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Time to Adapt Intracoronary Imaging in Your Cathlab How to Start a Program?

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Disclosure

Evelyn Regar serves as medical advisor for

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Time to Adapt Intracoronary Imaging in Your Cathlab: How to Start a Program?

Manage Resources and Expectations

Clarify, which resources are available to you:

- Manpower
- Which imaging technology
- How many catheters
- Adaptation/construction work needed in cathlab?
- Budget & sources for training
- Logistics for analysis, documentation & storage of imaging data

Clarify expectations:

- How is „succes“ defined?
- What are you expected to accomplish within a year?

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Build a Structure for Regular Knowledge Transfer

Plan regularly team meetings
and assure protected time for attendance!

- Training purposes
- Case reviews
- Analysis

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Select Your Team

Interdisciplinary Core Team

- Cathlab nurses
- Cathlab technicians
- Cardiologists in training/fellows
- Interventional cardiologist
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Goal: 24/7 intracoronay imaging service

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Train Your Team

- Handling of consoles & catheters
- Preparation in the cathlab
- Preparation of the patient
- How is doing what before and during imaging procedure?
- Establish a work-flow in the cathlab to perform successful imaging

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Train Your Team

- Handling of consoles & catheters
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- How is doing what before and during imaging procedure?
- Establish a work-flow in the cathlab to perform succesful imaging

- **Enable and endorse your team**
- **Share responsibility (for optimal imaging procedure)**
- **Value the extra effort they are investing**
- **Respect their input**

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Reserve Extra Cathlab Time

In the beginning, intracoronary imaging cases will require more time than routine angiography cases!

Ensure a
save learning
Environment &
save treatment &
environment

- Respect the learning curve!
- New machinery
- New work-flows
- Time needed for image interpretation
- Change in PCI strategy
- Multiple imaging runs

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Bring Intracoronary Imaging Into Practice

Establish a regular imaging schedule, e.g. 4/week, once a day....

Perform imaging in a consistent, standardized way, e.g.

- Always film (the distal) position of the imaging catheter in the vessel
- Always motorized pullback, standardized pullback speed
- Always standardized display settings (e.g. magnification)
- Always same way of flush administration, medium, flow rate (OCT)

Perform imaging in a consistent, standardized order, e.g.

- Always pre-intervention intracoronary imaging
- Always final imaging run at the end of the procedure

Give your team
the opportunity
to prepare and
to anticipate !

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Bring Intracoronary Imaging Into Practice

„Allow“ for errors

- e.g. imaging run not in optimal quality
- e.g. measurements are performed in the wrong vessel segment
- e.g. imaging not recorded
- e.g. catheter broken during preparation

Take the time needed to recognize and to correct errors
There will be a steep learning curve and these errors
will be overcome quickly

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Trust the Intracoronary Imaging Findings

& act accordingly!

- Take your time to review carefully the imaging run
- Ask a team member to interpret the imaging run for you
- Don't hesitate to review again and again, multiple times
- Explain your conclusion and decision on strategy

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Document Intracoronary Imaging Findings & Your Therapeutic Decisions

Documentation in the patient file

- Standardized and transparent way
- Record marked changes in PCI Strategy based on i.c. imaging
- Record imaging related complications (definition!)

Ensure availability of imaging runs for later review
(other than imaging console)

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Review All Intracoronary Imaging Cases With Your Team

- Re-evaluate image interpretation
 - Re-evaluate treatment decisions and strategy
 - Identify sources of errors
 - Generate ideas for improvements
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- Be part of your team
 - Enable your team members to become experts

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Invest in an intracoronay imaging team

**the better your team,
the better your procedures,
the better the patients prognosis !**