Imaging & Physiology Summit

CORONARY HYPEREMIA IS MANDATORY ? YES ! RESTING INDEX IS NOT ENOUGH

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Why Do I Need Hyperemia ?

- Limited Clinical Significance of resting indices
- *iFR* is at odds with experimental validation
- resting gradients poorly predict hyperemic gradients
- Resting Conditions Are Hard to Obtain
- Large gray zone without hyperemia
- no independent outcome data for iFR or cFFR
- decreased signal to noise ratio without hyperemia

REST



iFR = Pd / Pa at rest during WFP (Sen et al, JACC 2012)

<u>basic assumptions</u>: 1. resistance during WFP at rest equals average hyperemic resistance
2. iFR is claimed to be "hyperemia-free"

Review from 27 dogs and 12 swine exper performed between 1986 and 2003 minimal myocardial resistance during the so-called "wave-free period" is ~ 250 % higher than average myocardial resistance at maximum hyperemia in <u>all</u> dogs and swine, and varies a lot



VERIFY study, Berry et al, JACC 2013: N= 200 patients

REST

HYPEREMIA



iFR = Pd / Pa during WFP \rightarrow strongly dependent on hyperemia

Colin et al, JACC 2013, Johnson et al JACC 2013 REST

HYPEREMIA



iFR = Pd / Pa during WFP \rightarrow strongly dependent on hyperemia

.....and by slight manipulations of the wire, giving a little bit of contrast, or even just saline, you can get any iFR or Pd/Pa value you like

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$\Delta P = f Q + S Q^2$







iFR = 0.89 FFR = 0.85

iFR = 0.94 FFR = 0.57

<u>In general:</u>

- small perfusion territory, distal stenosis, older patient, moderate long lesion, small artery, microvascular disease:
 - often moderate gradient at rest with little increase at hyperemia
- large perfusion territory, proximal stenosis, young patient, short lesion, large artery, good microvasculature:
 - often minimal gradient at rest with large increase at hyperemia

Especially these lesions are missed by resting indexes



Male 46 years old, PressureWire in RCA





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Mr M, born 26-03-1937, long mild/moderate proximal LAD lesion



long moderate proximal LAD lesion; equalization



PW in distal LAD; patient "asleep" (relaxed)



PW in distal LAD; patient "awake"



prior to adenosine: explanation to patient what is going to happen



advancing the wire 2 cm and pulling it back again



Measurement of FFR



After waiting for 5 minutes, not touching anything



verification of equal pressures and absence of drift



what is "resting"? nothing is so variable in the cathlab as "resting" obtaining true resting conditions in a conscious patient in the catheterization laboratory, is illusionary......

.....and as a consequence, large variation in cut-off values to detect ischemia are found for resting indices:

Traditional CFR: ischemic threshold varies from 1.6 to 3.5

iFR: 0.83 (Advise study, Sen et al) 0.88 (Koo et al) 0.92 (Jeremias et al)

Similar for all indexes which rely upon resting value of flow

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2.4 % of patients go from green to gray or v.v. and 2.4 % from red to gray Almost nobody ever crosses from red to green or v.v.

FFR (Fractional Flow Reserve)



Modified from Petraco et al; EuroIntervention 2013

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- iFR is at odds with experimental validation
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- limited reliability (80% at most) and no independent outcome data for iFR or cFFR
- decreased signal to noise ratio without hyperemia



RESOLVE study (N=1768)

iFR



Jeremias, CRF, 2013

Submaximal Hyperemia with a single routine Contrast injection: CONTRAST study (LBT at PCR)



Diagnostic accuracy of different indices compared to FFR:

iFR: 79% *Pd/Pa at rest:* 80% *P < 0.001 Contrast FFR:* 85 % *(cFFR)*

Optimum binary cut-off for contrast Pd/Pa: 0.83

Johnson et al, LBT at PCR, in press

Outcome data in RCT only available for FFR

- there are no independent outcome data for iFR
- diagnostic accuracy is decreased to 80% in all studies (whether performed by proponents or opponents)
 Verify study, N=200, prospective and consecutive Resolve study, N=1600, retrospective
 Advise-2 study, N = 650, prospective
 Contrast study, N= 750, prospective
 and in none of these studies, there was any difference
 between iFR and Pd/Pa at rest
- ongoing studies (Define-Flair, Swedish Heart....) do not independently investigate outcome for iFR (non-inferiority design in low-risk patients)

Outcome data in RCT only available for FFR

In the *FAME study*, FFR guided PCI in MVD was *superior* to angiograpy guided PCI and reduced all types of events by approximately 30%



Outcome data in RCT only available for FFR

Take a low-risk population, a non-inferiority design with a liberal margin, make people believe that RC registry is the same as a RCT.....and you can prove anything !



Correct Classification of Ischemic Stenosis

100 % certainty (holy grail) >95 % hyperemia 85 % 80 % resting indexes 70 % angio Simple paradigm: "the more hyperemia, the higher the accuracy"

FFR Contrast cFFR resting Pd/Pa, iFR, angiography

- Leaving away (full) hyperemia, means decrease of accuracy and false decision making in 20% of patients. With so-called "hybrid" approaches (i.e. hyperemia in part of the patients) 10% false decisions
- Does a few minutes of extra work and a very moderate saving of money for a hyperemic drug justify a wrong decision in 1 out of every 5-10 patients?

For us, PCI might be routine....for the patient, it is a big deal!

Therefore, we should do it in the best possible way !