

Double Balloon Technique for Percutaneous Transluminal Septal Myocardial Ablation (PTSMA) of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

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Percutaneous transluminalseptal myocardial ablation (PTSMA), has been a standard treatment of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM). Rarely, special technique of PTSMA needed for complicated HCM case with collateral of target artery (septal perforator) into distal left anterior descending. To overcome such problem, a case of double balloon technique during PTSMA will be elaborated.

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Keywords: percutaneous transluminalseptalmyocardial ablation, double balloon

Teknik Balon Ganda Untuk Ablasi Septum Miokardium Transluminal Perkutan Pada Kardiomiopati Hipertrofik

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Percutaneous transluminal septal myocardial ablation (PTSMA), telah menjadi terapi standar terapi kardiomiopati hipertrofi (KMH). Kadang-kadang didapatkan kasus KHM dengan target arteri (septal perforator) yang mempunyai kolateral ke distal *left anterior descendens* (LAD), sehingga diperlukan teknik khusus dalam melakukan PTSMA. Akan dilaporkan suatu kasus KHM yang memerlukan teknik balon ganda pada saat PTSMA.

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Kata kunci: percutaneous transluminal septal myocardial ablation, double balloon

First reported in 1995, Percutaneous alcohol septal ablation treatment involves the introduction of absolute alcohol into a target septal perforator branch of the left anterior descending coronary artery for the purpose of producing a myocardial infarction within the proximal ventricular septum. Septal ablation mimics the hemodynamic consequences of myectomy by reducing the basal septal thickness and excursion (producing akinetic or hypokinetic septal motion), enlarging the LV outflow tract and, thereby, lessening the systolic anterior motion of the mitral valve and mitral regurgitation.¹⁻³ Initial experience of PTSMA in Indonesia has been currently reported with good results.⁴

This technique utilizes methods and technology available for atherosclerotic coronary artery disease. Injection of myocardial contrast with pressure-angiographic and fluoroscopy guided technique is important selecting the appropriate septal perforator branch. The targeted septal perforator and area for infarction are identified by and immediate fall in outflow gradient following balloon occlusion and/or contrast injection.

In general currently, HCM patients are treated pharmacologically with beta adrenergic blocker or non-dihydropyridine calcium channel blocker only. Treatment results were not sophisticated as the patients remain symptomatic and functionally limited. Hence, the needs for PTSMA in those patients are as of importance.

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Case

A 47 years old male with chief symptom of dyspnoea and syncope was referred to NCVCHK for further

work up. He was in functional NYHA class III. The physical examination was unremarkable. ECG recording showed sinus rhythm with evidence of left ventricle hypertrophy. Echocardiography examination revealed hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy with interventricular thickness of 18 mm, posterior wall thickness of 21 mm, dynamic LVOT gradient of 158 mmHg, and evidence of septal anterior motion (SAM). Left ventricle ejection fraction was 80%. (Figure 1) The invasive resting maximal LVOT pressure gradient were 160 which then immediately decrease to 80 mmHg after PTSMA. (Figure 2)

PTSMA

PTSMA technique has been written elsewhere.⁴In brief, after local anesthesia of both groin three vascular sheaths were inserted into femoral artery (6 French in left and 7 French in right) and left femoral vein (6 French). A 6F bipolar temporary pacing electrode (Cordis™, Johnson & Johnson) was inserted through left femoral vein and placed at right ventricle apex. Coronary angiogram was performed to ensure normal coronary flow and anatomy. A multipurpose (MP) catheter (Cordis™, Johnson & Johnson) was inserted into left ventricle through right femoral artery in order

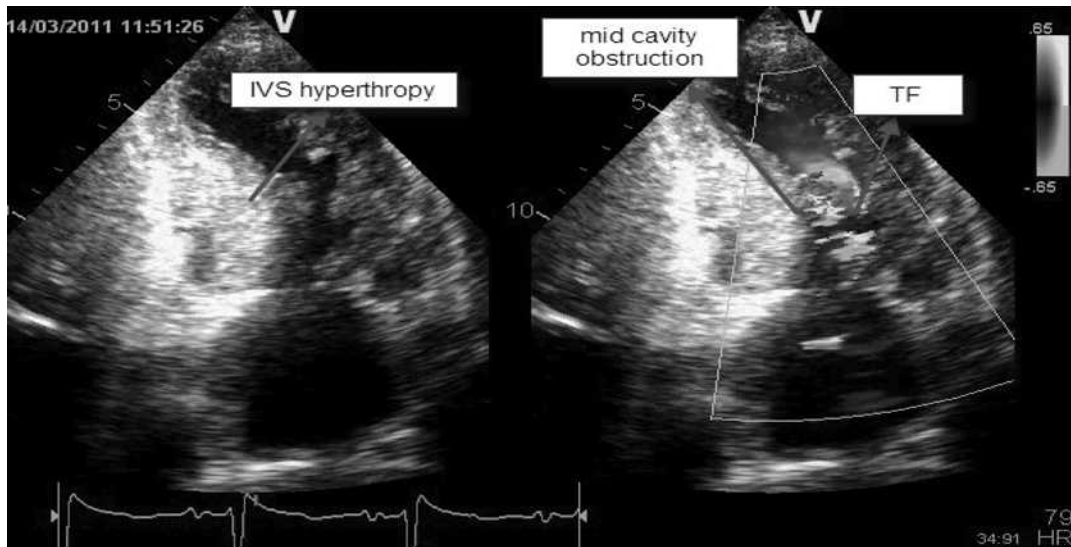


Figure 1. Five chamber view of echocardiography demonstrates IVS hypertrophy and obstruction at mid left ventricle cavity. IVS = interventricular septum, TF = turbulence flow resulted from obstruction at mid left ventricle cavity.

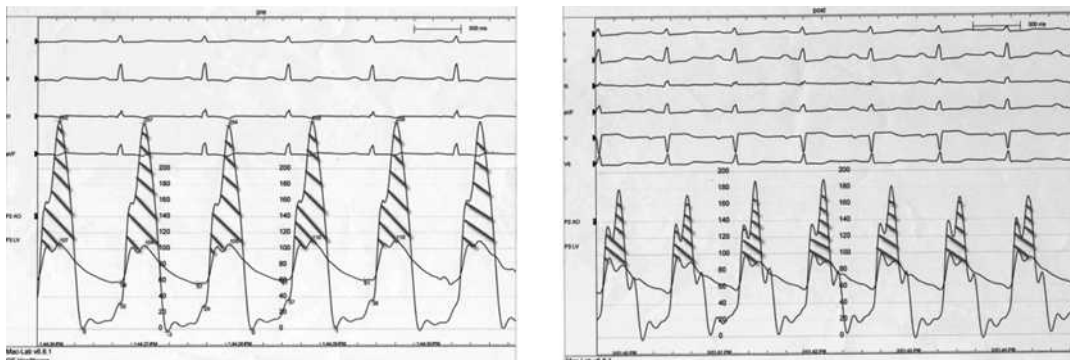


Figure 2. Invasive pressure recording of patient during sinus beat. Left panel showed mid LV pressure gradient before PTSMA which were reduce significantly after PTSMA (right panel).

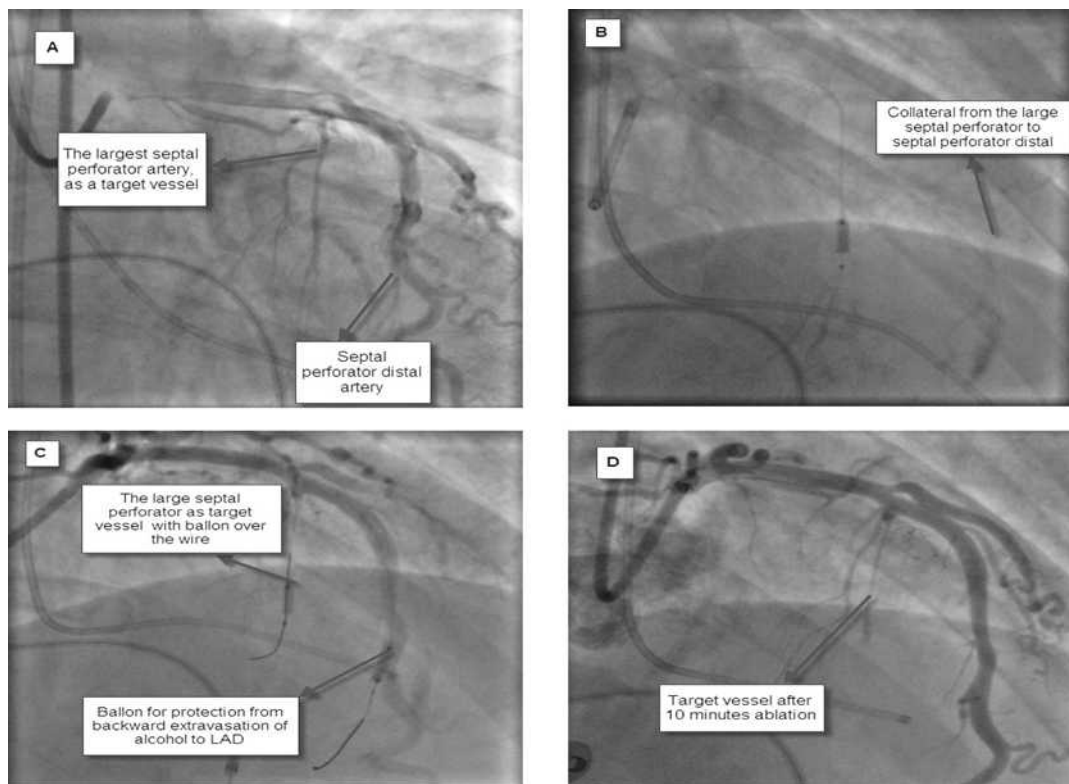


Figure 3. (A) Angiography of left coronary artery demonstrates septal perforator artery (arrow). (B) Septal perforator artery was blocked by over the wire (OTW) balloon. BMW guide wire was retrieved followed by contrast media injection into the OTW balloon lumen shows collateral of septal branch which is contrast flow into left anterior ascending artery. (C) It is followed by 2 ml absolute alcohol injection after balloon inflated at proximal part of septal perforator distal artery. (D) LCA-graphy shows blockage of septal perforator artery 10 minutes after alcohol injection.

to continuously measure left ventricle cavity pressure. Recanulation of left coronary artery by means of extra backup (XB) guiding catheter (Cordis™, Johnson & Johnson) followed by wiring of septal perforator branch of left anterior descending (LAD) artery using BMW guiding wire (Boston Scientific™, USA) after 100 units per kilogram body weight unfractionated heparin injection. Over the wire (OTW) balloon was placed at proximal septal perforator branch and inflated up to 6 atmospheres. Selective contrast media injection was done to visualize septal artery vasculature in order to avoid spill off alcohol injection to LAD unintentionally. Contrast media injection showed collateral of target vessel together distal septal branch which then goes to mid LAD. Then, it was decided to put second guiding wire using Pilot 50 (Boston Scientific™, USA) from mid LAD into distal septal branch. Yangtze balloon was placed at proximal part of

distal septal branch and inflated up to 6 atmospheres to protect alcohol extravasation to LAD artery. (Figure 3) Three milliliter (ml) of Levovist™ injected into target artery followed by echocardiography confirmation. Intravenous injection of 2-3 milligram of morphine sulfate was given followed by slow injection of 2 ml absolute alcohol into target artery. The first and second balloons remain inflated for ten minutes before pulling them off coronary artery. Repeat measure pressure gradient between left ventricle cavity and aorta.

Discussion

This case demonstrates efficacy and safety of PTSMA for HCM patient in which target vessel has collateral to more distal LAD part. Double balloon technique has been effectively prevented alcohol leakage to distal LAD.

Left ventricle outflow tract pressure gradient immediately reduced after alcohol septal ablation without significant side effect. Lessons learned from this case is that selective contrast media injection into target vessel and observation of any collateral drainage is mandatory.

Recently, Agarwal et al⁵ and Parham et al⁶ reported cases of apical myocardial infarction due to collateralization of septal artery and could possibly also produce an inferior infarction because of communication between the septal and the descending posterior artery.⁷ The study by Chowdhary et al⁷ describes a non-complicated inferior infarction related to this procedure, which could have been related with collaterals of this type. If collateral recruitment is detected, it is important to avoid a second alcohol injection, or use a second balloon to occlude the branch into which the collaterals lead to avoid alcohol reaching the LAD.⁸

Collateral recruitment in the septal branch is a phenomenon that can arise during PTSMA. We must stress that in the event of using several alcohol injections, it is important to rule out collateral opening up by first injecting contrast, in order to avoid the complications arising from alcohol passing toward another myocardial area.

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