# How to Overcome the Complex Anatomical Barrier in Carotid Artery Stenting

John R. Laird
Professor of Medicine
Medical Director of the Vascular Center
UC Davis Medical Center

#### Disclosures

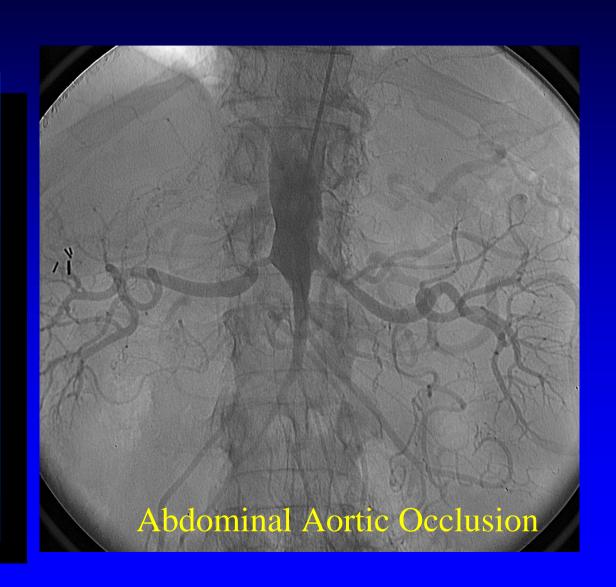
- Consultant: Spectranetics
- Advisory Board: Cordis, BSC, Medtronic, eV3, Edwards Lifesciences, Angioslide, Angioscore, Biocardia, SquareOne, NexGen, ReVascular, Novostent
- Equity Interest: AccessClosure

#### **Complex Anatomy**

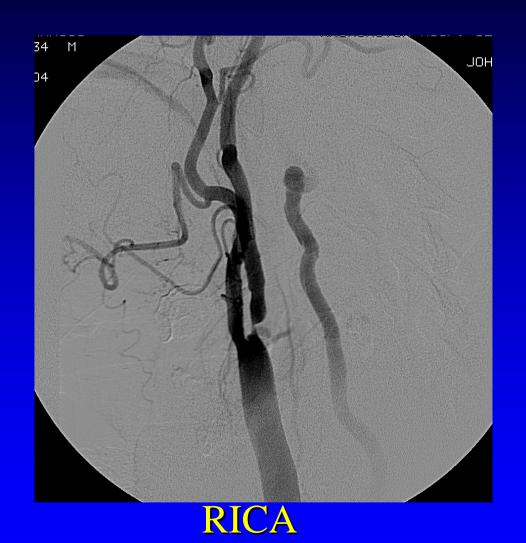
- Difficult access
- Complex arch anatomy
- Severe carotid tortuousity/angulation
- Lesion complexity
  - Dense calcification
  - Ulceration
  - Tandem lesions
  - Instent restenosis

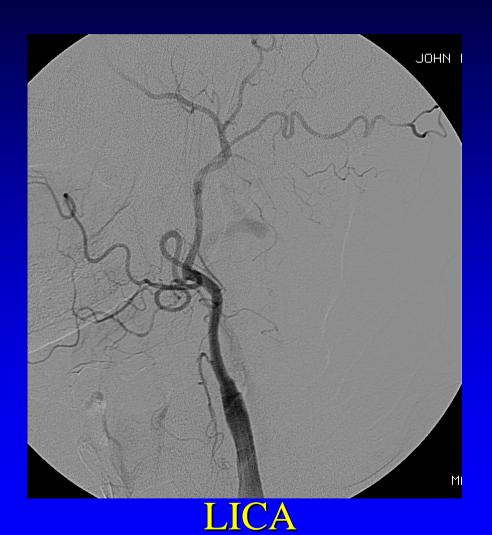
#### Difficult Access

- 71 year old male
- Severe CAD, LV dysfunction, Chronic renal insufficiency, PAD, severe carotid disease
- Referred for carotid stenting



# Carotid Angiography

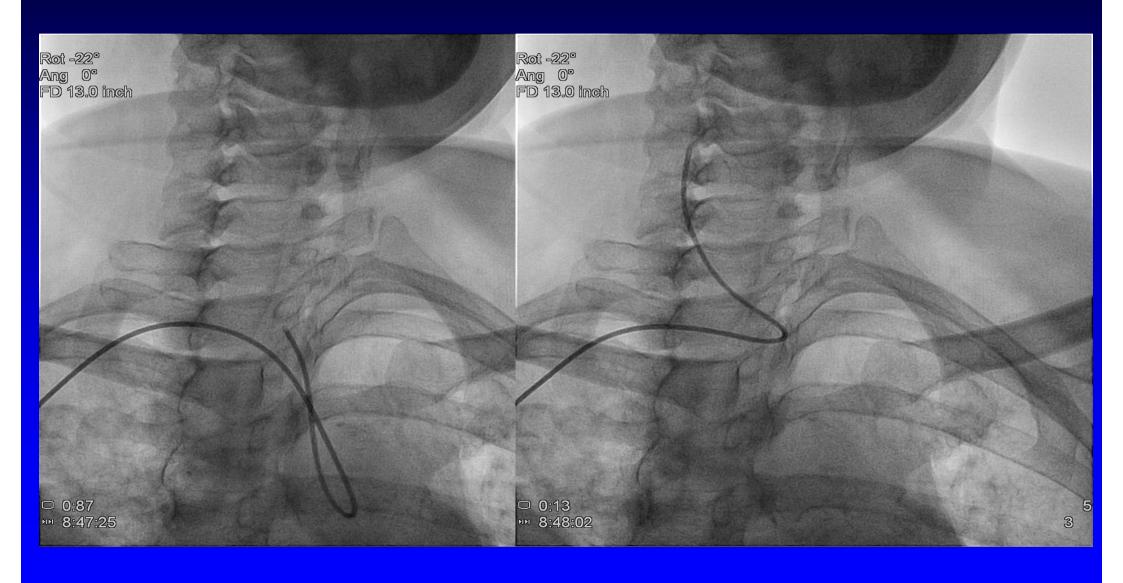




#### **Access for Carotid Interventions**

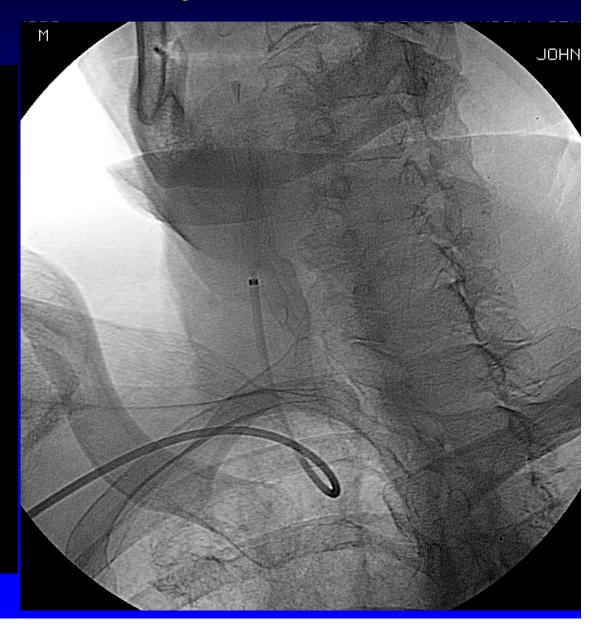
- Transfemoral
- Direct carotid puncture
- Transbrachial
- Transradial
- Transaxillary
- Transseptal!!
- Superficial temporal artery "through and through" technique!!!!

# Right brachial - Simmons 2

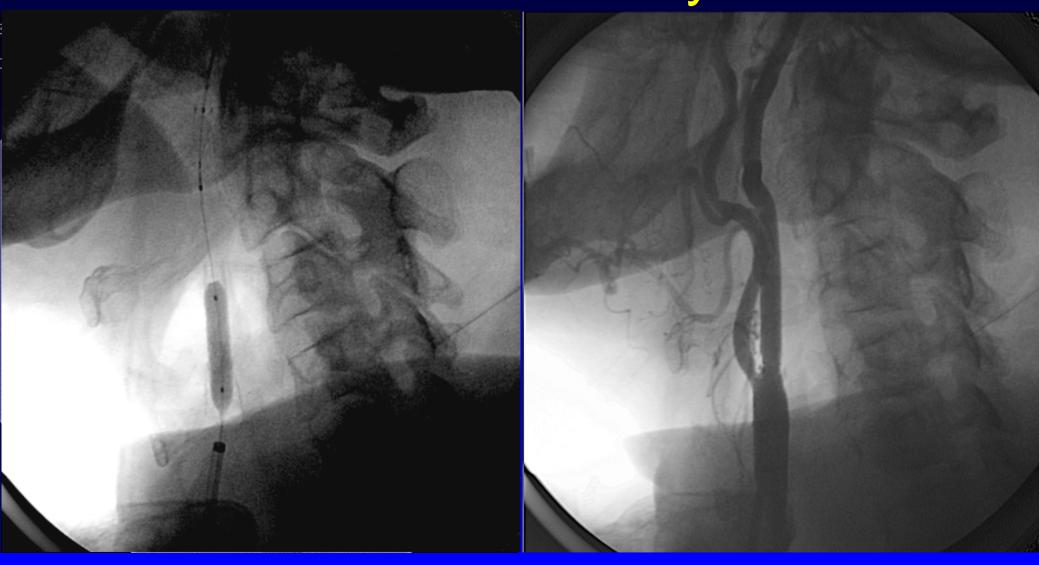


#### **Case History**

- 0.035 inch
   Supracore guidewire into external carotid artery
- 6 Fr Shuttle sheath over guide wire into common carotid artery



# Case History

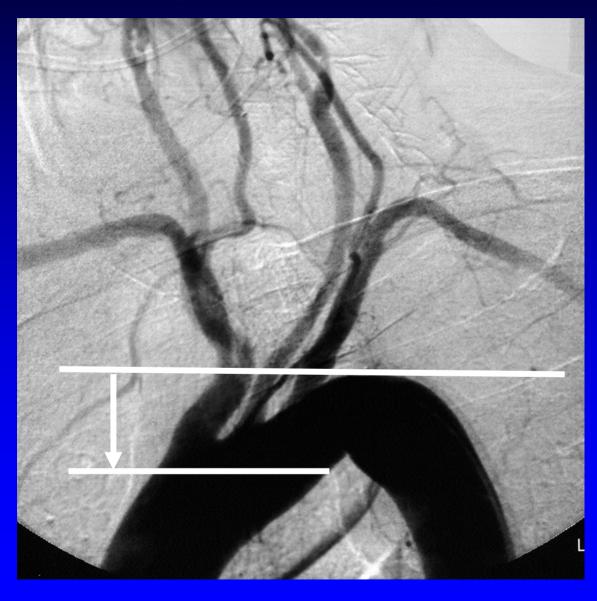


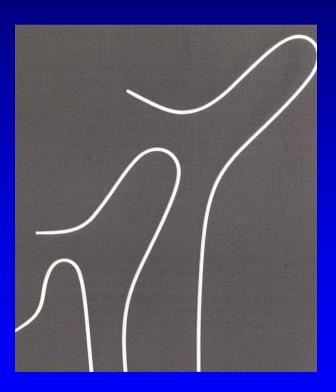
# Complex Arch Anatomy





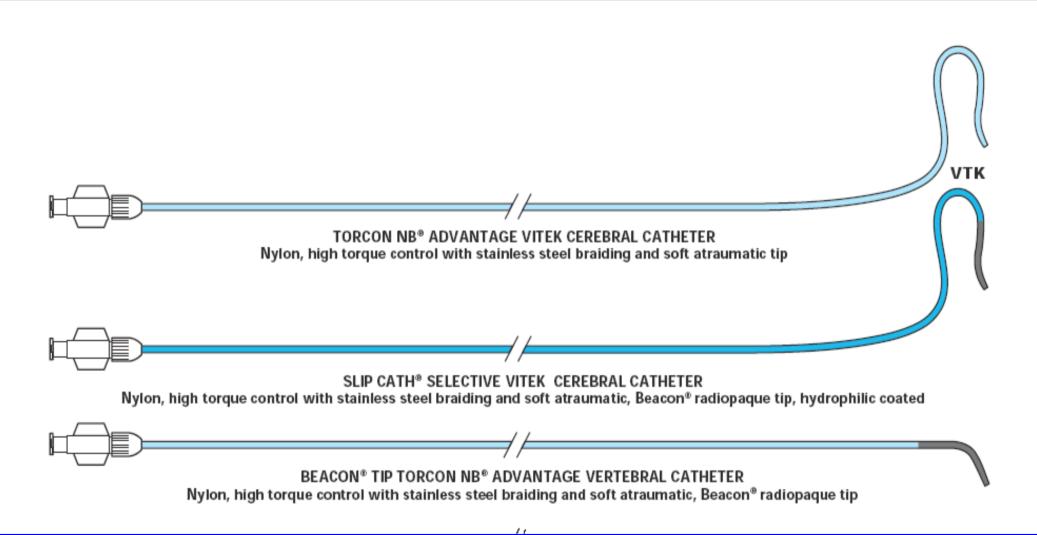
# Selective Catheter Choice





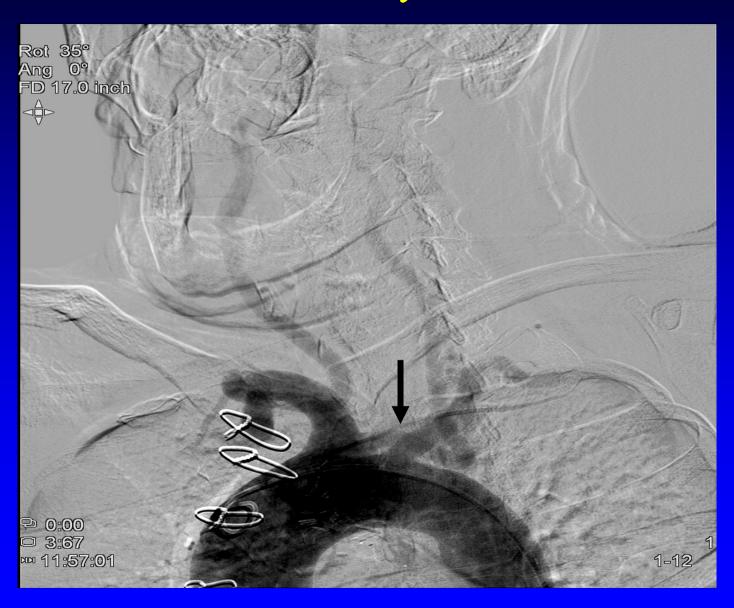
Vitek, Simmons 1,2,3 Catheters

#### Carotid Access Catheters



125 cm catheters necessary for placement through Shuttle sheath

#### Know When to Say No!





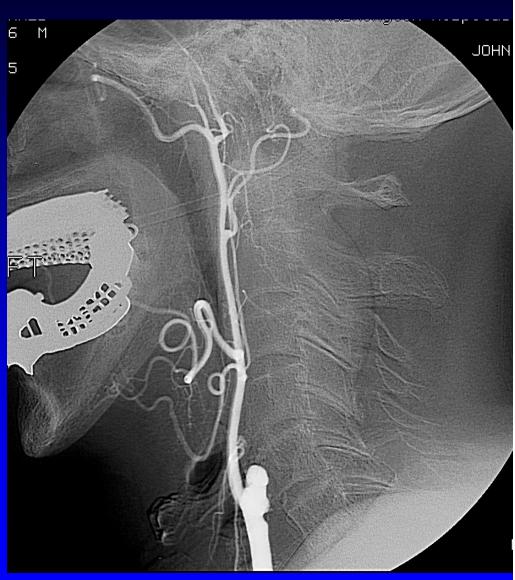
### Safe Access for Carotid Stenting?

- 72 year old male
- Severe CAD
- Renal insufficiency
- LICA occlusion
- Severe, symptomatic RICA stenosis



# Carotid Angiography





RICA

# Technique Guiding Catheter from a Distance

- 8 Fr Guiding catheter from the aortic arch (Hockey Stick, Cordis)
- Guidant carotid stent platform
  - -6.5 mm Accunet filter
  - -8 mm x 3 cm Acculink stent

# Case History



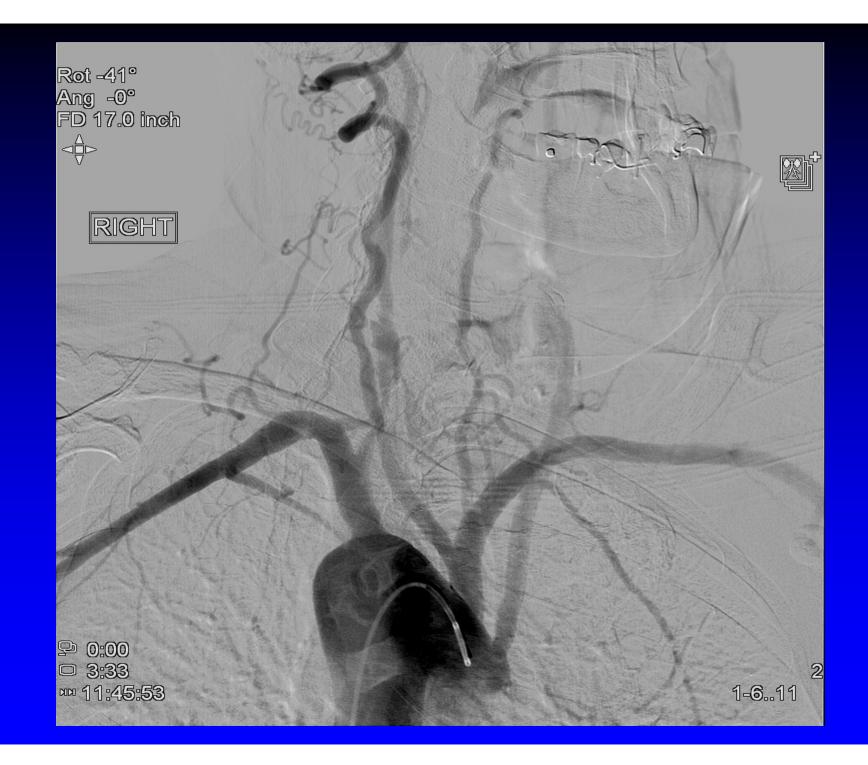


Baseline

Final Result

#### History

- 56 years old female
- Smoker
- Left CEA 7 years ago and right CEA 6 years ago
- Right carotid bruit with carotid duplex scan showing recurrent stenosis of her distal right CCA with a PSV of 428cm/s and EDV of 154cm/s

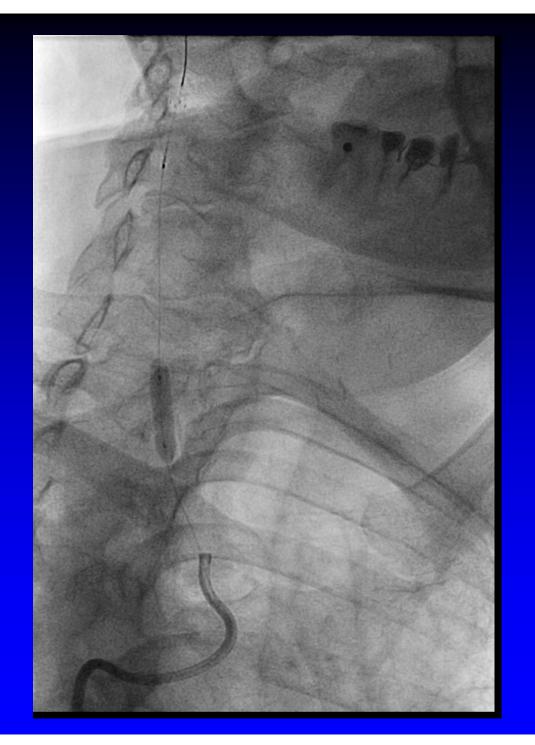


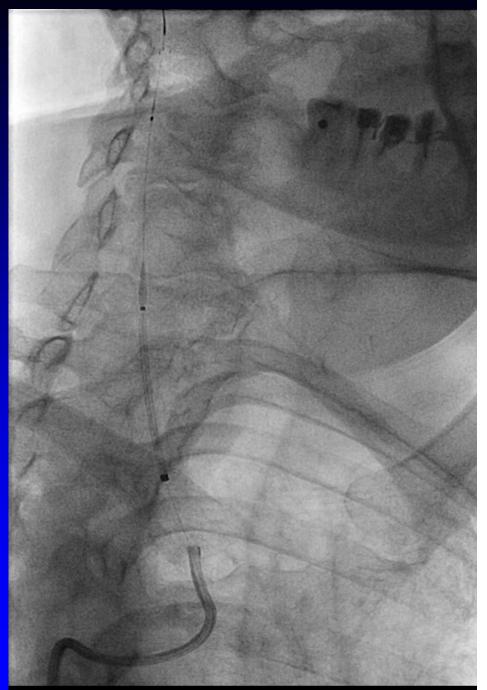
#### Right CCA stenosis

- Deep ulcerations of her right CCA.
- Right ECA was occluded.
- Diagnostic angiogram with 5F Simmons 1 catheter.
- Guiding catheter was a 8F Vista AL3
- Distal protection was a 6.5mm Accunet







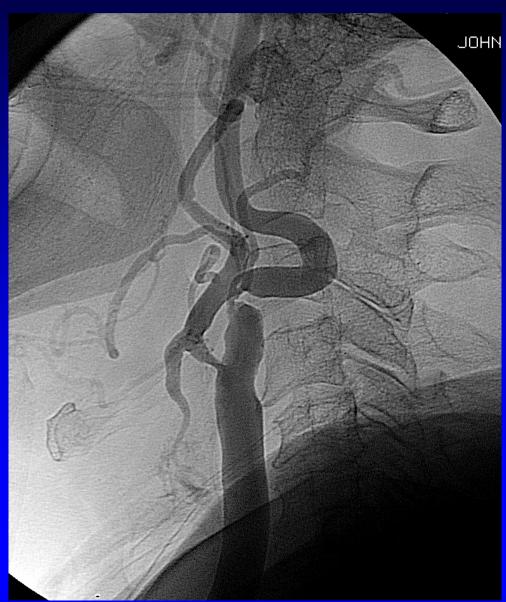






# **Carotid Tortuosity**



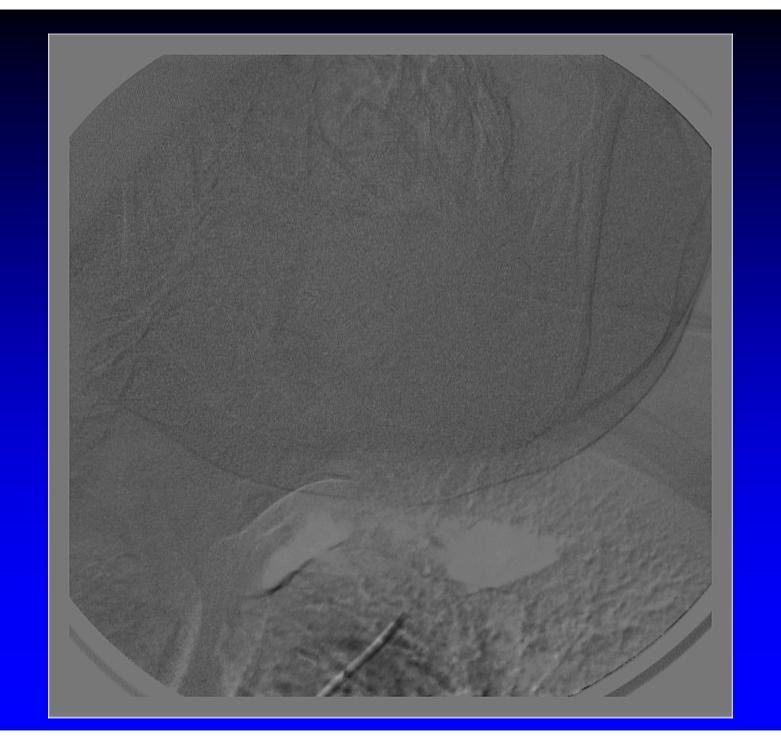


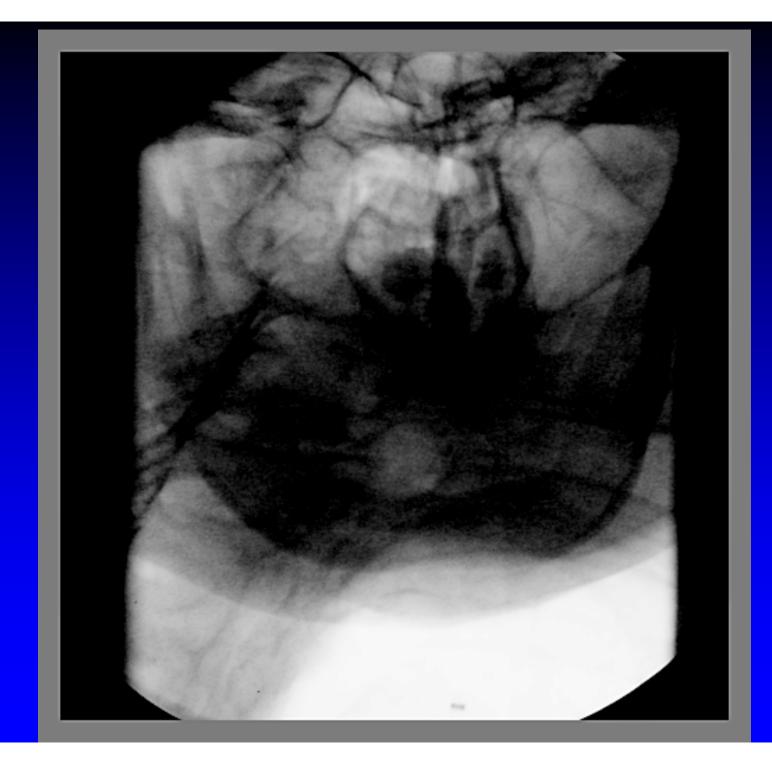
#### Dealing with Carotid Tortuousity

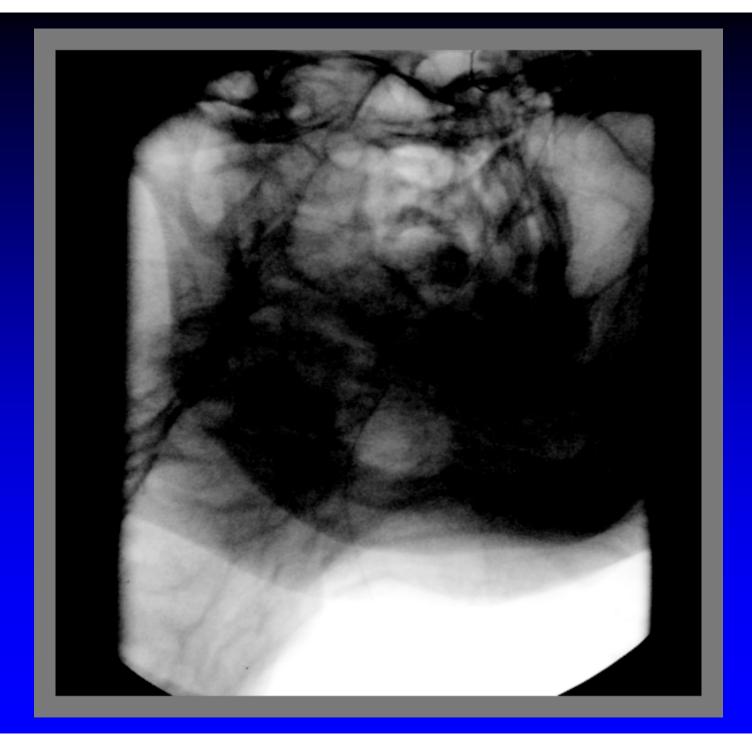
- Be prepared for displacement of kinks or bends
- Be familiar with the different embolic protection devices and their pros/cons in tortuous anatomy
- Be prepared to use the "Buddy Wire" technique
- Don't be fooled by vessel straightening artifact

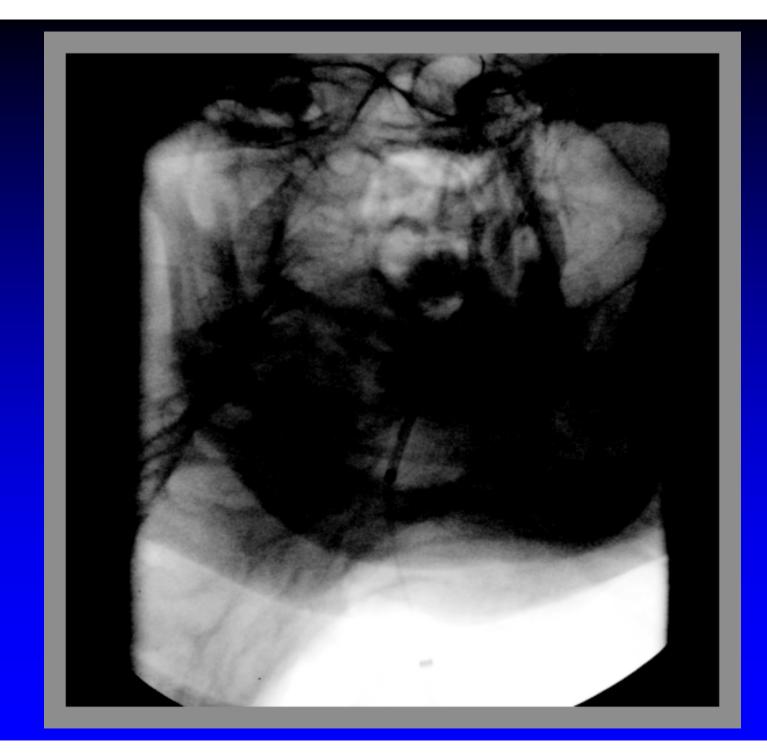
#### Case History

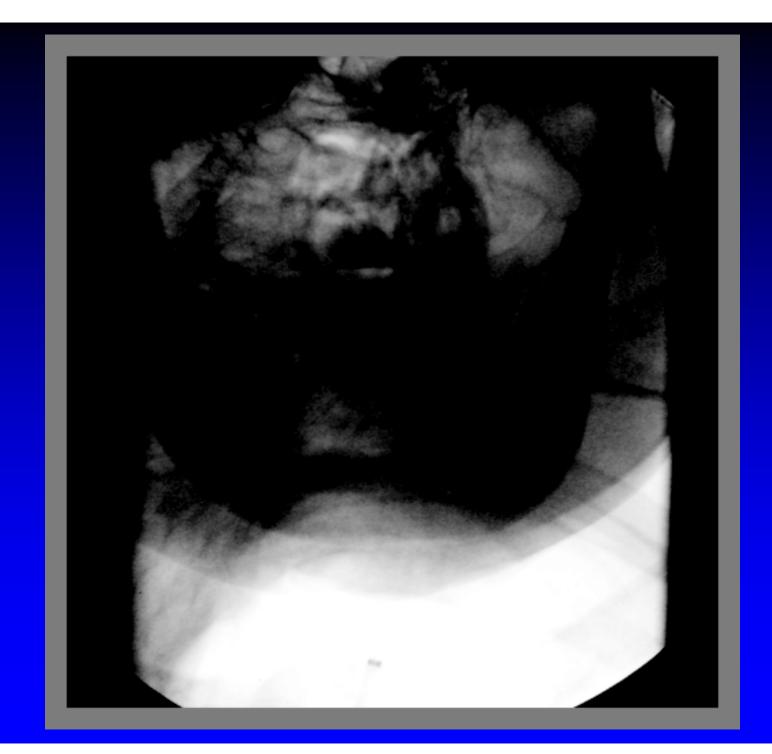
- 65 year old female
- Symptomatic left carotid artery stenosis (80-99% by duplex)
- No significant right carotid artery stenosis
- Severe underlying CAD not completely revascularized











#### Final Thoughts

- Complex carotid anatomy can be approached safely if you are familiar with the appropriate equipment and techniques
- You must always analyze the risk/benefit ratio
- Know when to say no or when to back off if things are not progressing smoothly