The 26th TCTAP 2021 Virtual

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Benefits of OCT in PCI guidance and vulnerable plaque detection

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Disclosure statement of financial interest

Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse/partner have had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.

Affiliation/Financial Relationship

- Grant/Research Support
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- Major Stock Shareholder/Equity
- Royalty Income
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- Intellectual Property Rights
- Other Financial Benefit

Company

- No







Lipid rich plaque: risk of no-reflow









A 73-year-old male underwent PCI for the treatment of mid-LAD lesion (arrow). In OCT image at pre-intervention, the culprit lesion presented lipid-rich plaque with thin-fibrous cap. After stenting, angiogram showed no-reflow, and OCT disclosed plaque rupture behind stent. TCFA is easy to be ruptured by PCI and has a high risk for coronary no-reflow.

Kubo, Akasaka et al. Circ J 2012;76:2076-83

Calcification: risk of stent underexpansion



OCT before PCI (A) showed entire circumferential calcium. OCT after NSE-balloon angioplasty (B) and after PCI (C) demonstrated calcium fracture (arrows). Thickness of the calcium fracture was 800µm (double headed arrow). Arrow heads = stent struts; Asterisk = Calcium; GW = guide wire.

Kubo T, et al. J Jpn Corn Assoc 2016;22:1-8



Plaque rupture: risk of no-reflow



Case: 72 years old female with STEMI. Coronary angiography showed an occlusion in proximal LAD. OCT after aspiration thrombectomy demonstrated fibrous cap disruption (arrow) and core cavity (star) (A), and TCFA (fibrous cap = arrow heads, and lipid core = asterisk) (B).

Kubo T. PCI Training Manual. Gurbel PA, editor. 2016 SPRINGER NATURE

Erosion: non-stent strategy



Case: 27 years old male with STEMI. Baseline angiogram showed a total occluded lesion in the mid LAD. After thrombus aspiration, residual stenosis on the angiogram at the culprit site was mild (40%). OCT indicated plaque erosion with white thrombus (arrows). After 1 month of treatment with antithrombotic agents, angiogram showed a 30% stenosis, and OCT showed no visible thrombus overlying a fibrous plaque.

Jia H, Kubo T, Akasaka T, Yu B et al. Circ J. 2018;82:302-8

Ca-nodule: Orbital atherectomy

Baseline

1st (low speed)

(A) Asterisk = calcified nodule. Star = calcium plate.

- (B) Low speed oribital atherectomy ablated mainly calcium plate.
- (C) High speed oribital atherectomy ablated was also ablated calcium nodule .

2nd (high speed)





Reference site and lesion length



- **Reference site:** Most normal looking. Lipid arc <180 degree.
- **Stent length:** By measuring distance from distal to proximal reference site



OCT-Angiography coregistration



- Angio-coregistration (A)
 - MLA site
 - Reference sites
 - \Rightarrow Geometric miss prevention
- Lumen profile view (C) Automatic measurements
 - Lumen area and diameter
 - ⇒ Stent size determination
- Cross-sectional image (B)
- Longitudinal image (D)

Khalifa A, Kubo T, et al. J Coron Art Dis 2019;25:52-59

OCT-Angiography coregistration

Geographic miss during coronary stenting was evacuated in OCT-guided PCI with versus without automated OCT-Angiography coregistration in 200 de novo coronary lesions.



The discrepancy in the distance between planned vs. actual implanted stent location was significantly shorter in automated OCT-Angiography coregistration use.

Koyama K et al. Catheter Cardiovasc Interv. 2019;93:411–418.



Determination of stent diameter



Ali ZA ,et al. Lancet 2016; 388: 2618–28



A case with stent edge dissection



In the OCT short axis image, a and b are similar, and d is fibrous plaque. I think that it is good to present only B and c. A case of stable angina. Coronary angiography showed diffuse severe stenosis in the left anterior descending coronary artery (A). Under the coronary angiography guide, BP-EES 2.5 / 8 mm, 2.75 / 16 mm, 3.0 / 32 mm were placed in an overlapping manner (B). Lipid plaques were observed on the BP-EES 2.5 / 8 mm stent edge in the long axis image (C) of the OCT after stent placement (*). A short-axis image (ad) corresponding to each level of the long-axis image shows a coronary artery dissection (arrows a and b) spreading on the distal side of the stent and a stent landing on a lipidic plaque (*) (c, d). 'd' looks like a fibrous plaque.

Shimamura K, Kubo T. Coronary Intervention. 2018;14:82–88





Stent malapposition



OCT allows automatic detection of malapposed stent struts highlighted by color code. Left = OCT cross-sectional image. Upper = Lumen profile view. Lower = OCT longitudinal view.

3D-OCT image of stent





3D-OCT image of stent







Stent expansion



OCT allows automatic measurements of minimum stent area (MSA) and stent expansion index (EXP). Upper = Lumen profile view. Lower = OCT longitudinal view.

Summary of post-PCI optimization targets



MSA>5.5mm² (IVUS) and >4.5mm² OCT MSA/average reference lumen > 80%

The most relevant targets to be achieved following stent implantation in non-LM lesions are shown. These include optimal stent expansion (absolute as well as relative to reference lumen diameter); avoidance of landing zone in plaque burden >50% or lipid rich tissue; avoidance of large malapposition regions, irregular tissue protrusion, and dissections. Thresholds provided reflect the consensus of this group. Some are based on consistent and robust prospective data (e.g. stent expansion, landing zone) and others are less established (e.g. malapposition).

Clinical use of intracoronary imaging. Part 1: Guidance of PCI. EHJ 2018;39:3281–300

Vulnerable plaque detection: LRP + TCFA



Lipid-rich plaque (LRP) ... Maximum lipid arc >180°

Thin-cap fibroatheroma (TCFA) ... Minimum fibrous cap thickness <65 μm

LRP+TCFA

... Meeting both LRP and TCFA definitions



ACS event arising from LRP+TCFA

Baseline

10 months



Baseline angiogram showed moderate stenosis in the proximal right RCA. Baseline OCT characterized the plaque as both LRP and TCFA (maximum lipid arc 310° [asterisks], minimum fibrous cap thickness 60µm [arrow heads], minimum lumen area 2.27mm², and presence of OCT-derived macrophage infiltration [dots]). This plaque was associated with AMI 10 months after baseline imaging. Follow-up angiography showed that the stenosis developed into an occlusion. Follow-up OCT showed rupture (arrow) of the plaque that was imaged during baseline OCT.

Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23; jeab028

OCT: Wakayama registry (plaque level analysis)



Follow-up period = median 6 years (IQR: 5-9 years)

Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23; jeab028

Kaplan-Meier curves



Lipidic plaques that were characterized as both LRP and TCFA had a significantly higher risk of follow-up ACS than lipidic plaques that did not have those characteristics.

Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23; jeab028

OCT predictors

	Univariate analysis HR (95% CI)	Р	Multivariate analysis HR (95% CI)	Р
Max lipid arc	1.01 (1.00-1.01)	<0.001	1.01 (1.01-1.01)	<0.001
Lipid length	1.03 (0.98-1.08)	0.193	-	-
Min fibrous-cap thickness	0.98 (0.98-0.99)	<0.001	0.99 (0.98-0.99)	<0.001
Macrophages	4.83 (2.80-8.34)	<0.001	1.06 (0.58-1.95)	0.850
Microvasculature	0.72 (0.38-1.38)	0.324	-	-
Cholesterol crystal	0.97 (0.50-1.89)	0.925	-	-
Min lumen area	0.73 (0.63-0.84)	<0.001	0.78 (0.67-0.90)	<0.001

Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23;jeab028

Optimal cutoffs to predict ACS



Based on ROC curve analysis, the optimal cutoffs to predict ACS were maximum lipid arc of $\geq 185^{\circ}$, minimum fibrous cap thickness of $\leq 150 \mu m$, and minimum lumen area of $\leq 2.90 mm^2$.

Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23; jeab028

Positive predictive value for ACS



Kubo T, Mintz GS, Akasaka T, et al. Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging. 2021 Feb 23; jeab028

Conclusion

- OCT is useful to guide PCI, especially for stent sizing and stent optimization.
- OCT can be used to identify non-culprit (i.e. non-flow limiting) vulnerable plaques at high risk for future events.



Thank you!

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