

Cath Lab Digest

A product, news & clinical update for the cardiac catheterization laboratory specialist

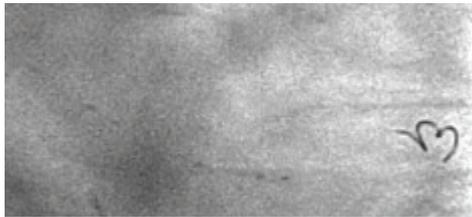


Figure 1. Guidewire's tip taking a heart shape [full image page 33; video online].

IMAGES

Beauty in the Heart

Damien Nguyen, MD¹, Thomas Nguyen, MD², José Castro Rodriguez, MD³, Brugmann University Hospital, Brussels, Belgium

A 49-year-old man presented with chest pain. The patient had diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and had undergone coronary artery bypass graft surgery the year prior. Non ST-elevation myocardial infarction was diagnosed. The patient was sent for a coronary angiogram that showed a permeable graft and two significant lesions of the marginal arteries that were treated with balloon angioplasty. During the procedure, the workhorse guidewire's tip spontaneously took the beautiful shape of a beating heart (Figure/Video 1). This picture reminds us of the little wonders that we still can see in our everyday practice, even in this time of a pandemic — but only if we are looking for them. ■

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STROKE

Management of Ischemic Stroke During Cardiac Catheterization:

A Case Report and Literature Review

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Coronary angiography and cardiac catheterization have become the gold standard for the diagnosis and management of coronary artery disease. Acute ischemic stroke during or after cardiac catheterization or percutaneous cardiac intervention (PCI) is a rare but catastrophic complication with significant morbidity and mortality.¹ Stroke occurs in 0.05-0.10% of diagnostic catheterizations and in 0.18-0.44% of patients undergoing PCI.² These risks are higher when coronary interventions are performed on an emergent basis.



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VENOUS INTERVENTION

First-Year Experience With a Dedicated Venous Stent in a Community Hospital Vascular Interventional Practice

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Venous disease is a significant burden on the global medical system. It encompasses a variety of acute and chronic disease processes of both the deep and superficial vein system. Chronic venous insufficiency accounts for as much as 2% of Western healthcare budgets in multiple papers and affects as many as 25 million Americans.^{1,2}



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