Transcatheter aortic valve implantation – fundamentals and a little bit more

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KEYWORDS: aortic stenosis, aortic valve replacement, transcatheter aortic valve implantation.

CITATION: Cardiol Croat. 2018;13(5-6):198. | <https://doi.org/10.15836/ccar2018.198>

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Aortic valve stenosis is the rather common acquired valve disease in the developed world. As a conundrum in treatment of patients with severe aortic stenosis, classified as intermediate- and high-risk, transfemoral or transapical aortic valve implantation (TAVI) has emerged. The TAVI approach has been shown to be superior to standard medical treatment in patients classified as high-risk (Euroscore II and STS), and non-inferior to surgical aortic valve replacement in intermediate risk group¹. A successful program depends on multiple variables such as appropriate patient selection that is based on so-called 'Heart Team', careful planning and good quality control of maintaining high standards during and after the procedure². Once a TAVI program is in place, it is necessary to have performance monitoring measures in order to recognize weaknesses of the program as well as to improve procedure outcomes. This short lecture focuses on fundamentals of running a TAVI program with some reflections regarding the current situation in Croatia.

RECEIVED:
May 1, 2018

ACCEPTED:
May 10, 2018

LITERATURE |||||

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