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Repeated drug-eluting stent implantation for drug-eluting stent restenosis: The same versus different stent in Japanese patients

¹Tokyo-Kita Social Insurance Hospital ²The Cardiovascular Institute

Yuya Nakagawa¹, Masahiko Iwaoka¹, Naoki Fujiwara¹, Takuji Katayama¹, Yoshio Tsuruya¹, Junji Yajima², Yuji Oikawa², Tadanori Aizawa²

Background: Currently, little data are available on the effective treatment of drug-eluting stent (DES) restenosis. **Objective:** To compare the clinical outcomes after treatment of DES restenosis with the same versus different DES in Japanese patients. **Methods and results:** Between September 2004 and August 2009, 125 lesions in 116 patients of DES restenosis underwent percutaneous coronary intervention at Tokyo-Kita Social Insurance Hospital and The Cardiovascular Institute. The same DES was implanted in 29 lesions and different DES in 49 lesions. Other lesions were treated with balloon angioplasty, directional coronary atherectomy, bare metal stenting and bypass graft surgery. 24/29 lesions implanted the same DES and 33/49 lesions implanted different DES were followed angiographically. In both groups, there were no significant differences of baseline/lesion characteristics, primary DES length, diameter and number of stents. At follow-up, angiographic restenosis occurred in 6 cases (20.7%) treated with the same DES and 4 cases (8.2%) treated with different DES ($p=0.11$). Target lesion revascularization (TLR) occurred in 3 (10.3%) and 2 cases (4.1%), respectively ($p=0.28$). Similarly, there were no significant differences of myocardial infarction (MI) and overall mortality in both groups. **Conclusion:** Treatment with repeated DES implantation for DES restenosis in Japanese patients was safe and low overall rates of TLR, MI and mortality.