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LAA Closure with WATCHMAN FLX



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Potential conflicts of interest

Speaker's name : Shunsuke Kubo

✓ I have the following potential conflicts of interest to declare:

Clinical Proctor Honoraria or consultation fees

- : Boston Scientific, Abbott Medical
- : Boston Scientific, Abbott Medical



WATCHMAN FLX Device





Change from Gen 2.5 to FLX



Treatable up to 31.5mm of LAA ostium Device can be implanted for shallow LAA

We can push the device after making FLX ball

Greater number of struts reduce peri-device leak

Increased anchor improve device stability

May improve endothelization of the fabric



Safety of WATCHMAN FLX





S Kar et al. Circulation. 2021; 143:1754–1762.

FLX PINNACLE Trial

| | N = 400 | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Implant success | 98.8% (395/400) | |
| Procedure-related stroke | 0.5% (2/400) | |
| Pericardial effusion | 1.0% (4/400) | PROTECT AF |
| Number of devices used | 1.2 ± 0.4 | |
| Complete seal @ 12 months | 89.5% | 66.9% |
| DRT @ 24 months | 1.8% | 4.0% |



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78 Years, Male

- Persistent Afib on DOAC
- Steroid user for Bechet disease
- History of gastric bleeding and ischemic stroke under DOAC
- Planned LAAC with WATCHMAN FLX device due to high risk of both bleeding and stroke

CHADS2: 5

CHADS2VA2Sc: 7

HASBLED: 4



Sizing Chart of WATCHMAN FLX



Maximum diameter (mm) of left atrial appendage (LAA) entrance or implanting closed device



LAA Measurement 45/135



Dist 22.3 mm 135 40.9 mm Dist 41.0 mm Dist 20.4 mm -# Dist 23.0 mm

Use biplane mode to measure the same plane of LAA ostium



Dist 28.3 mm

M4

LAA Measurement 0/90





Max LAA diameter = 28.3mm 31mm has risk of undercompression if the shoulder protrudes Select 35mm WATCHMAN FLX device



Transseptal Puncture





Should puncture inferior and posterior/mid Easy to make coaxial to LAA ostium LA pressure = 16mmHg



LAA Angio and Sheath Position



Insert access sheath to the LAA using pigtail catheter Select anterior lobe by turning the sheath counterclockwise



Access sheath is coaxial to landing zone Don't push the sheath too much



Device Implantation





- 1. Unsheath and make FLX ball
- 2. Recognize FLX ball in TEE
- 3. Push the sheath to move the FLX ball at distal position
- 4. Deploy the device with unsheath or advance the device
- 5. Push the sheath to expand the device



Tug Test



PASS criteria

- position
- anchor
- size
- seal

Pull the device cable to check the stability of the anchor

Device surface is soft and move to proximal as usual, but distal anchor is stable



Assessment of Peri-device Leak and Compression

Peri-device leak







Device compression

Peri-device leak and device compression should be assessed at 4 angles.

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Two Implantation Method

Deployment technique of FLX ball



Unsheath method



Advance method



Advance Method



If you push the device too much, a tip of device directed to posterior. (Not coaxial to LAA ostium)





Combination Method

• WATCHMAN FLX



Make the FLX ball and advance the access sheath (not device) to distal. Unsheath before directing posterior and deploy.



Recapture



Summary

- LAA closure with WATCHMAN FLX is safe and controlled procedure.
 - Larger ranges of LAA can be closed.
 - Sizing based on the LAA measurement is important.
 - Combination implantation is recommended to be coaxial to LAA.
 - Easy to be recaptured and redeploy.
 - Better sealing and healing is expected.

