



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Cardiovascular Revascularization Medicine



Blinding results for transcatheter mitral valve repair



Stone et al. present resoundingly positive results of the COAPT trial in favor of MitraClip (Abbott) therapy in selected patients with functional mitral regurgitation and heart failure [1]. Patients randomized to MitraClip were, by chance, on higher doses of renin-angiotensin pathway inhibitors at baseline (71.5% vs. 62.8%, $p = 0.02$). Notably, this difference increased at 1 year (76.5% vs. 63.1%, $p = 0.002$). Furthermore, more patients in the device arm were on beta-blocker therapy at 1 year (93.3% vs. 86.7%, $p = 0.02$). Additionally, medical therapy up-titration (dose doubling or new drug class introduction) was greater in the device arm for both beta blockers (8.6% vs. 3.8%, $p = 0.01$) and mineralocorticoid receptor antagonists (5.3% vs. 2.6%, $p = 0.08$). This may reflect an important mechanism for therapeutic benefit in the device arm because these patients may better tolerate afterload reduction following reduction in mitral regurgitation. However, this was an open-label study subject to bias in care, which may account for the imbalanced medical optimization. In view of conflicting results with MITRA-FR [2], we suggest a double-blinded sham-control study to mitigate for this potential bias.

Disclosures

Ron Waksman – Advisory Board: Abbott Vascular, Amgen, Boston Scientific, Cardioset, Cardiovascular Systems Inc., Medtronic, Philips Volcano, Pi-Cardia Ltd., Cardioset; Consultant: Abbott Vascular,

Amgen, Biosensors, Biotronik, Boston Scientific, Cardioset, Cardiovascular Systems Inc., Medtronic, Philips Volcano, Pi-Cardia Ltd., Cardioset; Grant Support: Abbott Vascular, AstraZeneca, Biosensors, Biotronik, Boston Scientific, Chiesi; Speakers Bureau: AstraZeneca, Chiesi; Investor: MedAlliance.

Other authors – None.

Jaffar M. Khan
Anees Musallam
Ron Waksman*

Section of Interventional Cardiology, MedStar Washington Hospital Center, Washington, DC, United States of America

*Corresponding author at: MedStar Washington Hospital Center, 110 Irving St., NW, Suite 4B-1, Washington, DC 20010, United States of America

E-mail address: ron.waksman@medstar.net

References

- [1] Stone GW, Lindenfeld J, Abraham WT, et al. Transcatheter mitral-valve repair in patients with heart failure. *N Engl J Med* 2018;379:2307–18.
- [2] Obadia JF, Messika-Zeitoun D, Leurent G, et al. Percutaneous repair or medical treatment for secondary mitral regurgitation. *N Engl J Med* 2018;379:2297–306.