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Multivessels management difference in STEMI & NSTEMI

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- **Acute coronary syndrome (ACS)** encompasses a broad clinical spectrum, span in from patients with *unstable angina to those experiencing a myocardial infarction, as well as individuals with infarct-related cardiogenic shock and cardiac arrest* .
- **Acute complete occlusion** of a coronary artery due to plaque rupture without significant collateral blood supply to the downstream vascular region typically results in a **STEMI**, leading to the development of a transmurall infarction .
- If there is residual coronary blood flow due to a partial occlusion caused by plaque erosion or sufficient collateral circulation, this usually results in an **NSTEMI** with the development of a subendocardial but also sometimes transmural infarction.



- *The prevalence of **coronary multivessel disease** varies based on the **ACS type**, as well as according to the **patient's risk profile and age** .*

- ***NSTEMI**, the prevalence of multivessel disease ranges up to **70%**, depending on the examined cohort . In **STEMI** patients, it is around **50%** . In the case of infarct-related **Cardiogenic shock**, the prevalence is highest, at approximately **80%** .*



- (1) Should relevant ***non-culprit lesions be revascularized in addition to the culprit lesion*** (basic question)?
- (2) What is the ***optimal timing for complete revascularization***: either **immediate** complete revascularization or **staged** complete revascularization?
- (3) ***If staged revascularization*** is performed, should it be performed either during the ***index hospital stay or at some interval*** within a ***defined time window*** as part of elective readmission?
- (4) How should ***complete revascularization be guided***: ***angiographically***, based ***on physiological parameters*** indicating hemodynamic relevance (e.g., ***FFR, RFR, . . .***), or ***base on morphological characteristics*** identifying ***vulnerable plaques (e.g., OCT)***?
- (5) Are there ***differences in these strategies*** between patients with ***STEMI, NSTEMI***, and those ***with or without cardiogenic shock***?



Cardiogenic shock

- broadly defined as *insufficient organ perfusion resulting from cardiac dysfunction* .
- Shock Academic Research Consortium (**SHARC**) :
- Systolic blood pressure *below 90 mm Hg for more than 30 min* or the *need for inotropes, vasopressors, or mechanical circulatory support (MCS) to maintain adequate blood pressure, alongside evidence of systemic hypoperfusion*.

The SHARC definition also recognises the **Normotensive cardiogenic shock subtype** defined by evidence of **hypoperfusion despite** systolic blood pressure equal to or greater than 90 mm Hg **without** the need for vasopressors, inotropes, or MCS, with other potential causes of markers of hypoperfusion excluded.



- In fact, while **STEMI-CS** is associated with **massive and localized impaired coronary flow with rapid myocardial necrosis**, **NSTEMI-CS** is usually characterized by **diffuse flow-impairment with gradual myocardial injury**.
- These **different characteristics** also lead to **different treatment strategies** which are usually **more aggressive and timelier in STEMI** patient.
- Among patients who developed **CS**, those **without ST-segment elevation** had more frequently several adverse baseline characteristics than those with **ST-segment elevation**, such as significantly **older age**, and **a greater frequency of prior infarction, multivessel disease and congestive heart failure**.



Revascularization Strategies of Multivessel CAD in AMI–CS Patients

- *more than 80% of patients presenting with ACS and CS have significant stenoses in at least one non-infarct-related artery .*
- *MVD is an independent predictor of in-hospital mortality, may lead to a diffuse myocardial ischemia involving not only the culprit artery but also non-infarctrelated lesions.*
- *This may occur through a pan-myocardial inflammatory process combined with systemic hypotension, leading to further coronary hypoperfusion in the non-infarctrelated arteries and creating a vicious circle of further myocardial ischemia and impaired myocardial function.*



Early Revascularization in Infarct-Related Cardiogenic Shock

- The management of CS should **start as early as possible** because of the **reversible effects** of tissue hypoperfusion (cellular and tissue hypoxia resulting in cellular death) in early stages, while a **delay** in diagnosis and treatment usually leads to **irreversible changes**, resulting in multi-organ failure and death .
- Previous data have shown a **short-lived window** of opportunity to attempt to **avert the development of CS**, with a **median time of 11 h** from the beginning of symptoms and an **irreversible shock stage** .
- **Once the diagnosis of AMI–CS is confirmed** , a **timely reperfusion** of the infarct-related artery must be performed, in the setting of both STEMI and NSTEMI .



Definitions of Complete Revascularization

- **Multi vessel disease & incomplete revascularization** (both anatomical and functional) has been identified as a strong independent **predictor of cardiovascular outcomes in ACS** .
- **The presence or absence of untreated residual CAD after treatment** (with coronary artery by-pass graft, CABG, or PCI) **defines the completeness** of revascularization and has important prognostic implications .



- *when the criteria for complete revascularization are not met, **incomplete revascularization** is present,*
-
- *defined as **"reasonable"** when functional but not anatomic complete revascularization is achieved .*



- *The **optimal** management of multiple significant stenoses in a CS setting remains **challenging**.*
- *On one hand, a **complete coronary revascularization** should **improve** cardiac perfusion and output; on the other hand, a multivessel PCI may be associated with **increased procedural time** and **higher procedural complications** and **contrast-induced nephropathy risks***



- Differently from the hemodynamically stable setting, **in the case of AMI-CS**, the **current guidelines contraindicate** the routine immediate revascularization of non-culprit lesions during PCI in patients presenting with both STEMI and NSTEMI (**Class III recommendation**) .
- At 1-year follow up, in the immediate MV-PCI group, **mortality still tended to be higher**, with no difference between rates at 30 days and 1 year, but with **a lower occurrence of heart failure rehospitalization and repeat revascularization** .
- Importantly, the SYNTAX score was an **independent predictor of adverse outcomes**, with higher absolute risk with left main or proximal left anterior descending involvement and with **no interaction between the SYNTAX score and the revascularization strategy** .



Multivessel PCI in Cardiogenic Shock

European and American Recommendations 2017



Multivessel coronary artery disease present in up to 80% → higher mortality

Guidelines

ESC



I IIa IIb III



ACC/AHA/SCAI

American Heart Association 



No recommendation




Appropriate Use Criteria

ACC/AATS/AHA/ASE/ASNC/SCAI/SCCT/STS

American Heart Association 



A(9)



CULPRIT-SHOCK: Culprit Lesion Only PCI versus Multivessel PCI in Cardiogenic Shock – 1-Year Results

Holger Thiele
on behalf of the CULPRIT-SHOCK Investigators

ESC Congress
Munich 2018

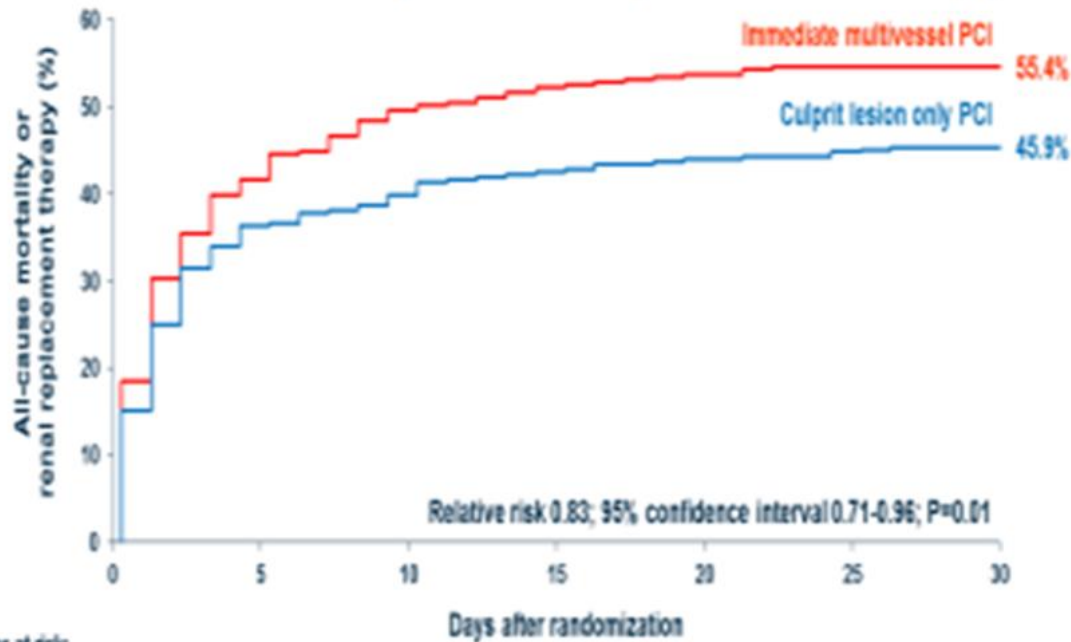
- Based on the Culprit Lesion Only PCI versus Multivessel PCI in Cardiogenic Shock (CULPRIT-SHOCK) trial including ACS patients (both with and without ST-segment elevation or equivalent), ***PCI during the index procedure should be restricted to the IRA only***
- ***A significant reduction in all-cause death or renal replacement therapy at 30-day follow-up***
- ***At 1-year follow-up, mortality did not differ significantly between the two groups***



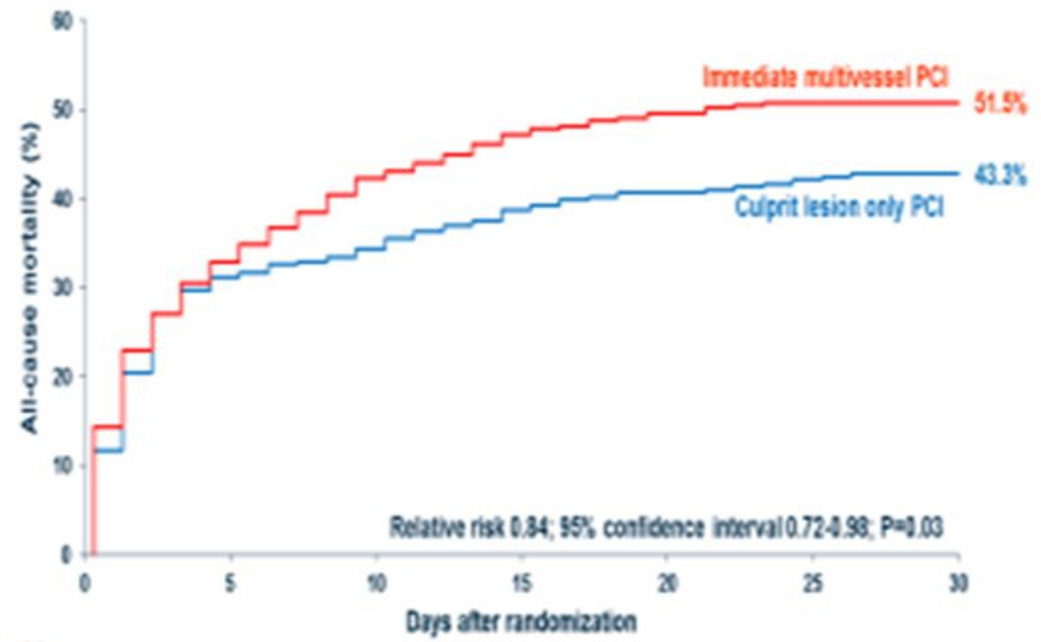
CULPRIT-SHOCK Trial – 30-Day Results



Primary study endpoint – 30 days
All-cause mortality or renal replacement therapy



All-cause mortality – 30 days





- Current international clinical guidelines strongly recommend **emerging coronary angiography and PCI** of the **culprit lesion** for patients with cardiogenic shock due to **STEMI** or **NSTE-ACS**, **independent of the time delay of symptom onset**, if coronary anatomy is amenable to PCI (**Class I, LOE B**);
- Otherwise, emergency **CABG** is the recommended **alternative**, especially for patients with **severe and diffuse CAD** with no obvious **culprit lesion**.



Multivessel PCI in Shock - Guideline Evolution



ESC STEMI Guidelines 2017 → Revascularization Guidelines 2018

STEMI (NSTEMI), Cardiogenic Shock

2017



2018



ESC Congress
Munich 2018

Ibanez et al. Eur Heart J 2018;39:119-177
Neumann et al. Eur Heart J 2018; epub 25.08.2018



CHANGES IN STEMI & MVD PCI (no CS setting)

- Among acute myocardial infarction (AMI) patients, **about 50% present** with an accompanying nonculprit vessel stenosis and have been shown to experience **worse clinical outcomes**
- The **previous consensus** based on nonrandomized observational studies was to revascularize **only the culprit lesion** in patients with AMI
- However, recent randomized trials showed **better clinical outcomes** when **both culprit and nonculprit vessels** underwent revascularization in contrast to culprit vessel only (**associated with a reduced composite of CV death or new MI**)



ESC

European Society
of CardiologyEuropean Heart Journal (2023) 00, 1–107
<https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehad191>

ESC GUIDELINE

2023 ESC Guidelines for the management of acute coronary syndromes

Developed by the task force on the management of acute coronary syndromes of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC)

Authors/Task Force Members: Robert A. Byrne *[†], (Chairperson) (Ireland), Xavier Rossello ‡, (Task Force Co-ordinator) (Spain), J.J. Coughlan ‡, (Task Force Co-ordinator) (Ireland), Emanuele Barbato (Italy), Colin Berry (United Kingdom), Alaide Chieffo (Italy), Marc J. Claeys (Belgium), Gheorghe-Andrei Dan (Romania), Marc R. Dweck (United Kingdom),



Algorithm for the management of acute coronary syndrome patients with multivessel coronary artery disease

Patient with ACS undergoing PCI of IRA with an angiographically significant stenosis in ≥ 1 non-IRA

Cardiogenic shock

STEMI

NSTE-ACS

Immediate PCI of IRA only
(Class I)

Complete revascularization,
either during the index
procedure or within
45 days^a
(Class I)

Complete revascularization^b
(Class IIa)

Staged complete
revascularization
(Class IIa)

Functional invasive
evaluation of the non-IRA
during the index procedure
(Class IIb)



Original article

Timing of multivessel revascularization in stable patients with STEMI: a systematic review and network meta-analysis

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- ***An immediate multivessel PCI approach may also reduce the amount of total contrast volume and radiation exposure and may avoid the need for an additional arterial puncture, later revascularization procedures, or a second hospitalization, thereby potentially shortening the overall length of hospital stay.***
- ***In addition, immediate multivessel PCI may be preferred by some patients because delaying the treatment of nonculprit lesions may be worrisome to them .***



FOR INDEX PCI ...

- *However, several challenges exist, including :*
- ***severity of non–infarct-related coronary lesions** (the percentage of the artery diameter blocked by the lesion and whether the stenosis is due to a discrete lesion or diffuse lesion);*
- ***the burden of coronary artery disease** (1 vs. >1 non–infarct-related coronary stenosis);*
- ***the complexity of anatomies** in coronary artery disease, including **left main** coronary artery disease, **bifurcation** disease, severe calcification, or **chronic total occlusions**;*
- ***the size and severity of the infarcted myocardium** in the index STEMI;*



- **Additional considerations**, including patient **age**, serum **creatinine** level (if it is known at time of the index STEMI), **patient comfort**, patient **perspective**, and the **appropriate and timely use of physiological testing and intravascular imaging**, will be imperative to understand.



- **Newly added to the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) guidelines is the recommendation that PCI of the remaining stenoses should be *guided by angiographic severity*. This is primarily attribute to the FLOWER-MI study, which showed *no advantage of fractional flow reserve (FFR) guided PCI over purely angiography-guided PCI for non-culprit lesions in STEMI patients with multivessel disease* .**
- **In a subanalysis of this trial, non-treatment of *angiographically relevant stenoses with a negative FFR measurement (>0.80)* was associated with *a higher event rate* .**



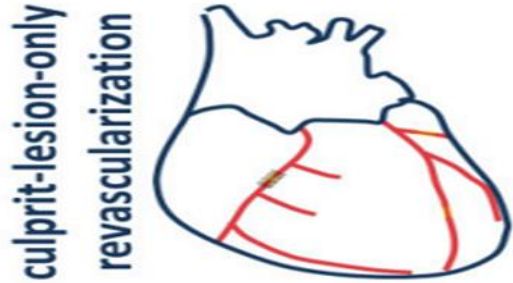
- This could be because **FFR might be a false negative** in the setting of acute MI .
- It was found that in the **acute phase, 15%** of stenoses were hemodynamically relevant compared to **26%** of the stenoses at **follow-up (1 month later)** .
- **Blunted acute hyperemic response** correlated with the infarct size derived from cardiac magnetic resonance imaging.
- The optical coherence tomography (**OCT**) substudy of the COMPLETE trial showed angiographically relevant lesions more commonly exhibiting **vulnerable plaque morphology like a thin-cap fibroatheroma** than non-obstructive lesions .



- In FFR-guided complete revascularization, **31% of angiographically relevant stenoses (i.e., stenosis > 50%) were deferred** due to $FFR > 0.8$.
- **Importance** of plaque **morphology beyond acute functional** relevance for avoiding future cardiovascular events.
- The **angiographic significance** could be a **surrogate for vulnerable plaque morphology (by OCT)**, suggesting that angiography-guided PCI with consequent plaque sealing might be **superior to FFR-guided PCI of non-culprit lesions**.



1) Basis question



2) Timing



staged complete revascularization

Evidence: immediate complete revascularization not inferior



immediate complete revascularization

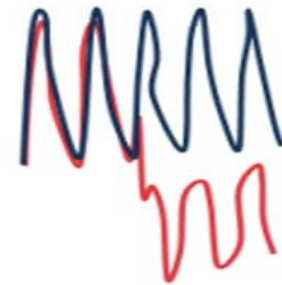
3) Guidance

angiography-guided



Evidence: inconclusive

physiological-guided



NSTEMI

Evidence: no data available

Guideline: complete revascularization (class IIa)

STEMI

Evidence: complete revascularization

Guideline: complete revascularization (class I)

. **Multivessel PCI in NSTEMI :**

NSTE-ACS is the **most common** form of ACS, accounting for approximately **70%** of all cases .

According to the recently revised **ESC guidelines** for ACS, released in August **2023 :**

complete revascularization should be considered in patients with NSTEMI-ACS and multivessel disease

unlike STEMI, currently, no randomized data exist

- As already stressed above, **not only do the clinical characteristics of patients with STEMI differ from those with NSTEMI, but often, also the plaque morphology**
- **Intravascular OCT** has shown **increased plaque vulnerability (i.e., more plaque ruptures)** in **STEMI** patients compared to **NSTEMI patients** . Therefore, the results of STEMI patients cannot be extrapolated to NSTEMI patients, even though **observational studies** also indicate a benefit with complete revascularization in NSTEMI patients



NSTEMI & MVD ...

- In the **SMILE** (Impact of Different Treatment in Multivessel Non ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction Patients: **One Stage Versus Multistaged Percutaneous Coronary Intervention**) trial:
- In multivessel non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction patients, **complete 1-stage** coronary revascularization **is superior** to multistage PCI in terms of **major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events**



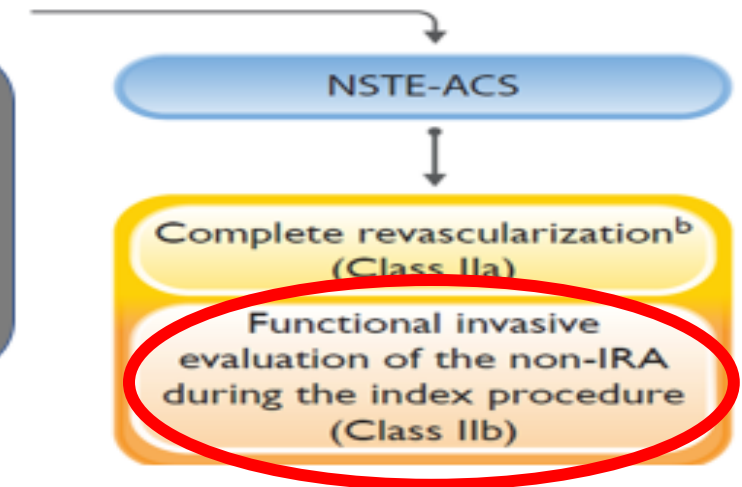
- **Recently, the so-called *FIRE trial* has been published. This trial showed the *benefit of physiologically-guided complete revascularization* of non-culprit lesions over culprit lesion PCI .**



*Timing of non-infarct-related artery revascularization in acute coronary syndrome
Patients presenting with non-ST-elevation acute coronary syndrome and multivessel coronary
artery disease While there are a large*

- complete revascularization is associated with fewer deaths and MACE during follow-up in comparison to IRA-only PCI*

However, based on the study design, complete revascularization could also be performed during a separate staged procedure as early as possible before hospital discharge and within 5 days of the initial procedure





Recommendation Table 12 — Recommendations for management of patients with multivessel disease

Recommendations	Class ^a	Level ^b
It is recommended to base the revascularization strategy (IRA PCI, multivessel PCI/CABG) on the patient's clinical status and comorbidities, as well as their disease complexity, according to the principles of management of myocardial revascularization. ^{480,481}	I	B
Multivessel disease in ACS patients presenting in cardiogenic shock		
IRA-only PCI during the index procedure is recommended. ^{404,505}	I	B
Staged PCI of non-IRA should be considered. ^c	IIa	C

Multivessel disease in haemodynamically stable STEMI patients undergoing PPCI

<u>Complete revascularization</u> is recommended either during the index PCI procedure or within 45 days. ^{508–511,531}	I	A
It is recommended that PCI of the non-IRA is based on <u>angiographic severity</u> . ^{511,524}	I	B
Invasive epicardial functional assessment of non-culprit segments of the IRA is not recommended during the index procedure.	III	C

Multivessel disease in haemodynamically stable NSTEMI-ACS patients undergoing PCI

In patients presenting with NSTEMI-ACS and MVD, <u>complete revascularization</u> should be considered, preferably during the index procedure. ^{513,514}	IIa	C
<u>Functional invasive evaluation</u> of non-IRA severity during the index procedure may be considered. ^{518,527,528,532}	IIb	B



Algorithm for the management of acute coronary syndrome patients with multivessel coronary artery disease

Patient with ACS undergoing PCI of IRA with an angiographically significant stenosis in ≥ 1 non-IRA

Cardiogenic shock

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Thank You