

Short Term Clinical Outcome Of Angiography Guided Complete Versus Infarcted Related Artery Revascularization In Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, Mansoura Experience

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KEYWORDS

STEMI (ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction), Multivessel disease, Complete revascularization, Culprit-only revascularization, MACE (Major Adverse Cardiac Events).

ABSTRACT

This prospective observational study compared short term clinical outcomes between culprit-only revascularization (IRA-only PCI) and complete revascularization in 38 STEMI patients with multivessel disease. Complete PCI demonstrated reduced major adverse cardiac events (MACE).

Introduction

Acute ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) is a life threatening medical emergency usually caused by complete blockage of a coronary artery, usually results when a thrombus forms on a ruptured atherosclerotic plaque, totally occluding a coronary artery and causing ischemia, necrosis, and infarction of the affected myocardium. (Kumar and Clark 2020)

Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) is the preferred technique of revascularization over fibrinolysis in acute STEMI patients. However studies report that, multivessel disease is detected in approximately 40% of patients with ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI), and 70% of patients with non-ST segment elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI). (Ibrahim, Sharma et al. 2017)

Studies done in the past showed that the non-infarct related artery revascularization at the time of primary PCI was linked to adverse outcomes. (Kornowski, Mehran et al. 2011). However meta-analyses and randomized trials have argued against these results showing improved outcomes by reducing ischemia, preventing further cardiac events, and improving left ventricular function. (Gershlick, Khan et al. 2015)

It is imperative to determine the appropriate reperfusion strategy for non-infarct related artery (IRA) lesions; Some physicians have taken the view that the unstable plaque or stenoses in non-infarct arteries may cause future acute cardiac events that could be prevented by performing complete PCI during the initial procedure. Others have suggested that medical conservative therapy is appropriate and reduces the risks of clinical events in complete PCI. Here is the dilemma (Mehta, Wood et al. 2019).

Patients and methods:

This study was conducted on 38 STEMI patients with mean age was (62.5 ± 9.09) whose coronary angiography showed multivessel disease and underwent primary percutaneous coronary intervention from March 2023 to May 2024. These patients will be divided into 2 groups according to strategy of revascularization during the setting of primary PCI either culprit only or complete revascularization (defined anatomically as treating all epicardial vessels having a visual diameter stenosis $> 70\%$). These 2 groups will be compared at baseline on admission and after 6 weeks & 6 months of revascularization regarding clinical outcomes. Patients were enrolled in this study if they met the following criteria: presentation within 24 hours of symptom onset (typical chest pain lasting >30 minutes) with multivessel coronary artery disease; ST-segment elevation ≥ 1 mm in at least two consecutive leads; successful primary PCI (angioplasty and/or stent implantation) of the infarct-related artery (IRA) with TIMI flow grade 2 or 3; drug-eluting stent (DES) placement in both IRA and non-IRA lesions; and repeat PCI for residual lesions on the same admission. Patients were excluded if they had: single-vessel disease; cardiogenic shock; coronary artery chronic total occlusion; coronary dissection; previous MI, coronary stenting, or CABG; prior fibrinolytic therapy; heart failure; cancer; peripheral arterial disease; significant valvular heart disease; or chronic kidney disease (GFR <30 ml/min).

Clinical History: Personal and medical histories were recorded, including age, gender, residence, family history of coronary artery disease (CAD), time from chest pain onset, previous chest pain, and CAD risk factors (hypertension, diabetes, smoking, dyslipidemia, and family history).

Clinical Examination Patients underwent comprehensive clinical examinations, emphasizing general signs (pulse, blood pressure, respiratory rate, temperature) and cardiovascular signs (left ventricular failure signs, murmurs, jugular venous distension, lower limb edema).

Diagnostic Evaluation:

1. Electrocardiography (ECG): Standard 12-lead ECGs assessed ST elevation, localization, and right ventricular infarction (RVI) via right pericardial leads (V3R, V4R) in inferior myocardial infarction cases.
2. Laboratory Investigations: Cardiac troponin, lipid profiles, serum creatinine, fasting and postprandial blood sugar, and hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) levels were measured.
3. Echocardiography: Baseline 2D echocardiography (GE Vivid iq ultra edition) assessed left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF), segmental wall motion abnormalities, ischemic mitral regurgitation, and mechanical complications.
4. Coronary Angiography: Invasive coronary angiography evaluated culprit artery, diseased vessels, non-culprit lesion stenosis, stent deployment, contrast usage, revascularization strategy, and Syntax score.

Interventional Procedures

1. Primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) was performed for infarct-related arteries.
2. Thrombus aspiration and glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors with dual antiplatelet therapy (DAPT) were administered according to guidelines.
3. Drug-eluting stents were deployed in both culprit and non-culprit lesions.

Follow-up and Medical Care

Patients received standard medical care, secondary preventive measures, lifestyle modification counseling, smoking cessation guidance, high-intensity statin therapy, DAPT, and heart failure medication when indicated.

Follow-up assessments were conducted via telephone interviews at 6 weeks and 6 months to evaluate major adverse cardiac events (MACE). These events included cardiovascular mortality (death due to myocardial infarction, low-output failure, fatal arrhythmia, unwitnessed death, or procedure-related death). Non-fatal events assessed were non-fatal myocardial infarction, non-fatal stroke (rapidly developing focal or global cerebral disturbances lasting >24 hours), acute heart failure (new onset or worsening symptoms and signs), ischemia-driven revascularization (revascularization due to anginal symptoms or new ischemic ECG changes), and major

bleeding (hospitalization or >5g/dL hemoglobin loss). Additional adverse events evaluated included acute kidney injury, unstable angina, and acute coronary syndrome.

Results:

This study evaluated 38 STEMI patients, with 81.6% being male and a mean age of 62.5 ± 9.09 years. Patients were classified into two groups based on selected artery revascularization: infarct-related artery PCI (n=23) and complete PCI (n=15). Demographic Data, Comparison of demographic data among studied groups showed no significant differences in age, gender, residency, hypertension, diabetes, smoking, or family history of coronary artery disease.

Clinical and Echocardiographic Data Analysis of clinical and echocardiographic data at presentation revealed significant differences between groups, Time from symptom onset to PCI was longer in the IRA-only PCI group (p=0.024). Left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) was significantly reduced in the complete PCI group (p=0.017). Mitral valve regurgitation was more frequent in the IRA-only PCI group (p=0.018).
Angiographic Data

, Comparison of angiographic data showed total occlusion of the culprit artery was more frequent in the IRA-only PCI group (p=0.030). Right coronary artery (RCA) involvement was significantly higher in the IRA-only PCI group (p=0.006). Procedure Data, Procedure data analysis revealed significantly longer procedure times in the complete PCI group (p=0.017). No differences were observed in access site, contrast amount, aspiration catheter use, or glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor use. Clinical Outcomes At 6 weeks and 6 months, cardiovascular-related death, non-culprit revascularization, and unstable angina were more frequent in the IRA-only PCI group without statistical significance. No differences were observed in non-fatal MI, stroke, acute heart failure, or major bleeding. Major Adverse Cardiac Events (MACE) Comparison of demographic, echocardiographic, and angiographic data according to MACE showed older age and IRA-only PCI strategy were associated with higher MACE rates (p=0.054). Hypertension, diabetes, smoking, and family history of cardiovascular disease were more frequent in the MACE group without statistical significance. Survival Analysis Survival analysis revealed significant differences in MACE estimates between complete PCI (33.3% at 6 and 24 weeks) and IRA-only PCI groups (52.2% at 6 weeks, 65.2% at 24 weeks, p=0.023).

Table (1): Individual characteristics.

Parameter	value	
Gender	Male	n(%)
	Female	n(%)
Mean age (years)	62.5 ± 9.09	
groups	Infarct-related artery PCI n(%)	
	Complete PCI n(%)	

PCI: Percutaneous coronary intervention

Table (2): Comparison of demographic data among studied groups:

Parameter		Complete PCI group (n=15)	IRA-only PCI group (n=23)	P-value
Age* (years)	Mean \pm SD	61.1 ± 6.36	63.4 ± 10.54	0.454
Gender	Male, N (%)	13 (86.7%)	18 (78.3%)	0.681
	Female, N (%)	2 (13.3%)	5 (21.7%)	
Residency	Urban	7 (46.7%)	8 (34.8%)	0.464
	Rural	8 (53.3%)	15 (62.5%)	
HTN	Negative, N (%)	6 (40.0%)	10 (43.5%)	0.832

	Positive, N (%)	9 (60.0%)	13 (56.5%)	
DM	Negative, N (%)	7 (46.7%)	10 (43.5%)	0.847
	Positive, N (%)	8 (53.3%)	13 (56.5%)	
Smoking	Nonsmoker, N (%)	4 (26.7%)	10 (43.5%)	0.329
	Smoker, N (%)	11 (73.3%)	13 (56.5%)	
Family history of CAD	Negative, N (%)	13 (86.7%)	21 (91.3%)	1.00
	Positive, N (%)	2 (13.3%)	2 (8.7%)	
Dyslipidemia	Negative, N (%)	15 (100.0%)	23 (100.0%)	-----

Independent T test*, Chi-Square test (Fisher's Exact test). P between 2 groups.

HTN: Hypertension ,DM: Diabetes mellites ,CAD: coronary artery disease

**significant (P value < 0.05)

Table (3): Comparison of clinical and Echocardiographic data at presentation among studied groups:

Parameter		Complete PCI group (n=15)	IRA-only PCI group (n=23)	P-value
Site of MI	Anterior STEMI	9 (60.0%)	17 (73.9%)	0.367
	Inferior STEMI	6 (40.0%)	6 (26.1%)	
	Lateral STEMI	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
Time from symptoms to PCI (hours)**	Median (Min-Max)	6.0 (1-24)	9.0 (2-24)	0.024
Door to needle time (min)**	Median (Min-Max)	90.0 (20.0-240.0)	90.0 (30.0-180.0)	0.813
Baseline serum creatinine* mg/dl	Mean ± SD	0.9 ± 0.337	1.0 ± 0.277	0.263
LV EF*(%)	Mean ± SD	42.8 ± 7.03	48.0 ± 5.60	0.017
Antiplatelet drug	Clopidogrel	4 (26.7%)	7 (30.4%)	1.00
	Ticagrelor	11 (73.3%)	16 (69.6%)	
Wall motion abnormality	None	2 (13.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0.149
	Wall motion LAD	9 (60.0%)	18 (78.3%)	0.225
	Wall motion inferior wall	3 (20.0%)	5 (21.7%)	0.897
	Global HK	1 (6.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0.394
Mitral valve regurgitation	Absent	4 (26.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0.018
	Present	11 (73.3%)	23 (100.0%)	
Degree	mild	9 (81.8%)	19 (82.6%)	0.295
	Moderate	1 (9.1%)	4 (17.4%)	
	Sever	1 (9.1%)	0 (0.0%)	

Independent T test*, Mann-whitney test**, Chi-Square test (Fisher's Exact test). P between 2 groups.

**significant (P value < 0.05)

LV: left ventricle, EF: Ejection fraction

Table (4): Comparison of angiographic data among studied groups:

Parameter		Complete PCI group (n=15)	IRA-only PCI group (n=23)	P-value
Culprit artery lesion	Subtotal	7 (46.7%)	3 (13.0%)	0.030
	Total	8 (53.3%)	20 (87.0%)	
Culprit artery thrombus burden	Absent	7 (46.7%)	6 (26.1%)	0.191
	Heavy	8 (53.3%)	17 (73.9%)	
Culprit artery, N (%)	LAD	9 (60.0%)	18 (78.3%)	0.276
	LCX	3 (20.0%)	1 (4.3%)	
	RCA	3 (20.0%)	4 (17.4%)	
Number of stents**	Median (Min-Max)	1.0 (1-2)	1.0 (1-2)	0.930
First stent diameter (mm)**	Median (Min-Max)	3.0 (2.5-3.5)	3.0 (2.25-3.5)	0.746
First stent length (mm)**	Median (Min-Max)	30.0 (18-48)	34.0 (20-48)	0.248
Second stent diameter (mm)**	Median (Min-Max)	(N=3) 2.75 (2.75-3.5)	(N=9) 2.75 (2.5-3.0)	-----
Second stent length (mm)**	Median (Min-Max)	28.0 (18-38)	28.0 (18-48)	-----
non-culprit vessel affected location	LAD	3 (20.0%)	2 (8.7%)	0.365
	LCX	9 (60.0%)	9 (39.1%)	0.208
	RCA	2 (13.3%)	14 (60.9%)	0.006
	LM	1 (6.7%)	2 (8.7%)	1.00
	OM	4 (26.7%)	1 (4.3%)	0.069
Syntax score*	Mean ± SD	23.06 ± 3.62	22.32 ± 9.56	0.739

Independent T test*, Mann-whitney test**, Chi-Square test (Fisher's Exact test). P between 2 groups.
**significant (P value < 0.05)

Table (5): Comparison of procedure data among studied groups:

Parameter		Complete PCI group (n=15)	IRA-only PCI group (n=23)	P-value
Access site ,n(%)	Radial	3 (20.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0.054
	Femoral	12 (80.0%)	23 (100.0%)	
Time of procedure (min)**	Median (Min-Max)	45.0 (30-90)	40.0 (20-60)	0.017
Amount of contrast (ml)**	Median (Min-Max)	200.0 (50-250)	150.0 (70-500)	0.172
Aspiration catheter use	No	9 (60.0%)	17 (73.9%)	0.367
	Yes	6 (40.0%)	6 (26.1%)	
GpIIb/IIIa use during or after procedure	No	10 (66.7%)	12 (52.2%)	0.376
	Yes	5 (33.3%)	11 (47.8%)	

Mann-whitney test**, Chi-Square test (Fisher’s Exact test). P between 2 groups.

**significant (P value < 0.05)

GPIIb/IIIa: Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa

Table (6): Reason of stopping the procedure after culprit artery revascularization.

Parameter	N (%)
Small sized non dominant artery	2 (8.7%)
CTO	5 (21.7%)
Symptoms guided revascularization	8 (34.9%)
Unstable patient	3 (13.0%)
Heavy thrombus burden	2 (8.7%)
Deferred stenting of non-culprit	3 (13.0%)

CTO: Chronic total occlusion

Table (7): Comparison of clinical outcome at 6 weeks among studied groups:

Parameter		Total	Complete PCI group	IRA-only PCI group	P-value
CVS related death	Positive, N (%)	N=38 5 (13.2%)	N=15 1 (6.7%)	N=23 4 (17.4%)	0.630
Death from any cause	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Non-culprit revascularization(deferred stenting)	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 3 (15.8%)	0.244
Non-fatal MI	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Unstable angina	Positive, N (%)	N=33 4 (12.1%)	N=14 1 (7.1%)	N=19 3 (15.8%)	0.620
Non-fatal stroke	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Acute heart failure	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Ischemia derived revascularization	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Major bleeding	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
ARF	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----

Chi-Square test (Fisher’s Exact test). P between 2 groups. CVS: Cardiovascular ,MI: Myocardial infarction ARF: acute renal failure.

**significant (P value < 0.05)

Table (8): Comparison of clinical outcome at 6 months among studied groups:

Parameter		Total	Complete PCI group	IRA-only PCI group	P-value
CVS related death	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Death from any cause	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Non-fatal MI	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Unstable angina	Positive, N (%)	N=33 11 (33.3%)	N=14 4 (28.6%)	N=19 7 (36.8%)	0.719
Non-fatal stroke	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Acute heart failure	Positive, N (%)	N=33 1 (3.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 1 (5.3%)	1.00
Ischemia derived revascularization	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Major bleeding	Positive, N (%)	N=33 1 (3.0%)	N=14 1 (7.1%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	0.424
ARF	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----
Repeat revascularization	Positive, N (%)	N=33 0 (0.0%)	N=14 0 (0.0%)	N=19 0 (0.0%)	-----

Chi-Square test (Fisher's Exact test). P between 2 groups. CVS: Cardiovascular, MI: Myocardial infarction ARF: acute renal failure. **significant (P value < 0.05)

Table (9): Comparison of demographic, echocardiographic and angiographic data among studied groups according to Major adverse cardiac events:

Parameter		Without MACE group (n=18)	MACE group (n=20)	P-value
Age*(years)	Mean ± SD	60.8 ± 8.18	64.0 ± 9.82	0.299
Gender	Male	15 (83.3%)	16 (80.0%)	1.00
	Female	3 (16.7%)	4 (20.0%)	
Groups	Complete PCI	10 (55.6%)	5 (25.0%)	0.054
	Infarct-related artery PCI	8 (44.4%)	15 (75.0%)	
Residency	Urban	9 (50.0%)	6 (30.0%)	0.208
	Rural	9 (50.0%)	14 (70.0%)	
HTN	Negative	9 (50.0%)	7 (35.0%)	0.350
	Positive	9 (50.0%)	13 (65.0%)	
DM	Negative	9 (50.0%)	8 (40.0%)	0.536
	Positive	9 (50.0%)	12 (60.0%)	
Smoking	Nonsmoker	8 (44.4%)	6 (30.0%)	0.357
	Smoker	10 (55.6%)	14 (70.0%)	

Family history of CAD	Negative	17 (94.4%)	17 (85.0%)	0.606
	Positive	1 (5.6%)	3 (15.0%)	
Site of MI	Anterior STEMI	12 (66.7%)	14 (70.0%)	0.825
	Inferior STEMI	6 (33.3%)	6 (30.0%)	
	Lateral STEMI	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
LV EF* (%)	Mean ± SD	46.1 ± 7.67	45.8 ± 5.74	0.886
Antiplatelet drug	Clopidogrel	5 (27.8%)	6 (30.0%)	0.880
	Ticagrelor	13 (72.2%)	14 (70.0%)	
Tricuspid valve regurgitation	Absent	6 (33.3%)	5 (25.0%)	0.572
	mild	12 (66.7%)	15 (75.0%)	
Mitral valve regurgitation	Absent	2 (11.1%)	2 (10.0%)	0.778
	mild	14 (77.8%)	14 (70.0%)	
	Moderate	2 (11.1%)	3 (15.0%)	
	Sever	0 (0.0%)	1 (5.0%)	
Culprit artery lesion	Subtotal	6 (33.3%)	4 (20.0%)	0.468
	Total	12 (66.7%)	16 (80.0%)	
Culprit artery thrombus burden	Absent	8 (44.4%)	5 (25.0%)	0.207
	Heavy	10 (55.6%)	15 (75.0%)	
Culprit artery location	LAD	12 (66.7%)	15 (75.0%)	0.830
	LCX	2 (11.1%)	2 (10.0%)	
	RCA	4 (22.2%)	3 (15.0%)	
Syntax score*	Mean ± SD	21.1 ± 6.32	23.9 ± 8.72	0.268

Independent T test*, Chi-Square test (Fisher's Exact test). P between 2 groups. HTN : Hypertension, DM: Diabetes mellites, CAD: Coronary artery disease ,MI myocardial infarction, LV: Left ventricle , EF : Ejection fraction **significant (P value < 0.05)

Discussion:

Cardiovascular diseases remain the leading cause of death globally, with approximately 18 million fatalities reported in 2019 (Li, Cao et al. 2023)STEMI, a subset of acute coronary syndrome, has the highest mortality rate among acute coronary syndrome cases (Shariefuddin, Pramudyo et al. 2024).Early reperfusion therapy and re-establishment of blood flow are crucial for STEMI patients. Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) is the preferred strategy.

Multivessel disease, present in approximately 50% of STEMI patients, is associated with worse clinical outcomes (Piccolo, Manzi et al. 2023)Guideline-based recommendations for treating non-culprit lesions vary. The 2017 European Society of Cardiology (ESC) guidelines recommended routine reperfusion of non-culprit lesions before hospital discharge (Ibanez, James et al. 2018)In contrast, the 2023 ESC guidelines advocate for complete revascularization within 45 days (Byrne, Rossello et al. 2024)

This study aimed to compare short term clinical outcomes between STEMI patients with multivessel disease undergoing culprit-only revascularization (IRA-only PCI) versus complete revascularization. Our

analysis revealed no significant differences in demographic data between both groups, suggesting management strategy rather than underlying risk factors influenced clinical outcomes.

Clinical and echocardiographic data showed increased time from symptom onset to PCI in the IRA-only PCI group, reduced left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) in the complete PCI group, and more frequent mitral valve regurgitation in the IRA-only PCI group. Angiographic data indicated total occlusion of culprit arteries and right coronary artery involvement were more frequent in the IRA-only PCI group.

Procedure data revealed longer procedure times in the complete PCI group without increased procedural complications. Clinical outcomes at six weeks and six months showed no statistically significant differences, although cardiovascular-related death, non-culprit revascularization, and unstable angina were more frequent in the IRA-only PCI group.

Cumulative incidence of major adverse cardiac events (MACE) was significantly higher in the IRA-only PCI group (65.2% vs. 33.3%, $P=0.023$). Older age and IRA-only PCI strategy were associated with higher MACE rates ($P=0.054$). Our findings support complete PCI revascularization, aligning with previous studies (Mehta, Wood et al. 2019)

Limitations and Future Directions

1. Larger, multicenter randomized trials.
2. Long-term follow-up (>2 years).
3. Cost-effectiveness analysis.
4. Investigation of patient selection criteria.

Conclusion

This study highlighted the short-term benefits of complete PCI in reducing the risk of cardiovascular events. However, complete PCI had many challenges, as longer procedure times and treating of complex multiple lesions. Therefore, patient selection is a key solution. This study highlighted the short-term benefits of complete PCI in reducing the risk of cardiovascular events. However, complete PCI had many challenges, as longer procedure times and treating of complex multiple lesions. Therefore, patient selection is a key solution. Future studies should investigate long-term outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

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