Reviewer’s report


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Reviewer: ZUAZO JOSEBA

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INTERNAL MAMMARY ARTERY ANEURYSMS IN A PATIENT WITH AORTIC COARCTATION, AORTIC STENOSIS, AND CORONARY DISEASE. CASE REPORT

REVIEW

The authors present a single case report in which all preoperative data are precisely defined. Figures have also good quality.

The association of aortic coarctation and aortic bicuspid valve is well known, as well as the progressive calcification of this type of aortic valve along the life, resulting in a significant valve disease at 50’s or older ages.

Symptoms and physical findings of this patient suggested a significant stenosis at the coarctation site. However femoral pulses although diminished were present suggesting a widely developed collateral supply from the precoarctation to the distal aorta, which in such cases is usually very fragile.

In order to eliminate or reduce systemic hypertension, relieve the coarctation is mandatory.

The authors decided to treat this patient by a single procedure through a median sternotomy. The procedure itself is very clearly described and was successfully done.

I have mentioned the fragility of aortic wall we usually see in patients with aortic coarctation and aged more than 60 years. It could result in serious troubles during the procedure. I would like to ask the authors if they have ever considered to treat the coarctation by stenting procedures some days before the sternotomy, in order to complete the treatment (1). Stent therapy has been proven efficient, relatively simple and free adverse events in the majority of cases. Follow-up seems to be better than acceptable at 2-3 years although hypertension can persists (2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

I think this is a major compulsory revision, and I haven’t nor minor essential neither discretionary revisions. So I recommend accept the manuscript for publication after the authors have answered to my question, because I think this article is important in its field.

The quality of language is acceptable, and I declare that I have no competing interests.
Thank you for your invitation to review this manuscript.

Bibliography


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Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.