Author’s response to reviews

Title: A successfully thrombolysed acute inferior myocardial infarction due to type A aortic dissection with lethal consequences: the importance of early echocardiography.

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Author’s response to reviews:

COVER LETTER
Dear Dr. Vipin Zamvar and Dr. David Taggart editors-in-chief

We would be grateful if you could reconsider our revised manuscript (3654904353398039)entitled “A successfully thrombolysed acute inferior myocardial infarction due to type A aortic dissection with lethal consequences: the importance of early cardiac echocardiography”, after the appropriate changes due to the reviewer’s comment.

RESPONSE TO THE REVIEWER

“The paper of Grigorios Tsigkas et al, is a case report about a coronary malperfusion syndrome due to type A aortic dissection. This is not an uncommon complication of the aortic dissection (5-10%), a fact which both the cardiologist and the cardiac surgeon must keep in mind. Alerting them to this possibility and to the necessity of the bedside TTE prior to any therapy of coronary syndromes, should be the aim of this paper.”

Accordingly to the main idea of the paper we totally agree with the reviewer’s comment and we tried to mention the necessity of the bedside TTE prior to any therapy of coronary syndromes.

“From this point of view, I found that this case report is somewhat extended, giving information which one could take from other sources. (e.g. details of the operation, Stanford classification etc) I think the authors should shorten the text and limit it to the preoperative findings, the final diagnosis, the art of the performed operation, and the patients’ outcome.”

We shorten the text and limit it to the preoperative findings, the final diagnosis,
the art of the performed operation and the patients' outcome. We excluded 5 of the references as well, trying to focus to the main subject.

“In the Discussion, the importance of the bedside TTE, especially when other examinations have not proved effective in the diagnosis of this serious clinical entity, should be emphasized.”

The importance of the bedside TTE is enormously emphasized especially before any other diagnostic examination.

“However, if the mechanism of coronary malperfusion in acute aortic dissection and the management of this were to be discussed, the following articles could be of a great assistance.”


These articles are of a great importance and we included them in the text.

“Concerning the figures, I think that No. 1-4 could be excluded, since what they display is sufficiently described in the text. In figures No. 7 and 8 (photos) the exact pathologoanatomical findings cannot be clearly identified.”

From our point of view, Figure 1 and 2 are very important. Figure 1 shows the STEMI and the indication for thrombolysis, whereas Figure 2 demonstrates the remission of the ST elevation and the possible successful result of the thrombolysis. Figure 3 has been excluded, but Figure 4 is significant showing the echocardiographic findings of AAD leading nearly to diagnosis. Finally, concerning the Figures 7 and 8 we don’t have better photos from the surgery.

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