Interventional Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale 2019

Where We Are and Where we are Going POMA 2019

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Transient or Sustained Reversal of the Left Atrial to Right Atrial Pressure Gradient

- Early Systole
- Valsalva/ Mueller
- Coughing
- Pulmonary Hypertension
- COPD
- Pregnancy
- Asthmatics
- Wind Instruments
- Decompression Sickness (Diving)
- High Altitude Flying
- Obstructive Sleep Apnea

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PFO Has Been Linked to Increased Risk of:

- Stroke
- Migraine Headaches
- Decompression Illness in Scuba Divers
- Platypnea-Orthodeoxia
- Economy Class stroke Syndrome
- Multi-Infarct Dementia
- Cerebral microemboli following TKR

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Left

Valve

Repeat Closure 35 mm Amplatzer PFO device











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PFO and cryptogenic stroke

- The contribution of a patent foramen ovale (PFO) to cerebral ischemia-suspected but unproven
 - PFO twice as prevalent in patients who have experienced a cryptogenic stroke compared to the general population
 - Observational data suggest a reduction of recurrent stroke with PFO closure, but...
- Three randomized trials of PFO closure did not show significant reduction in stroke risk in their primary intention-to-treat analysis

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- N=414 patients with stroke, TIA or extra-cranial thrombo-embolic event
- RCT, 1:1 PFO closure with Amplatzer PFO occluder + APT for at least 1-6 months or anti-thrombotic therapy with OAC,ASA or both
- Primary end-point: Death, non-fatal stroke, TIA, or peripheral embolism



RESPECT

- N=980 patients with stroke or TIA within 9 months
- RCT, 1:1 PFO closure with Amplatzer PFO occluder + 1 month DAPT followed by aspirin for at least 6 months *or* antithrombotic therapy with VKA (25%) or APT (75%)
 Primary end-point: Fatal ischemic stroke, non-fatal ischemic
- Primary end-point: Patal ischemic stroke, non-ratal ischemic stroke, or early death (45 days after randomization/30 days after closure) – event driven trial (N=25)









Level A	Clinicians must coursel patients considering genutaneous PFO closure that having a PFO is common; it occurs in about 1 in 4 people; It is impossible to determine with cartainty whether their PFOs caused their strokes or TIAs; the <u>effectiveness of the procedure for</u> reducing stroke risk remains uncertain; and the procedure is associated with relatively uncommon, yet potentially serious, complications.		
Level C	In rare circumstances, such as recurrent strokes despite adequate medical therapy with no other mechanism identified, <u>clinicians</u> may offer the AMPLATER PFO Occluder if it is available.		
Level R	Clinicians should not routinely offer percutaneous PFO closure to patients with cruptogenic inchemic stroke outside of a research setting.		

ACC/AHA guidelines 2011-update 2014 (Not Yet Updated To Include 2017 Data)



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5-year cumulative estimate of the probability of stroke was:

1.5% in the OAC group and 3.8% in the SAPT group

The study was not adequately powered to

compare outcomes in these groups!

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Clinical symptoms ≥24 hours or MRI evidence of infarction

- No stenosis >50% or ulcerated plaque in relevant
- vessels
- No atrial fibrillation or high risk source of
- cardioembolism
- Non-lacunar (based on syndrome and/or size)
- No evidence of hyper-coagulable disorder
- Patent foramen ovale (PFO)
 - Confirmed by TEE with bubble study (right-to-left shupt)

for anticoagulation Sondergaard et al. NEJM 2



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Follow-up

- MRI imaging at baseline and 24 months if not already
- performed for an endpoint event

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Co-Primary Endpoints

- Freedom from recurrent clinical ischemic stroke through at least 24 months
- Incidence of new brain infarct (defined as clinical ischemic stroke or silent brain infarct*) through 24 months



*New T2 hyperintense MRI lesion with diameter ≥3 mm; adjudicated by MRI core lab #POMA19

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Baseline	Characte	ristics	
Demographic / Characteristic	Closure (N=441)	Medical (N=223)	p-value
Age, years	45.4 ± 9.3	44.8 ± 9.6	0.41
Days from qualifying event to randomization	100 ± 52	101 ± 53	0.90
Sex, male	59.2%	61.9%	0.56
Current Smoker	14.3%	11.2%	0.30
Diabetes mellitus	4.1%	4.5%	0.84
Hypertension	25.4%	26.0%	0.94
Previous Cerebrovascular Event	14.1%	10.3%	0.22
Maximal baseline shunt grade (# bubbles)	N=425	N=216	0.32
Grade 0 Occluded (0)	0.0%	0.0%	-
Grade I Trivial/Small (1-5)	18.1%	19.9%	-
Grade II Moderate (6-25)	39.1%	43 5%	1.1
Grade III Large (>25)	42.8%	36.6%	
Atrial septal aneurysm	20.4%	(did not	-
#POMA19		Sondergaard et al.	NEJM 2017; 37

















	Safet	All Enrolled Subjects (N=6	Closure 64) (n=441)	Medical (n=223)	p-value
Atrial fibrillati	on/flutter rate	Serious bleed adverse event	ing s 8 (1.8%)	6 (2.7%)	0.57
higher in the	closure group	Procedure- related	4 (0.9%)	-	0.31
onset in 1 st resolved wi		Other	4 (0.9%)	6	0.09
• 1/29 patien	its with AF after PFO	Any AF/ flutte	er 29	1	<0.001
closure had	l a stroke	adverse event	s (6.6%)	(0.4%)	
REDUCE	6.6% vs. 0.4%	Serious AF / flutter	10 (2.3%)	1 (0.4%)	<0.001
CLOSURE-	5.7% vs. 0.7%	Serious device adverse event	6 (1.4%)	-	-
PC Trial	2.9% vs. 1.0%	Device dislocation	3 (0.7%)	-	
CLOSE	4.6% vs. 0.9%	Device thrombosis	2 (0.5%)	-	
		Aortic dissec	tion 1 (0.2%)	-	-
		Any DVT or PE	3 (0.7%)	2 (0.9%)	1.0
#POMA19		Sonderg	aard et al. NEJM 2	017; 377:1	1033-42

DEFENCE-PFO

- N=210 -> 120 patients with ischemic stroke within 6 months and high-risk PFO:
 - Atrial septal aneurysm
 - Hypermobility (excursion ≥10 mm)
 - PFO size ≥2 mm (maximum separation of septum primum from septum secundum)
- RCT, 1:1 PFO closure with Amplatzer PFO occluder + DAPT for at least 6 months *or* anti-thrombotic therapy with OAC or APT
- Aim: To evaluate whether the benefits of PFO closure can be determined based on morphological characteristics of the PFO
- Primary end-point: Stroke, vascular death, or major bleeding
 during 2 years f/u
 Lee et al. JACC 2018; 71:2335-42

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- Patients who have had a stroke TIA not
- No indication for hypoxemia from right to left shunting
- No indication for migraine

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Screening/Imaging PFO

- 1.) Transcranial Doppler (TCD-Bubble)
 - a.) Highest Sensitivity
 - b.) Low specificity

c.)No PFO Features (PFO, L Atrium, Appendage)

d.) Allows for Valsalva /Mueller

2. Transthoracic Echo (TTE) Specific

Both are initial Screen recommendations in new (and only current) European Guidelines

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TCD

Four level visual categorization:

- (i) Grade 0: no occurrence of micro-embolic signals
- (ii) grade I, 1-10 signals;
- (iii) grade III, >10 signals, but no curtain pattern (iv) grade III, Copious bubbles , not curtain (v) Grade IV. Curtain effect

- Test negative: no microbubble
 Low grade shunt: 1–10 microbubbles
 Medium grade shunt: >10 microbubbles but without "curtain effect"
 High grade shunt: curtain effect, seen when the microbubbles are so numerous as to be no longer distinguishable separately

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Intracardiac Echo (ICE)

- Only Real Role is For Intraprocedural Imaging- no Role in Diagnostic Evaluation
- Comparable Imaging to TEE; Single Operator
- Avoids General Anesthesia
- Costly
- Second Vascular Access

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Is There a Pathogenic PFO ? Additional Clues

- Shunting At Rest
- Large Volume of Shunting
- Atrial Septal Aneurism plus PFO
- Anatomically opens > 10 mm
- Prominent Eustacian Valve on Echo

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Pharmacology and Follow-up

Drug therapy and follow up after percutaneous closure		
Position statements	Strength of the statement	Level of evidence
It is reasonable to propose dual antiplatelet therapy for 1 to 6 months after PFO closure	Conditional	A
We suggest a single antiplatelet therapy be continued for at least 5 years	Conditional	С
The extension of the therapy with single antiplatelet beyond 5 years should be based on the balance between patient's overall risk of stroke for other causes and haemorrhagic risk	Strong	С
The choice of the type of antiplatelet drug in the follow- up is currently empiric	Strong	A
The value of residual shunt after percutaneous closure cannot be deduced from available studies	Strong	С
Systematic, high-quality data on follow-up are needed	Strong	C



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FOllow	up		
To obtain comparable data we propose to perform: a) a TTE prior to hospital discharge b) c-TCD at least once beyond six months to assess effective PFO closure and thereafter, if residual shunt persists, annually until closure c) c-TOE or c-TTE in case of severe residual shunt at c- TCD, or recurrent events, or symptoms during follow-up	Conditional	С	124,141-147, 55 + Original meta-analyses and Supplementar Appendix
Patients should undergo antibiotic prophylaxis for any invasive procedure performed in the first six months	Conditional	С	-

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- 30 day monitor
 ILR in older patients
 Prefer Amplatzer in older patients (? Stitch devices)
- If develops after procedure (due to irritation and

inflammation)

- Rate control
 Anticoagulation (drop one or both antiplatelets)
- Cardioversion if doesn't resolve during 24 hours
- Rarely need to use anti-arrhythmics
- All have resolved on own discontinued anticoagulation

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Intra-procedural Complications

- Air embolism (coronary, brain, systemic)
- Cardiac or vessel damage
- Device embolization
- Bleeding or access site injury
- Thrombus
- Migraine/headache

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Post-procedure Complications: Longer Term Endocarditis

ic prophylaxis X 1 year

Residual shunt

- Imaging with bubble study at regular intervals
 May close over time
 Associated with recurrent stroke need further

Thrombus formation

- Device erosion
 - Most dreaded complication, extremely rare with PFO

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The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Long-Term Outcomes of Patent Foramen Ovale Closure or Medical Therapy after Stroke

Jeffrey L. Saver, M.D., John D. Carroll, M.D., David E. Thaler, M.D., Ph.D., Richard W. Smalling, M.D., Ph.D., Lee A. MacDonald, M.D., David S. Marks, M.D., and David L. Tirschwell, M.D., for the RESPECT Investigators*

N Engl J Med 2017;377:1022-32.

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Table 3. Serious Adverse Events Related	to the Procedure o	r Device among th	ne 499 Patients in the Pl	FO Closure Group.*
Serious Adverse Event	Patients with Event	Total No. of Events	Procedure-Related Events	Device-Related Events
	no. (%)		no. (%)
Allergic drug reaction	(0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Atrial fibrillation	2 (0,4)	2	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)
Atrial flutter	1 (0.2)	1	0	1 (0.2)
Cardiac perforation	1 (0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Cardiac thrombus	2 (0.4)	2	1 (0.2)	1 (0.2)
Chest tightness	1 (0.2)	1	0	1 (0.2)
Deep-vein thrombosis	1 (0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Infective endocarditis	1 (0.2)	1	0	1 (0.2)
Ischemic stroke	2 (0.4)	2	0	2 (0.4)
Pericardial effusion	1 (0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Pericardial tamponade	2 (0.4)	2	2 (0.4)	0
Pulmonary embolism	2 (0.4)	2	0	2 (0.4)
Residual shunt requiring closure	2 (0.4)	2	0	2 (0.4)
Sepsis	1 (0.2)	1	0	1 (0.2)
Nonsustained ventricular tachycardia	1 (0.2)	1	0	1 (0.2)
Major vascular complications				
Bleeding	2 (0.4)	2	2 (0.4)	0
Hematoma	1 (0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Vasovagal reaction	1 (0.2)	1	1 (0.2)	0
Total	21 (4.2)	25	12 (2.4)	13 (2.6)







Safety Outcomes After Percutaneous Transcatheter Closure of Patent Foramen Ovale

- 2005 2013
- Closure within 1 year of TIA/stroke
- New York, California and Florida
- Total adverse events 7%
 - Atrial fibrillation / flutter 3.7%
 - Vascular complication 3.0%
 - Hematoma/hemorrhage only 2.7%
 - Cardiac tamponade/perforation 0.5%
 - Death 0.3%
 - Pneumothorax/hemothorax 0.1%

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In general, PFO closure is one of our safest procedures

- Benefits from almost 20 years of experienc
- New operators should be heavily vetted and only launched once current operators are "maxed out"
 Reference SCAVAAN Credentialing Document
- >90% of complications can be avoided or classified as "never events" in experienced hands
- Patients at risk for DVT/PE pre-procedure should remain on warfarin post-procedure
- Erosion exceedingly rare avoid oversizing
- Atrial fibrillation is best avoided by pre-procedure monitoring, sometimes extensive

PAF post-procedure is almost always self-limited

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Remaining or Re-Emerging Questions
1.) PFO mediated stroke beyond 60
2.) PFO in Migraine
3.) Primary Prevention



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Decompression			
Mechanism	Affected Organ	Clinical Manifestations	
Arterial Precipitates	Large Joints & Skin (BENDS)	 Localized, deep, mild to excruciating pain, aggravated with motion Mottled, edema, pain, itching 	
Venous Precipitates	Lungs	 Pulmonary Embolism – CP, SOB, hypoxia 	
Paradoxical Embolism	Brain	Confusion, memory loss, erratic behaviour Headache Scotoma, tunnel vision, diplopia, blurry vision Seizures, dizziness, vertigo, nausea, vomiting, loss of consciousness Chest pain Ascending weakness or paralysis Urinary and rectal incontinence Barretheviat	

Decompression Illness

- Increased incidence of PFO/ASD among divers with decompression
 illness (56%) Koopsen et al. Neth Heart J 2018
- Divers with PFOs are 2.5 to 4.5 times as likely to develop decompression illness as divers without PFOs. Bove 1998, Schwerzmann. Ann Int Med. 2001; 134(1)24-1.
- PFO shunt size predicts risk of DCI, although absolute risk remains low. Torti European Heart Journal (2004) 25, 1014–1020; Am J Cardiol. 2004 Jul 15;94(2):270-273

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Position Statement

South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society (SPUMS) Jnited Kingdom Sports Diving Medical Committee (UKSDMC)

- · Routine screening for PFO is not currently justifiable.
- Divers with a history of decompression illness or congenital heart disease are considered to be at higher risk and may consider screening.
- If a shurt is present, advice should be provided by an experienced diving physician taking into account the clinical context and the size of shunt. Reduction in gas load by limiting depth, repetitive dives may be appropriate.
- Divers with decompression illness may consider PFO closure in order to return to diving.

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- Admitted to hospital with acute R MCA Stroke
- Returned from the Outer Banks by car within the last 2 weeks
- Straining at stool when he noted weakness of L hand
- Tried to stand and his family found him down
- Hospital stroke alert: NIHSS 9,CT R MCA sign 2h ; tPA given at 2h15m

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47 Year Old RH Male

- 24 h: Improved- mild L hemi neglect, mild L Sensory loss, no ataxia; NIHSS=3
- 48 h: Improved- NIHSS=0

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30 d Cardiac Event Monitor

- Time: 27d 23h 12m
- AF-Sx: None Indicated
- AF-ASx: None Found
- SVT- Sx: None Indicated
- SVT-ASx: None Found
- Pause/Heart Block-none

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RoPE Score:

- 7 suggests a 72% chance stroke due to PFO
- 6% risk at 2 years
- Works in Maintenance Department- heavy lifting
- Combined Cardio/Neuro conference decision: Close PFO

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PFO Closure

- ACCESS :RRA/RCFV /LCFV
- ACCUNAV ICE
- Gore 30mm ASD Occluder
- Uncomplicated
- Discharged following day DAPT

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