Transcatheter mitral valve replacement: factors associated with screening success and failure



Augustin Coisne^{1,2,3,4,5*}, MD, PhD; François Pontana^{2,3,4,5,6}, MD, PhD; Didier Tchétché⁷, MD; Marjorie Richardson¹, MD; Benjamin Longère⁶, MD; Olivier Vahdat⁷, MD; Pierre Berthoumieu⁷, MD; Eric Van Belle¹, MD, PhD; Natacha Rousse¹, MD; Patrizio Lancellotti^{8,9}, MD, PhD; David Montaigne^{1,2,3,4,5}, MD, PhD; Nicolas Dumonteil⁷, MD; Thomas Modine¹, MD, PhD

CHU Lille, Heart Valve Clinic, Lille, France; 2. European Genomic Institute for Diabetes (E.G.I.D), Lille, France;
 University of Lille, Lille, France; 4. Inserm UMR 1011, Lille, France; 5. Institut Pasteur de Lille, Lille, France; 6. Department of Radiology, CHU Lille, Lille, France; 7. Groupe Cardiovasculaire Interventionnel, Clinique Pasteur, Toulouse, France;
 University of Liège Hospital, GIGA Cardiovascular Sciences, Department of Cardiology, Heart Valve Clinic, CHU Sart Tilman, Liège, Belgium; 9. Gruppo Villa Maria Care and Research, Anthea Hospital, Bari, Italy

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KEYWORDS

- imaging modalities
- innovation
- mitral regurgitation
- multidisciplinary
- heart team

Abstract

Aims: Transcatheter mitral valve replacement (TMVR) is a promising therapeutic solution to treat highrisk patients with severe mitral regurgitation (MR) contraindicated to surgery. Optimal selection of patients who will benefit from the procedure is of paramount importance. We aimed to investigate factors associated with TMVR screening.

Methods and results: From November 2016 to July 2018, we examined conditions associated with TMVR screening success in patients referred to the two French heart valve clinics with the greatest TMVR experience. Among a total of 40 consecutively screened patients, 16 (40%) were selected for TMVR (8 Twelve Intrepid, 7 Tendyne and 1 HighLife), while 24 patients (60%) were refused for TMVR mainly because of a too large mitral annulus (MA) (n=15, 62% of those refused), or too small anatomy and risk of neo-left ventricular outflow tract (LVOT) obstruction (n=6, 25% of those refused). Patients with suitable anatomy for TMVR were more often male and more frequently suffered from secondary MR (p=0.01) associated with previous myocardial infarction and presented a commissure-to-commissure diameter less than 39 mm (AUC=0.72, p=0.0085) and LVESD greater than 32 mm (AUC=0.83, p<0.0001) on transthoracic echocardiography, and an MA area less than 17.6 cm² (AUC=0.95, p<0.0001) and anteroposterior diameter greater than 41.6 mm (AUC=0.87, p<0.001) on CT scan.

Conclusions: Despite several prostheses being available, most patients referred to heart valve clinics who are good candidates with regard to their clinical profile cannot have TMVR because of mismatch between their anatomy and prosthesis characteristics. Our findings suggest the need to develop new prostheses adapted to larger mitral annuli but with a lower impact on the LVOT.

*Corresponding author: Department of Clinical Physiology and Echocardiography, Heart Valve Clinic, Institut Coeur Poumon, Bd du Professeur Jules Leclercq, 59000 Lille, France. E-mail: augustin.coisne@chru-lille.fr

Abbreviations

AP	anteroposterior
C-C	commissure-to-commissure
LV	left ventricle
LVESD	left ventricle end-systolic diameter
LVOT	left ventricular outflow tract
MA	mitral annulus
MR	mitral regurgitation
TMVR	transcatheter mitral valve replacement
TTE	transthoracic echocardiography
VHD	valvular heart disease

Introduction

Mitral regurgitation (MR) is the most prevalent valvular heart disease (VHD) in Western countries, with an age-dependent prevalence and affecting up to 10% of people older than 75 years^{1,2}. Without treatment, severe MR is associated with excess morbidity and mortality and a significant socio-economic impact^{3,4}. Despite these poor outcomes and the undeniable advances in surgical management, only a small proportion of patients suffering from MR undergo surgery, paving the way for percutaneous management strategies^{5,6}.

While several repair techniques have emerged over the last decade, percutaneous mitral valve repair (PMVR) is mostly limited nowadays to the edge-to-edge technique using the MitraClip[®] system (Abbott Vascular, Santa Clara, CA, USA)⁷⁻¹⁰. Nevertheless, some patients are not suitable for this technique because of primary MR with severe calcification, cleft, rheumatic restriction or Barlow's disease¹¹. Additionally, conflicting data exist on the benefit of treating secondary MR with left ventricular dysfunction^{12,13}.

Recent studies have shown that TMVR using dedicated prostheses is a promising therapeutic solution to treat high-risk patients contraindicated to surgery¹⁴⁻¹⁶. This technique may offer several advantages considering the complexity and wide variety in the presentation of mitral valve disease. However, the development of TMVR entails several challenges including a careful selection of patients to obtain a sizing adapted to fit the dimensions and the geometry of the mitral annulus (MA) and to minimise the risk of left ventricular outflow tract (LVOT) obstruction^{17,18}.

In the present study, we aimed to investigate the factors associated with TMVR screening failure in the two French heart valve centres allowed to propose TMVR with dedicated prostheses: the Twelve Intrepid[™] (Medtronic, Minneapolis, MN, USA), the Tendyne (Abbott Vascular) and the HighLife[™] (HighLife, Paris, France) systems.

Methods

STUDY POPULATION AND DESIGN

From November 2016 to July 2018, we prospectively studied all consecutive patients with severe MR referred to the two French heart valve centres (CHU Lille and Clinique Pasteur, Toulouse) for percutaneous implantation because of high risk for MR surgery. Inclusion criteria were: age >18 years with severe (New York Heart Association [NYHA] grade III-IV) and symptomatic (NYHA

functional Class \geq II) chronic MR. Patients with severe mitral annulus calcification, left atrial or LV thrombus, prior mitral valve surgery, indicated for standard cardiac surgery or suitable for mitral valve repair using the MitraClip system according to our Heart Team decision were not considered for TMVR screening. The local ethics committees approved the protocol and patients gave informed consent.

ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

A comprehensive transthoracic (TTE) and transoesophageal echocardiography (TEE) using two- and three-dimensional imaging was performed according to current guidelines¹⁹ using state-of-the-art echocardiographic ultrasound systems (Vivid 9 or Vivid 95; GE Healthcare, Little Chalfont, United Kingdom). Special attention was paid to the mechanism, severity and consequences of MR as well as the dimensions and calcification of the MA.

CARDIAC COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY

Contrast-enhanced cardiac computed tomography (CT) images were also acquired for screening and procedure planning. CT examinations were performed using a multiphase retrospectively electrocardiogram-gated data acquisition. Mitral annular segmentation was performed²⁰ using dedicated software (3mensio; Pie Medical Imaging, Bilthoven, the Netherlands), as previously described. Briefly, mitral annular segmentation was performed at 60% of the cardiac cycle, yielding a D-shaped mitral orifice contour with several parameters including annular area, perimeter, septal-to-lateral and intercommissural diameters.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Continuous variables were tested for normality with the Shapiro test, and are given as mean±SD. Continuous variables with non-Gaussian distribution are given as median (interquartile range [IQR]). Categorical variables are given as percentages of individuals. Patients were separated into three groups according to their anatomy. A too large MA was defined by a compression rate lower than the threshold defined by the prosthesis manufacturer. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used for comparison of the three groups with a Bonferroni *post hoc* t-test. Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was used to predict the TTE or CT-scan parameter and cut-off with the highest discriminating power to predict a refusal for too large or too small anatomy. Statistics were performed using MedCalc v16.4 (Ostend, Belgium).

Results

CHARACTERISTICS OF PATIENTS REFERRED TO THE HEART TEAM AND ELIGIBLE FOR TMVR SCREENING

A total of 40 patients were included. Characteristics of the population are summarised in **Table 1**. Mean age was 79 ± 7 years. The population was 58% male and 18% had diabetes. Most of the patients (70%) were in NYHA Class III or IV. Almost two thirds had chronic kidney disease and 18% had previous cardiac surgery. Median EuroSCORE II and Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) predicted risk of mortality were 4.7 (3.0-7.3) and 6 (3.9-8.7),

Table 1. Patient characteristics and comorbidities.							
		Total population (n=40)	Suitable anatomy (n=16)	Too large anatomy (n=15)	Too small anatomy (n=8)	<i>p</i> -value	
Age, years		78.9±7.4	76.1±6.6	79.8±7.5	83.3±4.8	0.08	
Male gender, n (%)		23 (57.5)	11 (68.7) 10 (66.7)		1 (12.5)	0.02	
BMI, kg/m ²		25.0±3.5	25.3±2.5 24.4±4.2		24.6±3.4	0.76	
Diabetes mellitus, i	n (%)	7 (17.5)	3 (18.7) 3 (20)		0 (0)	0.30	
Hypertension, n (%	,)	29 (72.5)	10 (62.5)	12 (80)	7 (87.5)	0.25	
Atrial fibrillation, n	(%)	23 (57.5)	10 (62.5)	11 (73.3)	2 (25)	0.16	
Prior stroke, n (%)		1 (2.5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (12.5)	0.11	
Prior myocardial in	farction, n (%)	7 (17.5)	5 (31.3)	0 (0)	2 (25)	0.06	
Prior cardiac surgery (except mitral), n (%)		7 (17.5)	4 (25)	4 (25) 2 (13.3)		0.63	
CKD, eGFR <60 m	l/min, n (%)	24 (60)	9 (56.3)	11 (73.3)	3 (37.5)	0.24	
NYHA, n (%)		0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)		
	П	12 (30)	6 (37.5)	4 (26.7)	1 (12.5)	0.50	
	111	22 (62.5)	7 (43.8)	10 (66.7)	5 (62.5)	0.50	
	IV	6 (15)	3 (18.7)	1 (6.7)	2 (25)		
ACE inhibitors or A	RBs, n (%)	26 (65)	13 (81.3)	7 (46.7)	6 (75)	0.11	
Beta-receptor antag	gonist, n (%)	27 (67.5)	12 (75)	11 (73.3)	3 (37.5)	0.15	
Aspirin or antiplate	let agent, n (%)	13 (32.5)	9 (56.3)	4 (26.7)	0 (0)	0.005	
Oral anticoagulant,	n (%)	9 (22.5)	4 (25)	2 (13.3)	3 (37.5)	0.66	
Diuretics, n (%)		30 (75)	13 (81.3)	11 (73.3)	6 (75)	0.67	
Statins, n (%)		16 (40)	10 (62.5)	5 (33.3)	1 (12.5)	0.01	
EuroSCORE II, %		4.7 [3.0; 7.3]	4.9 [2.6; 8]	4.7 [3.3; 8.7]	4.4 [2.7; 6.0]	0.86	
STS predicted risk of mortality, %		6.0 [3.9; 8.7]	5.3 [3.5; 7.8]	6.6 [4.0; 16.5]	6.3 [4.4; 13.6]	0.18	

p-value by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). ACE: angiotensin-converting enzyme; ARB: angiotensin receptor blocker; BMI: body mass index; CKD; chronic kidney disease; eGFR: estimated glomerular filtration rate; NYHA: New York Heart Association; STS: Society of Thoracic Surgeons

respectively. MR mechanism was mainly secondary (53%) and, in case of primary MR, the posterior mitral valve leaflet was mainly involved (63%) (Table 2). Left ventricular (LV) function was normal (ejection fraction >60%) in 15 patients (37.5%) and moderately impaired (ejection fraction between 30% and 60%) in 25 patients (62.5%). No patient had severe LV dysfunction (ejection fraction <30%). CT analysis showed a mean aortomitral angulation of 132±12.6°, an MA area of 15.5±4.2 cm² and a total MA perimeter of 143.1±31.1 mm (Table 3). The anteroposterior and the orthogonal diameter as measured by CT scan was 42.6±6.6 mm and 45.6±6.7 mm, respectively.

SCREENING RESULTS

Among the 40 patients screened, 16 (40%) were selected for TMVR (8 Twelve Intrepid, 7 Tendyne and 1 HighLife), while the remaining 24 patients (60%) were not considered for TMVR, because of too large anatomy (n=15) or too small anatomy (n=8, small annulus diameter [n=2] and/or predicted neo-LVOT obstruction [n=6]) for TMVR (Figure 1, Figure 2, Supplementary Table 1). One patient had too poor LV function and one died during the screening process. The mean time between the Heart Team decision and TMVR was 113±87 days. Examples of screening results are given in Figure 3.



Figure 1. Flow chart.

PARAMETERS ACCORDING TO SCREENING RESULTS

Patients with suitable anatomy for TMVR were more often male and suffered more frequently from secondary MR (p=0.01) associated with previous myocardial infarction (p=0.06). They were thus more frequently treated with aspirin or an antiplatelet agent (p=0.005)



Figure 2. Screening results.

(Table 1, Table 2). Conversely, patients with either too large or too small anatomy were mainly those with primary MR (75% and 60% vs 25%, p=0.01 respectively). While the severity of the MR was not different, suitable patients for TMVR had greater LV dysfunction (ejection fraction $41\pm10\%$ vs $56\pm5\%$ and $66\pm17\%$, p<0.0001 respectively) and more enlarged LV (end-systolic diameter 48.9 ± 10.1 mm vs 42.5 ± 11.8 mm and 32.9 ± 9.9 mm, p=0.006 respectively) than

patients with either too large or too small anatomy. Regarding the MA dimensions assessed by TTE, A2-P2 and commissure-to-commissure (C-C) diameters logically discriminated the three groups (34.1±5.7 mm vs 38.2±7.3 mm and 28.9±8.6 mm, p=0.03 for A2-P2 diameter, and 37.9±5.7 mm vs 42.1±4.0 mm and 37.6±6.0 mm, p=0.05 for C-C diameter). ROC curve analysis showed that a cutoff of 39 mm for C-C diameter by TTE and of 40 mm for A2-P2 diameter by TTE had the highest discriminating power to predict a refusal for too large anatomy (area under the curve [AUC]=0.72, p=0.0085, and AUC=0.71, p=0.018, respectively) (Supplementary Figure 1A, Supplementary Figure 1B). A cut-off of 32 mm for LV end-systolic diameter (LVESD) was predictive of a refusal for too small anatomy (AUC=0.83, p<0.0001) (Supplementary Figure 1C). The CT parameters to differentiate suitable patients from patients with either too large or too small anatomy were the anteroposterior diameter (40.9±5.1 mm vs 48.3±4.5 mm and 35.7±4.3 mm, p<0.001 respectively), the orthogonal diameter (43.1±4.9 mm vs 51.1±5.6 mm and 40.4±5.1 mm, p<0.001 respectively), the MA area (13.4±2.7 cm² vs 19.5±2.9 cm² and 12.1±2.8 cm², p<0.001 respectively), the total MA perimeter (130.1±35.2 mm vs 163.2±22.4 mm and 131.3±17.9 mm, p=0.004 respectively), and the projected MA perimeter (124.7±18.8 mm vs 155.9±19.9 mm and 125.3±17.4 mm,



Figure 3. Examples of screening results. A) Screening failure. B) Screening success.

Fable 2. Echocardiography parameters.							
	Total population (n=40)	Suitable anatomy (n=16)	Too large anatomy (n=15)	Too small anatomy (n=8)	<i>p</i> -value		
Primary	19 (47.5)	4 (25)	9 (60)	6 (75)	0.01		
Secondary	21 (52.5)	12 (75)	6 (40)	2 (25)	0.01		
Anterior	5 (26.3)	2 (50)	2 (13.3)	1 (12.5)			
Posterior	12 (63.2)	2 (50)	6 (40)	4 (50)	0.75		
Both	2 (10.5)	0 (0)	1 (6.7)	1 (12.5)			
l	67.1±30.5	51.5±24.4	76.3±36.2	71.6±28.2	0.19		
	46.7±17.7	43.1±17	50.1±20.2	49.5±15.5	0.51		
	51.6±16.6	41.2±9.8	56.3±15.1*	66±16.5*#	<0.001		
)	15 (37.5)	1 (6.25)	7 (33.3)	7 (87.5)	0.0001		
%)	25 (62.5)	15 (93.8)	8 (53.3)	1 (12.5)	0.001		
LVEF <30%, n (%)		0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	-		
LV EDD, mm		60.9±8.3	58.9±7.2	52.6±9.4	0.07		
	43.6±12.2	48.9±10.1	42.5±11.8	32.9±9.9*	0.006		
S	1.57±0.49	1.60±0.54	1.81±1.75	1.63±0.5	0.88		
	34.8±8.2	34.1±7.5	38.2±7.3	28.9±8.6#	0.03		
	39.5±5.4	37.9±5.7	42.1±4.0	37.6±6.0	0.05		
Anterior leaflet length, mm		27.5±7.1	30.1±7.2	25.1±5.8	0.25		
No	27 (67.5)	11 (68.8)	11 (7.3)	4 (50)			
Mild	11 (27.5)	3 (18.8)	4 (26.7)	4 (50)	0.07		
Moderate	2 (5)	2 (12.5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.27		
Severe	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
Mitral mean gradient, mmHg		3.0±1.7	3.6±1.1	3.0±1.2	0.67		
	56.7±14.9	58.3±13.0	58.9±15.3	48.6±17.4	0.25		
TAPSE, mm		22.3±12.3	17.9±7.5	18.5±4.1	0.41		
	Primary Secondary Anterior Posterior Both 1) %)) %)) %)) %)) % %) % %) % %) % %) % %) % %) % % %) %	Total population (n=40) Primary 19 (47.5) Secondary 21 (52.5) Anterior 5 (26.3) Posterior 12 (63.2) Both 2 (10.5) I 67.1±30.5 I 9 I 15 (37.5) %) 25 (62.5)) 0 (0) I 59.0±9.0 I 43.6±12.2 I 34.8±8.2 I 39.5±5.4 mm 28.0±6.9 No 27 (67.5) Mild 11 (27.5) Moderate 2 (5) Severe 0 (0) mmHg 3.2±1.4 56.7±14.9 19.8±9.2 </td <td>Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) Image: state state</td> <td>Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Too large anatomy (n=15) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) 9 (60) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) 6 (40) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) 2 (13.3) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) 6 (40) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) 1 (6.7) I 67.1±30.5 51.5±24.4 76.3±36.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 51.6±16.6 41.2±9.8 56.3±15.1*) 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) %) 25 (62.5) 15 (93.8) 8 (53.3)) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 59.0±9.0 60.9±8.3 58.9±7.2 43.6±12.2 48.9±10.1 42.5±11.8 s 1.57±0.49 1.60±0.54 1.81±1.75 34.8±8.2 34.1±7.5 38.2±7.3 mm 28.0±6.9 27.5±7.1 30.1±7.2</td> <td>Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Too large anatomy (n=15) Too small anatomy (n=8) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) 9 (60) 6 (75) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) 6 (40) 2 (25) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) 6 (40) 4 (50) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) 6 (40) 4 (50) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) 1 (6.7) 1 (12.5) No 67.1±30.5 51.5±24.4 76.3±36.2 71.6±28.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 49.5±15.5 51.6±16.6 41.2±9.8 56.3±15.1* 66±16.5**) 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) 7 (87.5) %) 25 (62.5) 15 (93.8) 8 (53.3) 1 (12.5) %) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) % 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) 1 (12.5) % 25 (62.</td>	Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) Image: state	Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Too large anatomy (n=15) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) 9 (60) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) 6 (40) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) 2 (13.3) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) 6 (40) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) 1 (6.7) I 67.1±30.5 51.5±24.4 76.3±36.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 51.6±16.6 41.2±9.8 56.3±15.1*) 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) %) 25 (62.5) 15 (93.8) 8 (53.3)) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 59.0±9.0 60.9±8.3 58.9±7.2 43.6±12.2 48.9±10.1 42.5±11.8 s 1.57±0.49 1.60±0.54 1.81±1.75 34.8±8.2 34.1±7.5 38.2±7.3 mm 28.0±6.9 27.5±7.1 30.1±7.2	Total population (n=40) Suitable anatomy (n=16) Too large anatomy (n=15) Too small anatomy (n=8) Primary 19 (47.5) 4 (25) 9 (60) 6 (75) Secondary 21 (52.5) 12 (75) 6 (40) 2 (25) Anterior 5 (26.3) 2 (50) 6 (40) 4 (50) Posterior 12 (63.2) 2 (50) 6 (40) 4 (50) Both 2 (10.5) 0 (0) 1 (6.7) 1 (12.5) No 67.1±30.5 51.5±24.4 76.3±36.2 71.6±28.2 46.7±17.7 43.1±17 50.1±20.2 49.5±15.5 51.6±16.6 41.2±9.8 56.3±15.1* 66±16.5**) 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) 7 (87.5) %) 25 (62.5) 15 (93.8) 8 (53.3) 1 (12.5) %) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) 0 (0) % 15 (37.5) 1 (6.25) 7 (33.3) 1 (12.5) % 25 (62.		

p-value by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). *p<0.05 between suitable anatomy. *p<0.05 between too large anatomy. C-C diameter: commissure-to-commissure diameter; EDD: end-diastolic diameter; EROA: effective regurgitant orifice area; ESD: end-systolic diameter; LV: left ventricle; LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction; MR: mitral regurgitation; SPAP: systolic pulmonary artery pressure; TAPSE: tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion

Table 3. Computed tomography parameters.

		Total population (n=40)	Suitable anatomy (n=16)	Too large anatomy (n=15)	Too small anatomy (n=8)	<i>p</i> -value	
Aortomitral angulation, °		132.0±12.6	135.6±10.7	127.1±15.1	132.8±9.8	0.17	
Anterior leaflet length, mm		29.8±12.6	32.9±16.8	30.1±9.1	23.6±7.0	0.25	
Anteroposterior diameter, mi	n	42.6±6.6	40.9±5.1	48.3±4.5*	35.7±4.3*#	< 0.001	
Orthogonal diameter, mm		45.6±6.7	43.1±4.9	51.1±5.6*	40.4±5.1#	< 0.001	
Trigon to trigon distance, mr	n	28.3±8.3	27.7±7.5	31.2±10	24.8±5.9	0.20	
MA area, cm ²		15.5±4.2	13.4±2.7	19.5±2.9*	12.1±2.8#	< 0.001	
Total MA perimeter, mm		143.1±31.1	130.1±35.2	163.2±22.4*	131.3±17.9#	0.004	
Projected MA perimeter, mm		137.2±23.7	124.7±18.8	155.9±19.9*	125.3±17.4#	< 0.001	
Basal IVS, mm		14.9±3.2	14.9±2.9	14.7±3.9	15.0±2.9	0.99	
Subvalvular apparatus abnormalities	No	34 (85)	12 (75)	14 (93.3)	7 (87.5)	0.30	
	Yes	6 (15)	4 (25)	1 (6.7)	1 (12.5)		
Calcification, n (%)	No	21 (52.5)	9 (56.3)	8 (53.3)	4 (50)	0.77	
	Yes	19 (47.5)	7 (43.7)	7 (46.7)	4 (50)	0.77	
p-value by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) $*n<0.05$ between suitable anatomy $#n<0.05$ between too large anatomy IVS- interventricular							

ie anatomy. "*L* rge septum; MA: mitral annulus

p<0.001 respectively). ROC curve analysis showed that a cut-off of 17.6 cm² for MA area had the highest discriminating power to predict a refusal for too large anatomy (AUC=0.95, p<0.0001) (Supplementary Figure 2A) and a cut-off of 41.6 mm for the anteroposterior diameter to predict a refusal for too small anatomy (AUC=0.87, p<0.001) (Supplementary Figure 2B). The individual CT parameters of the patients refused for TMVR are given in Supplementary Table 2. ROC curve analyses to predict a too small or a too large anatomy are summarised in Supplementary Table 3.

IMPLANTATION RESULTS

Among the 16 patients who underwent TMVR, 14 patients (87.5%) had successful implantation without complication, 1 (6.25%) presented severe paravalvular leak, and 1 (6.25%) moderate intravalvular leak. After a mean follow-up of 365±287 days, 5 (31%) patients died after TMVR (4 cardiovascular and 1 non-cardiovascular deaths). Among the 24 patients not suitable for TMVR, 4 patients were lost to follow-up, 8 underwent compassionate MitraClip implantation and 5 patients died (25%) (2 after MitraClip).

Discussion

Exploring all consecutive patients referred to high-volume French heart valve clinics during a period of 18 months, we found that i) a majority of patients (60%) were refused for TMVR mainly for too large annulus (62% of refusals) and less frequently for too small anatomy and subsequent risk of neo-LVOT obstruction (25% of refusals), ii) patients with a C-C diameter >39 mm measured by TTE and an MA area >17.6 cm² measured by CT scan were at higher risk of being refused for a too large anatomy, and anteroposterior diameter less than 41.6 mm measured by CT scan were at higher risk of being refused for a too small anatomy.

Controversial results in secondary MR, complexity of the procedure mainly performed with transapical access and anatomical constraints make the development of TMVR more laborious than for transcatheter aortic valve replacement^{18,21}. To date, TMVR is restricted to high-risk and inoperable patients as defined by the Heart Team, and the experience of TMVR is still very limited, with a few hundred patients included in feasibility studies¹⁴⁻¹⁶.

Decreasing the time between the decision of the Heart Team and TMVR (four months in our study) is warranted to suit a target population that requires a rapid decision, i.e., frail patients exposed to frequent cardiac events such as death and hospitalisation for recurrent heart failure. A better understanding of screening failure reasons in real-life patients will avoid screening many patients in vain. We thus propose C-C diameter and LVESD measured by TTE as relevant first-line parameters in order to avoid further tedious and time-consuming CT scans. The threshold values we showed should be tested in further studies.

Our rate of screen failure is in line with previous studies with the Tendyne¹⁴ and Twelve systems¹⁵, reporting a rate of 60% and 70%, respectively. The main anatomical reason for refusal was a too large MA (62% of refusals) in patients probably at the end

stage of their mitral disease with significant LV and atrial dilatation. The second major concern with screening was small anatomy with a risk of obstruction of the LVOT. Of note, the evaluation of the risk of LVOT obstruction is challenging as a result of the D or saddle shape of the MA and its dynamic variation during the cardiac cycle²². A dynamic evaluation of the mitral annulus will probably be useful to assess the real impact of the prosthesis on the LVOT better.

In the future, since there is currently a mismatch between the anatomical reality of the candidate patients and the size and the clutter of existing prostheses, the propagation of TMVR implantation will depend on the design of the prostheses. Our findings suggest the need to develop new prostheses adapted to larger MA but with lower impact on the LVOT.

Limitations

The small number of our population is the main limitation. Our findings should be validated and confirmed in larger clinical trials. The final suitability decision was given by the manufacturer leading the feasibility study. The criteria for suitability were the same for the three devices. However, these criteria must be confirmed in the future according to each centre's experience. Moreover, patients with Barlow's disease were deemed inappropriate for MitraClip implantation. This relative contraindication must be confirmed for recent MitraClip innovations (MitraClip XTR). Finally, given the small size of our population and the short period of follow-up, it is not possible to draw any conclusion regarding outcomes.

Conclusions

Despite several prostheses being available, most patients referred to heart valve clinics and who are good candidates regarding their clinical profile cannot have TMVR mainly because of a too large annulus. C-C diameter and LVESD measured by TTE and MA area measured by CT scan could be proposed as first-line criteria in the pre-selection process to avoid unnecessary screening. Our findings suggest the need to develop new prostheses adapted to larger MA but with lower impact on the LVOT.

Impact on daily practice

C-C diameter and LVESD measured by TTE and MA area measured by CT scan could be proposed as first-line criteria in the pre-selection process to avoid unnecessary screening for TMVR.

Conflict of interest statement

N. Dumonteil is a consultant for Abbott Vascular, Boston Scientific, Edwards Lifesciences and Medtronic. T. Modine is a consultant for Abbott Vascular and Medtronic. The other authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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Supplementary data

Supplementary Figure 1. ROC curve. TTE parameters with the highest discriminating power to predict a too large anatomy (A & B) and a too small anatomy (C).

Supplementary Figure 2. ROC curve analysis. CT scan parameter with the highest discriminating power to predict a too large anatomy (A) and a too small anatomy (B).

Supplementary Table 1. Suitability for all patients with each device used at the centres.

Supplementary Table 2. CT parameters according to reason for refusal.

Supplementary Table 3. ROC curve analyses. TTE and CT parameters to predict a too small or a too large anatomy.

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Supplementary data

Supplementary Figure 1. ROC curve. TTE parameters with the highest discriminating power to predict a too large anatomy (A & B) and a too small anatomy (C).

A.





C.



Supplementary Figure 2. ROC curve analysis. CT scan parameters with the highest discriminating power to predict a too large anatomy (A) and a too small anatomy (B).

A.



В.



Prosthesis Screening result Reason Centre implanted Patient 1 Refused Too small LILLE Patient 2 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 3 LILLE Accepted Tendyne Patient 4 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 5 Refused Poor LV function LILLE Patient 6 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 7 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 8 Refused LVOT obstruction LILLE Patient 9 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 10 Accepted Tendyne LILLE Patient 11 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 12 LILLE Refused Too large Patient 13 LVOT obstruction LILLE Refused Patient 14 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 15 Accepted Tendyne LILLE Patient 16 Refused LVOT obstruction LILLE Patient 17 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 18 Accepted HighLife LILLE Patient 19 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 20 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 21 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 22 Accepted Tendyne LILLE Patient 23 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 24 Accepted Twelve Intrepid LILLE Patient 25 Refused Too large LILLE Patient 26 TOULOUSE Accepted Tendyne LVOT obstruction TOULOUSE Patient 27 Refused Patient 28 Refused Too large TOULOUSE Patient 29 Refused Too large TOULOUSE Patient 30 Accepted Tendyne TOULOUSE Patient 31 Refused LVOT obstruction TOULOUSE Patient 32 Accepted Twelve Intrepid TOULOUSE Patient 33 Refused Too large TOULOUSE Patient 34 Refused Too large TOULOUSE Patient 35 Accepted Tendyne TOULOUSE Patient 36 Refused Too large TOULOUSE LVOT obstruction Patient 37 Refused TOULOUSE Patient 38 Twelve Intrepid TOULOUSE Accepted TOULOUSE Patient 39 Refused Too small Patient 40 Refused Too large TOULOUSE

Supplementary Table 1. Suitablity for all patients with each device used at the centres.

Supplementary Table 2. CT parameters according to reason for refusal.

Reason for refusal	Aortomitral angulation	AP diameter	Orthogonal diameter	MA area	Total MA perimeter	Projected MA
Reason for refusal	(°)	(mm)	(mm)	(cm ²)	(mm)	perimeter
Too large anatomy (n=15)		ł	<u> </u>		ł	
Patient 1	107.5	53.3	52.9	22.8	182.2	173.7
Patient 2	143.1	46.8	43.3	16.3	151.6	148.3
Patient 3	128.5	43.7	51.2	17.8	155.4	141.2
Patient 4	114	52	59	25	203	181
Patient 5	113	51	52	19.4	167	160
Patient 6	116	50	48	18.6	168	156
Patient 7	96.8	50	64	23.8	169	179
Patient 8	134.7	44.1	48.7	18.1	157.2	152.9
Patient 9	145	53.3	55.1	22.4	173.8	168.4
Patient 10	137	44	52	21	115.5	109.3
Patient 11	141	38.6	46	15.4	146.2	144.4
Patient 12	120	47	50	19.8	181.7	170.6
Patient 13	131	49.7	53	18	134.6	128.5
Patient 14	147	55	50	19	173.8	169.7
Patient 15	132	46.5	41.8	15.9	149.6	143.1
Too small anatomy (n=8)						
Patient 16	120.7	30.2	36.7	9	119.2	109
Patient 17	128.4	36.4	39.1	11.5	132.5	132
Patient 18	137.6	41.3	47.5	15.6	150	142
Patient 19	118	38	37	11	129	120
Patient 20	136	32.6	40.6	12	119	114
Patient 21	136	33.3	39.5	12.4	142.5	132.8
Patient 22	139	41.6	48.3	16.6	156.2	152.2
Patient 23	147	32.5	34.2	8.8	102.3	100.7

AP: anteroposterior; MA: mitral annulus

Supplementary Table 3. ROC curve analyses. TTE and CT parameters to predict a too small or a too large anatomy.

	AUC	<i>p</i> -value	Sensitivity	Specificity
TOO LARGE ANATOMY		·		
TTE C-C diameter >39 mm	0.715	0.008	81.2	62.5
TTE A2-P2 diameter >40 mm	0.707	0.018	50.0	87.5
CT MA area >17.6 cm ²	0.949	< 0.001	75.0	100.0
TOO SMALL ANATOMY				
TTE LVESD <32 mm	0.832	< 0.001	75.0	87.5
CT AP diameter <41.6	0.873	< 0.001	100.0	65.6

AP: anteroposterior; AUC: area under the curve; C-C: commissure-to-commissure; CT: computed tomography; LVESD: left ventricular end-systolic diameter; MA: mitral annulus; TTE: transthoracic echocardiography