

First-in-man aortic valvuloplasty with a drug-eluting balloon performed

The first-in-man aortic valvuloplasty with a paclitaxel-eluting balloon was performed on September 26th in Athens, Greece, during the Athens Interventional Cardiovascular Therapeutics (AICT) 2008.



Kostas Spargias

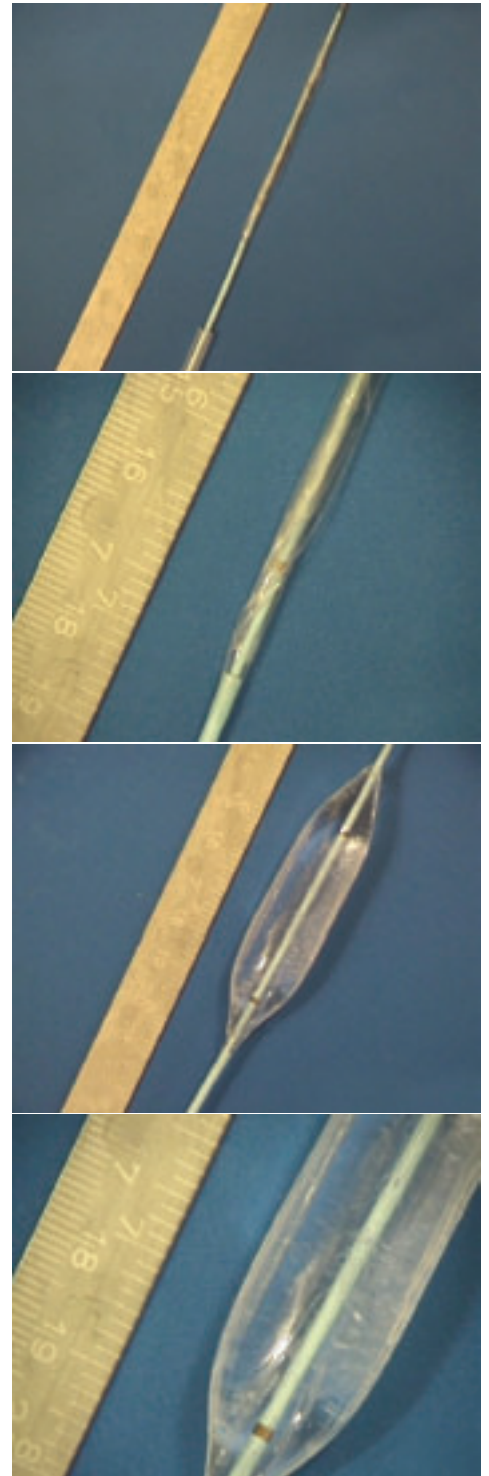
The procedure was performed on compassionate grounds in a patient with severe symptomatic aortic stenosis who was a poor candidate for surgical or transcatheter valve replacement due to comorbidities prohibiting administration of general anaesthesia and poor peripheral arteries excluding transfemoral implantation.

The procedure was performed by Dr Kostas Spargias at the Onassis Cardiac Surgery Centre, Athens, Greece, using a paclitaxel-eluting valvuloplasty balloon

developed in collaboration with Eurocor GmbH, Bonn, Germany, the manufacturer of the DIOR paclitaxel-eluting coronary angioplasty balloon.

The mean transvalvular pressure gradient was reduced from 56mm Hg to 32mm Hg after two inflations of a 20x40mm paclitaxel-coated balloon. Dr Rembert Pogge von Strandmann, head of Eurocor Clinical department, says that Eurocor is hoping to expand live expectancy of humans in poor conditions and will work on a worldwide availability of the device.

Preliminary animal experiment data for the potential of this novel method to prevent restenosis, the Achilles' heel of aortic balloon valvuloplasty, have been promising (in cooperation with Dr Gyongyosi, University of Vienna). The concept of drug-eluting aortic valvuloplasty will be presented on October 13th during the TCT 2008 convention in Washington, DC, in the Innovative Devices and Futuristic Concepts session.



Paclitaxel -eluting valvuloplasty balloon



Eurocor GmbH – Rheinwerkallee 2 – 53227 Bonn – Deutschland/Germany

Tel: 0049 / (0) 228 201500 – Fax: 0049 / (0) 228 20150 -5

Geschäftsführer/managing directors: Dr. Michael Orłowski, Sreerangan Kurup

www.eurocor.de

Don't miss at TCT:

'A Paclitaxel-Eluting Valvuloplasty Balloon to Prevent Aortic Valve Restenosis', by Dr Kostas Spargias

Date: October 13th, 4:51pm, Room: 145AB