**CHOICE OF THE BEST TRANSCATHETER SITE FOR TAVI**

**IMPLANTATION**

*Marc Radermecker, Christophe Martinez, Olivier Gach,*

*Rodolphe Durieux, Jean-Olivier Defraigne, Victor Legrand*

Department of Cardiothoracic surgery and Cardiology, CHU Sart-

Tilman, University of Liège, Belgium.

The least invasive access for the TAVI procedure is via the common

femoral artery. However, among the patients actually referred for this

procedure, this route is either impracticable or unwise in approxi-

mately 15-20 % of the patients. Indeed, vascular complications and

haemorrhage have a major negative impact on the outcome follow-

ing this procedure.

We present the experience of the CHU of Liège over 215 cases of

TAVI procedure using the Corevalve Medtronic(r)device. Our strategy

implies the decision for the therapy and the selection of the vascular

access in heart team. The past history of the patient, angio-CT data

and the arteriography performed during the catheter evaluation are

integrated.

The left axillary artery (20/215) and the right carotid artery

(15/215) have been used successfully in our practice as respectively

second and third choice options. This versatility enabled us to treat

in a antegrade or minimally invasive fashion virtually every patient.