Risk Factors Affecting Surgical Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest During Aortic Surgeries: A 10-Year Study

Bree Ann Young
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Breeann.Young@lvhn.org

James K. Wu
Lehigh Valley Health Network, james.wu@lvhn.org

Martin E. Matsumura MD
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Martin_E.Matsumura@lvhn.org

Sanjay M. Mehta MD
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Sanjay_M.Mehta@lvhn.org

Theodore G. Phillips MD
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Theodore.Philips@lvhn.org

See next page for additional authors

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Risk Factors Affecting Surgical Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest During Aortic Surgeries: A 10-Year Study

Bree Ann Young*, James K. Wu, MD*, Martin E. Matsumura, MD*, Sanjay M. Mehta, MD*, Theodore G. Phillips, MD*, Michael F. Szwarc, MD*, Gary W. Szlydowski, MD*, Raymond L. Singer, MD*

*Department of Surgery, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and *Department of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Background
Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest (HCA) is a cardiopulmonary perfusion management technique used in heart surgery involving the aortic arch. It is used as a preventative measure for adverse neurological outcomes associated with these high risk surgeries in which blood circulation to the body and brain must be stopped. Patients are cooled on the cardiopulmonary bypass circuit to a targeted temperature, usually between 15°C and 18°C, blood is exsanguinated into a reservoir, and circulation is halted to allow for surgical repair of the ascending aorta and the aortic arch.

Objective
To evaluate surgical outcomes of mortality and perioperative complications in patients who underwent HCA during aortic surgery, and to evaluate pre- and intraoperative risk factors.

Methods

All Aortic Surgeries Utilizing HCA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Surgery</th>
<th>Non-Emergency Surgery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Patients</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Aneurysms</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Dissections</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Aneurysms</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Dissections</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcified Aorta</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Patient charts were retrospectively reviewed from the Lehigh Valley Health Network Inpatient Electronic Medical Record and Department of Perfusion database from 2000-2010
• 159 patients with aortic pathologies requiring HCA
• Patients were broken down according to surgery type and pathology

• Adverse outcomes evaluated included:
  - 30-day mortality
  - Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA)
  - Temporary Neurological Dysfunction (TND)
  - Renal Failure
  - Ventilator-Dependent Respiratory Failure (VDRF)

Results

Outcome Non-Emergency Surgery Emergency Surgery Overall
30-Day Mortality 5.95% 18.67% 11.95%
CVA 10.53% 14.93% 12.77%
Non-Recoverable CVA 5.26% 7.46% 6.38%
TND 11.84% 16.00% 13.84%
Renal Failure 11.67% 22.22% 16.37%
Required Dialysis 9.10% 20.60% 14.30%
VDRF 2.36% 22.67% 11.95%

Patient Characteristics Contributing to Increased 30-Day Mortality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>P-Value</th>
<th>Odds Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female Sex, n=54</td>
<td>33.90</td>
<td>0.048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes Mellitus, n=22</td>
<td>13.90</td>
<td>0.038</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intraoperative Risk Factors for Increased 30-Day Mortality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration (min.)</th>
<th>P-Value</th>
<th>Odds Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aortic Cross-Clamp Time</td>
<td>111 ± 69</td>
<td>0.030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiopulmonary Bypass Time</td>
<td>220 ± 72</td>
<td>&lt;0.010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions

• Major aortic surgical operations requiring HCA have become safer in the past decade.
• Elective, non-emergent operations have very reasonable mortality and morbidity rates.
• Risk factors including emergency surgery, female sex, Diabetes Mellitus, aortic cross-clamp time, and duration of cardiopulmonary bypass significantly affect the likelihood of death.