

## Is Endovascular Treatment of Penetrating Aortic Ulcer the Solution?

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We commend the work by Tumelero et al<sup>1</sup>, which reports the treatment of penetrating aortic ulcer (PAU) by endovascular technique. The description of cases and their form of treatment makes us think that this kind of treatment is the reference standard for this disease. The literature shows excellent results in this type of treatment, not only by the cessation of symptoms, but also for avoiding the risk of acute aortic dissection with increased morbidity and mortality.

In a multicenter study in Brazil<sup>2</sup>, among 255 patients undergoing thoracic aortic stent implantation, eight patients

had PAU (3.14%). Although our cases have undergone endoprosthesis placement, some words of caution should, however, be said: 1) the indication of treatment of PAU should be made only to patients with symptoms<sup>3</sup>; 2) the development of endoprostheses is not yet established<sup>2</sup> despite being a less aggressive treatment, with results similar to conventional surgery; 3) as the age group in this type of disease is high, and the disease may also be peripheral, an alternative access is necessary<sup>4</sup>; 4) follow-up by imaging studies is mandatory<sup>2</sup>. This approach should therefore be seen as an alternative to conventional treatment, but also because of the short time of follow-up of endoprosthesis, it cannot be declared as a treatment of choice when compared to traditional surgery. Again, we congratulate the authors and appreciate the opportunity to comment on this study.

### Keywords

Prosthesis implantation; aorta, thoracic; aortic diseases.

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