

Predicting Risk of Coronary Occlusion During TAVR Procedures

Giuseppe Tarantini, MD, PhD

Director of Interventional Cardiology, University of Padua



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

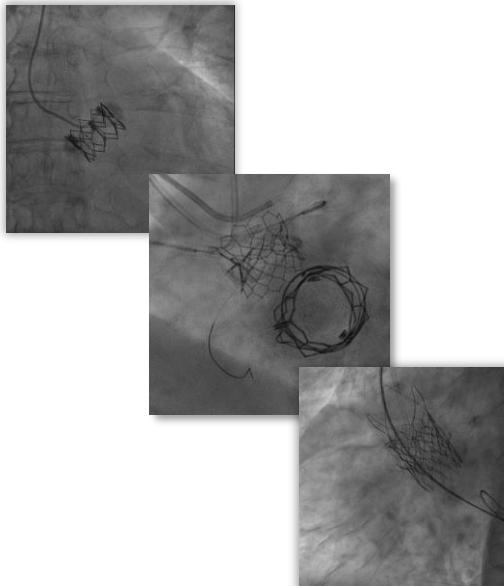
Consultant Fees/Honoraria

Company

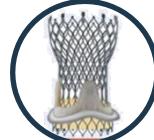
Abbott, Edwards Lifesciences,
Medtronic, Abiomed, Boston
Scientific, Microport, SMT

CORONARY OCCLUSION IN TAVR

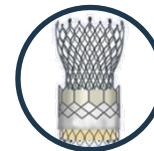
- Evidence of a **new partial or complete obstruction of an epicardial coronary artery ostium**
- Early (< 7 days after TAVI) occlusion typically present with severe hypotension and ECG changes



Native

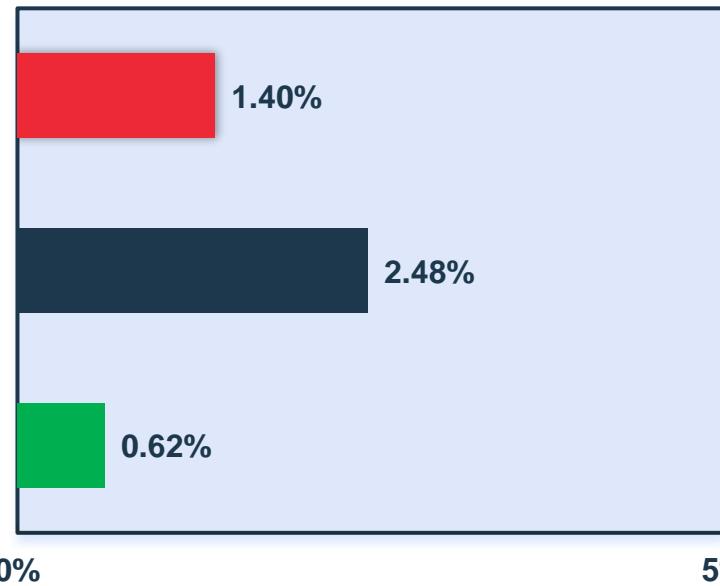


**TAVR in
SAVR**

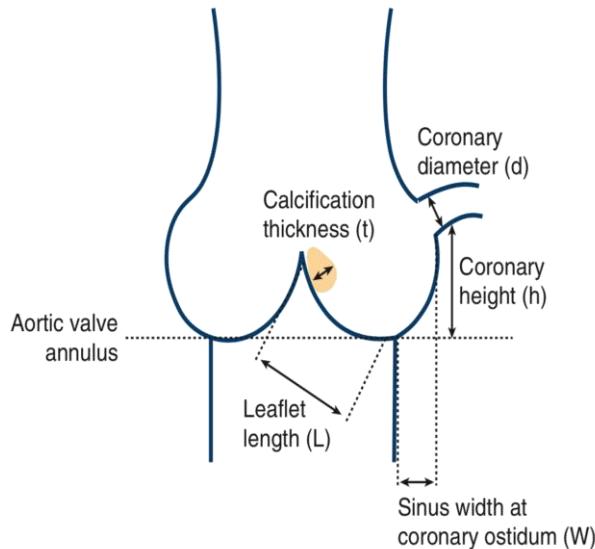


**TAVR in
TAVR**

Ibrahim et al. Circ Cardiovasc Interv. 2024 Jun;17(6)



MECHANISMS OF CORONARY OBSTRUCTION



By leaflet (native or prosthetic)



By calcific nodule



By sinus sequestration



By commissural post or skirt



By embolized material (thrombus or degenerative)



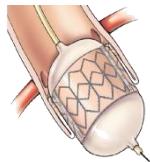
Native

Coronary Obstruction: *Risk Factors*



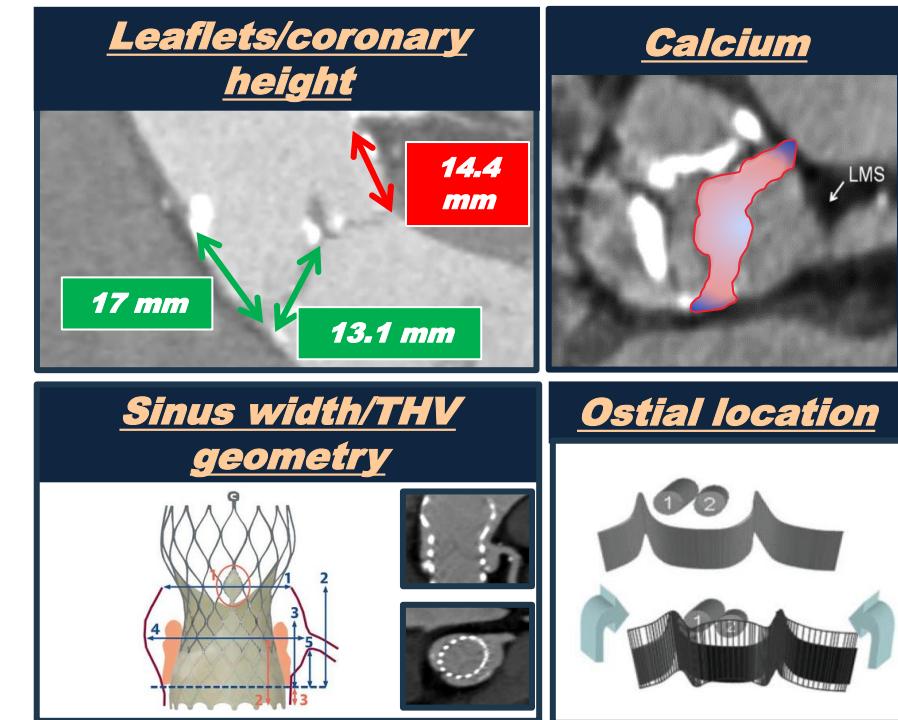
Anatomic Factors

- Low-lying coronary ostia (ostium height < leaflet length)
- Narrow STJ/low sinus height
- Narrow sinuses of Valsalva
- Heavy leaflet calcification
- Previous aortic root repair



THV Factors

- Extended sealing cuff
- High implantation
- Commissural misalignment

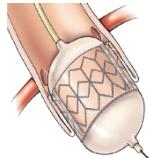


Coronary Obstruction: *Prediction*



Anatomic Factors

- Low-lying coronary ostia (*ostium height < leaflet length*)
- Narrow STJ/*low sinus height*
- Narrow sinuses of Valsalva
- Heavy leaflet calcification
- Previous aortic root repair

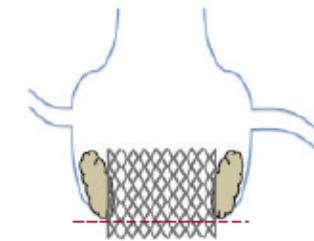


THV Factors

- Extended sealing cuff
- High implantation
- Commissural misalignment

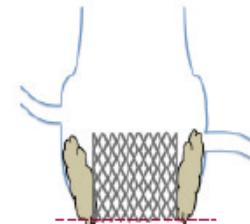
Lower probability:

Wide Aortic Root
or
High Coronaries



Higher probability:

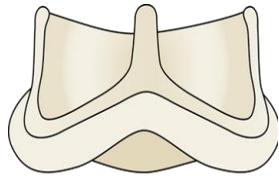
Small Aortic Root
or
Low Coronaries





TAVR in
SAVR

Coronary Obstruction: *Risk Factors*



Stented,
Externally
Mounted Leaflets



Trifecta (St. Jude Medical)

Stentless



Freestyle (Medtronic)



Freedom (Sorin)



Mitroflow (Sorin)



Cryolife O'Brien



Toronto SPV (St. Jude Medical)



Dokimos (Labcor)



Biovalsalva (Vascutek)



3F Valve (Medtronic)

**Internal
leaflets**

**Coronary
occlusion
0.7%**

**External
leaflets**

**Coronary
occlusion
6.4%**

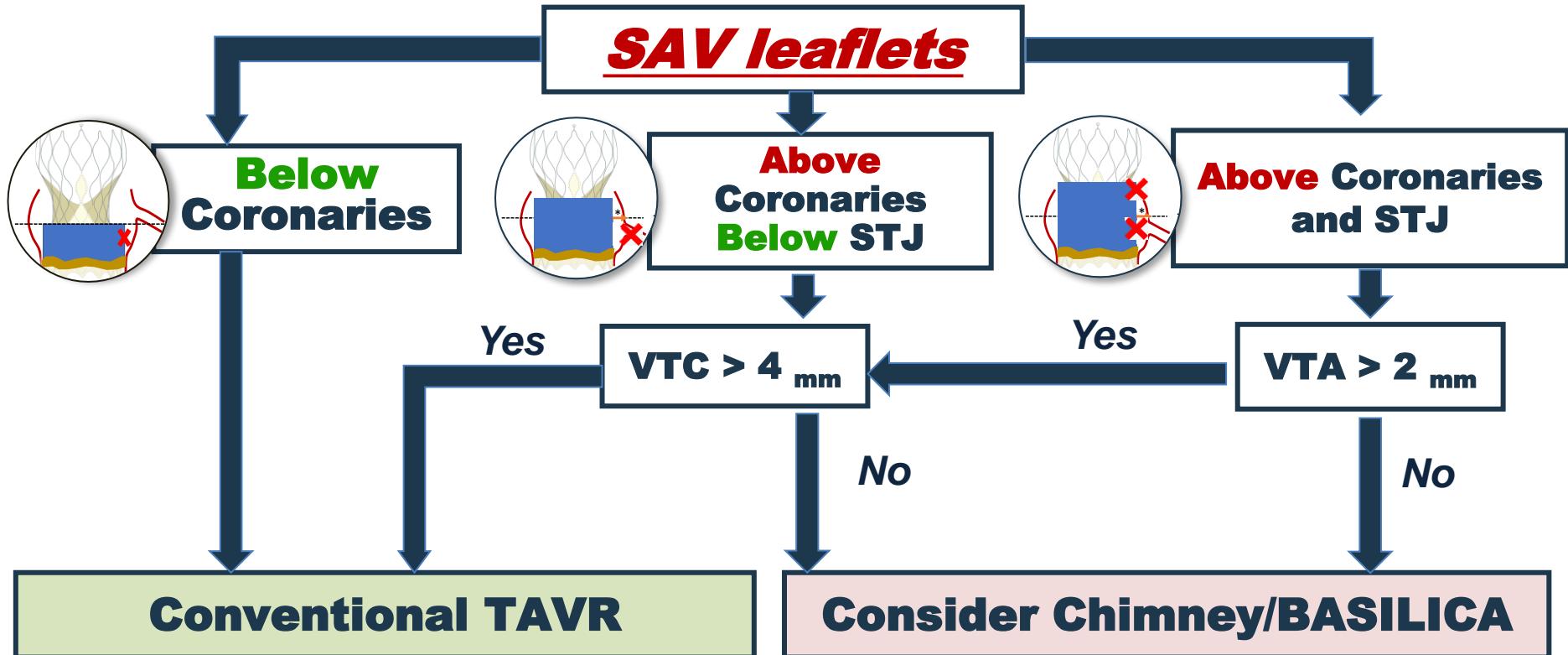
Stentless

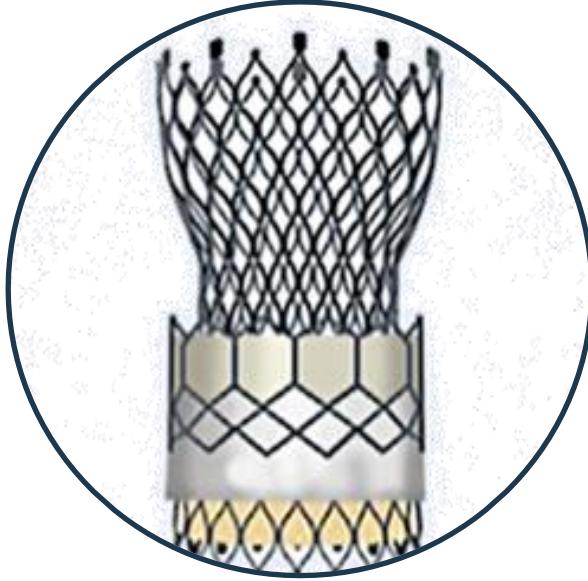
**Coronary
occlusion
3.7%**

BHV Specific Factors

- **Supra-annular position**
- **Tall leaflets**
- **External leaflets**
- **Stentless**

Coronary Obstruction: *Prediction*

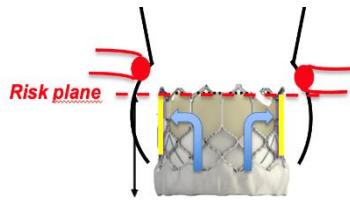




**TAVR in
TAVR**

Coronary Obstruction: *Prediction*

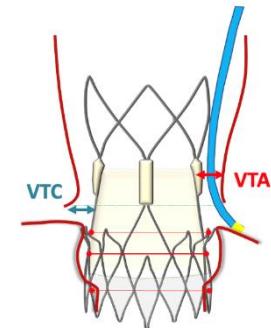
Coronary plane



Coronary ostia < RP
+ VTA < 2 mm

Coronary ostia < RP
+ VTA 2-4 mm

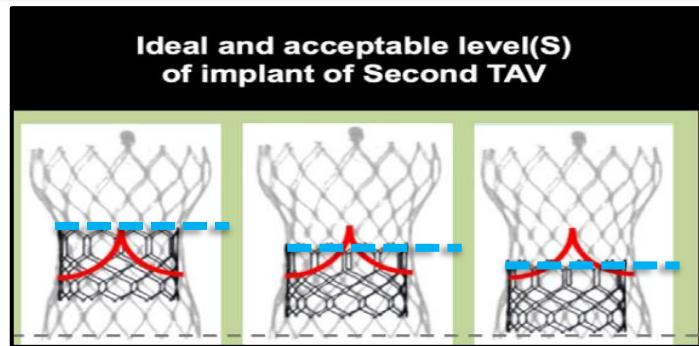
Coronary ostia > RP or
VTC/VTA > 4 mm



VTC/VTA
Width

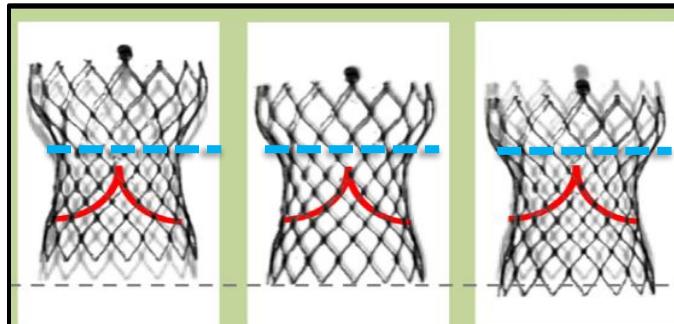
Coronary Obstruction: *Risk Reduction*

**Short in
Tall**



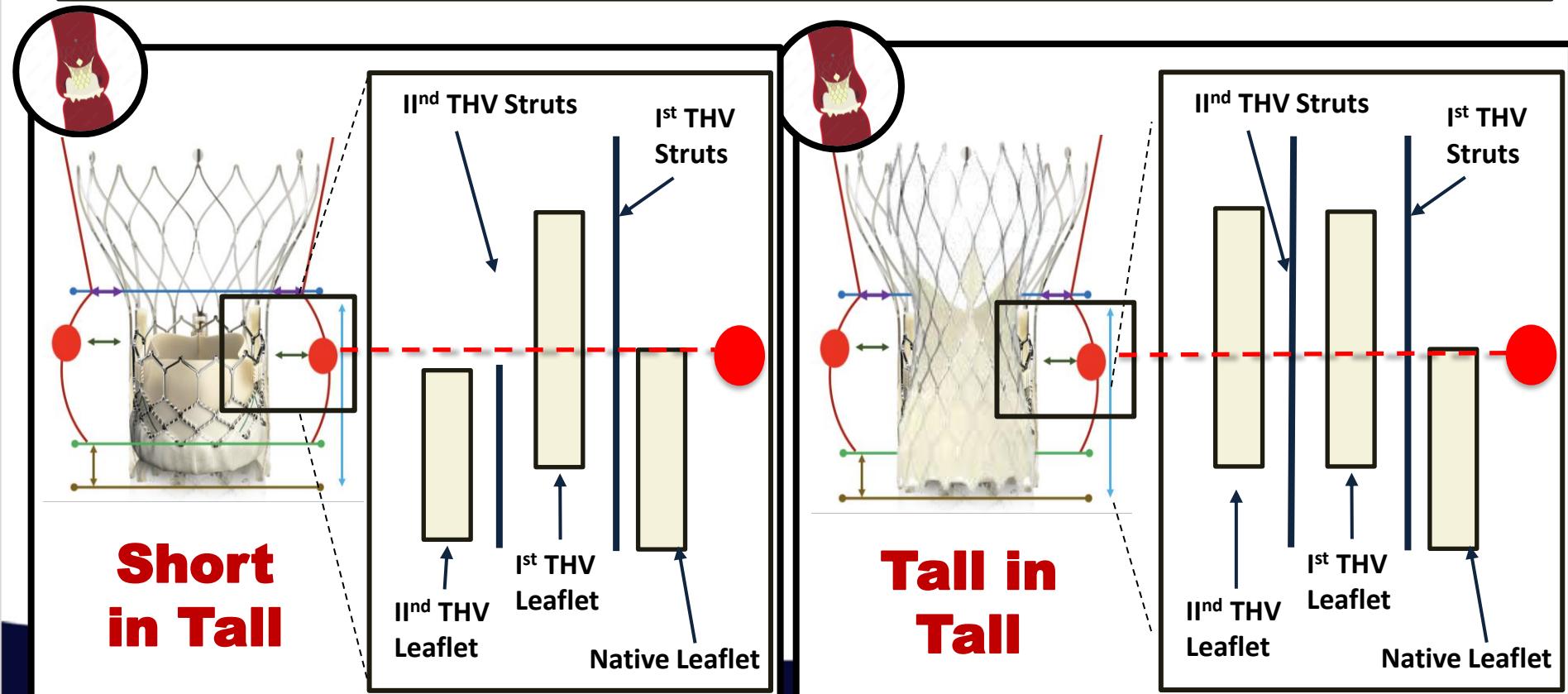
**Different
Positioning
=
Different
Overhang**

**Tall
in Tall**

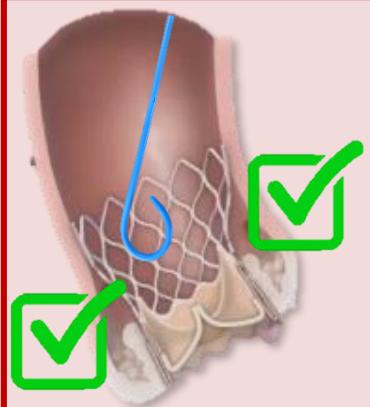


**Different
Positioning
=
No Overhang**

1st THV choice MATTER : *NEOSINUSES structures*



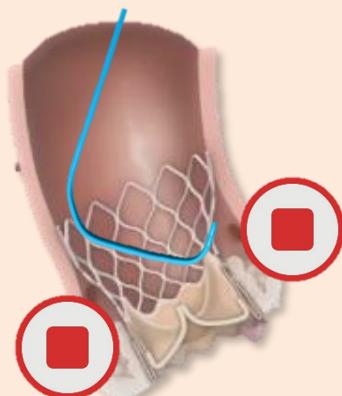
EVALUATION



**CORONARY
PERFUSION**



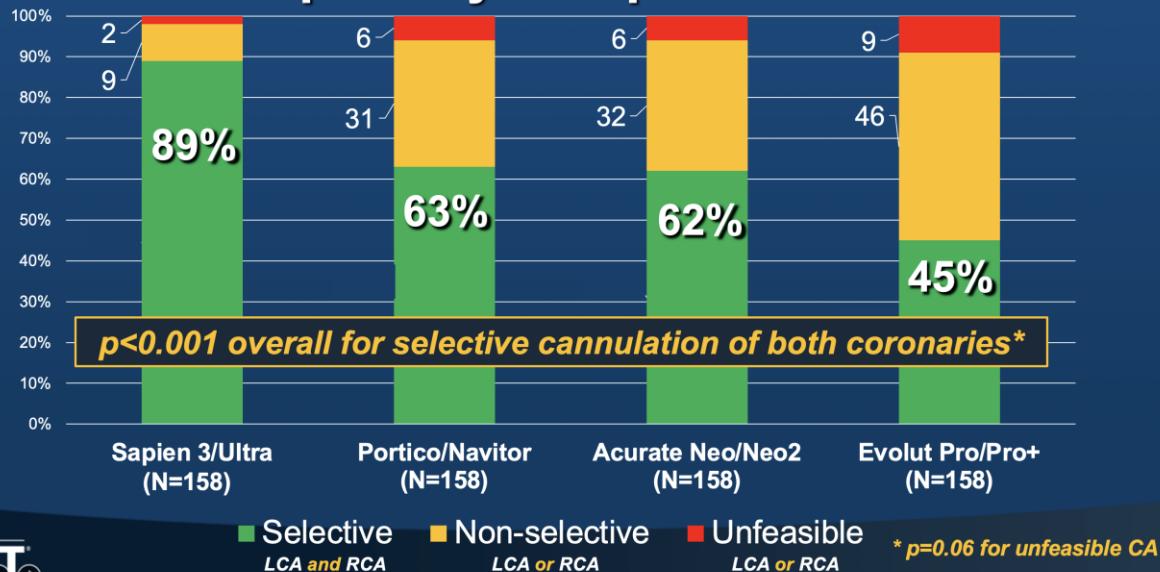
**CORONARY
CANNULAT.**



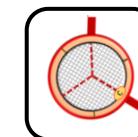
The Coronary AccEss After Tavi (CAvEAT) Registry

Prospective, observational, multi-center study- **632 pts at 18 sites** (> 100 TAVI/year)
– selective cannulation **immediately after THV delivery**

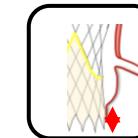
Coronary cannulation (LCA /RCA combined) “primary end-point”



Predictors of unfeasible/non-selective CA after TAVR



Moderate/severe misalignment
(OR 5.51, p<0.001)



Implantation depth
(OR 0.83, p<0.002)



Implantation of a tall-frame THV
(OR 6.24, p<0.001)

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- **Coronary obstruction is a rare but serious complication of TAVR, requiring accurate risk assessment and preventive planning**
- **Anatomical and procedural factors, integrated with advanced imaging and planning tools (CT-based analysis, VTC/VTA measurements), enable precise risk prediction and enhance procedural safety.**
- **Tailored strategies—including optimal THV choice, alignment, and preventive maneuvers such as BASILICA—promote safer and more effective TAVR interventions.**

→ **An anatomy-driven, individualized approach remains the cornerstone of preventing coronary obstruction during TAVR.**