Video-assisted transarterial modified Konno procedure with concurrent myectomy for hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy

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Transaortic septal myectomy is the gold-standard treatment for patients with hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy. However, under particular conditions, such as severe and diffuse left ventricular outflow tract (LVOT) obstruction, the procedure is challenging and often results in inadequate muscle resection using only the transaortic approach, thus leading to residual stenosis. The modified Konno procedure is an effective alternative to relieve mid-left ventricle (LV)-level obstruction in such patients.1 However, this procedure requires right ventriculotomy, which potentially causes right ventricular outflow tract (RVOT) obstruction and

FIGURE 1. Preoperative cardiac magnetic resonance (A, B) and computed tomography (C) indicate long-regional left ventricular outflow tract obstruction. Red asterisk: left ventricle, black asterisk: aorta.
arrhythmia. We describe a novel technique for the modified Konno procedure via aortotomy and pulmonary arteriotomy combined with endoscopy without incision of the left ventricle or right ventricle (IRB/ERBCRB6180001, March 23, 2020; written patient consent was obtained for publication of this case report).

CLINICAL SUMMARY

A 15-year-old girl (body weight: 45 kg, body surface area: 1.41 m²) presented with a systolic heart murmur. Echocardiography revealed a mean pressure gradient of 40 mm Hg across the LVOT (Figure E1). Computed tomography and cardiac magnetic resonance imaging revealed long regional hypertrophied ventricular septum >25 mm thick (Figure 1). Given that the stenosis was tunnel-like and hypertrophy was severe, the modified Konno procedure was chosen. The surgery was performed via median sternotomy with cardiopulmonary bypass. After cardiac arrest, aortotomy was performed, followed by the main pulmonary arteriotomy. First, septal myectomy was performed through the aortic valve in the standard fashion. A ventricular septal defect (VSD) was cautiously created at the LVOT so as not to compromise the conduction system and, through the pulmonary valve, the VSD was enlarged. Additional myectomy was performed toward the apex at the level of the midportion. Abnormal tissues, including secondary chordae between the papillary muscle and septum, were excised. During the procedure deeper inside the ventricle, endoscopy provided clear visualization to enable adequate release of the obstruction due to hypertrophied muscle and abnormal chordae (Video 1, Figure E2). The VSD was closed using an expanded polytetrafluoroethylene patch. Postoperative echocardiography revealed a mean pressure gradient across the LVOT of 7 mm Hg, with no aortic or pulmonary valve regurgitation, whereas cardiac magnetic resonance imaging revealed a wide-open LVOT (Figure 2). The patient has not experienced atrioventricular block or life-threatening arrhythmia. The follow-up period is projected to be 5 years; currently, she has not experienced recurrence of stenosis and her symptoms are stable, with New York Heart Association functional class I.

DISCUSSION

Hypertrophic obstructive cardiomyopathy is a standard criterion for transaortic septal myectomy. However, under specific conditions, such as severe and diffuse LVOT obstruction or small-size aortic annulus, the procedure often results in inadequate exposure of the LVOT, which results in inadequate resolution of the obstruction. This may lead to insufficient myectomy and unexpected injury to valves and the conduction system. In these situations, additional left ventriculotomy at the apex cannot avoid

VIDEO 1. This movie shows the video-assisted transarterial modified Konno procedure. Video available at: https://www.jtcvs.org/article/S2666-2507(23)00393-0/fulltext.

FIGURE 2. Postoperative cardiac magnetic resonance (A, B) shows the release of left ventricular tract obstruction. Red asterisk: left ventricle, black asterisk: aorta.
the possibility of damage to other structures as well. Cho and colleagues\(^2\) reported that inadequate muscle resection causes residual or recurrent stenosis, which accounts for 84% of reoperations. In such situations, Laredo and colleagues\(^3\) reported on the efficacy of the modified Konno procedure and its favorable long-term results in high-risk patients with LVOT obstruction. However, the modified Konno procedure requires incision of the right ventricle, and we believe this is unnecessary for patients without RVOT obstruction. With the use of endoscopy, only the transaortic and pulmonic approaches are sufficient to achieve adequate myectomy at the mid-left ventricle level, in addition to the modified Konno procedure without right or left ventriculotomy. It potentially prevents RVOT obstruction and late arrhythmia caused by scar tissue. In addition to the aforementioned, combining the direct field of view with endoscopy avoids valve and papillary muscle injuries.

**Conflict of Interest Statement**

The authors reported no conflicts of interest.

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**References**

FIGURE E1. Echocardiography revealed that mean pressure gradient of 40 mm Hg across the left ventricular outflow tract. A, systolic period, B, diastolic period.

FIGURE E2. This schema depicts the video-assisted transarterial modified Konno procedure with concurrent myectomy without additional LV or RV incisions. LV, Left ventricle; RV, right ventricle; VSD, ventricular septal defect.