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Objectives: Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) is a pathologic dilation of the aorta. Inflammation of the aortic wall has been shown to be involved in AAA formation. Malondialdehyde-acetaldehyde (MAA) adducts are MAA/protein hybrids with immunogenic, proinflammatory, and profibrotic properties. Levels of MAA adducts are elevated in patients with coronary artery disease; however, the role of MAA adducts in AAA is unclear. We hypothesize that levels of circulating antibodies against MAA adducts are increased in patients with AAA.

Methods: Plasma samples were collected from mice and patients with and without AAA. AAA was induced in mice by a standard $CaCl_2$ protocol, with matching sham mice. Plasma levels of anti-MAA antibodies were quantified by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay.

Results: Patients with AAA exhibited higher levels of immunoglobulin G (IgG) and IgA anti-MAA antibody subtypes ($P = .049$ and $P = .026$, respectively) compared with control patients. Conversely, IgM anti-MAA antibodies in AAA patients were lower compared with control patients ($P = .018$). In $CaCl_2$ treated mice IgG anti-MAA antibodies were elevated after AAA formation ($P = .006$).

Conclusions: The pattern of anti-MAA antibodies is able to distinguish between patients with AAA and patients with atherosclerosis but no AAA. These results demonstrate that MAA adducts are associated with AAA and suggest they may play a role in either initiating or propagating chronic inflammation in AAA.

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S2: SVS Plenary Session II

SS6.

Natural History of Medically-Managed Acute Type B Aortic Dissections

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Objectives: Although medical management of uncomplicated acute type B aortic dissections remains the standard of care, contemporary data regarding the natural history of medically treated patients are sparse. The goal of this study was to evaluate the ability of medical therapy to prevent long-term complications in patients with acute type B aortic dissection.

Methods: All patients with acute uncomplicated Type B aortic dissection that were initially managed medically between March 1999 and March 2011 were included. Failure of medical therapy was defined as any death or aortic-related intervention. Early failure occurred ≤15 days of presentation and late failure occurred thereafter. Predictors of long-term outcomes were determined using Cox proportional hazards models.

Results: A total of 298 patients (61.7%) with medically managed acute type B dissections were identified. The cohort was an average age of 65.9 years at presentation. There were 37 early failures (12%) including 12 deaths and 25 interventions (10 thoracic endovascular aortic repair [TEVAR]/15 open). Aneurysmal degeneration was the indication for intervention in six (24%). Mean follow-up was 4.2 years (range, 0.1-14.7 years). There were 174 failures (58.4%), including 87 deaths and 87 interventions (24 TEVAR/63 open). Fifty-seven interventions (66%) were for aneurysmal degeneration. Freedom from intervention was 77.3% ± 0.024% at 3 years and 74.2% ± 0.025% at 6 years. There were no predictors of freedom from intervention. The intervention-free survival was 55.0% ± 0.030% at 3 years and 41.0% ± 0.032% at 6 years. Age >70 years was protective against failure (hazard ratio, 0.97; confidence interval, 0.95-0.98, $P < .01$). Survival was higher in patients who required intervention at both 3 years (78% vs 73%) and 6 years (76% vs 58%; $P = .018$).

Conclusions: Medical therapy of acute uncomplicated type B dissections is successful in the short-term. However, the overall 6-year intervention-free survival is low, and survival is significantly higher in patients who undergo intervention.

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SS7.

The Contemporary Guidelines for Asymptomatic Renal Artery Aneurysms Are Too Aggressive: A North American Experience

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