Wire and Microcatheter Selection and Handling for Calcified CTO PCI

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Coronary calcification in CTO lesion is one of the independent predictors for the failure of CTO-PCI.

Case 1: RCA CTO (Failure due to calcification)



Case 1: Coronary CT (Plain)



Case 1: RCA CTO



✓ 3.0mm OTW balloon for anchoring ✓ GAIA2→GAIA3→Conquest12g →Conquest 8-20g→Conquest 9-40g

Case 1: RCA CTO



Penetration of proximal cap was impossible.

Case 1: RCA CTO

Conquest 9-40g tip

Conquest 9-40g was fractured.
 Fortunately, rope coil was not stretched and remained around the wire tip.

Coronary calcification in CTO lesion is one of the independent predictors for the failure of CTO-PCI.

After crossing GW, various techniques are needed to cross microcatheter, balloon, and stent.

- Difficulty of crossing devices (Microcatheter, balloon, stent, etc)
 ✓ Getting stronger back-up force
 - Shape of guiding catheter
 - Balloon anchoring
 - Mother-child technique
 - Getting bigger space and changing bias
 - Two wires

- Rotational atherectomy
 - Scoring balloon (Cutting, NSE, AngioSculpt)

- Difficulty of crossing devices (Microcatheter, balloon, stent, etc)
 ✓ Getting stronger back-up force
 - Shape of guiding catheter
 - Balle LCA: XB, SPB, EBU
 Moti RCA: AL, SAL
 7Fr or 8Fr is better to get stronger back-up
 - Getting bigger space and changing bias
 - Two wires

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GAIA Next 3



Balloon anchoring the system.

CARAVEL uncross

1.25 balloon uncross

GAIA Next2

















Mother-child technique

Guidezilla could not pass with JR back-up and without balloon anchoring.

Balloon anchoring is better for advancement Guidezilla. Guidezilla can advance more distal just after balloon deflation.





Calcified CTO with bridging collateral in bending vessel.























 Any balloon could not pass with two wire and mother-child techniques.

Drilling wire (Miracle12g) to crush calcification







2.0mm NC balloon













Over-rotation of GW in calcified CTOs may be associated with core or rope coil fracture.

Combination of various techniques is required to cross microcatheter, balloon, or stent

- Rotablator is the best device for lesion modification if wire exchange is successful
- Calcification crush by hard wire is one of the options for lesion modification.