

Debatní sekce: Otázky kolem katetrizační ablace v různých indikacích

### Predsieňové tachykardie po ablácii fibrilácie predsiení: ako ďalej ?

**Peter Hlivák** OAKS NÚSCH a LF SZU, Bratislava,



XVI. české a slovenské sympózium o arytmiách a kardiostimulácii, Ostrava, 11–13.11.2018



#### Atrial tachycardias after AF ablation

- "common enough" + very symptomatic → all operators performing AF ablation should be skilled in mapping and ablating
- incidence depending on various factors
  - predominant type of AF before index procedure
  - <u>ablation strategy</u> of the 1<sup>st</sup> procedure:
    - 2.6% (PVI alone) 31% (linear lesions)
    - less after cryobaloon

Gerstenfeld EP, et al. Circulation 2004;110(11):1351-1357. Chugh A, et al. J Am Coll Cardiol 2005;46(1):83-91. Chugh A, et al. Heart Rhythm 2005;2(5):464-471. Deisenhofer I, et al. Europace 2006;8(8):573-582. Kuck KH, et al. N Engl J Med 2016;374(23):2235-2245.

### Clinical considerations (of ATs post AF ablation)

- Eearly onset after the index procedure
  - inducibility immediately after PVI (16,3%) or more extensive ablation  $(38\%)^1$
  - > 80% ATs during first 2-4 weeks after AF ablation<sup>2,3</sup>
- Multiple different arrhythmias in the same patient
- Most commonly persistent (78 92%)<sup>4</sup>
- Frequent and important symptoms refractory to management with rate-controlling drugs (more symptomatic then original AF)
- Limited effect of antiarrhythmic drugs
- High recurrence rate after cardioversion
- Often requirement of at least one subsequent ablation procedure

1.Daoud EG et al. Journal of Cardiovascular Electrophysiology, vol. 17, pp. 157–165, 2006.

2. Themistoclakis S et al. Heart Rhythm, vol. 5, no. 5, pp. 679–685, 2008.

3. Ouyang F et al. Circulation, vol. 111, pp. 127–135, 2005

4. Haissaguerre M et al. Journal of Cardiovascular Electrophysiology, vol. 16, pp. 1138-1147, 2005.

## Atrial tachycardias

# 1. focal

# 2. small circuit ("microreentry")

# 3. macroreentry





## Macroreentrant AFL: gap related

## Macroreentrant AFL: gap related



#### Mechanism of ATs - "non-gap related"



## Macroreentry AT

- 2 sites ≥ 2 cm apart demonstrate entrainment with a PPI -tachycardia
  CL of 20 ms (i.e., within the circuit)
- Typical AFL
  - RA: CCW (common) and CW AFL (reverse common), lower-loop AFL, intraisthmus reentry
- Atypical AFL
  - prior atrial surgery or prior ablation for AF
  - RA: free wall reentry, upper-loop, crista terminalis, RA septum,
  - LA: type of circuit varies according to the nature of prior ablation and to the underlying structural heart disease
    - perimitral or mitral isthmus-dependent or roof-dependent circuits
    - around regions of scar, double loop reentry











Veenhuyzen GD et al. PACE 2009; 32

#### Determining the location of the reentry circuit: role of the 12-lead ECG

- more extensive scarring (more extensive LA ablation or spontaneous → more limited interpretation of the 12- lead ECG
- clear isoelectric line in all 12 leads  $\rightarrow$  focal AT ("trully focal" or microreentry)
- Typical CTI -dependent AFL frequently atypical appearance after prior LA ablation

## 12-lead ECG: general rules

- Tachycardias arising near the PV ostia  $\,\rightarrow\,$  inferior axis and positive F waves across the precordial leads
- "m"-shaped F-wave in lead V1  $\rightarrow$  left PV exit
- Right PV tachycardias  $\rightarrow$  amplitude in lead II > III and a positive F wave in lead I
- Mitral annular flutter
  - similar appearance to left PV tachycardias
  - initial negative component in the precordial leads or amplitude in lead V2 less than that in V1 and V3 might be suggestive

## AT from RSPV



Flutter waves amplitude in lead II > III and a positive F wave in lead I

### Initial step: check the CS activation







- CTI-dependent flutter
- right PV tachycardia
- counterclockwise mitral annular flutter

- Left PV
  - tachycardia
- clock- wise mitral flutter
- roof-dependent flutter

## Mappping of ATs after AF ablation



Knecht S et al. PACE 2009; 32:528-538

### Practical approach to treat ATs post Afib ablation

- To know the substrate and previous ablation strategy
  - PVI alone
  - PVI + lines
  - PVI + CFAEs...
- Check the PVs  $\rightarrow$  PVI is the must ! (both triggers and critical isthmus)
- Check the lines → checking for bidirectional conduction block is the must! (gaps, zone of slow conduction...)



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## Laso v LIPV a LSPV





#### Laso v LIPV



# 3D mapa ĽP



## LPV isolation

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## AT from LSPV









- Activation mapping
- Entrainment mapping

## Activation mapping

- conventional: sequentially
  - annotation manualy or automated
- Multipoint mapping



- (Ultra) High-density and automated mapping systems (Rhythmia, Ripple mapping...)
  - true clinical value still unknown







## Perimitrálny AFL






















## Entrainment mapping

- stable reentrant circuit  $\rightarrow$  better and more accurate approach to localize
- "gold standard"  $\rightarrow$  more preferred for reentrant tachy
- fusion of the F wave difficult to interpret
- primary goal: identification of regions with a PPI within 20 ms of the tachycardia CL
- cave: pace at or near threshold !
- disadvantage: risk of termination or changing the tachycardia to different one or degeneration into Afib

### Ablation strategy

- <u>PV tachycardias</u>: usually 2 gaps in previous PVI line are present
- Macroreentrant tachy: ablation to connect anatomic obstacles
  - mitral annular flutter:
    - MA and LIPV (mitral isthmus)
    - anterior line (MA and LSPV or RSPV or roof line)
    - often epicardial ablation within the CS is required (ca in 80% of pts)
  - endpoint of linear ablation: proof of bidirectional block using pacing maneuvers rather than tachycardia termination
- After termination of the clinical tachycardia  $\rightarrow$  always re-isolation of any reconnected PVs !

## Earliest (fractionated) activity



# Earliest (fractionated) activity



## How to prevent post Afib AFL ?





### LA/RA Linear Lesions



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## Roof block





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#### Pac. D.I., 65-r. žena, CHADS2VASc 2, AHT



#### Pac. F.K, 63r. muž, AHT, st. RFA AD v 1995, CHA2DS2VASc: 1, EHRA III



# Ablation of atypical atrial flutters using ultra high density-activation sequence mapping



#### LA anteroseptal flutter

#### Complex mitral isthmus flutter





Winkle RA et al. J Interv Card Electrophysiol 2016

#### **Ongoing Management of Atrial Flutter**



J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016;67(13):e27-e115.

## Thank you for your attention



### Acute Treatment of Atrial Flutter



\*Anticoagulation as per guideline is mandatory.

tFor rhythms that break or recur spontaneously, synchronized cardioversion or rapid atrial pacing inot appropriate.

J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016;67(13):e27e115.

#### Non-Isthmus-Dependent Atrial Flutters: catheter ablation

Catheter ablation is useful in pts with recurrent symptomatic non-CTIdependent AFL after failure of at least 1 antiarrhythmic agent (Class I)

- No prospective RCTs have compared the efficacy or safety of AAD with CA
- In general, CA of non-CTI-dependent AFL is more difficult than ablation of CTI-dep. AFL
  - anatomic circuits are complex, often not anatomically defined, difficult to locate.
  - Knowledge of the prior surgical or ablation approach and detailed activation and entrainment mapping of the tachycardia are useful during attempts at ablation
  - location of the circuit determines ablation approach and risks.
- CA is reasonable in patients with recurrent symptomatic non-CTIdependent AFL as primary therapy, before therapeutic trials of antiarrhythmic drugs, after carefully weighing potential risks and benefits of treatment options (IIa)
   J Am Coll Cardiol. 2016;67(13):e27-

e115

# CARTO and CT merge



## Earliest (fractionated) activity



### AT in LPVs continues...

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# Mechanisms of atrial flutter and atrial tachycardia



A: Isthmus-dependent reverse common (clockwise) atrial flutter. B: Isthmus-dependent common (counter clockwise) atrial flutter. C: Focal atrial tachycardia with circumferential spread of activation of the atria (can arise from multiple sites within the left and right atrium). D: Microreentrant atrial tachycardia with circumferential spread of activation of the atria. E: Perimitral atrial flutter. F: Roof-dependent atrial flutter.

Calkins H et al. Heart Rhythm 2017

#### LACA-WACA-PVI

- Encircling lesions
  - eliminate PV triggers



- may also eliminate "rotors" or "mother waves"
- 20-30% of LA is excluded limiting area for circulating wavelets critical mass ?
- Why is there 20-30% recurrence of AF? (If the triggers for paroxysmal AF have been eliminated)
  - Reconnection of the pulmonary veins
  - Non pulmonary vein triggers (e.g. Ligament of Marshall, CS...)

### Persistent Afib ablation approaches

- Bordeaux stepwise
  approach
- Hamburg approach...



Journal of Internal Medicine 2016;5:439-448. DOI: 10.1111/joim.12488

### Multielectrode ablation catheters











deployed

#### Electromagnetic (SmartTouch) vs fiber-optic (TactiCath Quartz) contact force catheters



Bourier F et al. J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol. 2016 Sep 22. [Epub ahead of print]

#### Force parameters discriminators for segments with isolation vs gaps (EFFICAS I)





Neuzil P et al. Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2013;6:327-333

#### Association of Atrial Tissue Fibrosis Identified by Delayed Enhancement MRI and Atrial Fibrillation Catheter Ablation The DECAAF Study



#### Marrouche N et al. JAMA. 2014;311(5):498-506

### Predictors of Success Following AF Ablation

- Predictors of a poorer outcome, at least in some studies, include
- (1) non-PAF and particularly long-term persistent AF
- (2)LV dysfunction
- (3) sleep apnea and obesity
- (4) increased LA size
- (5) increased age
- (6)hypertension
- (7)LA fibrosis as detected by cardiac MRI

#### Prediktory neúspechu/horších výsledkov katétrovej ablácie FP

- 1. iná ako paroxyzmálna FP (predovšetkým dlhodobo perzistujúca FP)
- 2. syndróm spánkového apnoe
- 3. obezita
- 4. dilatácia ĽP
- 5. vyšší vek
- 6. hypertenzia
- 7. fibróza ĽP detegovaná pomocou MRI
- 8. nižšia EF ĽK

- Systematický prehľad prediktorov rekurencií FP po katétrovej ablácii (Balk EM et al. JCE 2010)
- ≥25 štúdií
- 17 z nich študovalo EFĽK
- ▶veľmi málo pac. malo EFĽK < 40%
- ≻4 štúdie: exklúzia pac. s EFĽK < 45%</p>
- >5 štúdií: EFĽK prediktor

## AF ablation - PVI






# Izolácia pl'úcnych žíl





















#### Different possible evolutions of AF in relation to substrate remodelling and trigger density



Eur Heart J. 2014;35(22):1448-1456

#### A conceptual model of atrial fibrillation events in relationship to underlying substrate



### Basic mechanisms underlying AF-related remodelling and therapy



#### Pac. M.O, 41r. muž, dlhodobo perzistentá FP, CHA2DS2VASc: 1, EHRA III, EFĽK 30%



# The 1st-generation vs the 2<sup>nd</sup> - generation cryoballoon ablation catheters



Aryana Aet al. JCE 2015; 26:832-839

# Fire and ICE Trial



**B** Radiofrequency Current Ablation of Pulmonary Vein



#### Kuck KH et al. N Engl J Med 2016;374:2235-45.

### FIRE AND ICE Safety

End Point	Radiofrequency Group (N = 376)	Cryoballoon Group (N = 374)	P Value*
	no. of pati	ents (%)	
Primary safety end point†	51 (12.8) <u>‡</u>	40 (10.2)‡	
Death from any cause∬	0	2 (0.5)¶	0.50
Stroke or TIA from any cause§	2 (0.5)	2 (0.5)	1.00
Atrial arrhythmia§	13 (3.5)	8 (2.1)	0.38
Atrial flutter or atrial tachycardia	10 (2.7)	3 (0.8)	0.09
Non–arrhythmia-related serious adverse events§	36 (9.6)	28 (7.5)	0.36
Groin-site complication**	16 (4.3)	7 (1.9)	0.09
Unresolved phrenic nerve injury††			
At discharge	0	10 (2.7)	0.001
At 3 months	0	2 (0.5)	0.25
At >12 months	0	1 (0.3)	0.50
Cardiac tamponade or pericardial effusion	5 (1.3)	1 (0.3)	0.22
Pulmonary or bronchial complication	4 (1.1)	2 (0.5)	0.69
Transient neurologic complication	3 (0.8)	1 (0.3)	0.62
Dyspnea	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)	1.00
Gastrointestinal complication	2 (0.5)	1 (0.3)	1.00
Other, nonarrhythmia cardiac complications $\ddagger\ddagger$	0	3 (0.8)	0.12
Anxiety	0	1 (0.3)	0.50
Contrast media reaction	1 (0.3)	0	1.00
Contusion	1 (0.3)	0	1.00
Esophageal ulcer	0	1 (0.3)	0.50
Hematuria	1 (0.3)	0	1.00
Local edema	1 (0.3)	0	1.00
Atrioesophageal fistula	0	0	—
Pulmonary vein stenosis	0	0	—

#### Electromagnetic (SmartTouch) vs fiber-optic (TactiCath Quartz) contact force catheters



Bourier F et al. J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol. 2016 Sep 22. [Epub ahead of print]

## **Contact Force**



<u>Technological Advances</u> Improved outcomes Improved sustainability Improved safety



Reddy VY et al. Heart Rhythm 2012; 9:1789 -1795

#### Force parameters discriminators for segments with isolation vs gaps (EFFICAS I)



Neuzil P et al. Circ Arrhythm Electrophysiol. 2013;6:327-333

# The electrocardiographic imaging (ECGI) procedure



Yoram Rudy Circ Res. 2013;112:863-874

The phase maps of ≥1000-ms-long AF window show reentry events visualized intermittently in the right and left atria with their prephase electrograms on the right.



#### Haissaguerre M et al. Circulation. 2014;130:530-538

# Evaluation of pulmonary veins during the 2<sup>nd</sup> procedure



- Isolated PV in a patient without clinical recurrence
- Reconnected PV in a patient without clinical recurrence
- Isolated PV in a patient with clinical recurrence
- Reconnected PV in a patient with clinical recurrence

- 158 PVs reevaluated at median of 6.0 months after the initial procedure.
- In total, reconnections detected in 39 PVs (24.7%) among 25 pts (62.5%).

# **Reconnections vs Recurrence**

	Recurrence (–)	Recurrence (+)	
Ν	15	25	P value
Period from initial procedure (months)	7.0 [5.0–9.0]	6.0 [3.5-9.0]	.314
No. of reconnected PVs			
Total	14/60 (23.3%)	25/98 (25.5%)	.758
LSPV	4/15 (26.7%)	2/23 (8.7%)	.138
LIPV	2/15 (13.3%)	5/23 (21.7%)	.513
RSPV	2/15 (13.3%)	3/25 (12.0%)	.902
RIPV	6/15 (40.0%)	14/25 (56.0%)	.327
LCPV		1/2 (50.0%)	

- No significant difference between those with and those without clinical recurrences with regard to:
  - clinical characteristics, procedural results, incidence of reconnections (25/98 vs 14/60, p = .758)
- The most common gap: RIPV bottom in both groups
- Non-PV foci (with AF initiation) identified in 10 of 25 patients with clinical recurrences (during 2<sup>nd</sup> procedure)

#### One-size-fits-all?







C



