

# The Impact of Epicardial Collateral Use on the Outcomes of Chronic Total Occlusion Percutaneous Coronary Intervention

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## Introduction

The impact of the type of collateral vessel used on the outcomes of retrograde chronic total occlusion (CTO) percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has received limited study.

## Methods

### Study population

▪ We reviewed the baseline clinical and angiographic characteristics and procedural outcomes of 1,501 retrograde CTO PCIs performed in 1494 patients between 2012 and 2019 at 26 centers.

### Analyses

▪ All statistical analyses were performed with JMP 11.0 (SAS Institute; Cary, North Carolina).

## Results

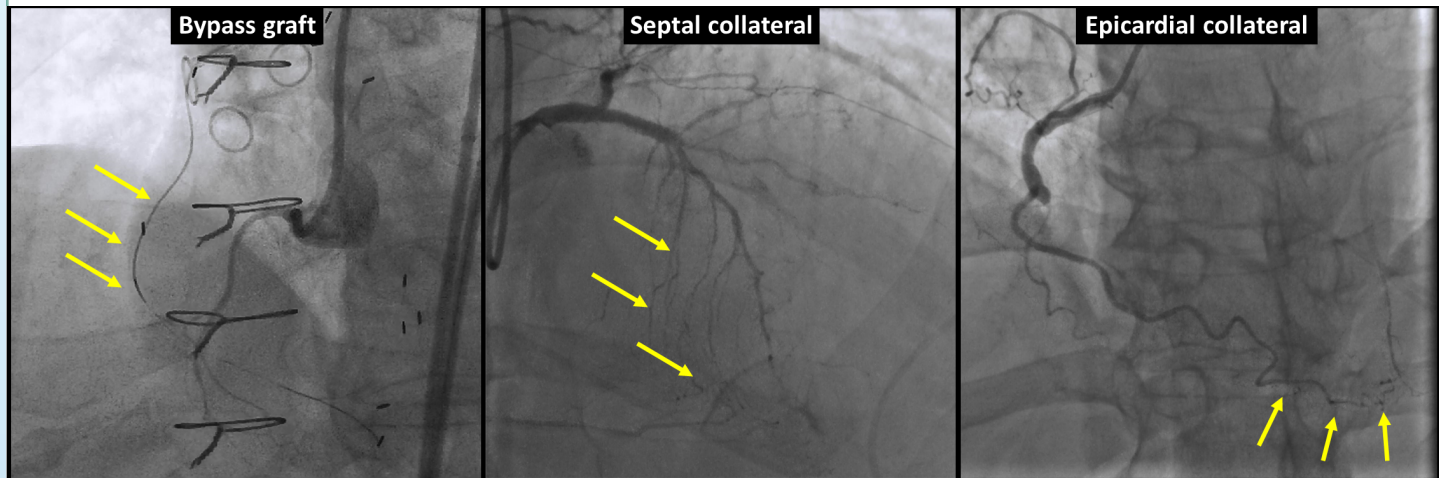
Septal collaterals or bypass grafts were used in 66%, epicardial collaterals in 34% of lesions.

**Table 1. Baseline clinical characteristics of the study patients, classified according to the used collateral type.**

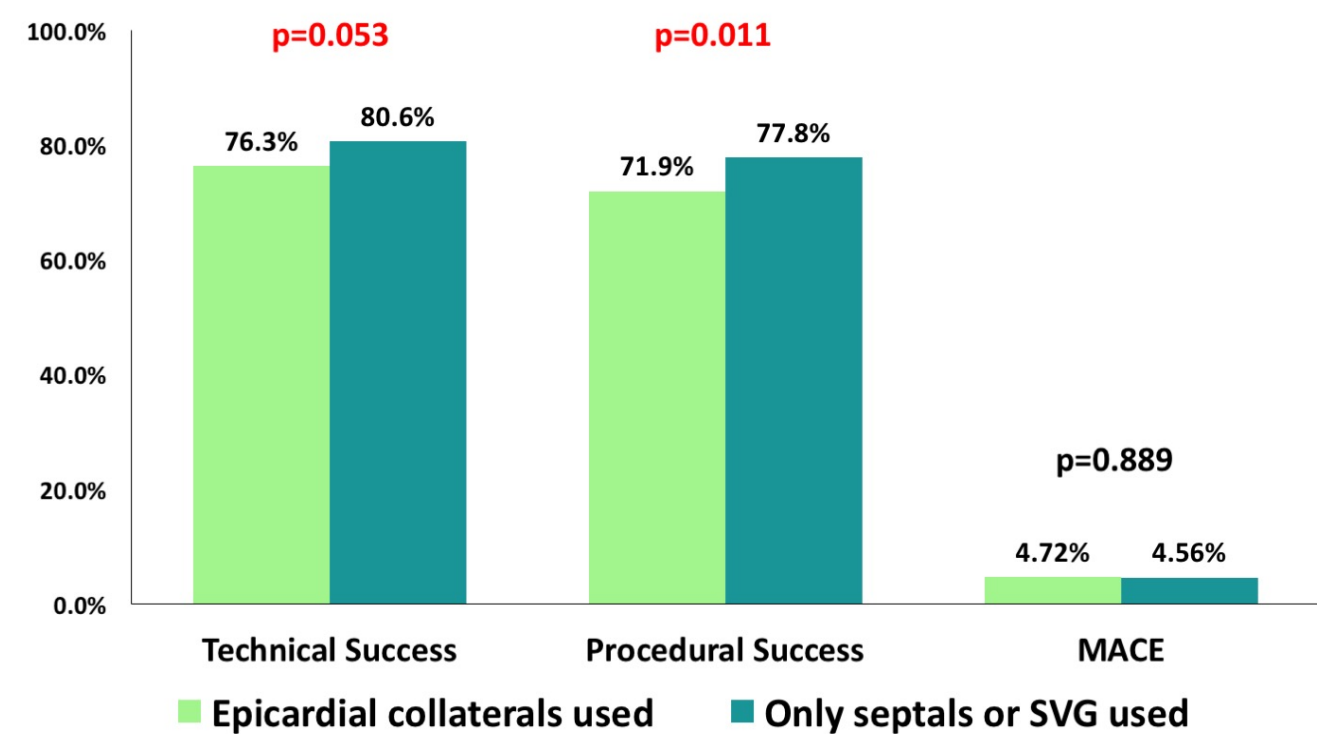
Variable	Overall (n= 1494)	Epicardial collaterals used (n=508)	Only septals or SVG used (n= 986)	P value
Age (years) <sup>a</sup>	65.0 ± 10	65.6 ± 10	64.8 ± 10	0.196
Men	86%	89%	84%	<b>0.039</b>
BMI (kg/m2) <sup>a</sup>	30.8 ± 6	30.4 ± 6	31.0 ± 6	0.113
Diabetes Mellitus	42%	36%	45%	<b>0.003</b>
Hypertension	91%	91%	91%	0.633
Dyslipidemia	92%	95%	91%	<b>0.017</b>
Smoking (current)	21%	18%	22%	0.086
LVEF (%) <sup>a</sup>	50 ± 13	49 ± 13	51 ± 13	0.082
Family History of CAD	37%	45%	34%	<b>0.001</b>
Congestive Heart Failure	31%	31%	32%	0.841
Prior Myocardial Infarction	51%	52%	51%	0.583
Prior CABG	44%	44%	44%	0.968
Prior CVD	11%	10%	11%	0.406
Prior PVD	17%	15%	17%	0.43
Baseline creatinine (mg/dL) <sup>b</sup>	1.1 (0.9,1.3)	1.1 (0.9, 1.3)	1.0 (0.9, 1.2)	0.108

BMI: body mass index; LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction; CAD: coronary artery disease; CABG: coronary artery bypass grafting; CVD: cerebrovascular disease; PVD: peripheral vascular disease; SVG: saphenous vein graft  
<sup>a</sup> mean ± standard deviation; <sup>b</sup> median (interquartile range)

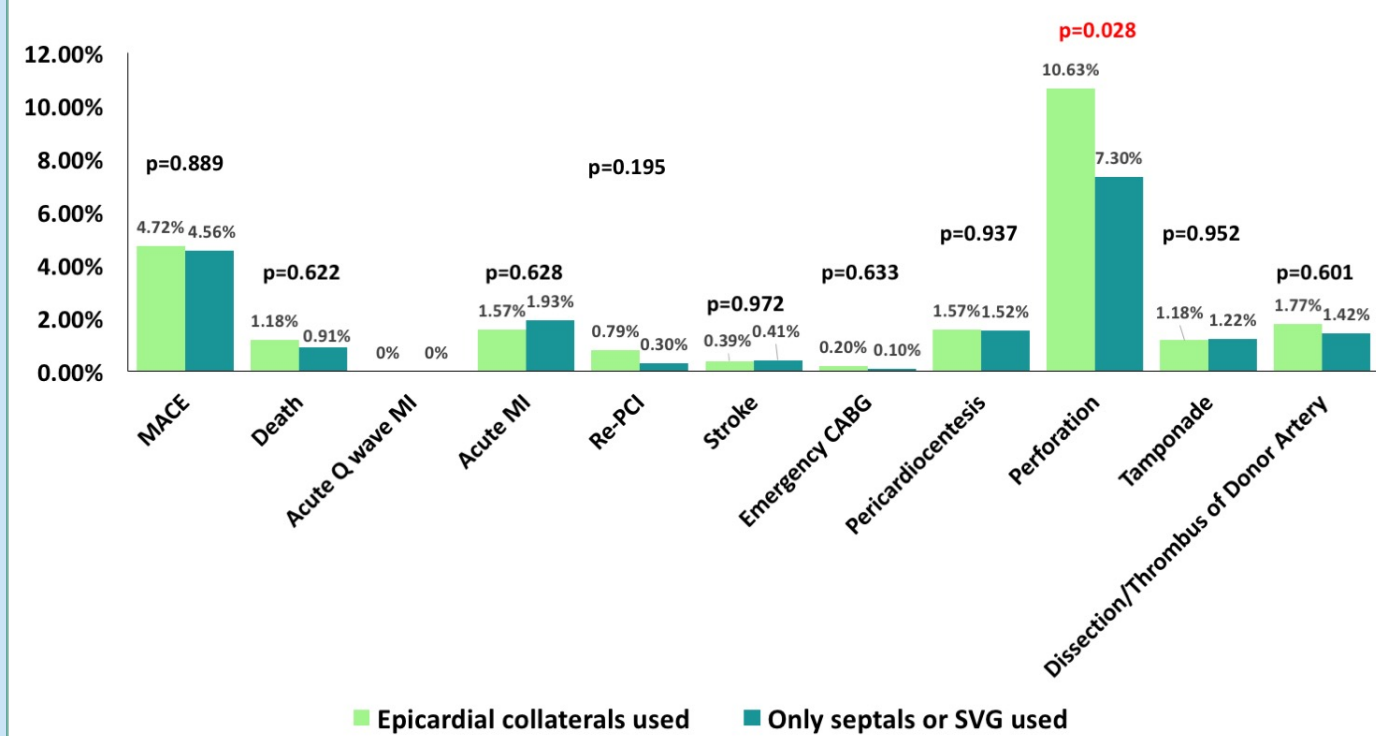
**Figure 1. Different type of collaterals.**



**Figure 2. Technical, procedural success and MACE among study patients classified according to the type of collateral used.**



**Figure 3. Procedural complications among study patients classified according to the type of collateral used.**



MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events

**Table 2. Procedural strategy and angiographic characteristics of the study lesions, classified according to the type of collateral used.**

Variable	Overall (n= 1501)	Epicardial collaterals used (n=511 )	Only septals or SVG used (n= 990)	P value
CTO Target Vessel				
• RCA	68%	62%	72%	<.0001
• LAD	15%	14%	16%	
• LCX	15%	22%	12%	
• LM	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	
• SVG	0.07%	0%	0.1%	
• Other	0.8%	1.8%	0.2%	
Successful Crossing Strategy				<.0001
• Antegrade wiring	8%	7%	8%	
• Retrograde	61%	55%	64%	
• Antegrade dissection and re-entry	12%	17%	10%	
• None	19%	21%	18%	
First Crossing Strategy				0.807
• Antegrade wiring	55%	55%	55%	
• Retrograde	39%	39%	40%	
• Antegrade dissection and re-entry	6%	6%	5%	
J-CTO score <sup>a</sup>	3.19 ± 1.06	3.34 ± 1.02	3.11 ± 1.07	
Progress CTO score <sup>a</sup>	1.18 ± 0.95	1.34 ± 1.02	1.09 ± 0.90	<.0001
Calcification (moderate/severe)	68%	73%	65%	<b>0.002</b>
Proximal vessel tortuosity (moderate/severe)	47%	55%	42%	<.0001
Proximal cap ambiguity	56%	58%	55%	0.271
In-stent restenosis	13%	13%	14%	0.654
Prior failure to open CTO	26%	29%	25%	<b>0.049</b>
Side branch at the proximal cap	61%	64%	60%	0.274
Blunt/no stump, %	80%	83%	79%	<b>0.020</b>
Vessel diameter (mm) <sup>b</sup>	3.0 (2.5, 3.1)	3.0 (2.5, 3.0)	3.0 (2.5, 3.2)	<b>0.005</b>
Occlusion length (mm) <sup>b</sup>	35 (25, 56)	38 (25, 60)	35 (24, 50)	0.102
Number of stents used	2.9 ± 1.1	2.8 ± 1.2	2.9 ± 1.1	0.096
Werner collateral connection grade				0.052
• CCO	9%	9%	9%	
• CC1	58%	66%	55%	
• CC2	33%	26%	36%	
Rentrop collateral filing grade				<b>0.002</b>
• Grade 0	1.6%	0%	2%	
• Grade 1	19%	28%	15%	
• Grade 2	43%	41%	44%	
• Grade 3	37%	31%	39%	

RCA: right coronary artery; LAD: left anterior descending artery; LCX: left circumflex artery; CTO: Chronic total occlusion; J-CTO score: Japan chronic total occlusion score; Progress CTO score: Prospective Global Registry of Chronic Total Occlusion Interventions score, SVG: saphenous vein graft.  
<sup>a</sup> Values are mean ± standard deviation; <sup>b</sup> median (interquartile range)

**Table 3. Procedural outcomes of the study patients, classified according to the type of collateral used.**

Variable	Overall	Epicardial collaterals used	Only septals or SVG used	P
Technical Success	79.1%	76.3%	80.6%	<b>0.053</b>
Procedural Success	75.8%	71.9%	77.8%	<b>0.011</b>
Procedural time (min) <sup>b</sup>	184 (136, 239)	195 (151, 250)	178 (131, 237)	<b>0.004</b>
Fluoroscopy time (min) <sup>b</sup>	78 (57, 103)	82 (64, 104)	76 (55, 102)	<b>0.0003</b>
Air kerma radiation dose (Gray) <sup>b</sup>	3.52 (2.10, 5.38)	3.78 (2.40, 5.42)	3.40 (1.90, 5.32)	<b>0.019</b>
Contrast volume <sup>b</sup>	280 (200, 399)	300 (221, 414)	270 (200, 370)	<.0001
MACE	4.62%	4.72%	4.56%	0.889
Death	1.00%	1.18%	0.91%	0.622
Acute Q wave MI	0%	0%	0%	
Acute MI	1.81%	1.57%	1.93%	0.628
Re-PCI	0.47%	0.79%	0.30%	0.195
Stroke	0.40%	0.39%	0.41%	0.972
Emergency CABG	0.13%	0.20%	0.10%	0.633
Pericardiocentesis	1.54%	1.57%	1.52%	0.937
Perforation	8.43%	10.63%	7.30%	<b>0.028</b>
Dissection/Thrombus of Donor Artery	1.54%	1.77%	1.42%	0.601

MACE: major adverse cardiac events; MI: myocardial infarction; Re-PCI: repeated percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG: coronary artery bypass graft surgery.  
<sup>b</sup> median (interquartile range)

## Study limitations

- Observational registry without adjudication of clinical events by an independent committee
- Quantitative coronary angiographic analyses were not performed
- Procedures were performed by experienced operators in CTO PCI, limiting extrapolation of the study results to less experienced centers and operators

## Conclusion

In a contemporary, multicenter registry epicardial collaterals were used in approximately one-third of retrograde CTO PCIs. Use of epicardial collaterals was associated with lower success but similar major complication rates.

### Disclosures

Dr. Karpaliotis: speaker bureau, Abbott Vascular, Medtronic, and Boston Scientific. Dr. Alaswad: consulting fees from Terumo and Boston Scientific; consultant (non-financial) for Abbott Laboratories. Dr. Jaffer: Consultant: Abbott Vascular and Boston Scientific. Research grant: Canon, Siemens and National Institutes of Health. Dr. Yeh: research grants and consulting for Abbott Vascular, Boston Scientific and Medtronic, Dr. Kandzari: research/grant support and consulting honoraria from Boston Scientific and Medtronic Cardiovascular, and research/grant support from Abbott. Dr. Brilakis: consulting/speaker honoraria from Abbott Vascular, American Heart Association (associate editor Circulation), Amgen, Biotronik, Boston Scientific, Cardiovascular Innovations Foundation (Board of Directors), CSI, Elsevier, GE Healthcare, InfraRedx, Medtronic, Siemens, and Teleflex; research support from Regeneron and Siemens. Shareholder: MHI Ventures.  
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