Pathologic and Clinical Evidence of Neoatherosclerosis

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Incidence and Timing of Atherosclerotic Change



Neoatherosclerosis Following PES, SES, and BMS Implantation



Nakazawa G, Otsuka F, et al. JACC 2011



Incidence of Foamy Macrophage Clusters







Incidence of Fibroatheroma



PES (14 months)



Incidence of Thin-cap Fibroatheroma or Plaque Rupture



BMS (96 months)



Independent Risk Factors for Neoatherosclerosis (Multiple Logistic Generalized Estimating Equations Modeling)

Variables	Odds Ratio	95% CI	P value
Age (per year)	0.963	0.942 – 0.983	<0.001
Duration of implant (per month)	1.028	1.017 – 1.041	<0.001
SES usage	6.534	3.387 - 12.591	<0.001
PES usage	3.200	1.584 - 6.469	0.001
Underlying unstable lesion*	2.387	1.326 - 4.302	0.004

* "Underlying unstable lesion" includes ruptured plaque and thin-cap fibroatheroma.



Case Presentation

- 65-year old male
- Unstable angina pectoris
- Single vessel coronary artery disease
- Recanalisation of chronic total occlusion proximal RCA (SES) 2006
- Repeat stenting for in-stent restenosis proximal RCA (SES) 2008







Optical coherence tomography (OCT) imaging







Main Factors of Late Stent Thrombosis in 80 OCT Patients PRESTIGE Registry with over 500 cases of LST



Neoatherosclerosis within the EES



Incidence of Neoatherosclerosis Stratified by Duration of Implant BMS, 1st and 2nd Generation DES



Nakazawa G, JACC. 2011;57:1314-22

(Unpublished data, includes cases of vein graft)

Poorly Formed Endothelial Cell Junctions Following Stent Placement in Humans: Scanning Electron Microscopy Findings

71-year-old woman who died of stroke



CV 8504 RCA

Pavement-shaped endothelial cells with endothelial cell-to-cell contact, a small area exhibits poorly formed cell junctions



Poorly formed endothelial cell junctions

Guagliumi G, et al. Circulation 2003;107:1340-1341 Otsuka F, et al. Nat Rev Cardiol; 2012:439-453.

Speculative Pathway of Neoatherosclerosis

Different from Atherosclerosis in Native Coronary Artery



Foamy Macrophage Accumulation on Luminal Surface

72-year-old female, BMS (Palmaz-Schatz stent) implanted in proximal RCA 10 years antemortem





Neoatherosclerosis: Newly formed atherosclerotic change within the neointima.

* Stent strut

Neoatherosclerosis with Necrotic Core

48-year-old man, Sirolimus-eluting stent implanted in proximal LAD, Non-coronary death (suicide)



Signal-rich pattern To amy macrophage accumulation within the neointima 200 µm CD68 (Macrophages) 200 µm

Neoatherosclerosis: Newly formed atherosclerotic change within the neointima.

* Stent strut

Summary: Neoatherosclerosis

- In-stent neoatherosclerosis is characterized by foamy macrophage accumulation with or without necrotic core formation, and occurs both in BMS and DES. However, DES shows more frequent and rapid development of neoatherosclerosis as compared to BMS.
- In-stent plaque rupture from neoatherosclerosis is an important cause of VLST in both BMS and DES, which can occur with shorter duration of implant for DES as compared to BMS.
- Incompetent endothelium following stent implantation is characterized by poorly formed cell junctions, reduced expression of antithrombotic molecules, and decreased nitric oxide production, which may be associated with more accelerated neoatherosclerosis in 1st-gen DES as compared to BMS.
- Second-generation DES also shows neoatherosclerosis but the incidence and characteristics of neoatherosclerosis in newer-generation DES is as yet too early to establish in autopsy studies as the number of cases are too few
- OCT appears to be a better tool for the detection of neoatherosclerosis as compared to IVUS, while it is also important to understand the limitation of this technology.

Acknowledgments

<u>Funding</u>

CVPath Institute Inc.

CVPath Institute

Masataka Nakano, MD Fumiyuki Otsuka, MD, PhD Kenichi Sakakura, MD Frank D Kolodgie, PhD Elena Ladich, MD **Russ Jones** Robert Kutz, MS Ed Acampado, DVM Youhui Liang, MD Abebe Atiso, HT Michael Cooper Jinky Beyer **Giselle Magsalin** Hedwig Avallone, HT Lila Adams, HT Hengying Ouyang, MD



