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“Carotid artery stenosis in cerebrovascular ischemic events: management and outcome”

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LIST OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement	P 2
List of tables.....	P 3
List of figures.....	P 6
List of abbreviations	P 8
1-Introduction and aim of the work.....	P 12
2-Review of literature.....	P 15
A- Extracranial carotid atherosclerotic stenosis fundamentals.	P 15
B- Screening for carotid stenosis.....	P 23
C- Investigations.....	P 30
D- Management.....	P 42
-Medical management.....	P 42
-Carotid endarterectomy.....	P 53
-Carotid artery stenting.....	P 62
3-Subjects and method.....	P 81
4-Results.....	P 96
5-Discussion.....	P 132
6-Summary and conclusion.....	P 153
7-Recommendations.....	P 156
8-References.....	P 157
9-Appendix 1 (selected cases demonstration).....	P 193
10- Appendix 2 (modified Rankin Scale).....	P 211
11- الملخص العربي	

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LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: TOAST classification	P 16
Table 2: OCSF classification	P 18
Table 3: consensus panel of gray-scale and Doppler ultrasound criteria for diagnosis of ICA stenosis	P 34
Table 4: Risk factors modification treatment goals	P 46
Table 5: Randomized trials of CEA versus medical therapy for carotid artery stenosis.....	P 57
Table 6: High-risk criteria for CEA	P 60
Table 7: Potential complications of CEA	P 61
Table 8: SAPHIRE criteria for high risk	P 68
Table 9: Indications and contraindications for carotid angioplasty and stenting Definitions.....	P 73
Table 10: Comparison of Proximal and Distal EPD.....	P 75
Table 11: the mean follow up periods.....	P 96
Table 12: distribution of risk factors.....	P 98
Table 13: stratification of risk factors.....	P 98
Table 14: mode of presentation.....	P 99
Table 15: mRS score assessment at presentation.....	P 100
Table 16: brain imaging findings.....	P 101
Table 17: carotid duplex findings.....	P 101
Table 18: distribution of degree of stenosis.....	P 102
Table 19a: intracranial vascular assessment.....	P 102
Table 19b: distribution of intracranial stenosis and occlusion.	P 103
Table 20: comparison between Medical conservative group (DAP group & OAC group) and CAS group as regard the main determinants (in the 1st decision.....	P 107

Table 21: comparison between primary decisions according to outcome.....	P 108
Table 22: comparison between types of conservative treatment (DAP and OAC) according to outcome.....	P 109
Table 23: comparison between types of conservative treatment (DAP and OAC) according to outcome.....	P 110
Table 24: comparison between patients who developed new vascular event and other patients who didn't develop new vascular event on conservative medical management as regard mean follow up period and the age.....	P 112
Table 25: comparison between patients who developed new ipsilateral vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new ipsilateral vascular event on conservative medical management as regard risk factors.....	P 115
Table 26: comparison between patients who developed new ipsilateral vascular event and other patients who didn't develop new ipsilateral vascular event on conservative medical management as regard stratification of risk factors.....	P 116
Table 27: comparison between patients who developed new ipsilateral vascular event and other patients who didn't develop new ipsilateral vascular event on conservative medical management as regard (patients who have >4 risk factors and others with ≤4 risk factors).....	P 117
Table 28: comparison between patients who developed new ipsilateral vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new ipsilateral vascular event on conservative medical management as regard clinical presentation.....	P 119

Table 29: comparison between patients who developed new vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new vascular event on conservative medical management as regard brain imaging findings.....	P 120
Table 30: comparison between patients who developed new vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new vascular event on conservative medical management as regard cerebro-vascular assessment [extra-cranial (carotid duplex) and intra-cranial (MRA +/- CTA)].....	P 122
Table 31: secondary decision outcome.....	P 125
Table 32: tertiary decision outcome.....	P 126
Table 33: CAS data.....	P 128
Table 34: CAS outcome in the three successive decisions.....	P128
Table 35: distribution of risk factors among CAS patients.....	P 129
Table 36: mode of presentation among CAS patients.....	P 130
Table 37: CAS operative data.....	P 131

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: comparison of NASCET and ECST angiographic measurements of carotid stenosis	P 32
Figure 2: carotid Doppler velocities and degree of stenosis. Relationship between the mean peak systolic velocity (PSV) and the percentage of stenosis measured angiographically	P 33
Figure 3: Distal EPDs used in this study.....	P 85
Figure 4: carotid stents.....	P 86
Figure 5: MRA for a patient shows apparently occluded intra-cranial Left ICA tandem to high grade stenosis (A). DSCA for the same patient before any intervention shows that the apparently occluded intra-cranial Left ICA is not true occlusion (B).....	P 104
Figure 6: 1 st decision chart.....	P 105
Figure 7: outcome of DAP and OAC groups.....	P 111
Figure 8: comparison between patients who developed new vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new vascular event on conservative medical management as regard follow up duration.....	P 113
Figure 9: comparison between patients who developed new vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new vascular event on conservative medical management as regard the age.....	P 114
Figure 10: comparison between patients who developed new ipsilateral vascular event and other patient who didn't develop new ipsilateral vascular event on conservative medical management as regard (patients who have >4 risk factors and others with ≤4 risk factors).....	P 118

Figure 11: 2 nd decision charts.....	P 124
Figure 12: 3 rd decision charts.....	P 126

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A = Artery

A Com A= Anterior Communicating Artery

ACA = Anterior Cerebral Artery

ACAS = Asymptomatic Carotid Atherosclerotic Study

ACCF/SCAI/SVMB/SIR/ASITN = American College of Cardiology Foundation, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology, Society of Interventional Radiology and American Society of Interventional & Therapeutic Neuroradiology.

ACE = Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme inhibitors

ACST = Asymptomatic Carotid Surgery Trial

ARBs = Angiotensin Receptor Blockers

ARR = absolute risk reduction

ASA = aspirin

BMI = body mass index

BP= blood pressure

CABG = Coronary Artery Bypass Graft

CAD = coronary artery disease

CAPRIE = Clopidogrel versus Aspirin in Patients at Risk of Ischemic Events

CAS = carotid artery stenting

CATS = Canadian-American Ticlopidine Study

CBF = Cerebral Blood Flow

CD = Carotid Duplex

CDUS = Carotid Duplex Ultrasonography

CEA = carotid endarterectomy

CHARISMA = Clopidogrel for High Atherothrombotic Risk and Ischemic Stabilization Management, and Avoidance

CI = confidence interval

CREST = Carotid Revascularization Endarterectomy vs. Stent Trial

CT = computed tomography

CTA = computed tomography angiography

CVA = Cerebro-Vascular Accident

CVS = Cerebro-Vascular Stroke

DM = diabetes mellitus

DSCA = Digital Subtraction Cerebral Angiography

ECST = European Carotid Surgery Trial

EPDs= emboli-protection devices

ERDP = extended release dipyridamole

ESPRIT = European/Australian Stroke Prevention in Reversible Ischemia Trial

ESPS = European Stroke Prevention Study

fps = frame per second

GP IIb/IIIa = Glyco-Protein IIb/IIIa

HDL-C = high-density lipoprotein cholesterol

HOPE = Heart Outcomes and Prevention Evaluation

HTN = hypertension

IBI = internal borderzone infarcts

ICA = Internal Carotid Artery

ICH = Intra Cranial Hemorrhage

IHD = ischemic heart disease

IMT=Intima Media Thickening

INR = international normalized ratio

LACS = lacunar syndrome

LDL-C= low-density lipoprotein cholesterol

LIFE = Losertan Intervention For Endpoint
LV = left ventricle
MATCH = Clopidogrel for High Atherothrombotic Risk and Ischemic Stabilization, Management, and Avoidance
MCA = Middle Cerebral Artery
MI = myocardial infarction
MRA = Magnetic Resonance Angiography
MRI= magnetic resonance imaging
N/A = Not available
NASCET = North American Symptomatic Carotid Endarterectomy Trial
NCEP = National Cholesterol Education Program
NICU = neurology intensive care unit
NIH = National Institutes of Health
NINDS = National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
NS = Non Significant
OCSP= Oxfordshire Community Stroke Project
OTW = Over the wire
PA = Posterior Anterior
PACS = partial anterior circulation syndrome
PAI = perforating artery infarcts
PCA = posterior cerebral artery
PET= Positron Emission Tomography
PO= oral
POCS = posterior circulation syndrome
PROGRESS = Perindopril Protection Against Recurrent Stroke Study
PTCA = percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty.
PVD = peripheral vascular disease
QD= Latin abbreviation means once per day

RHV = Rotating hemostatic valve
RRR =relative risk reduction
RX = Rapid exchange
SALT = Swedish Aspirin Low-Dose Trial
SAPPHIRE = Stenting and Angioplasty with Protection in Patients at High-Risk for Endarterectomy
SPARCL = Stroke Prevention with Aggressive Reduction of Cholesterol Levels trial
SUA = serum uric acid
TACS = total anterior circulation syndrome
TASS = Ticlopidine Aspirin Stroke Study
TCD= Transcranial Doppler
TIA =Transient Ischemic Attack
TMB = Transient Mono-ocular Blindness
TOAST = Trial of Org 10172 in Acute Stroke Treatment
UK = United Kingdom
VA = Veterans Affairs
VB = vertebro-basilar
WARSS = Warfarin Aspirin Recurrent Stroke Study
WASID = Warfarin Aspirin Symptomatic Intracranial Diseases

INTRODUCTION

Stroke is the third leading cause of death (164,000 deaths/ year) in the U.S., behind heart disease and cancer. There are approximately 1 million stroke-related events each year, including 500,000 new strokes, 200,000 recurrent strokes, and 240,000 transient ischemic attacks (TIAs), **(Kleindorfer, et al. 2005 and Thom, et al. 2006)**. Patients who suffered a transient ischemic attack had a 13-fold excess risk of stroke during the first year and a sevenfold excess risk over the first 7 years compared with people without transient ischemic attacks **(Dennis, et al. 1990)**. The risk is higher in the first month and highest in patients with hemispheric TIA and carotid stenosis causing more than 70% luminal reduction **(Streifler, et al. 1992)**. However, Carotid occlusive disease amenable to revascularization accounts for 5% to 12% of new strokes **(Kleindorfer, et al. 2005 and Thom, et al. 2006)**. This clarifies the importance of prophylaxis and early interference.

The first balloon angioplasty for carotid stenosis was performed in 1979; reports in the early 1980s **(Bockenheimer, et al. 1983)**, included a balloon occlusion system to reduce embolic complications **(Theron, et al. 1990)**, then the first balloon-expandable stent was deployed in the carotid artery in 1989, these stents were prone to extrinsic compression, and major adverse events occurred in more than 10% of patients at 30 days **(Marks, et al. 1994 and Diethrich, et al. 1996)**. Subsequently, issues about stent deformation were resolved by use of the self-expanding Wallstent **(Roubin, et al. 2001)**, and later by self-expanding nitinol stents. However, risk of embolic stroke was the major concern that

limits early enthusiasm for endovascular treatment. Initial strategies focused on neurological rescue which was not always successful. Accordingly, treatment strategies shifted from neurological rescue to neurological protection, utilizing specialized emboli-protection devices (EPDs) to capture and remove embolic debris that were generated during the course of the interventional procedure.

With the evolution and maturation of carotid artery stenting (CAS) equipments and techniques, many nonrandomized and randomized (CAS) clinical trials had compared carotid stenting with the use of an emboli-protection device with carotid endarterectomy (CEA) **(American College of Cardiology Foundation, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions, Society for Vascular Medicine and Biology, Society of Interventional Radiology and American Society of Interventional & Therapeutic Neuroradiology Clinical Expert Consensus Document on Carotid Stenting. 2007)** their results are summarized that; Currently, among patients with severe carotid-artery stenosis (symptomatic stenosis greater than 50% and asymptomatic stenosis greater than 80%) and coexisting conditions, carotid stenting with the use of an emboli-protection device is not inferior to carotid endarterectomy **(Jay, et al. 2004)**.

Although the large number of studies, unfortunately no available studies comparing medical treatment versus CAS in those patients with severe carotid artery stenosis. This emerges an important question, which is superior medical therapy or CAS?

AIM OF THE STUDY

- To study the outcome of management of severe carotid artery stenosis by carotid artery stenting versus conservative medical treatment.