

## Chapter 9

# EVALUATION of TRANSCATHETER ASD CLOSURE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A CARDIAC SURGEON

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### Introduction

Today, transcatheter procedures have become an alternative to surgical procedures. Transcatheter ASD closure was first described By King and Mills (1). Their double-disk technique was successful in only selected patients because the delivery system was 23F (1). Later, Raskind developed a single-umbrella technique (2) and Lock et al. developed a double hinged umbrella device called clamshell (3). However, the transcatheter techniques have not been accepted in those years due to the surgical superiority (4). In addition, Sideris et al. introduced a buttoned double-disc device for successful transcatheter ASD closure (4). However, this procedure has lost its popularity because of the complexity of procedure and the high shunt rates. After the development of various device models, Amplatzer septal occluder device was introduced and successful transcatheter ASD closure procedures were applied by it (5,6,7). Amplatzer septal occluder and Gore Helex septal occluder devices, which are the most preferable devices nowadays, are approved by FDA (Food and Drug Administration) (8).

In this chapter, the indications and brief information about transcatheter applications and the possible complications after procedure will be discussed.

### Indications and Contraindications for Transcatheter ASD Closure

#### *Indications*

- In patients with isolated secundum ASD causing impaired functional capacity, right atrial and/or right ventricular enlargement, large left-to-right shunt (pulmonary-systemic blood flow ratio,  $Q_p:Q_s \geq 1.5:1$ , ) to cause physiological sequelae without cyanosis at rest or during exercise, transcatheter or surgical closure to reduce right ventricle volume and improve exercise tolerance is recommended as class 1 consideration , provided that systolic pulmonary artery pressure is less than 50% of systolic systemic pressure and pulmonary vascular resistance is less than one third of the systemic vascular resistance.

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Another minor complication is the presence of migraine after the procedure (37). It is caused by microembolization-related device. The use of antiplatelet drugs can be reduced device-related migraine (38).

The incidence of ASD occluder infection is also low, most of them occur early after implantation (39). Besides, late infections of occluder devices are rare and infective endocarditis caused by occluder devices have been reported (40,41). It has been reported a case in which late infection occurs due to occluder device 4 year after the transcatheter ASD closure (42).

There may be the new developing of mitral regurgitation or the worsening of existing mitral regurgitation after the percutaneous ASD closure (43). This is caused due the fact that the atrial stiffness leads to the geometric shape change on the mitral annulus after using occluder device in especially older women (44). Aortic valve may also be affected after the percutaneous ASD closure. Aortic valve regurgitation may occur because the septal geometry is changed by placing occluder device and causes the traction of non-coronary sinus (45). In addition, functional tricuspid regurgitation is commonly seen in patients with ASD. After placing occluder device, resistant tricuspid valve regurgitation may occur in about half of the patients due to device-related structural changes (46).

## **Summary**

Transcatheter ASD closure have been an alternative method to the surgical ASD closure. This procedure is safe and has some advantages in the selected patients. Although there is no need for sternotomy and cardiopulmonary bypass, the life-threatening complications may be encountered during or after the procedure. Hence, the patient selection should be done carefully for the procedure, the technical manipulations should be performed carefully and meticulously and the cardiac surgeon absolutely must be found in the background.

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