

Treating Acute Coronary Syndromes and Stable CAD After TAVR: Operator Tips and Tricks

Tanush Gupta, MD

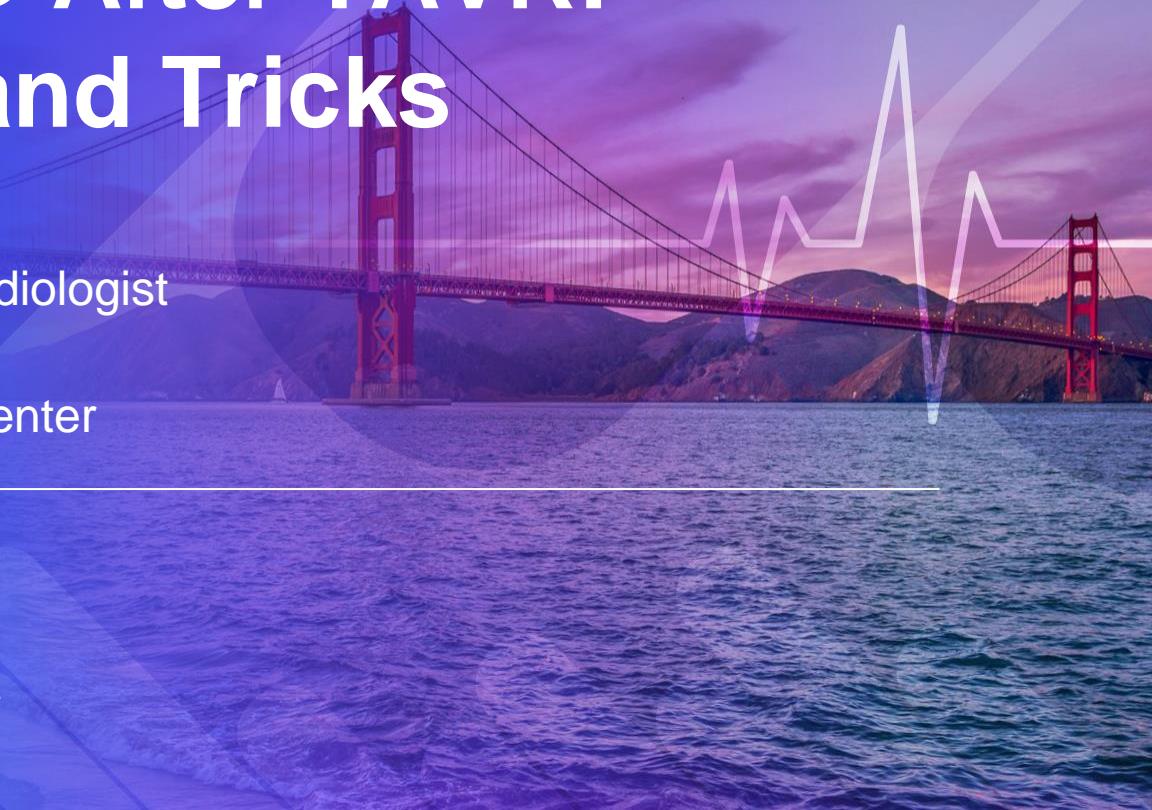
Structural and Interventional Cardiologist

Associate Cath Lab Director

University of Vermont Medical Center



TRANSCATHETER
CARDIOVASCULAR
THERAPEUTICS®



Disclosure of Relevant Financial Relationships

Within the prior 24 months, I have had a financial relationship with a company producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients:

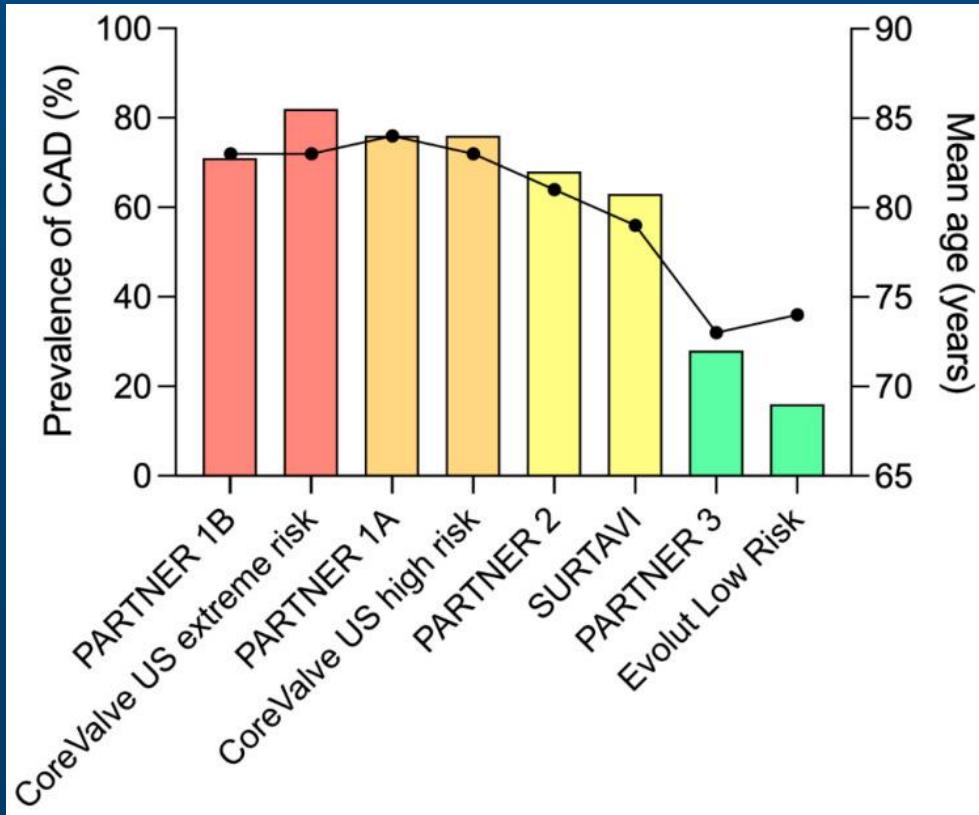
Nature of Financial Relationship

- Grant/Research Support
- Consultant Fees/Honoraria
- Individual Stock(s)/Stock Options
- Royalties/Patent Beneficiary
- Executive Role/Ownership Interest
- Other Financial Benefit

Ineligible Company

- Edwards Lifesciences
- Medtronic
- Anteris Technologies
- N/A
- N/A
- N/A

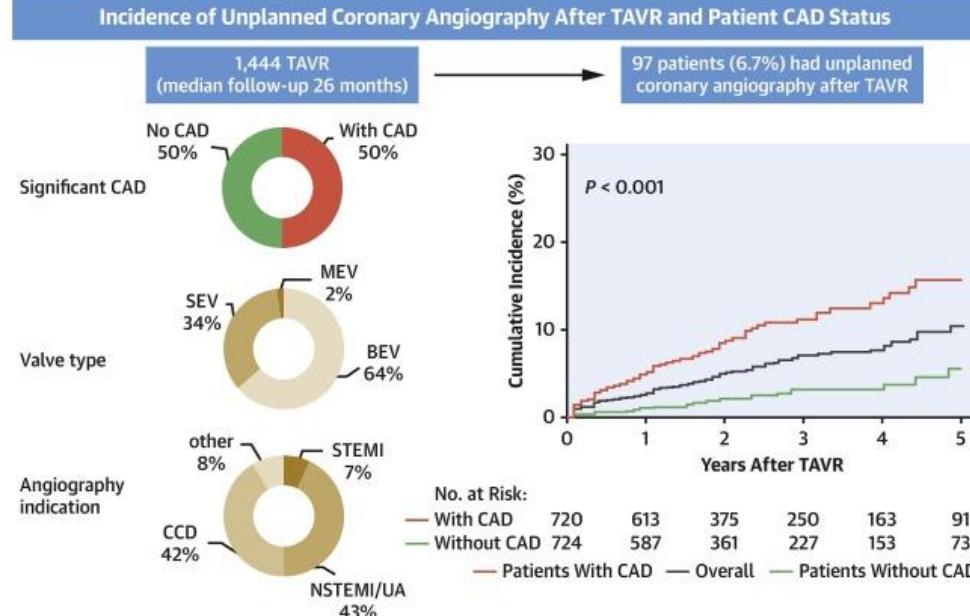
Prevalence of CAD in TAVR



CAD is common in TAVR patients and prevalence depends on “patient risk”

Unplanned Coronary Access Post TAVR is Infrequent

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Unplanned Angiography After TAVR



- Patients with coronary artery disease have a 3-fold higher rate of unplanned angiography
- Acute coronary syndrome is the most common indication of angiography performed
- Predictors for a 5-year risk of unplanned angiography included coronary artery disease, young age, low aortic gradient, and dialysis

Phichaphop A, et al. JACC Cardiovasc Interv. 2025;18(2):217-225.

Frequency of AMI after TAVR

CENTRAL ILLUSTRATION: Acute Myocardial Infarction After TAVR

STEMI and NSTEMI in U.S. Patients With and Without Prior TAVR, 2016 to 2022

Occurrence of STEMI and NSTEMI After TAVR



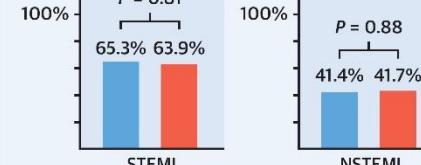
STEMI
N = 144
(25 events per 100,000 person-years)

Median Follow-Up 925 days
(428 to 1,530 days)

NSTEMI
N = 1,321
(229 events per 100,000 person-years)

Propensity-Matched Cohort of MI Patients With vs Without Prior TAVR

Revascularization (PCI or CABG)



In-Hospital Mortality



Prior TAVR No Prior TAVR

- AMI after TAVR is infrequent, with the median time from TAVR to MI being >1 year
- Coronary revascularization rates for STEMI or NSTEMI were similar in patients with prior TAVR and propensity-matched patients without prior TAVR
- In-hospital mortality rate was higher in post-TAVR STEMI patients than in non-TAVR STEMI patients
- In-hospital mortality rate and bleeding complications were lower in NSTEMI patients with prior TAVR than in non-TAVR NSTEMI patients

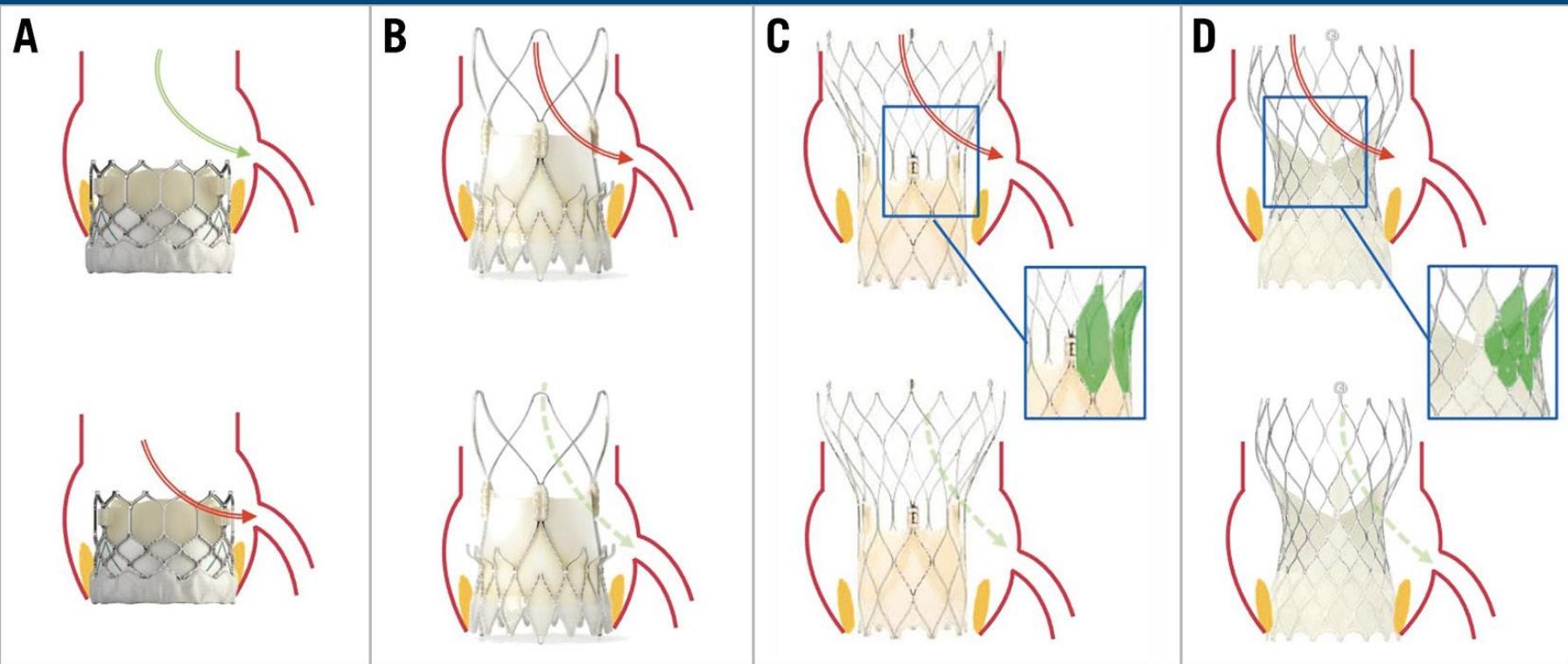
Technical Success of PCI Post-TAVR

Clinical data show that coronary access post-TAVR is technically feasible

Source	TAVs	PCI Success Rate**
Tanaka, et al. Cardiovascular Revasc Med, 2019 ¹	37 CoreValve 4 Evolut R	28/30 (93.3%)
Kleiman, et al. Presentation at CRT, 2019 ²	20 CoreValve	30/33 (90.9%)
Htun et al., Catheter Cardiovasc Inter, 2018 ³	28 CoreValve	29/29 (100%)
Zivelonghi et al., Am J Cardiol, 2017 ⁴	41 SAPIEN 3 * 25 Evolut R	17/17 (100%)
Chetcuti et al., TCT, 2016 ⁵	169 CoreValve	103/113 (91.2%)
Allali et al. Cardiovasc Revasc Med, 2016 ⁶	24 CoreValve	23/24 (95.8%)
Blumenstein et al., Clin Res Cardiol, 2015 ⁷	19 SAPIEN * 10 CoreValve 4 Symetis * 1 Portico * 1 Jena Valve *	10/10 (100%)

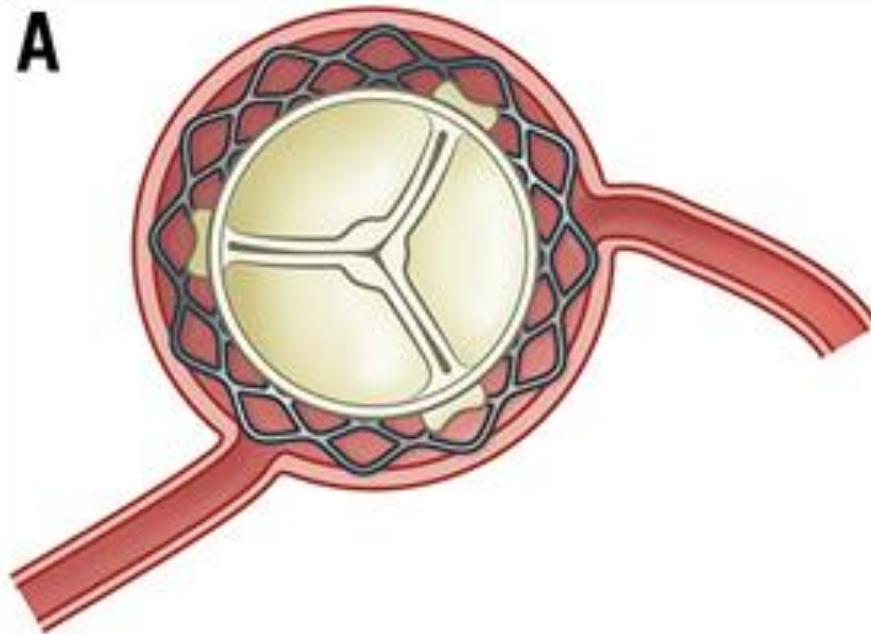
Average PCI
Success Rate**¹⁻⁷
93.8%

Coronary Access by Valve Design and Depth

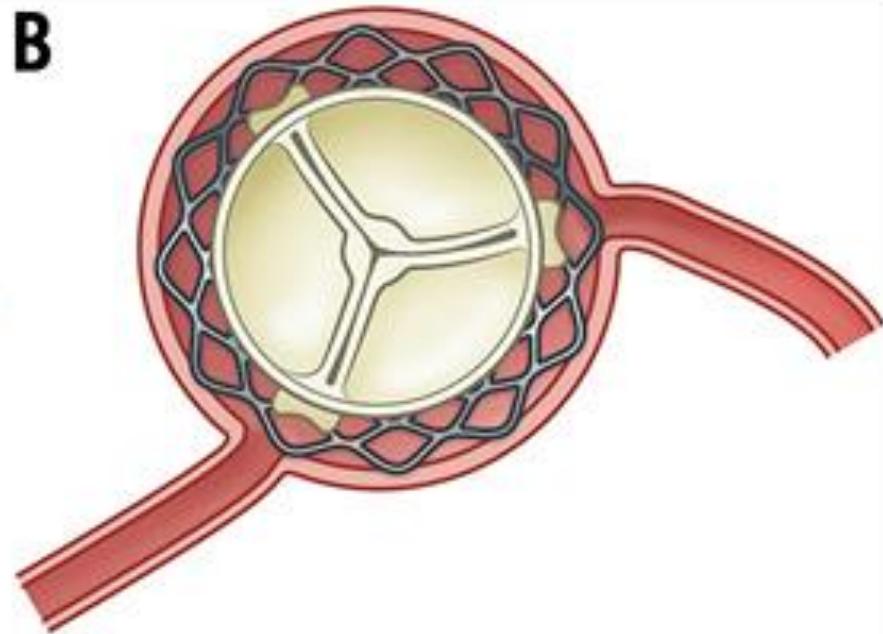


Commissural Alignment and Coronary Access

A



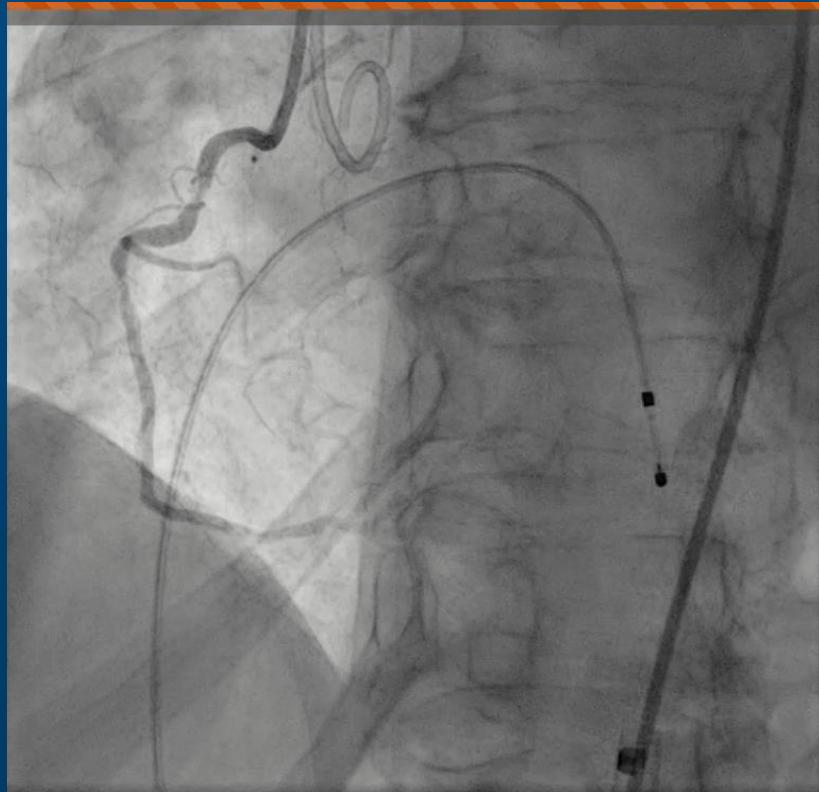
B



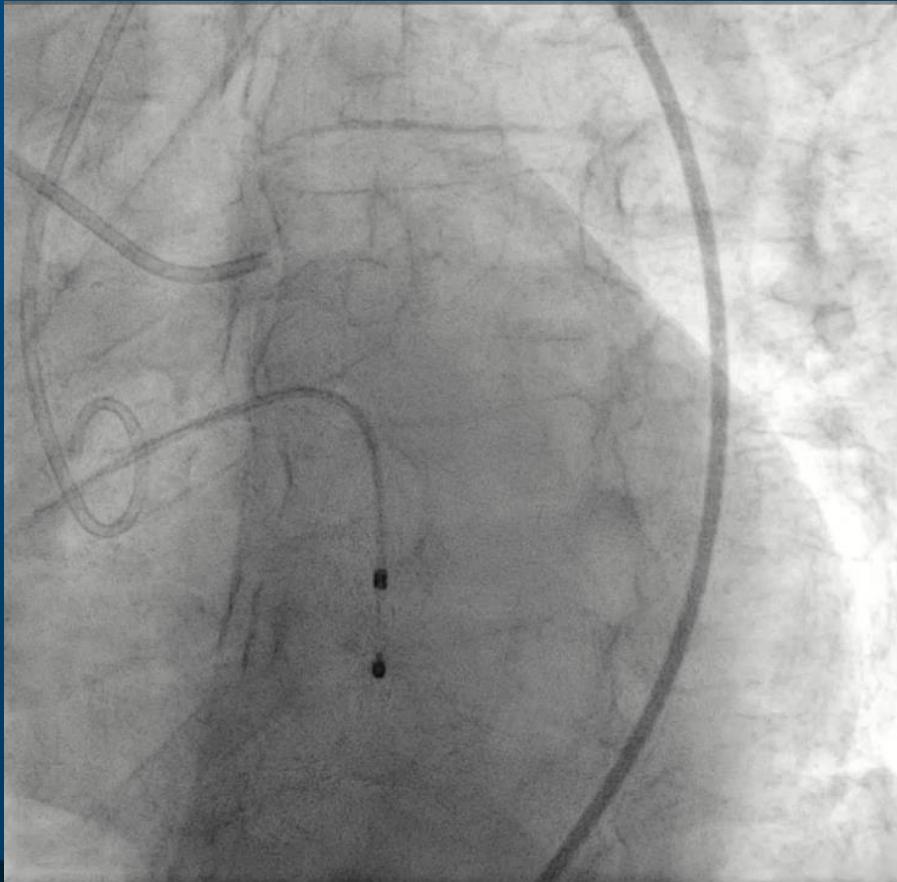
Tips and Tricks: Balloon-expandable Valves

- Standard diagnostic (JL4/JL 3.5 for LCA; JR4 for RCA) and guide catheters (EBU 3.5/XB 3.5 for LCA and FR4/AL 0.75/AR1 for RCA).
- If coronary ostia above top of SAPIEN frame, engagement should be easy.
- If coronary ostia below top of the frame, attempt to engage through top row of open cells directly facing the ostium.
- If commissural post in front of ostia →
 - Attempt to engage from adjacent cell
 - If unable, non-selective wiring and rail guide ± balloon support ± guide extension catheters.

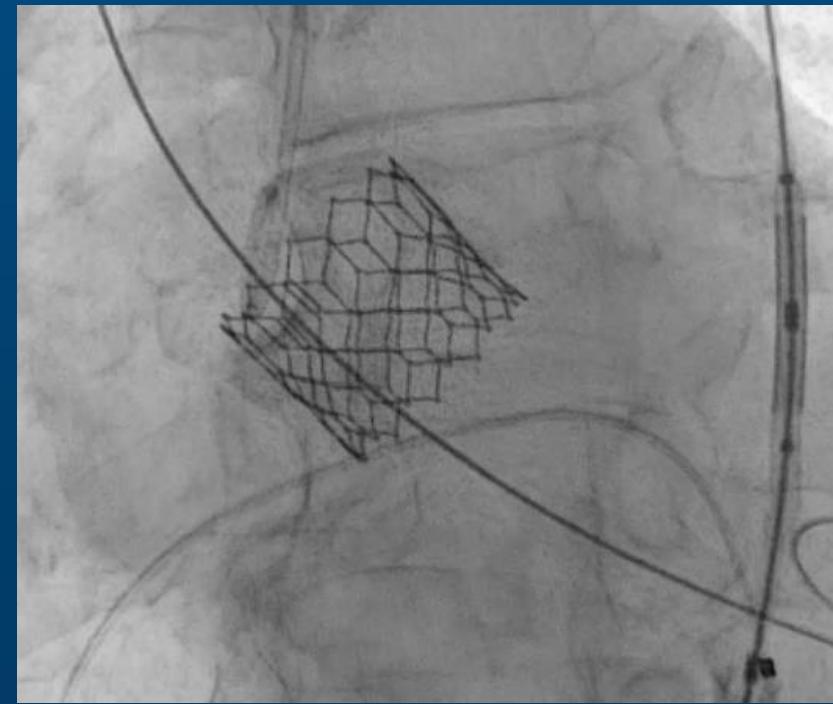
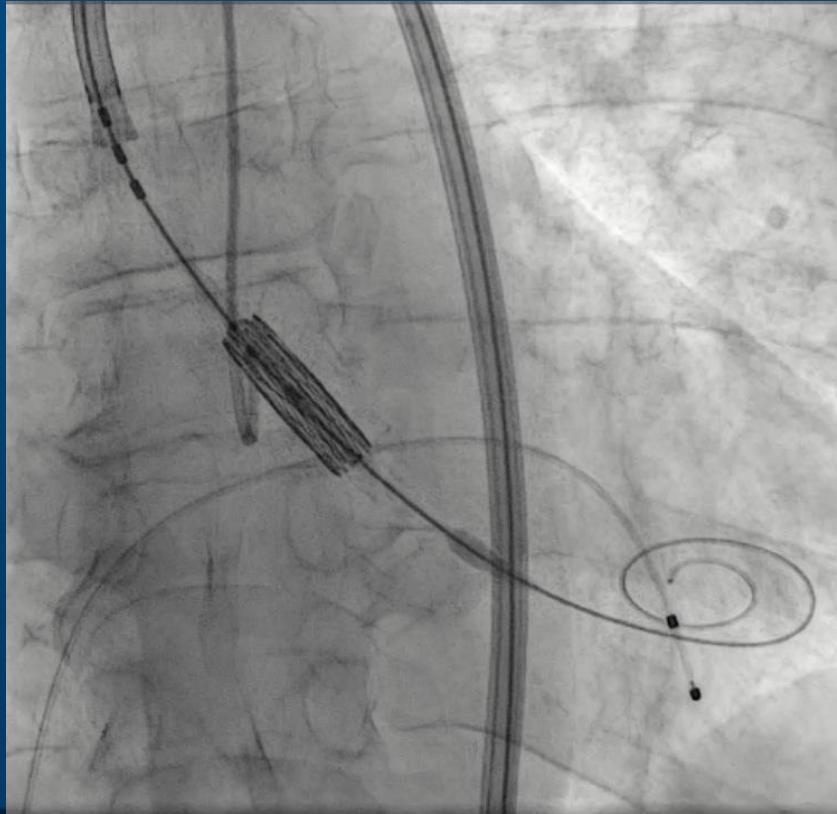
Case Example 1: 77 y/o M with severe AS and NYHA II HF



Coronary angiography (contd.)



26 mm SAPIEN S3



SYMPTOMATIC AS PATIENTS with at least 1 coronary artery lesion in a native segment that is ≥ 2.5 mm in diameter with a $\geq 70\%$ visual angiographic* stenosis
AND Heart Team Consensus they are suitable for transfemoral TAVR and would receive a bypass if they were undergoing elective SAVR

*CT, Echo, Hemodynamic,
and Angiographic Core Labs



**SUCCESSFUL TF TAVR WITH A BALLOON EXPANDABLE THV
STANDARDIZED INVASIVE HEMODYNAMICS (SIH) WITH ON-TABLE TTE**

RANDOMIZATION within 96 hours

and Stratified for Intended Timing of PCI and Requirement for OAC:

COMPLETE REVASCULARIZATION

Staged PCI of all lesions (1 – 45 days post TAVR)
Goal of complete revascularization of all qualifying lesions
N=2000

MEDICAL THERAPY

Guideline-directed medical therapy alone
No revascularization
N=2000

Antithrombotic Therapy

DAPT for 1-6 months (ASA + clopidogrel preferred),
then SAPT lifelong (ASA preferred)

SAPT lifelong (ASA preferred)

If Requirement for OAC (usually AF)

Guideline-directed DOAC[†] + SAPT for 1-6 months
then guideline-directed DOAC therapy alone lifelong

Guideline-directed DOAC therapy[†] lifelong

[†]See supplementary
antithrombotic guidance
document

MEDIAN FOLLOW-UP: 3.5 YEARS

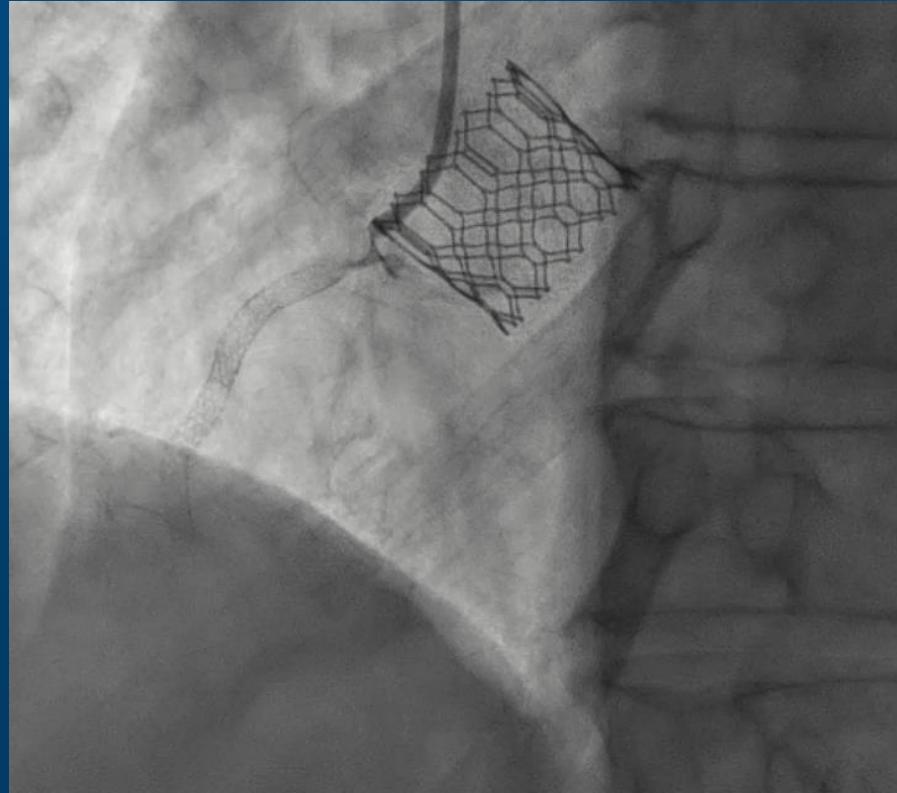
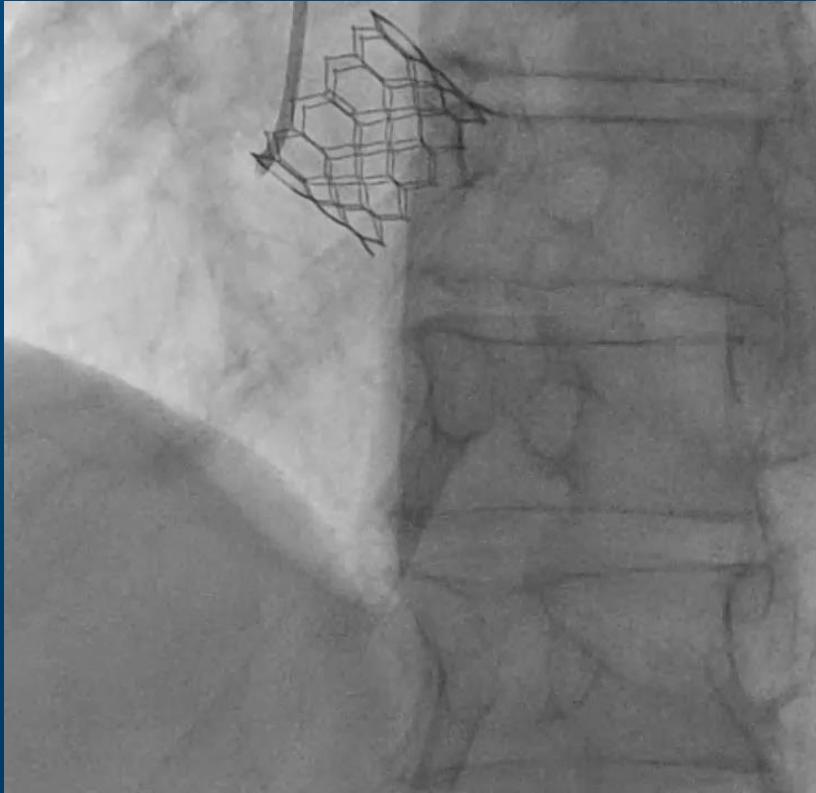
(REPEAT SIH WITH ON-TABLE TTE IF \geq MODERATE VARC-3 HEMODYNAMIC VALVE DETERIORATION **OR**
MG \geq 20 MMHG ON ANY FOLLOW-UP TTE $>$ 1 MONTH POST TAVR)

PRIMARY OUTCOME: Composite of CV Death, New MI, Ischemia-Driven Revascularization, or Hospitalization for Unstable Angina or for Heart Failure

KEY SECONDARY OUTCOMES: CV death or new MI, transaortic gradient post TAVR (echocardiographically-derived vs. direct invasive measurement)

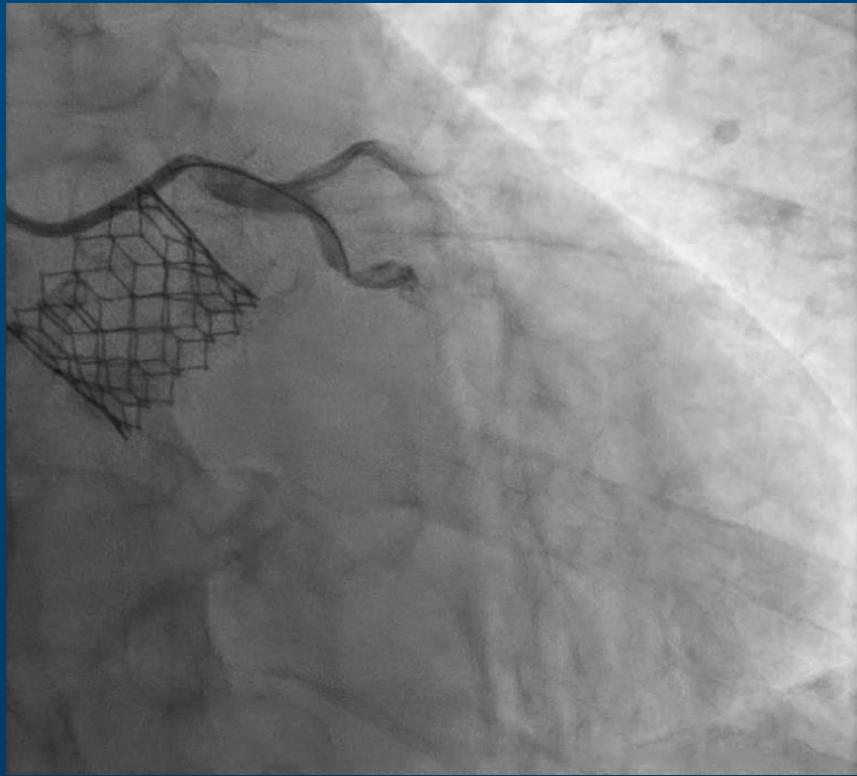
SECONDARY OUTCOMES: Hemodynamic variables obtained with SIH and TTE, Each component of the primary outcome, Angina Status, All-cause Mortality, Stroke, Cost-effectiveness, QOL, Bleeding, Contrast Associated Acute Kidney Injury, Fluoroscopic Time/Contrast Utilization for Staged PCI

PCI (4 weeks after TAVR) – Right radial, 6 Fr.



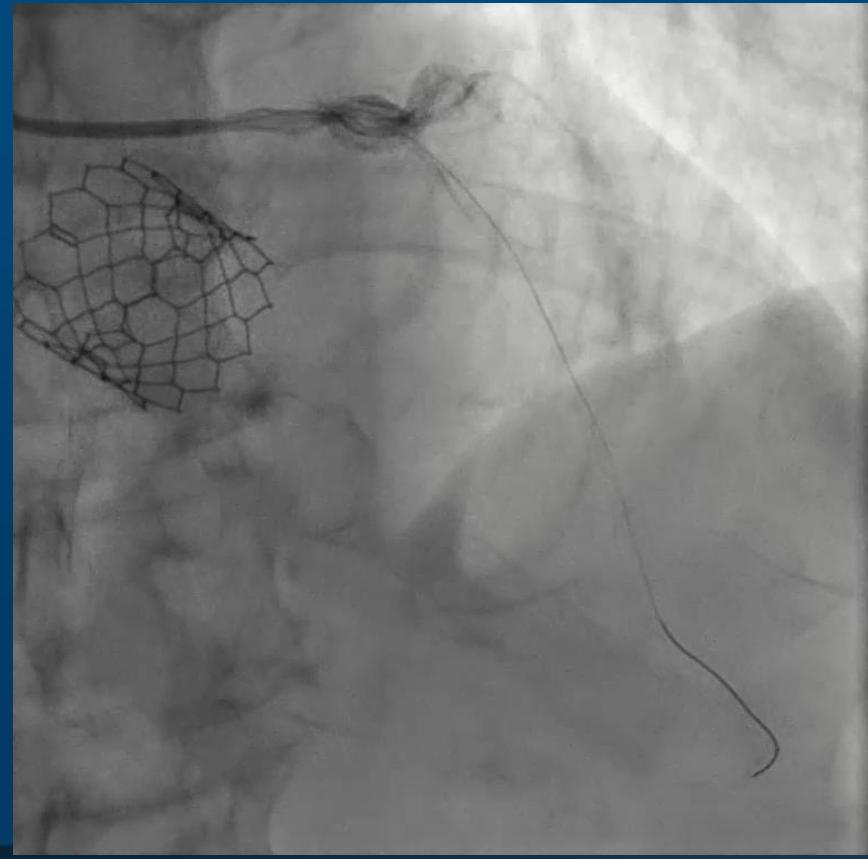
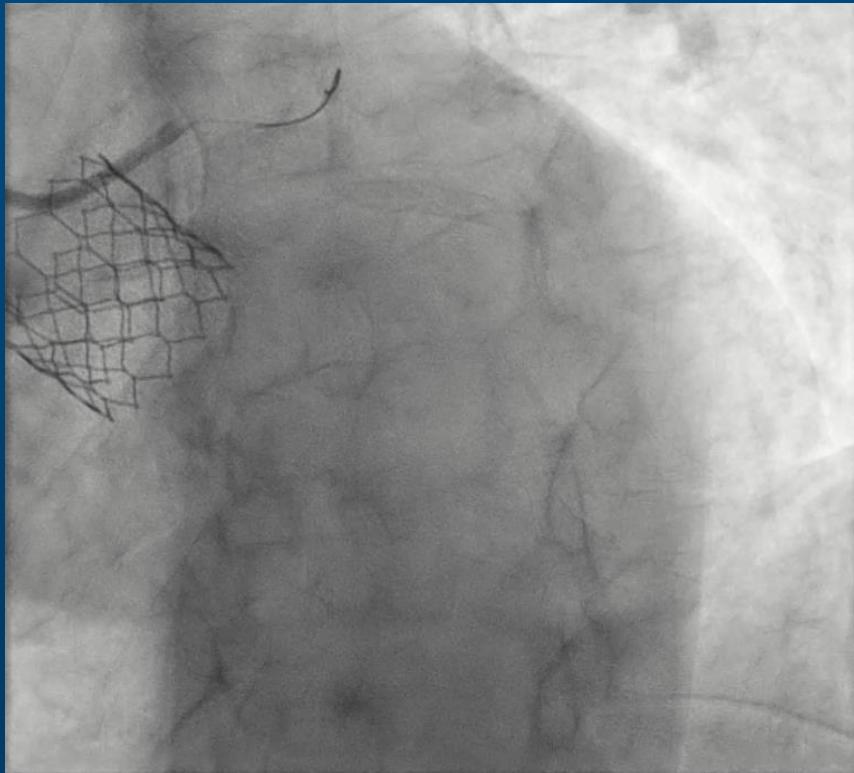
Two overlapping 3.0 X 26 mm and 2.75 X 12 mm DES with IVUS guidance

PCI (contd.)

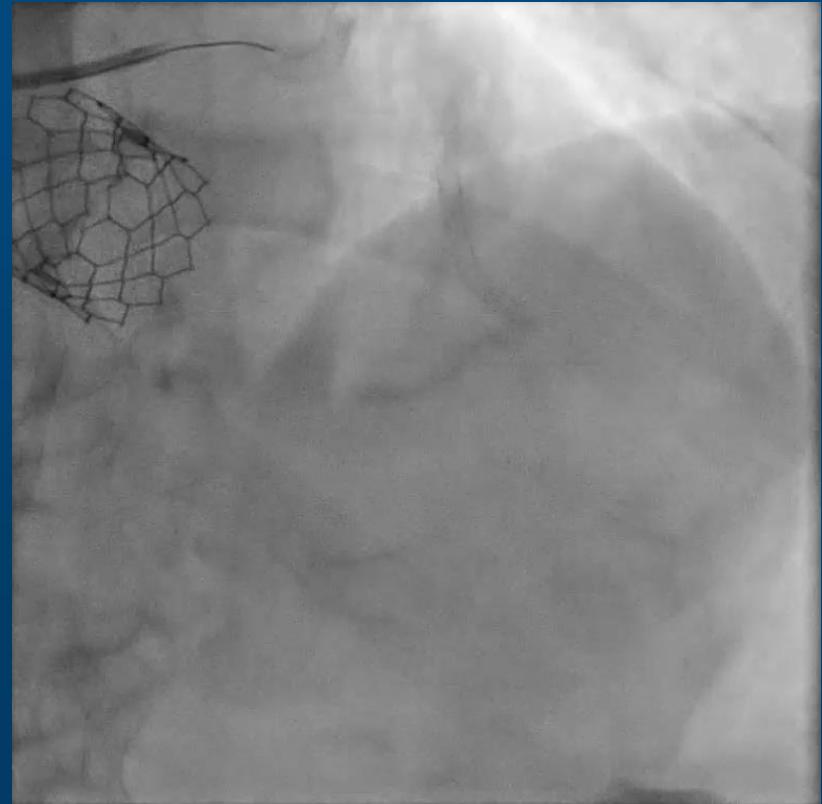
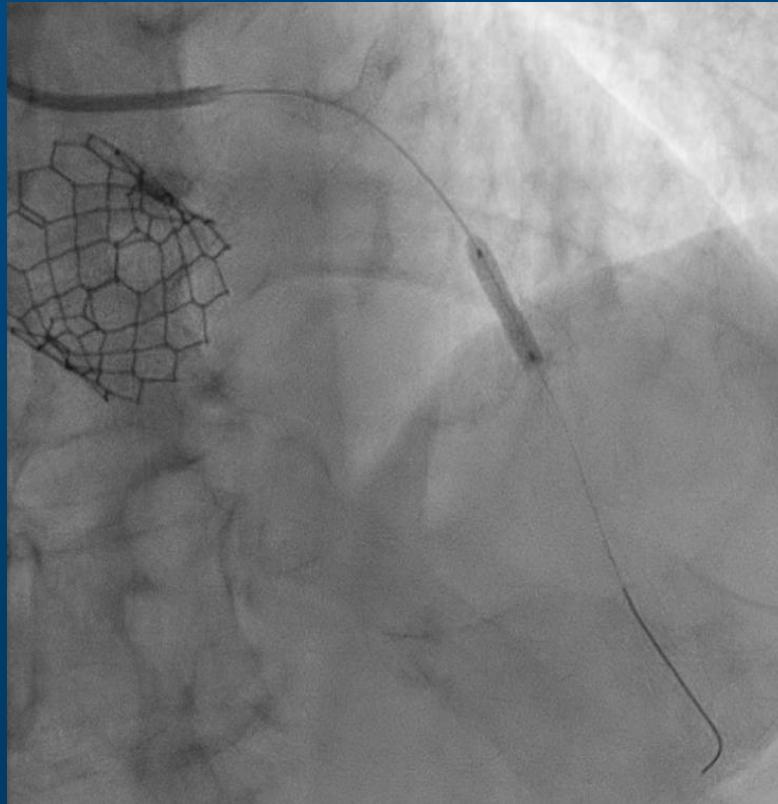


3.0 X 22 mm DES in proximal CX, post-dilated w/ 3.75 mm NC with IVUS guidance

PCI (contd.)

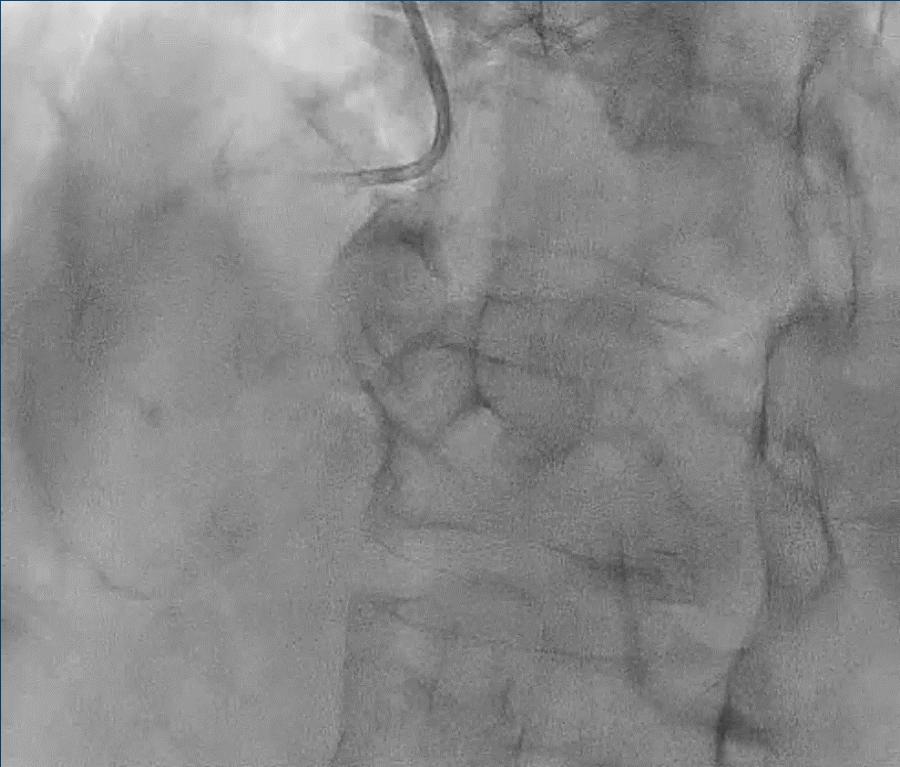


PCI (contd.)



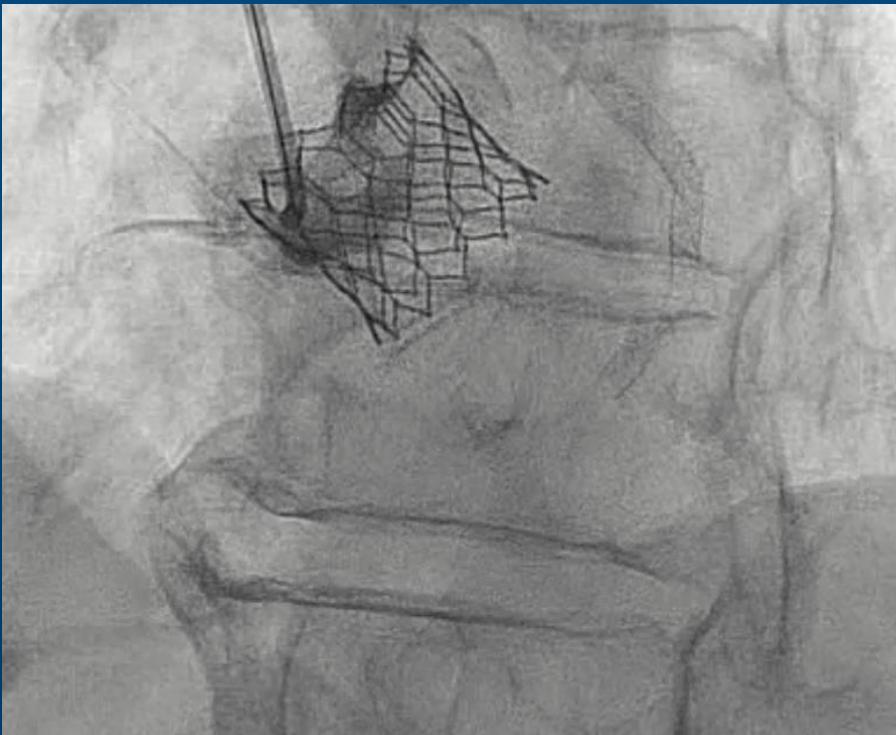
Two overlapping 3.0 X 24 and 3.0 X 22 mm DES with IVUS guidance
Post-dilation with 3.5 mm NC balloon

Case Example 2: 83 y/o F with severe AS and CCS II Angina

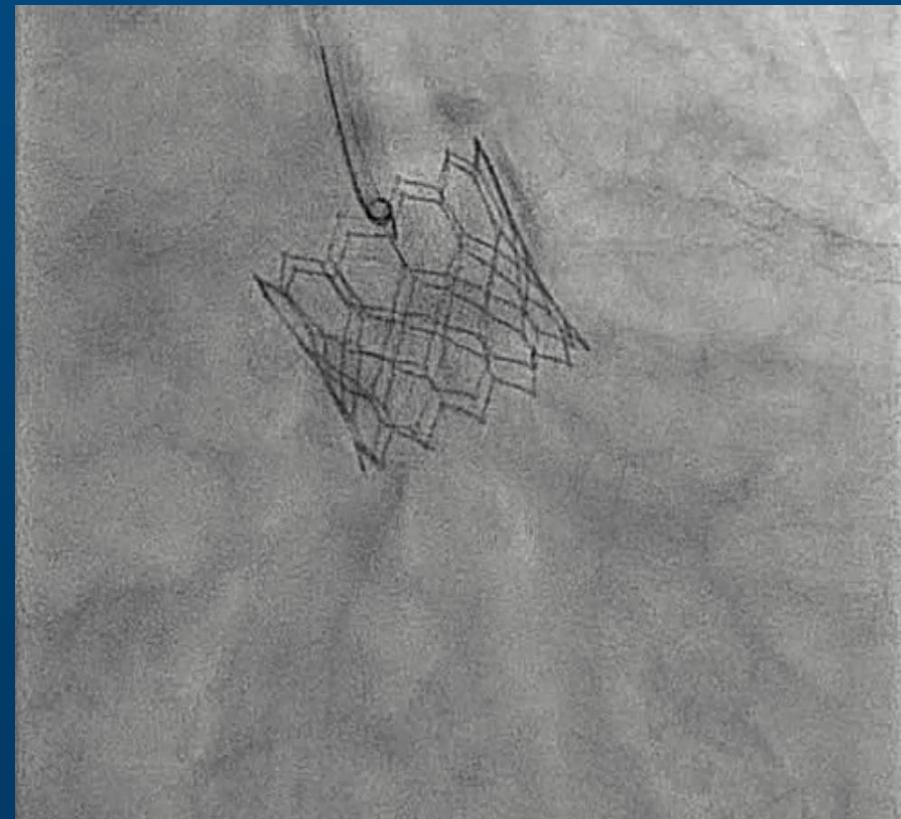


Declined COMPLETE TAVR participation
Opted for medical Rx

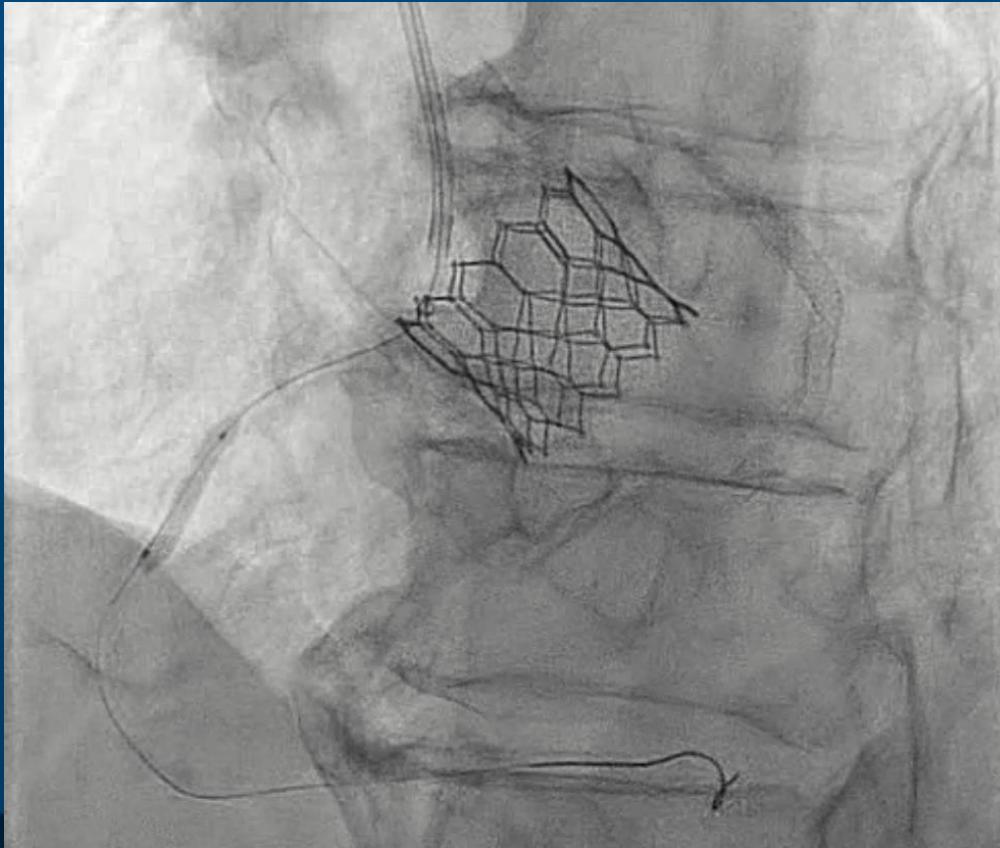
Persistent angina at 30-d post TAVR f/u visit



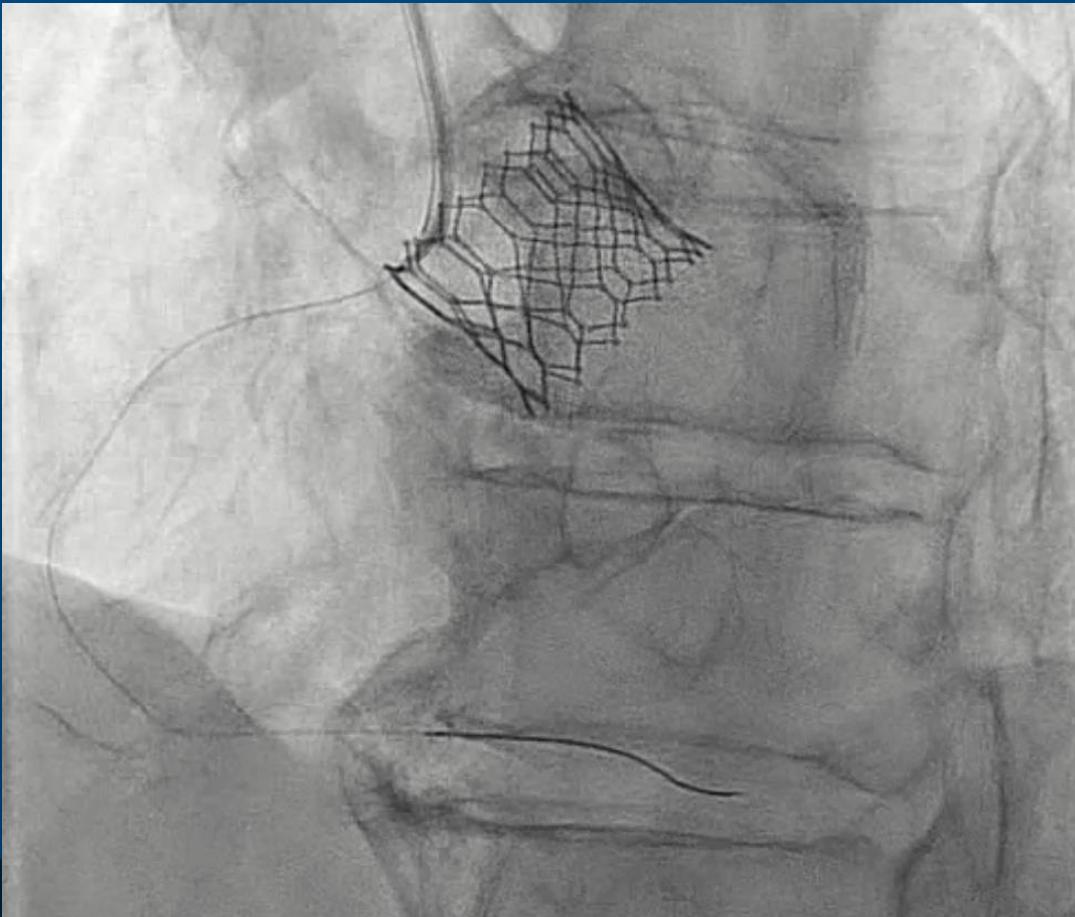
RCA PCI



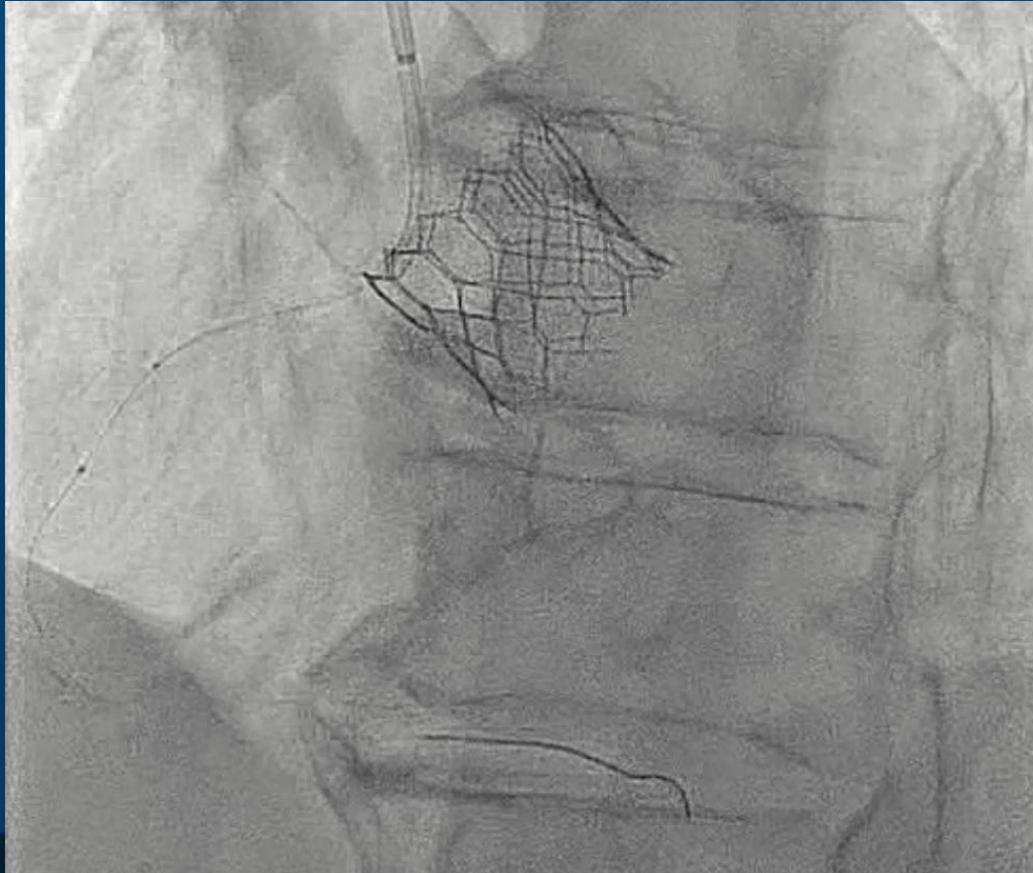
Attempted balloon anchoring of 6 Fr. Guideliner



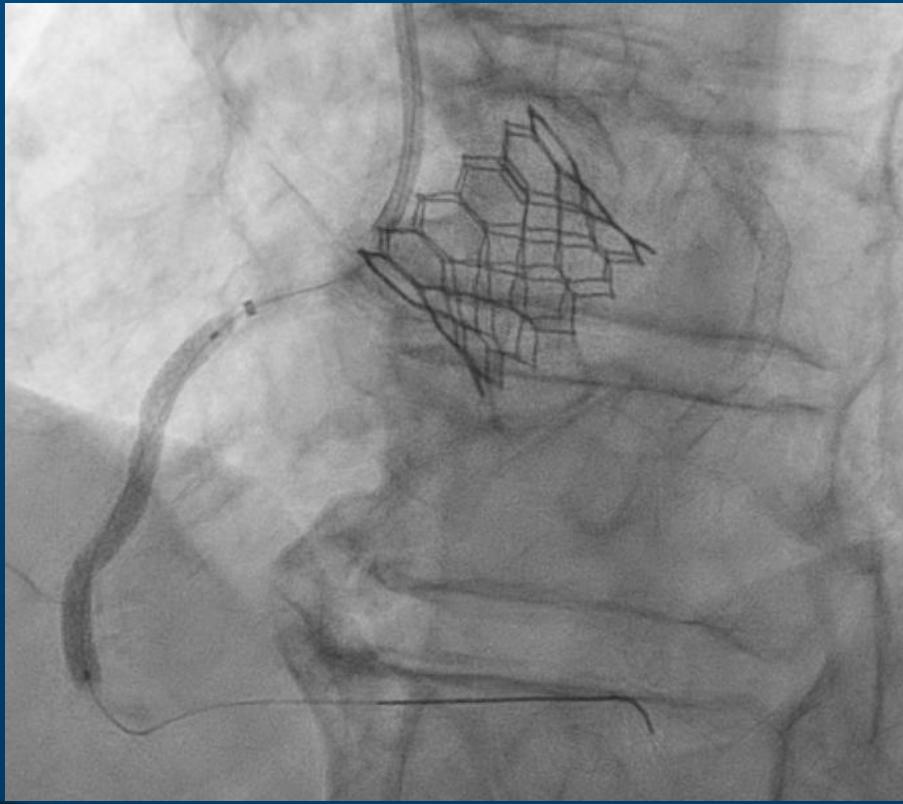
Attempted Stent Delivery



Balloon-assisted tracking of 5.5 Guideliner coast

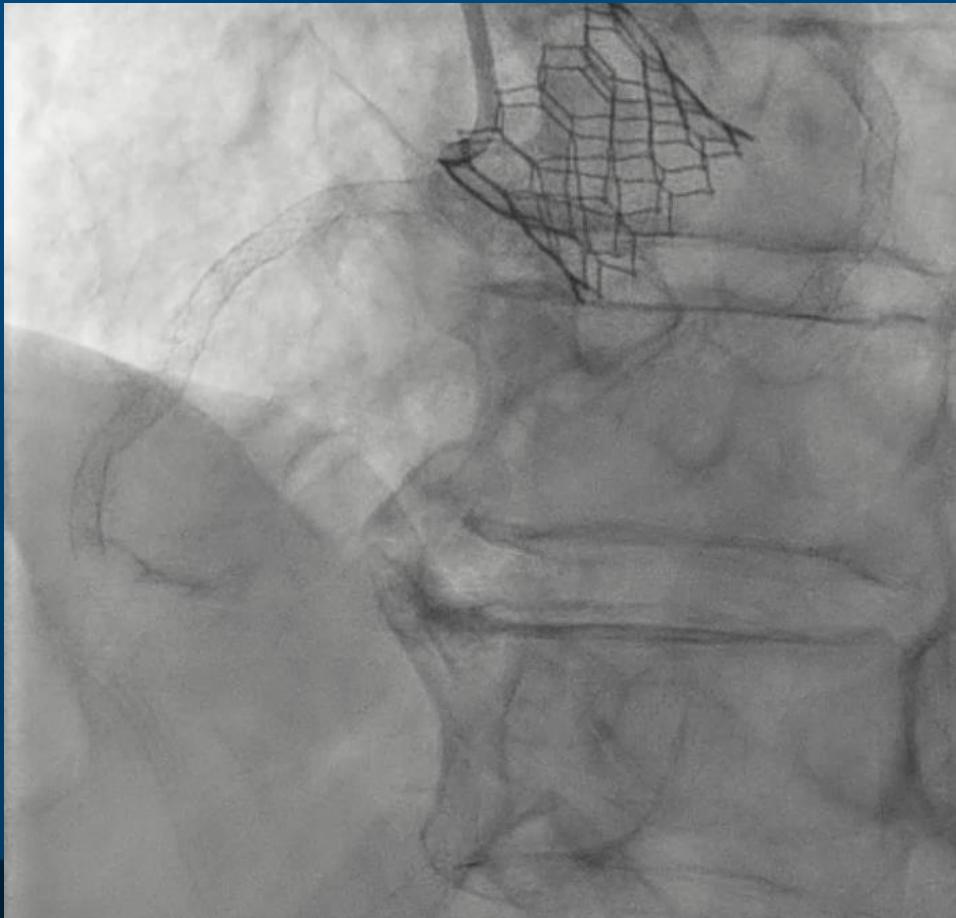


PCI



Two overlapping 3.0 X 38 mm and 3.0 X 26 mm DES
Post-dilation with 3.5 mm NC balloon

Final Result



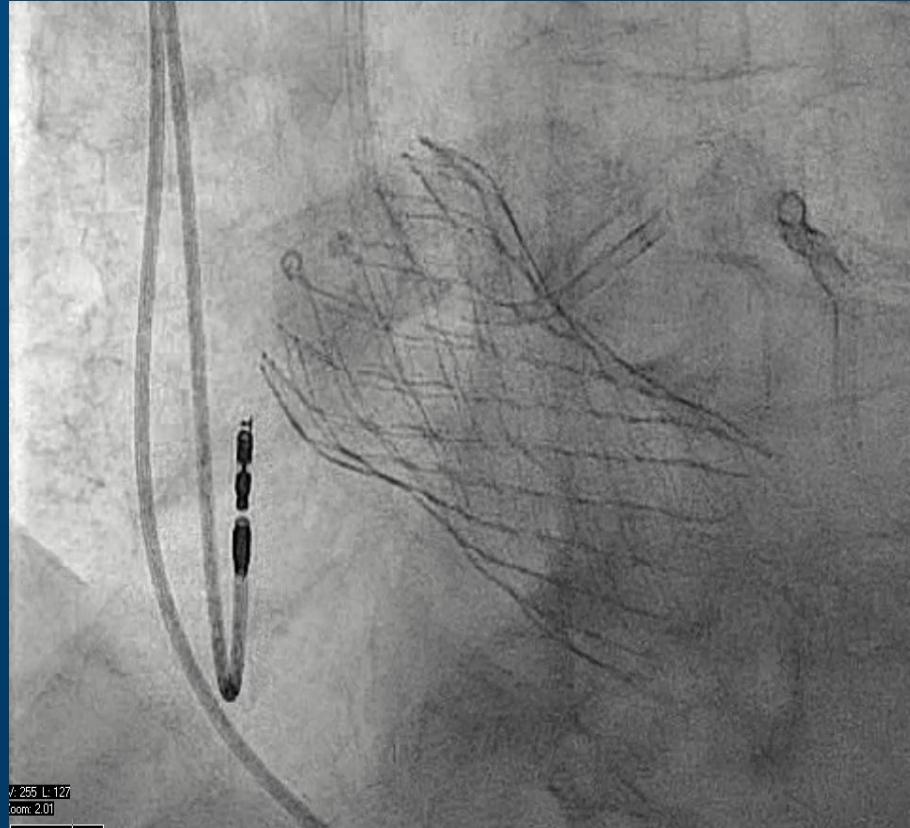
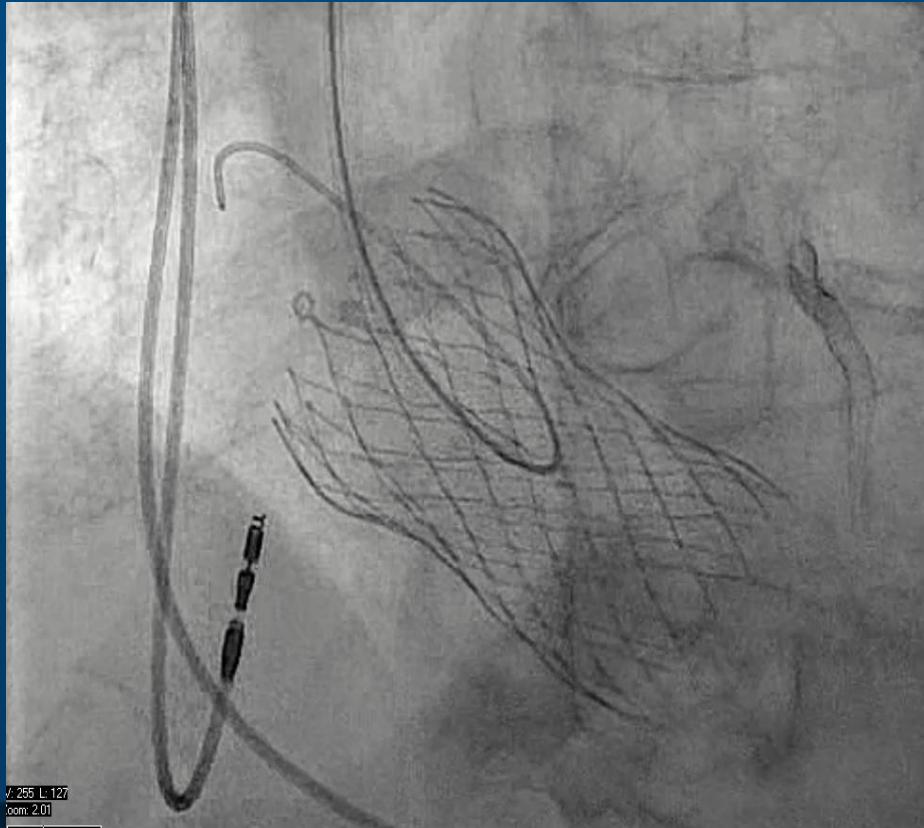
Tips and Tricks: Self-expandable Valves

- Choose C-Arm Angle with Orthogonal view of the coronary ostium of interest and adjust cranial/caudal to remove frame parallax.
- Consider aortography to understand relationship of coronary ostium and valve frame.
- Frame is smaller than aorta: consider downsizing by 0.5 mm (EBU/XB 3.0 or FL 3.0 for LCA and JR 3.5 for RCA).
- Use J-wire to enter frame cell co-axial to coronary take-off. If difficulty, try adjacent cell or one cell above/below.
- Cannulate from top down instead of bottom up.
- Do not spend too much time trying selective cannulation.
- **Non-selective wiring of coronary artery** and liberal use of guide extension catheters \pm balloon anchoring.
- Disengage catheters safely over a guidewire.

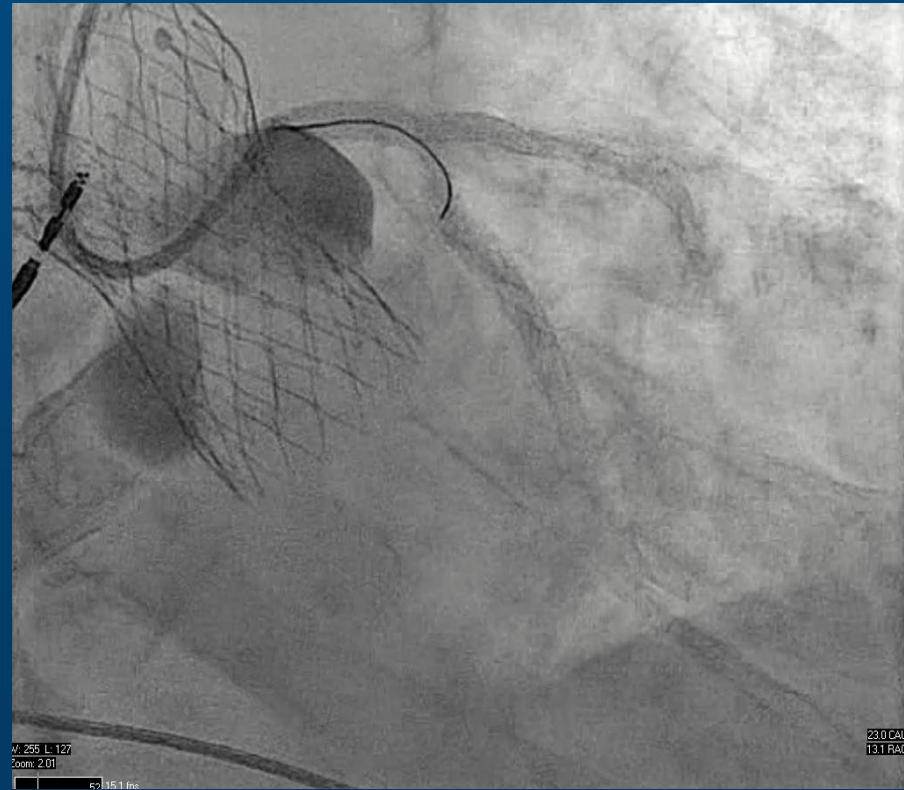
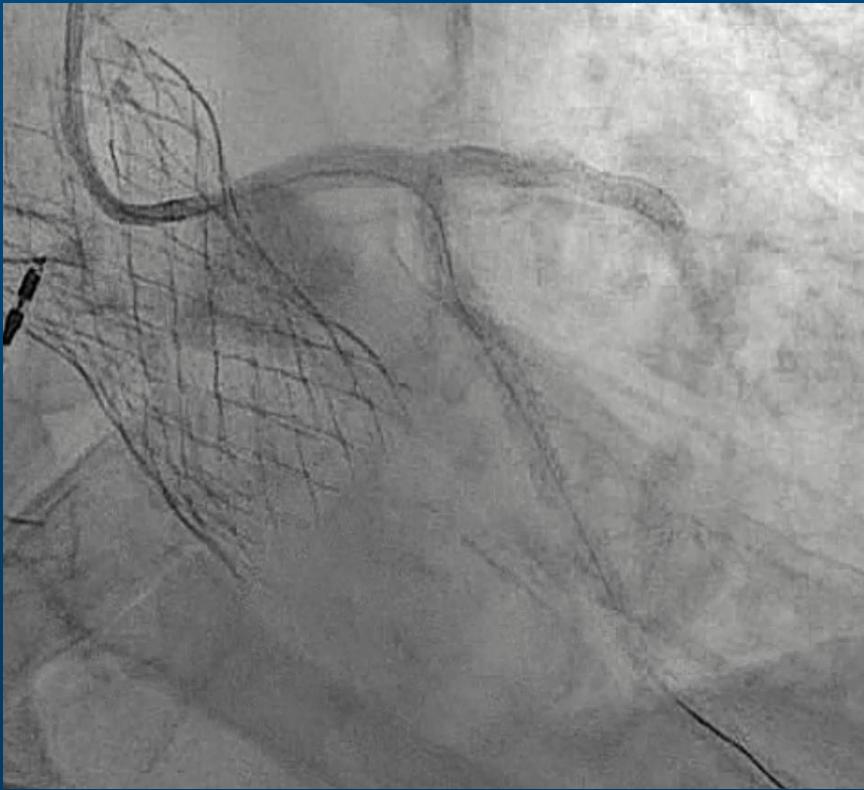
Case example 3: 80 y/o M, TAVR w/ 34 mm Evolut Pro+, CAD with prior LAD and CX PCI, presentation with NSTEMI



LM engagement: radial approach, EBU 3.0 guide

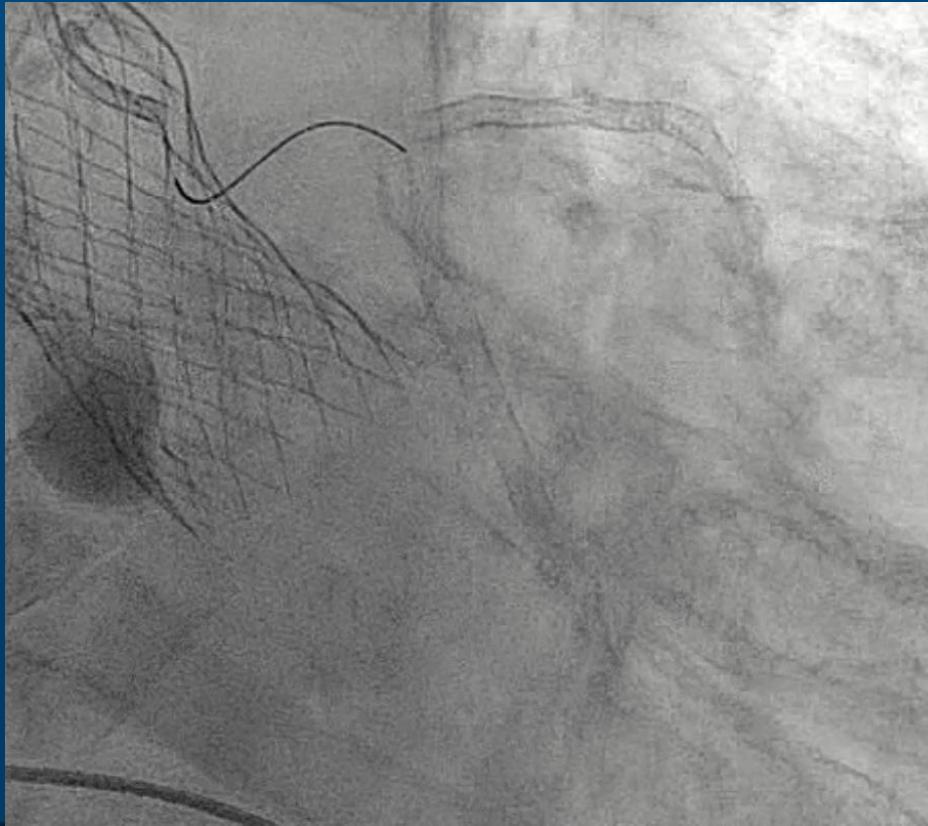


PCI

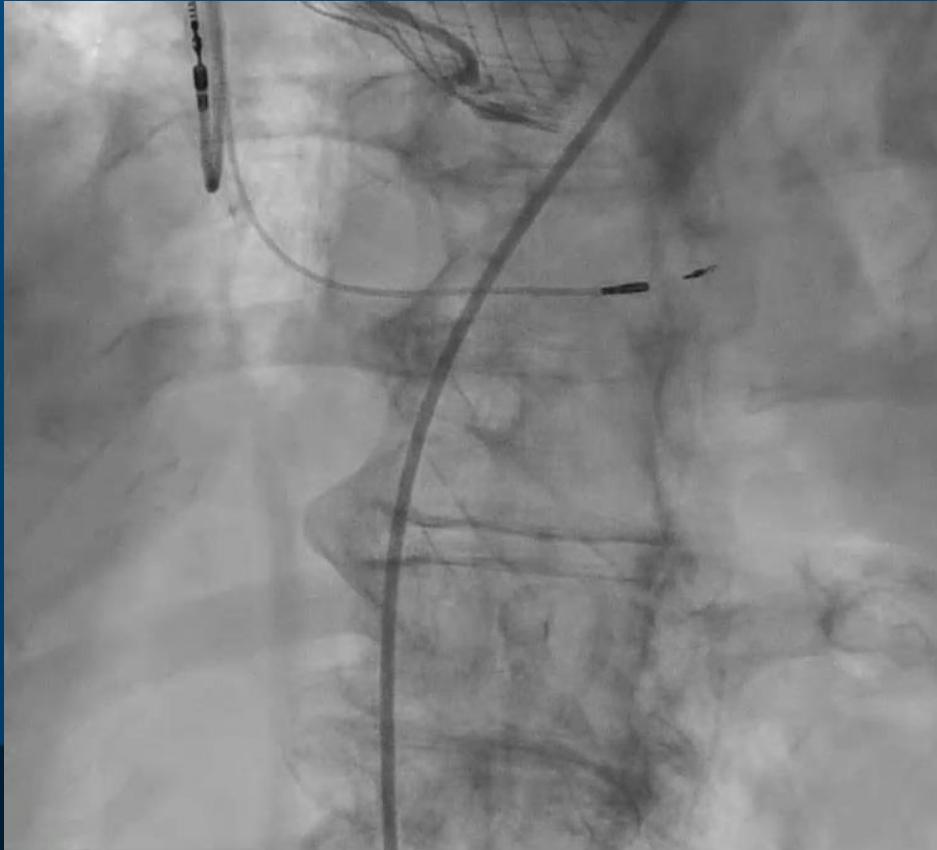


*IVUS showed neo-intimal hyperplasia as mechanism of ISR;
pre-dilation with 3.0 Wolverine, 3.0 X 12 mm DES (2nd layer)*

Disengagement over wire

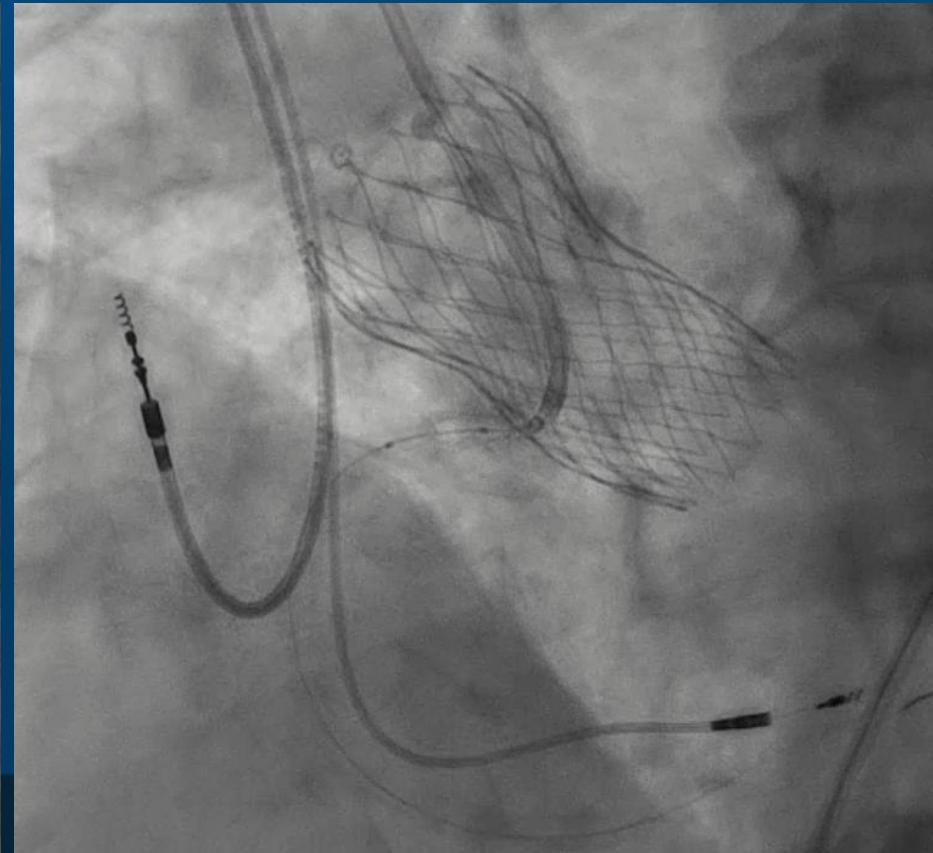
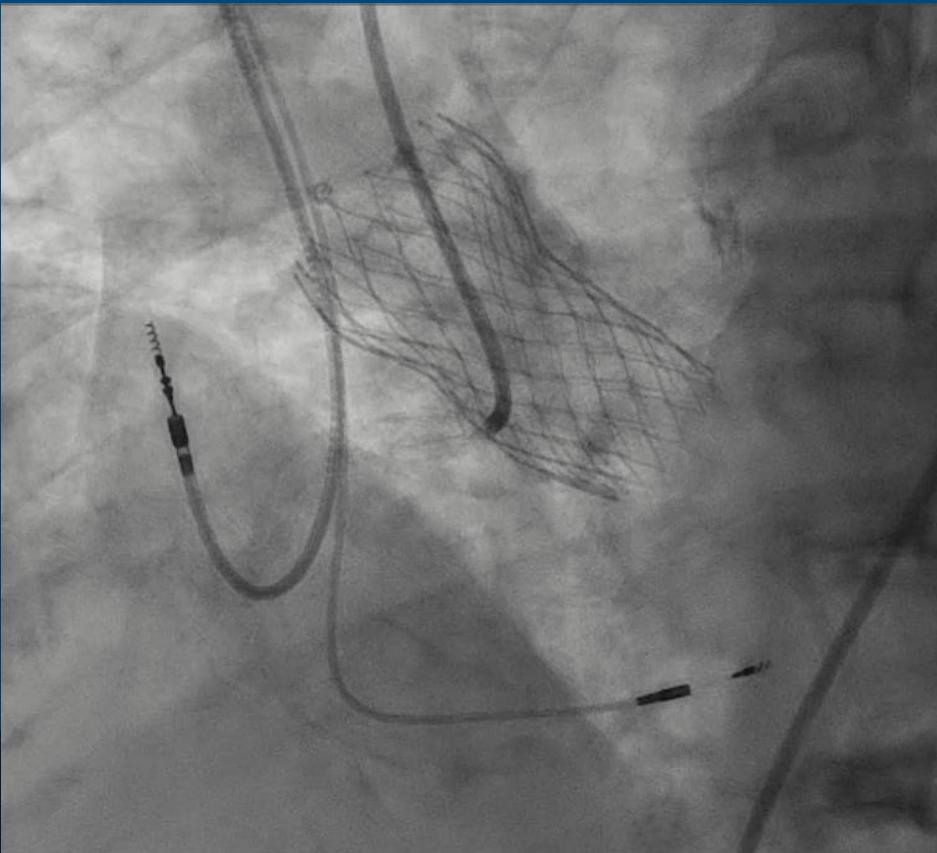


Case example 4: 81 yo F, 26 mm Evolut Pro+, prior ostial RCA PCI , hospitalized with NSTEMI



c/o Harold Dauerman MD

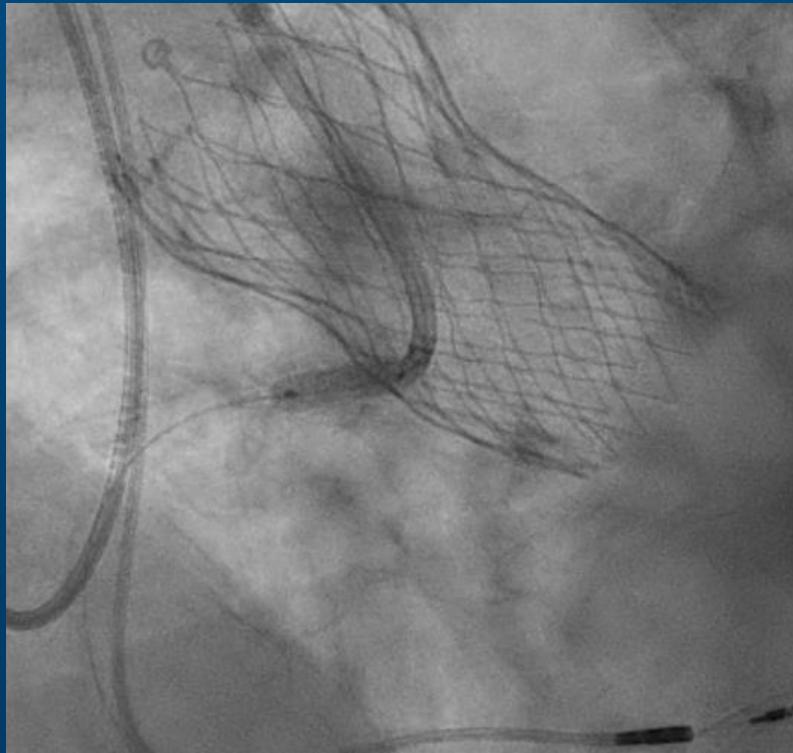
PCI – Femoral approach, 6 Fr. IM guide (JR4 and AR1 attempted unsuccessfully)



PCI

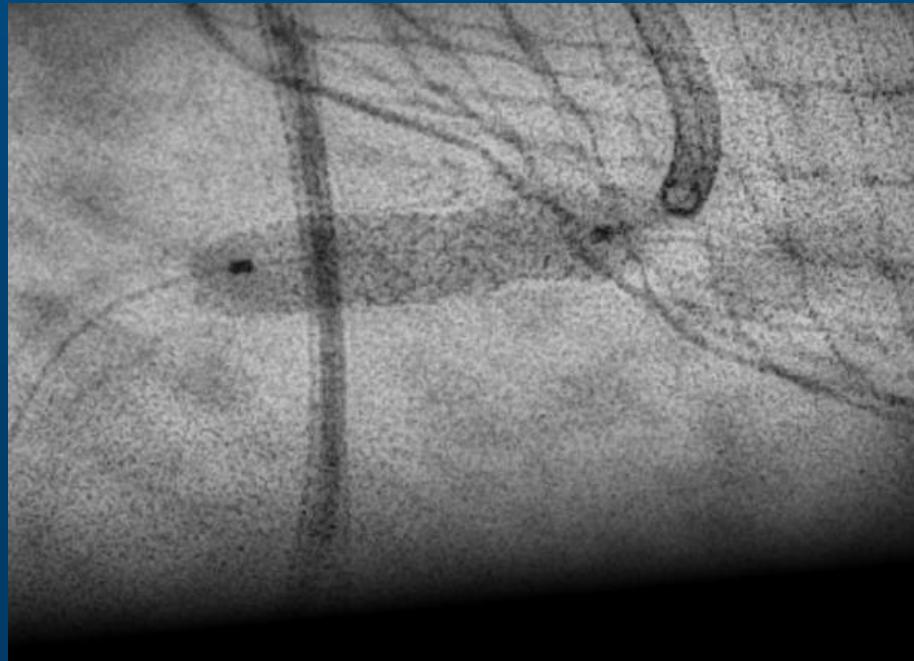


2.0 mm balloon used
to anchor 6 Fr.
Guideliner



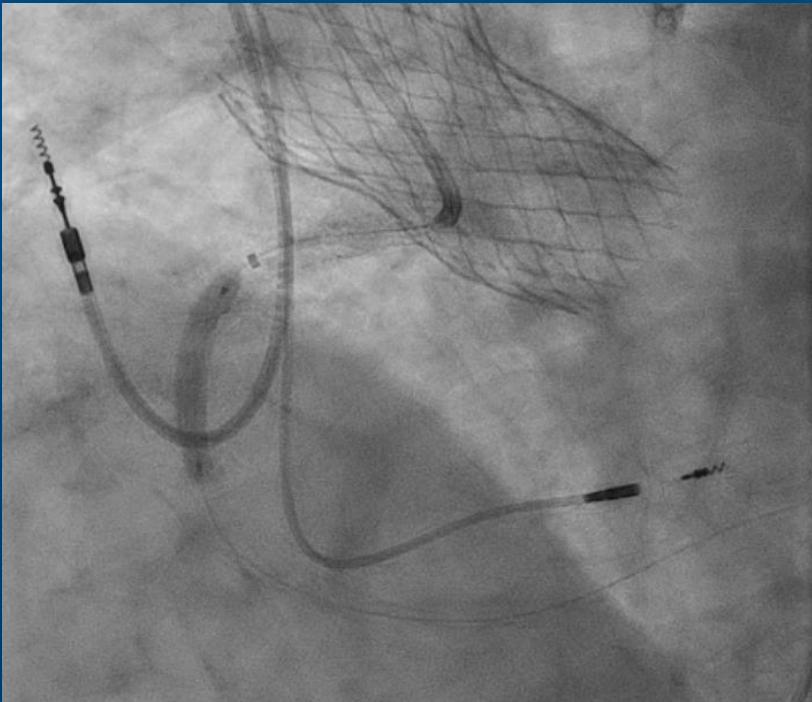
High pressure pre-dilation with 3.0
mm NC and 3.5 mm Angiosculpt

PCI

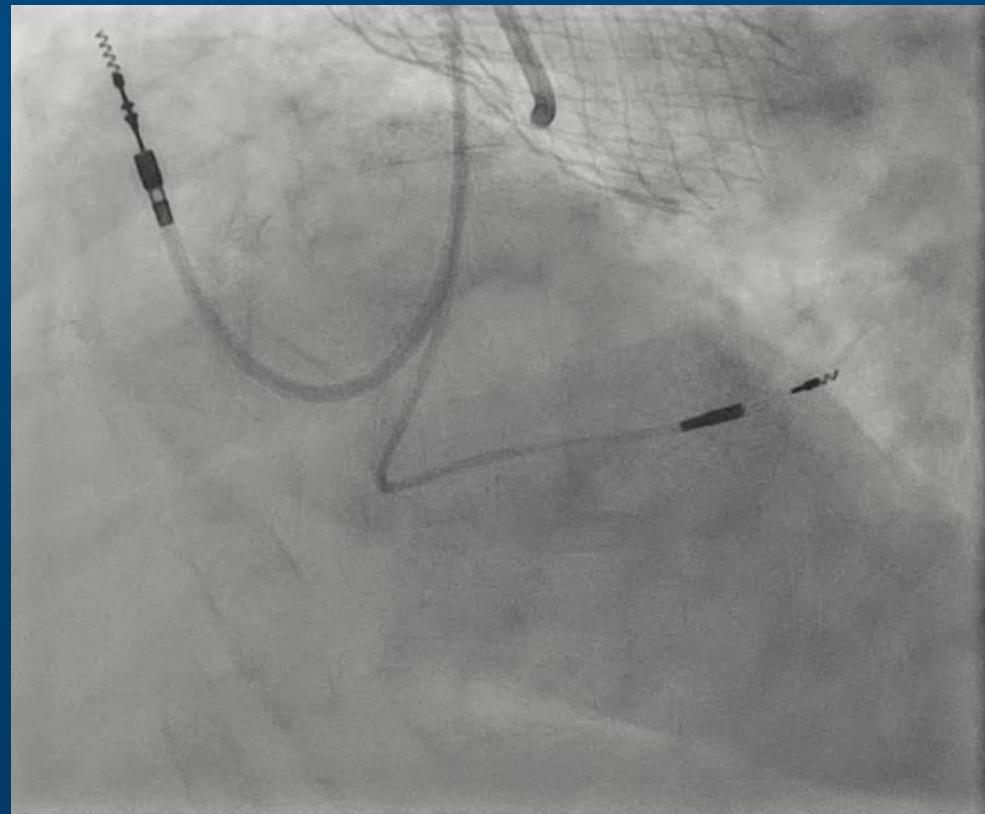


4.0 X 18 DES (2nd layer)

PCI



**Mid RCA PCI with 3.5 X 18 DES
High-pressure post-dilation**



Final result

Conclusions

- Unplanned coronary access after TAVR is infrequent with overall incidence (including CCS and ACS) of <10% at 5-year follow-up.
- Valve design, implant depth, and commissural alignment are key device-related factors that influence success of coronary access.
- Coronary access and PCI can be performed successfully in >95% of post-TAVR cases with minor modifications in equipment choice and technique.
- Complex PCI may be safer in most cases after “correcting” aortic stenosis with TAVR.
- When selective catheter engagement is not possible, free wiring and balloon anchoring of a guide extension catheter may allow for successful PCI.