

**Results** Patients were enrolled at 44 centres in 9 countries. A total of 331 patients were randomised to RDN (N=166) and sham control (N=165). The primary and secondary efficacy endpoints were met, with Bayesian posterior probability of superiority >0.999. The treatment differences were -3.9 mmHg for 24-hour SBP and -6.5 mmHg for office SBP between RDN and sham control groups. Treatment differences in 24-hour and office diastolic pressure at 3 months were -3.1 mmHg and -4.4 mmHg, respectively. Reductions in BP after RDN were consistent throughout 24 hours. There were no major procedural safety events to 3 months.

**Conclusions** Results from the SPYRAL HTN-OFF MED Pivotal trial, first reported at ACC2020, demonstrate the efficacy of catheter-based RDN compared to sham control to safely lower BP in the absence of anti-hypertensive medications.

### 17 CORRELATION OF INCIDENTAL LEFT ATRIAL APPENDAGE THROMBUS ON NON-CARDIAC GATED CT WITH TRANSOESOPHAGEAL ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY

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**Background** Transoesophageal echocardiography is recognized as the gold standard for detection of a left atrial appendage (LAA) thrombus. LAA thrombus is visualized as filling defect on computed tomography (CT), however it can be difficult to differentiate between slow flow and thrombus. This poses challenges in both the reporting and interpretation of left atrial filling defects on non-cardiac gated CTs, and whether to classify this as thrombus or an issue with imaging technique when reporting. Due to the risk of stroke with a LAA thrombus, the reporting of a LAA thrombus on CT makes it difficult for physicians to ignore and usually leads to anticoagulation, thereby exposing the patient to the risk of bleeding. In this study we assessed the correlation between left atrial appendage thrombus or filling defects on a non-cardiac gated CT, with confirmation on TOE.

**Methods** We retrospectively analyzed TOE cases performed at our center between March 2016 and March 2020. Patients were included if they had been referred for LAA assessment following identification of a suspected LAA thrombus on CT thorax.

**Results** 757 TOEs were conducted at our center during the study period. This study includes 19 patients who were referred for TOE following incidental left atrial appendage thrombus on CT. Baseline characteristics include; mean age 69.5 years, male 68.4%, hypertensive 79%, history of atrial fibrillation 63.2%, on long-term anticoagulation 63.2%, on anti-coagulation following CT prior to TOE 89.5%, previous stroke 21%, median CHA2DS2-VASC 3. The mean time from CT to TOE was 16 days.

15.8% (n = 3/19) of the patients referred had evidence of a LAA thrombus on TOE. 66% (n = 2) of these patients had a history of prior stroke, the median CHA2DS2-VASC score was 5 and overall 50% of the patients in our cohort who had a history of stroke had a LAA thrombus at TOE. The mean peak LAA filling velocity was only mildly reduced at 37 cm/s, and 63% (n = 12) of LAA were windsock morphology. In the follow-up period from TOE to data collection, there was no reported subsequent strokes in the 19 patients analyzed, mean follow-up time 14 months.

**Discussion** In patients who have an incidental left atrial thrombus or filling defect reported on non-gated CT thorax, only a minority have a thrombus at TOE and it was no associated with subsequent stroke risk. A history of stroke or CHA2DS2-VASC of >5 conferred a higher probability of thrombus being present and we recommend that physicians take this into consideration when deciding on anti-coagulation. The LAA filling velocities were only mildly reduced and the radiographic findings are likely related to CT gating rather than an physiological process in the left atrium. Incidental LAA thrombus on CT correlates poorly with presence of thrombus on TOE, and if there is concern a TOE should be performed to assess for a thrombus.

### 18 HEART FAILURE PATIENT AND CAREGIVER NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS REGARDING SELF-MANAGEMENT VIA DIGITAL HEALTH – THE PASSION-HF PROJECT

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**Background** Current heart failure (HF) healthcare services are not sufficient to meet the needs of an aging population with increasing comorbidities and disease complexity together with the unequal distribution of medical care in rural and urban regions. These factors have created an imminent need to identify alternative healthcare approaches. eHealth applications have potential to alleviate much of the burden on healthcare services and improve patient treatment. The 'PASSION-HF' project aims to develop a digital decision support system – a virtual doctor – that provides solutions based on current clinical guidelines. Patient independence is maximized through 24/7 access to personalized HF management. Furthermore, the application (named DoctorMe) defines processes and decision points where medical professionals need to be included in the process.

**Purpose** To understand the needs and requirements of HF patients and their informal caregivers in regard to a virtual doctor.

**Methods** We conducted an exploratory mixed-method study within the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Ireland and Germany. Qualitative, guided interviews were supplemented by a standardized questionnaire. The interviews focused on acceptance factors, motivation to use a decision support system and satisfaction with their current health care situation. Interviews were analysed using the content analysis according to Mayring (2010) with the help of 'Atlas.TI' software. Supplementary questionnaires on self-management of HF-patients, the role of the informal caregivers, technology acceptance, and decision making.

**Results** A total of 49 patients and 33 informal caregivers were interviewed. Patients were male (76%) aged between 60 and 69 years (43%). Three key themes were identified in regard to digital health: 1) Reassurance: patients often feel uncertain about their condition and their symptoms and a need for