

15 Years' Experience with Type A Aortic Dissection: Improving Results Over the Years

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Abstract

Introduction: Surgical treatment of acute type A aortic dissection is challenging and is associated with high morbidity and mortality. We began performing this surgery in 2010, and we now have 15-years of experience with this dreadful aortic syndrome. This report aims to present some short-term results of this kind of surgery in Albania.

Methods: There were 200 consecutive patients who underwent surgery for acute type A aortic dissection over a 15-year period from 2010 to 2024. Patient, procedural and follow-up information was retrieved from hospital records.

Results: The mean age of this group of patients was 58.84 years (standard deviation 11.64 years), and 82 % were male. In 112 patients, the native

aortic valve was intact, 46 underwent aortic valve and root replacement with a valved conduit (modified Bentall operation), 22 separate aortic valve replacement with a mechanical/biological prosthesis and 20 patients had aortic valve repair. Overall, in-hospital and thirty-day mortality was 20.5 %, starting at 30 % in the initial period and declining to 15 % in the last two years.

Conclusions: In the current era, acute type A aortic dissection is associated with a decreasing operative mortality risk. Actually, we perform this type of surgery in Albania with optimal results and aspire to achieve even better outcomes in the future.

Keywords: ascending aorta, dissection, acute, improving results