





Arterial Pulsatility and Circulating von Willebrand Factor in Patients on Mechanical Circulatory Support

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GRCI 2018



Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicale

2 systems of (left ventricular) mechanical circulatory support



1st generation : intermittent/pulsatile devices

- Intermittent ejection
- Arterial pulsatility preserved
- Big, too complex
- No reliable

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- 2nd generation: continuous/non pulsatile devices
- Continuous ejection
- Arterial pulsatility decreased
- Smaller, less complicated
- More reliable

Abraham WT, Smith SA. Devices in the management of advanced, chronic heart failure. Nat Rev Cardiol. févr 2013;10(2):98-110





Conformation of VWF is determined by the shear stress forces



Acquired von Willebrand Syndrome : a feature of MCS

	During VAD Use	After HT	p Value
Decreased or absent VW multimers	100%	0%	0.001

Uriel N, et al. JACC 2010



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High GI bleeding rate But almost 50% of patients remain free of bleeding events



GI

72 patients with CF-LVAD support (HeartMate II) JACC Vol 56, N° 15, 2010 :1207-13 **Event Site** Event n 24 7 6 pericardial effusion, 1 hemothorax Chest Dental, LE wound, postmenopausal 3 Other Epistaxis 1 Total 35

IN VIVO:

- Every CVAD recipients had loss of HMWM of VWF ۲
- Reversible after heart transplantation ۲

Uriel N,, et al. Acquired von Willebrand Syndrome After Continuous-Flow Mechanical Device Support Contributes to a High Prevalence of Bleeding During Long-Term Support and at the Time of Transplantation. Journal of the American College of Cardiology. oct 2010;56(15):1207-13.

Bleeding events associated with non pulsatile MCS

GASTRO-INTESTINAL BLEEDING :

- Most frequent adverse effect
- Non pulsatile : 63 per 100 patient-years
- Pulsatile : 6,8 per 100 patient-years



6 Crow S, et al. Gastrointestinal bleeding rates in recipients of nonpulsatile and pulsatile left ventricular assist devices. The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. janv 2009;137(1):208-15.

Interrogation



Pulsatility loss and bleeding risk in MCS recipients

- Low pulsatility index = 4 fold increase in risk of bleeding
- No data on the multimerization of VWF



8 Wever-Pinzon O, et al. Pulsatility and the Risk of Nonsurgical Bleeding in Patients Supported With the Continuous-Flow Left Ventricular Assist Device HeartMate II. Circulation: Heart Failure. 1 mai 2013;6(3):517-26.

Endothelial release of VWF in response to stretch forces

Stretch-induced release of VWF from endothelial cells occurs within minutes



Increase in P-selectin expression





Stretch-Intensity

Rapid dynamic restauration of VWF multimers after TAVR

• TAVR (n=20)

- Significant decrease in mean transvalvular gradient
- Increase in VWFpp





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Hypothesis



Aim:

To investigate the effect of arterial pulsatility on the intensity of VWF defect under CF-VAD

- Model 1 : in vitro
- Model 2 & 3 : in vivo with an experimental swine model





Methods

CF-MCS : IMPELLA

- Very high shear stress IMPELLA A (CP) & IMPELLA B (5.0) (>33000 rpm)
- Output : IMPELLA A : 3,5L/min vs IMPELLA B : 5,3L/min

• High speed rotating impeller



Methods : experimental models

Biological endpoints :

- VWF antigen (VWF:Ag)
- VWF collagene binding capacity (VWF:CB)
- VWF multimeric structure



Hemodynamic endpoints :

• Carotid Pulse pressure (systolic BP – diastolic BP)

Model 1 : in vitro mock circulatory loop

To demonstrate the pure proteolytic degradation of VWF in absence of pulsatility

- Human whole blood
- Impella running at maximal speed during 30 min
- Two pump with different maximal flow (impella A & Impella B)
- +/- enzymatic inhibitor (EDTA)



Model 1 : in vitro mock circulatory loop

• Both Impella were associated with rapid and complete VWF degradation in 30 min



Results Model 1: in vitro mock circulatory loop

- Both Impella were associated with rapid and complete VWF degradation in 30 min
- Enzymatic degradation (fully prevented by EDTA)



VWF multimeric profile after EDTA spiking with Impella A (left) and Impella B (right)

Swine experimental model

Transcatheter approach via surgical aortic access

- Median laparotomy
- Abdominal aorta puncture
- Insertion via 22 Fr introducer
- Fluoroscopic guidance
- Pulse pressure monitoring via carotid catheter







Experimental setup

Impella inside LV

Results : Model 2 in vivo : Dose effect model of pulsatility on VWF degradation



Results : Model 2 in vivo : Dose effect model of pulsatility on VWF degradation



Results : Model 2 in vivo : Dose effect model of pulsatility on VWF degradation



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Results : Model 3 in vivo : Cross over study sequential change in pulsatility and shear in a same animal



Results : Model 3 in vivo : Cross over study sequential change in pulsatility and shear in a same animal



Sequential change of pulsatility and shear in a patient with cardiogenic shock requiring MCS

Clinical history

- 58 year old man
- Severe dilated cardiomyopathy, cardiogenic shock

Underwent 3 successively phases of MCS with different hemodynamic and shear pattern

- Phase 1: Peripheral ECMO : high shear and low pulsatility
- Phase 2: CARMAT Total artificial heart : low shear and normal pulsatility
- Phase 3: Peripheral ECMO + CARMAT: high shear and low pulsatility





Clinical report : 3 phases of MCS with different shear/pulsatility

Continuous-flow MCS

 Marked decrease of HMWmultimers

Pulsatile-flow MCS

- Rapid restoration of HMWmultimers
- Rapid increse in VWF Antigen

CF-MCS + PF-MCS

Rapid loss of HMW-multimers



Clinical report : 3 phases of MCS with different shear/pulsatility

Pulsatile phase

- Rapid restoration of HMWmultimers
- Rapid increse in VWF Antigen

Online Figure 3





First animal model with variable pulsatility and constant shear stress forces

Degree of pulsatility is a strong modulator of VWF multimerization

Endothelium response to restoration of pulsatility

- Not only the inhibition of VWF shear-induced proteolysis
- Acute recovery of VWF defect triggered by pulsatility

Clinically relevant : toward a better prevention of acquired VWF defect ?

- VWF defect not only dependent of device's geometry (shear stress)
- Nature of the flow matters !
- Concept of developing new mechanical circulatory devices with optimal balance between pulsatility properties and shear



TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH TEAM



