PVD: 171.0, 150.5 and 139.0 ms for each patient). With a cutoff <135.0 ms for a normal PVD, the sensitivity was 78.5%, the specificity was 100%, the positive predictive value was 100% and the negative was 75% for SAPW and PAF. Conclusions: In the current study, pts with WPWS and PAF showed prolonged atrial conduction time when compared with a control group. This may contribute to the development of PAF.

1026 Defibrillation Threshold Testing With Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillators

Wednesday, March 22, 1995, 3:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, Hall E
Presentation Hour: 4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

1026-83 Prospective Comparison of the Biphasic Waveform Upper Limit of Vulnerability to the Defibrillation Threshold in Man

Jeanne E. Folee, George L. Doleck, Peter J. Kudenchuk, Charlie Truchman, Jill A. Anderson, Gust H. Hardy. University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Background: The upper limit of vulnerability (ULV) is defined as the upper limit of shock strength, above which ventricular fibrillation will not be induced when the shock is delivered during the vulnerable period. ULV is postulated to correlate with defibrillation threshold (DFT) and, if true, should streamline implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) surgery and followup.

Methods and Results: We sought to determine whether the biphasic ULV measured with an easily implemented clinical protocol via the T-shock method available in the 72190 Medtronic ICD using 65% tilt, 120 µs asymmetric pulses, would correlate with the biphasic DFT assessed during followup. T-shock electrophysiologic (EP) evaluation of ICD function. Twelve consecutive patients were evaluated. The average age was 67 ± 4 years, LV ejection fraction was 0.45 ± 0.04, and 58% had underlying CAD. The index arrhythmia prompting ICD therapy was VF in 65% and VT in 17%. At the time of the followup EP study, all patients had VF induced with T-shocks at 310 ms following 3 ventricular paced beats at 400 ms at 0.2 Joules and stepping up until the ULV was found as follows: 0.6, 1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0, 10, 14, and 18 Joules. The DFT was determined using the exact same waveform, polarity and shock steps as was the ULV determination.

Results: ULV DFT

Energy ULV: 6.8 ± 4.4 10.2 ± 5.5

Correlation: r = 0.89, p = 0.01

Conclusion: We found a poor correlation between the biphasic ULV and the DFT using this clinically feasible followup technique. The ULV appears to underestimate the DFT using this technique for evaluating ICD defibrillation efficacy during followup EP evaluation.

1026-84 Impact of the Defibrillating Surface Area of an Additional Superior Vena Cava Electrode on the Unipolar Right Ventricular Coil/Defibrillator Can System

Keith Newby, Lynn Morestock, Judy Rembert, Jason Marcus Wharton, Robert Sorentino, Ruth Ann Greenfield, Kenneth G. Morris, Andrea Natalie. VA Medical Center/Duke University, Durham, NC

We assessed the hypothesis that the surface area of an additional superior vena cava (SVC) defibrillation electrode may impact on the defibrillation efficacy of a right ventricular (RV) coil/ICD system. In ten dogs we randomly assigned an integrated transvenous lead system to achieve low defibrillation thresholds (DFT). However, the incremental benefit of an active pulse generator with an integrated lead system has not been evaluated. Accordingly, we performed a prospective trial of 65 cc pulse generator shell with an Endotak lead in 22 consecutive pts undergoing defibrillator implantation. Energy (E) and leading edge voltage (V) at DFT was measured using a step down protocol to first failure with biphasic waveforms (60:40 tilt). Either lead alone (proximal coil = anode) or lead + shell (proximal coil and shell = anode) were tested with paired testing in random order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lead alone</th>
<th>Lead + Shell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E (joules)</td>
<td>13.1 ± 6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V (volts)</td>
<td>395 ± 115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p < 0.001
A DFT of <10 Joules was found in 60% (11/18) of patients with lead alone and 96% (16/17) of patients with lead + shell (p < 0.02).

In conclusion, adding an active pulse generator to an integrated transvenous lead significantly reduced DFTs and system impedance (RI). The consistently low defibrillation energy requirements with the use of an active small pectoral shell, makes the development of a defibrillator with reduced size and lower maximal output feasible.

1026-85 Enhanced Defibrillation Efficacy with an Active Pectoral Pulse Generator

Michael R. Gold, Andrew H. Foster, Stephen R. Sherfesky. University of Maryland, Baltimore, MD

An active pectoral pulse generator can be incorporated in a single coil defibrillation lead system to achieve low defibrillation thresholds (DFT). However, the incremental benefit of an active pulse generator with an integrated lead system has not been evaluated. Accordingly, we performed a prospective trial of a 65 cc pulse generator shell with an Endotak lead in 22 consecutive pts undergoing defibrillator implantation. Energy (E) and leading edge voltage (V) at DFT was measured using a step down protocol to first failure with biphasic waveforms (60:40 tilt). Either lead alone (proximal coil = anode) or lead + shell (proximal coil and shell = anode) were tested with paired testing in random order.

1026-86 The Influence of Sodium Channel Blockade on the Defibrillation Threshold of Biphasic versus Monophasic Defibrillation Waveforms

Michael B. Landhart, Miriam Saoftaraian, Steven D. Nelson. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Several Class I antiarrhythmic drugs are known to increase the defibrillation threshold (DFT) of monophasic shock waveforms delivered by implantable defibrillators (ICD). The influence of sodium channel blockade on biphasic shocks is unknown. The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of lidocaine (LIDO) on the DFT with biphasic versus monophasic shock waveforms in an anesthetized canine model of transvenous defibrillation (n = 10). The DFT was determined by the iterative increment-decrement protocol. Monophasic and biphasic shock DFT's were tested in random order at baseline and during LIDO infusion (6 mg/kg load; 400 mcg/mg/min) and presented below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monophasic DFT (Joules)</th>
<th>Biphasic DFT (Joules)</th>
<th>P Value*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>10.6 ± 5.6</td>
<td>11.1 ± 2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIDO</td>
<td>26.4 ± 10.9</td>
<td>16.9 ± 9.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p < 0.001
**p < 0.005
*p value of monophasic vs. biphasic.
**p value of baseline vs LIDO

In 2 dogs, the DFT during LIDO was >50 joules with monophasic shock and 27.9 ± 5.6 joules with bipolar shocks. LIDO caused a 13.1 ± 9.6% increase in ventricular refractoriness (p < 0.037) and a 29.8 ± 22.7% increase in QRS duration (p < 0.01), neither of which were predictive of DFT response.

Conclusion: Sodium channel blockade does increase the DFT of biphasic shocks but to a lesser extent than observed with monophasic shock DFT's. These results may have favorable implications for the use of Class I antiarrhythmics in patients with newer generation ICD's.

1026-87 Long-term Changes in Defibrillation Thresholds Using Two Nonthoracotomy Lead Systems and a Biphasic Waveform

Andrea Russo, Lou-Anne Beauregard, Catherine Stubin, Harvey L. Waxman. Cooper Hospital, UM/SNJ/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Camden, NJ

We implanted nonthoracotomy defibrillators in consecutive pts with sustained ventricular arrhythmias. A Ventriex Cadence (V-100C) device using a biphasic waveform was implanted in all pts. The first 21 systems (Grp I) consisted of a lead (BT-10) endocardial lead at the RV apex for sensing and pacing, with a CPI (CT) 100 pulse generator shell and an active pectoral pulse generator significantly reduced OFTs and system impedance IR1. The consistent low defibrillation energy requirements with the use of an active small pectoral shell, makes the development of a defibrillator with reduced size and lower maximal output feasible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RVCAN</th>
<th>90 mm²</th>
<th>160 mm²</th>
<th>617 mm²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DFT (μs)</td>
<td>8.6 ± 3.3</td>
<td>8.1 ± 2.6</td>
<td>8.2 ± 2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage (volts)</td>
<td>373 ± 73</td>
<td>365 ± 68</td>
<td>367 ± 65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impedance (ohms)</td>
<td>74 ± 24</td>
<td>53 ± 13*</td>
<td>48 ± 11*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p * < 0.01
**p < 0.005
*p value of monophasic vs. biphasic.
**p value of baseline vs LIDO

These results indicate that the surface area of an additional SVC defibrillation electrode may be critical to improving the energy requirement for defibrillation achieved with a single lead right ventricular coil/defibrillator can system.