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journal or publication title	Journal of the American College of Cardiology
volume	58
number	6
page range	654
year	2011-08-01
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2297/29210

doi: 10.1016/j.jacc.2010.10.073

Impact of Bilateral Internal Thoracic to Epigastric Artery Communications on Salvaging Total

Lower Limb Ischemia

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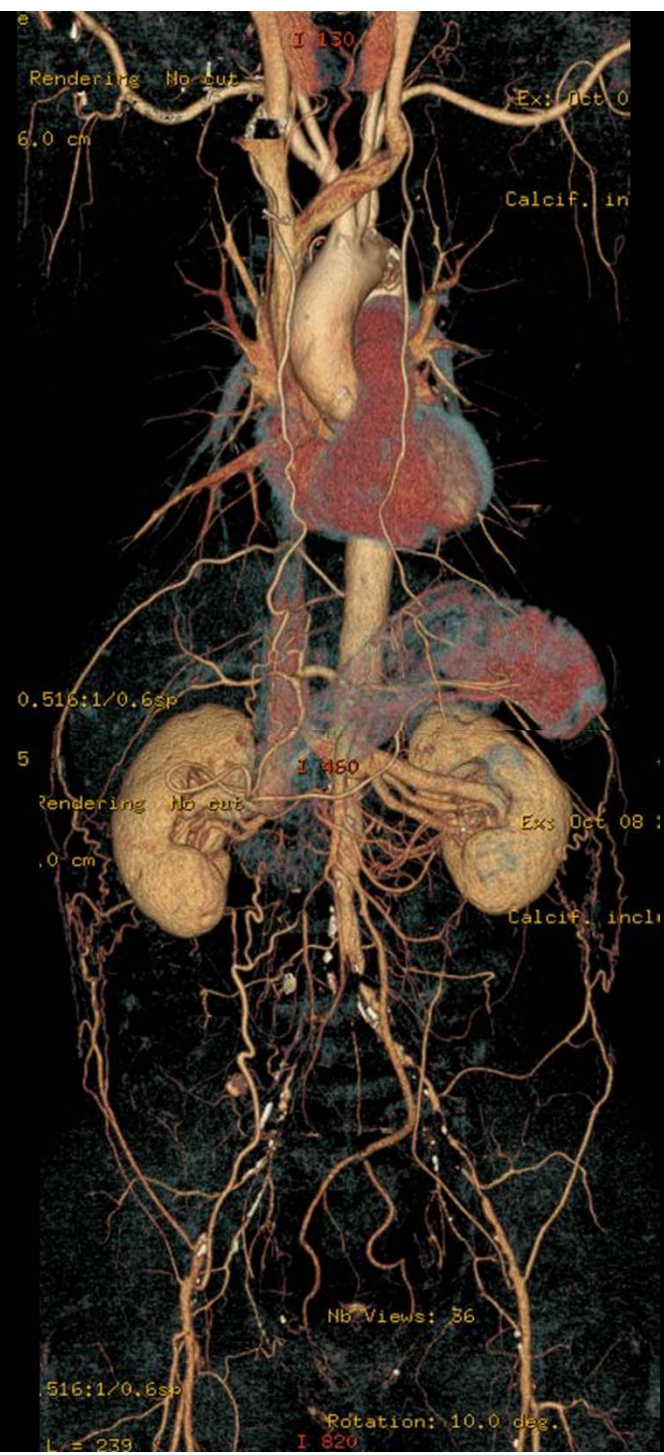
Sources of Funding: none declared. **Conflict of interest:** none declared.

A 76-year-old male was admitted to our hospital because of exertional chest pain and mild intermittent claudication. Computed tomography revealed total occlusion at both common iliac arteries, the distal portions of which were opacified by collateral flow from the left and right internal thoracic to epigastric arteries (A and B). In addition to coronary angiography which showed severe coronary lesions, selective angiograms of left and right internal thoracic arteries demonstrated total communication of these arteries to left and right iliac arteries through the superficial epigastric arteries (Online Video 1 and 2). Because this patient still had limb pain, bilateral axillo-femoral bypass grafting was performed, and then internal thoracic arteries were used for his coronary grafting. The internal thoracic artery is known to serving as collateral pathway to lower limbs (1). We suggest the reconstruction of lower limb flow if these internal thoracic arteries are used for coronary bypass grafting.

References

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A



B

