

**Recent trends in management
Of
Acute Aortic Dissection**

An essay
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General surgery

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SUMMARY

Aortic dissection occurs when a tear in the aortic intima exposes the underlying media to the hydrodynamic forces of blood within the aortic lumen leading to dissection within the media. A false lumen is created by blood filling the space within the media between the intimal flap and the adventitia.

The documented incidence is approximately 2.9 per 100,000 per year. The peak incidence of aortic dissection is in the sixth and seventh decades of life, with a mean age of 62 years. Overall, men are affected twice as often as women (68% vs. 32%).

Aortic dissection is classified as acute or chronic based upon the duration of symptoms at presentation. First the Stanford classification of aortic dissection distinguishes between type A and type B; Type A means the dissection includes the ascending aorta and Type B dissection does not involve the ascending aorta. While the De Bakey classification subdivides the dissection process in Type I dissection involving the entire aorta, Type II dissection involving only the ascending aorta and Type III dissection sparing the ascending aorta and the arch.

All mechanisms that weaken the aortic wall lead to higher wall stress, which can induce aortic dilatation and aneurysm formation, eventually resulting in aortic dissection or rupture as hypertension, which is the most common clinical predisposing factor for aortic dissection, also, three major inherited connective tissue disorders are currently known to affect the arterial walls: (1) Marfan's syndrome, (2) Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, and (3) familial forms of thoracic aneurysm and dissection.

The diagnosis of acute aortic dissection requires high index of suspicion. The most common initial symptom of acute aortic dissection is severe migrating back or chest pain (up to 96% of cases). Dyspnea, orthopnea and dysphagia may also be present. Neurological symptoms such as transient syncope or stroke are often

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List of abbreviations

ACE

Angiotensin Converting Enzyme

AMI

Acute Myocardial Infarction

CHF	Congestive Heart Failure
CRP	C-Reactive protein
CT	Computed Tomography
DHCA	Deep Hypothermic Circulatory Arrest
DP/DT	Pressure changes on time
ECG	Electrocardiogram
EDS	Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome
EVAR	Endovascular Aortic Aneurysm Repair
FBN-1	Fibrilin-1
GRF	Gelatin Resorcinol Formaldehyde
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
IMH	Intramural Haematoma
IRAD	International Registry of Aortic Dissection
IVUS	Intravascular Ultrasound
MDCTA	Multi detector computed tomography
MFS	Marfan's syndrome
MPR	Multi –planner Reformatted
MRI	Magnetic resonance Imaging
ROI	Region Of Interest
SVC	Superior Vena Cava
TAA-TAAA	Thoracoabdominal Aortic Aneurysm
TEE	Transoesophageal Echocardiography
TTE	Transthoracic Echocardiography

Introduction

Aim of the work

Anatomy

Histology

Pathology