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Predictor factors of microvascular obstruction in early presenters of ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction

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Background: Microvascular obstruction (MVO) is a phenomenon that occurs frequently even after primary coronary intervention with recanalization of the infarct-related artery (IRA) and it has been shown to increase the risk of adverse cardiovascular events in ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) patients. The most important clinical predictor of MVO is ischemia duration, but there is a lack of information regarding predictor factors in promptly revascularized patients.

Methods: From January 2007 to October 2017, 1022 patients with STEMI that underwent urgent coronary angiography were retrospectively enlisted. We included 760 patients that were revascularized in ≤ 6 hours from symptom onset. Clinical, echocardiographic and angiographic data were taken from hospital records. A multivariate Cox regression analysis was made to assess the relationship between MVO (defined as final TIMI < 3 in IRA) and potential predictors.

Results: From the 760 patients included, 73.7% were male and the mean age was 64.8 ± 14.2 years. LVEF at admission was $46.1 \pm 12\%$ and Killip

class at admission was III-IV in 12.8% of the cases. The mean time between symptom onset and wire crossing was 3.3 ± 1.3 hours. MVO was found in 130 cases (17.2%). After the multivariate Cox regression analysis, Killip class III-IV at admission was associated with MVO (OR 2.87 [1.31–6.31]). No other clinical variables were independently associated with the occurrence of MVO. The angiographic and interventional variables with a significant association with MVO were: predilatation (OR 1.87 [1.003–3.49]), postdilatation (OR 0.49 [0.27–0.89]), stent length (OR 1.04 [1.001–1.08]), stent diameter (OR 1.89 [1.11–3.23]), thrombus burden of the culprit lesion (OR 2.69 [1.26–5.71]) and distal embolization (OR 5.52 [2.79–10.89]).

Conclusions: In early presenters of STEMI, angiographic and interventional variables were more important as predictors of MVO than clinical variables. Killip class III-IV at admission was a clinical predictor factor for MVO in this population. Prospective studies are needed to confirm these results.