Reviewer's report

Title: Concomitant aorto-right subclavian artery bypass with off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting: a case report

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Reviewer: Pankaj Kaul

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The authors report concomitant aorta-right subclavian artery bypass with off pump coronary bypass grafting in a 77 year old man who presented with anteroseptal myocardial infarction on the background of triple vessel coronary disease and a 90% stenosis of brachiocephalic artery, as seen on CT scan, presenting with syncope. Patient underwent concomitant 8 mm PTFE aorta-subclavian artery bypass graft via median sternotomy and off-pump CABG comprising LIMA to LAD, free RIMA to OM Cx and saphenous vein grafts to Dx and distal RCA. Patient made uncomplicated recovery.

Subclavian artery bypass grafts for innominate disease have been described before via cervical approach. Subclavian artery bypass grafts for innominate disease accompanied by CABG with CP bypass grafts through median sternotomy have been described as well. The authors have done well to perform a preliminary aortosubclavian bypass followed by off-pump CABG to reduce the stroke risk of going on bypass in the presence of severe brachiocephalic stenosis. One must grant however that initial aortosubclavian bypass could have been followed by on-pump CABG as well with the same theoretical reduction of stroke risk.

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