

**Comparison of Short Term Outcomes of
De Vega Repair Versus Ring
Annuloplasty in Cases of Functional
Tricuspid Regurgitation**

Thesis

**Submitted for the partial fulfillment of MD degree
In Cardiothoracic Surgery**

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2019

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قَالَ

سَبِّحْكَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا
أَنْتَ عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ
الْعَلِيمُ الْعَظِيمُ

صدق الله العظيم

سورة البقرة الآية: ٣٢

Acknowledgements

First, thanks are all directed to **ALLAH**, for blessing this work until it has reached its end, as a part of generous help throughout my life.

It is with immense gratitude that I acknowledge the support and help of **Prof. Walaa Ahmed Saber**, Professor of Cardio-thoracic surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his meticulous supervision guidance, effort and great support during various phases of the study. I really have the honor to complete this work under his supervision.

I am profoundly grateful to **Assistant Prof. Hossam El-Din Ashour Abdel-Hamid**, Assistant Professor of Cardio-thoracic surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his faithful guidance and meticulous revision.

I am also indebted to **Assistant Prof. Sherif A.A. Mansour**, Assistant Professor of Cardio-thoracic surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his patience and support in overcoming numerous obstacles I have been facing through my research.

I would like to direct my special thanks to **Dr. Mostafa Gamal El-din Mostafa**, Lecturer of Cardio-thoracic Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his valuable help, fruitful advice, continuous support offered to me and guidance step by step till this thesis finished.

I can't forget to thank with all appreciation **Assistant Prof. Ahmed Helmy Aly Omar**, Assistant Professor of Cardio-thoracic Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Ain Shams University, for his great support, great efforts and help in many operations performed for patients in this study.

Last but not least, I would like to thank **my family: my beloved supportive Parents and my sister**, who encouraged me spiritually throughout writing this thesis and guided me throughout my life. Without their kind help and support this work could not have come to completion.

 **Mohammed Abdel-gayed Ibrahim**

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List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbrev.</i>	<i>Full-term</i>
2 D	: 2 dimensional
3 D	: 3 dimensional
ACC	: American College of Cardiology
ACE I	: Angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor
AF	: Atrial fibrillation
AHA	: American Heart Association
CBC	: Complete blood count
CFD	: Color flow Doppler
CI	: Confidence interval
CMR	: Cardiac magnetic resonance
COP	: Cardiac output
COPD	: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CWD	: Continuous wave Doppler
CXR	: Chest X-ray
EACTS	: European Association of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
ECG	: Electrocardiography
EF	: Ejection fraction
EROA	: Effective regurgitant orifice area
ESC	: European Society of Cardiology
FTR	: Functional tricuspid regurgitation
HCV	: Hepatitis C virus
HF	: Heart failure
HIV	: Human immune-deficiency virus
ICU	: Intensive care unit
IE	: Infective endocarditis
IVC	: Inferior vena cava

JVP	: Jugular venous pressure
LA	: Left atrium
LAX	: Long axis view
LV	: Left ventricle
LVEDD	: Left ventricle end diastolic diameter
LVESD	: Left ventricle end systolic diameter
MR	: Mitral regurgitation
MS	: Mitral stenosis
MV	: Mitral valve
NYHA	: New York Heart Association
PASP	: Pulmonary artery systolic pressure
PG	: Pressure gradient
PHT	: Pulmonary hypertension
PISA	: Proximal isovolumetric surface area
PWD	: Pulsed wave Doppler
RA	: Right atrium
RR	: Relative risk
RV	: Right ventricle
R Vol	: Regurgitant volume
RVSP	: Right ventricle systolic pressure
SD	: Standard deviation
SVC	: Superior vena cava
TA	: Tricuspid annulus
TAPSE	: Tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion
TEE	: Transesophageal echocardiography
TR	: Tricuspid regurgitation
TTE	: Transthoracic echocardiography
TV	: Tricuspid valve
VC	: Vena contracta

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Introduction

Tricuspid valve (TV) diseases are categorized into organic and functional etiologies. Functional or secondary TV regurgitation (TR) occurs in patients with advanced mitral valve disease and pulmonary hypertension.⁽¹⁾

Organic TV diseases include rheumatic TV disease, which commonly results in stenosis as well as regurgitation. Degenerative TR is less common. Infective endocarditis is common among IV drug abusers or patients with long-standing central venous lines. Carcinoid syndrome affects the TV resulting in both stenosis and regurgitation. Iatrogenic TR occurs as a result of trans-tricuspid pacing leads and radiotherapy.⁽²⁾

In patients with longstanding mitral stenosis and pulmonary hypertension, right ventricular dilatation occurs and consequently TV annulus also dilates. This results in failure of proper coaptation of tricuspid leaflets although they are normal in appearance. This results in functional TR (FTR).⁽³⁻⁴⁾

Different methods are used for TV repair. The most common are De Vega repair, bicuspidization, annuloplasty with pericardial patch, and ring annuloplasty. TV annuloplasty do not consistently eliminate functional regurgitation, and across time regurgitation increases. Different methods of repair have different outcomes both on the short term and the long term.⁽⁵⁻⁶⁾

The TV was once referred to as “the forgotten valve“, and in the past, FTR was overlooked. That was due to lack of the adequate knowledge about the TV structure, function, and optimal method of repair. Also, it was thought that correction of the left-sided valvular pathology sufficiently improves FTR. However, recent studies, and the development of diagnostic tools, echocardiography in particular, have increased the awareness of the importance of this valve. ⁽⁷⁾

Residual TR after mitral valve replacement is associated with a 2-fold increase in the risk of incidence of heart failure, and 50% decrease in the 5-year survival. In addition, residual TR is a progressive disease. About 50% of the patients progress by more than 2 grades of TR within 5 years after surgery. In the light of these facts, the importance of proper repair of TV in patients undergoing mitral valve surgery is clear now. ⁽⁸⁾

Aim of the Study

The aim of this study is to compare the short term outcomes of De Vega repair versus ring annuloplasty in patients with functional TR.

Chapter one

Surgical Anatomy of the Tricuspid Valve

The tricuspid valve is situated at the base of the heart, separating the right atrium from the right ventricle. The TV is the most anterior of all heart valves and its orientation is nearly vertical. Based on autopsy, normal tricuspid valve orifice diameter of an adult is approximately 20 mm/m² and the orifice area is approximately 5.6 cm², which is larger than that of the mitral valve. The TV is a complex apparatus, similar to the mitral valve, which consists of annulus, leaflets, chordae, papillary muscles, and RV wall. The function of the valve depends on the harmony between these structures.⁽⁹⁾

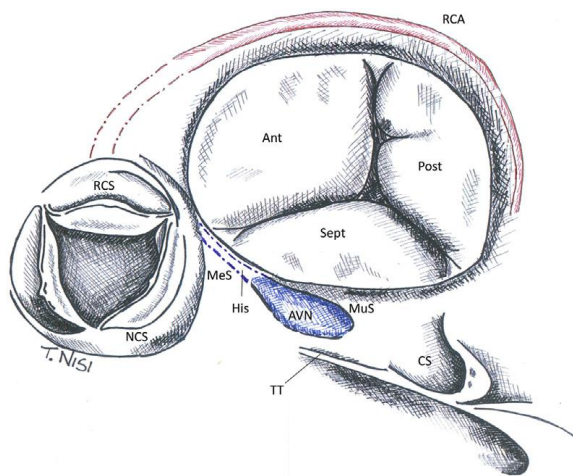


Figure (1): Schematic representation of the surgical view of the tricuspid valve from the RA. Ant, anterior leaflet; AVN, AV node; CS, coronary sinus ostium; His, bundle of His; MeS, septum membranousum; MuS, muscular portion of the AV septum; NCS, noncoronary sinus of the aorta; Post, posterior leaflet; RCS, right coronary sinus of the aorta; Sept, septal leaflet; TT, tendon of Todaro.

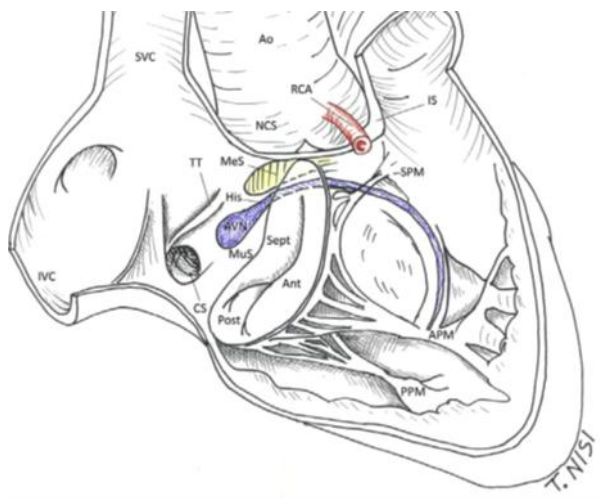


Figure (2): Schematic representation of the RA, tricuspid valve and RV. Ant, anterior leaflet; Ao, aorta; APM, anterior papillary muscles; AVN, AV node; CS, coronary sinus ostium; His, bundle of His; IS, infundibular septum; IVC, inferior vena cava; MeS, septum membranousum; MuS, muscular portion of the AV septum; NCS, noncoronary sinus of the aorta; Post, posterior leaflet; PPM, posterior papillary muscle; Sept, septal leaflet; SPM, septal papillary muscle; SVC, superior vena cava; TT, tendon of Todaro.

Tricupid valve Annulus (TA):

The TV annulus (TA) is more a landmark rather than an actual fibrous ring. It is indistinct especially at the septal region. Normally, the attachment of the septal leaflet of TV is more apically placed than that of anterior leaflet of mitral valve, and this distance is normally less than 8 mm/m². In patients with Ebstein's anomaly, this distance is increased.⁽¹⁰⁾

The absence of true fibrous annulus explains the large changes which occurs normally in the tricuspid orifice shape and area during the cardiac cycle and also explains its easy dilation in pathological conditions.⁽⁹⁾