Stratified by Completeness of Revascularization Among TAVR and SAVR Patients OnlyKaplan-Meier analysis of death (A) and cardiovascular death (B) at 1 year according to the completeness of revascularization am...

Crochan J. O'Sullivan, Lars Englberger, Nicola Hosek, Dik Heg, Davide Cao, Giulio G. Stefanini, Stefan Stortecky, Steffen Gloekler, Ernest Spitzer, David Tüller, Christoph Huber, Thomas Pilgrim, Fabien Praz, Lutz Buellesfeld, Ahmed A. Khattab, Thierry Carrel, Bernhard Meier, Stephan Windecker, Peter Wenaweser Clinical Outcomes and Revascularization Strategies in Patients With Low-Flow, Low-Gradient Severe Aortic Valve Step According to the Assigned Treatment Modality

JACC: Cardiovascular Interventions, Volume 8, Issue 5, 2015, 704–717

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcin.2014.11.020

AND IF SYMPTOMATIC MUST BE TREATED AS SUCH



SUMMARY

- LOW FLOW LOW GRADIENT LOW EF AORTIC STENOSIS IS THE PRODUCT OF A VERY SICK HEART, ESPECIALLY 20/20.
- INOTROPIC RESERVE IS IMPORTANT IN SURGICAL RISK STRATIFICATION BUT NOT IN PREDICTING POST- OP OUTCOME
- BAV MAY BE A USEFUL BRIDGE IN SUCH PAITENTS



LOW FLOW NORMAL EF SEVERE AORTIC STENOSIS

• MAKE SURE THEY'VE GOT IT

 PROGNOSIS REDUCED BUT BETTER OUTCOME WITH AVR. ? TAVR



SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT GUIDELINES

HEART TEAM

INTEGRATIVE APPROACH



• IF YOU FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WITHOUT FAIL



YOU'RE NOT DOING YOUR JOB

