Exeter Snare (AndraTec Germany) a retrospective data overview of percutaneous Retrieval of Lost or Misplaced Intravascular Objects

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OBJECTIVE – This paper will give an overview on techniques and outcome with the Exeter Snare percutaneous interventional retrieval device for intravascular foreign bodies or repositioning of misplaced endovascular prostheses.

MATERIALS AND METHODS - Over a period of few months, we have collected clinical data from international centers that treat intravascular foreign bodies with endovascular techniques using the new Exeter Snare (AndraTec Germany). The collected cases were 65 foreign objects consisting of 18 endovascular stents, 20 catheter fragments, 16 embolization coils / occluder, 6 guidewire fragments, 5 vena cava filters. Percutaneous extraction was performed using the Exeter Nitinol Snare (AndraTec Germany). Depending on their composition, misplaced or dislodged intravascular stents were either repositioned or percutaneously removed.

RESULTS - Percutaneous retrieval or repositioning was successful in 63 (96,9%) patients. No late complications were registered during the follow-up period, which ranged from 1 to 3 months.

CONCLUSION - The results that we have seen when using the Exeter Snare (AndraTec Germany) are highly effective in their retrievability with a low rate of complications and should always be the primary method of choice.

Since its first description more than 30 years ago the intravascular retrieval of intravascular foreign bodies has become a frequently applied technique. Despite the high number of interventions performed, few large studies of the method's successes and failures are available in the literature. The rapid development and wide application of minimally invasive and interventional techniques are associated with an increased rate of method-related complications caused by intravascular foreign bodies or resulting from dislocation of vascular endoprostheses.

Although earlier reports focused on objects such as broken catheters, guidewires, or vena cava filters today, the spectrum of endoluminal foreign objects has broadened and include items such as embolization coils or endovascular stent components. Issues related to this broadened endovascular spectrum, particularly those issues related to misplaced stents, have been addressed in only a few articles that focus mainly on the problems associated with misplaced or dislocated stents that have embolized to peripheral vessels.

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