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Cardiovascular surgery and cardiology collaboration for acute cardiogenic shock and acute decompensated heart failure: Use of percutaneous and minimally invasive left ventricular assist device (LVAD) therapy

A dvanced forms of disease often require a multi-disciplinary approach of specialists to achieve maximal therapeutic results. Acute cardiogenic shock and acute decompensated chronic heart failure are no exceptions. Over the past decades, the use of mechanical circulatory support technologies (e.g. IABP, LVAD, ECMO) have enabled medical and surgical cardiology specialists to work together in an effort to reverse (i.e. recover) or replace (i.e. transplant) the failed heart. A third arm in the treatment algorithm now includes permanent use of an artificial heart technology (i.e. Destination Therapy). Tremendous technological advances have enabled practitioners to more rapidly stabilize acute decompensated states as well as support elective procedures in patients with severely impaired cardiac function (often accompanied by significant co-morbidities). The purpose of this presentation is to describe the use of the percutaneous and minimally invasive Impella[®] LVAD in a variety of clinical scenarios in which cardiovascular surgeons and cardiologists joined together to manage complicated cases. Data from the most recent two years from our institution will be described and a critical evaluation of the successes and failures will be discussed.

Biography

Louis Samuels graduated Medical School from Hahnemann University (Philadelphia, PA) in 1987 and completed his Cardiothoracic Surgical training in 1995. He joined the faculty of Drexel University as the Surgical Director of Cardiac Transplantation. In 2001, Dr. Samuels and his team implanted the world's 5th totally implantable electric artificial heart (AbioCor[™]). In 2003, he joined the Main Line Health System as the Surgical Director of Heart Failure. In addition to cardiac transplantation and LVAD implantation, Dr. Samuels performs CABG and Valvular surgery. In 2012, Dr. Samuels became Professor of Surgery at Thomas Jefferson University School of Medicine. Dr. Samuels has authored over 100 peer reviewed manuscripts and serves as a reviewer for the Annals of Thoracic Surgery. In addition to participating in several clinical trials related to mechanical circulatory support, he continues to serve as a consultant and medical advisor to new technologies currently in trial.

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