

Atlas condemned to hold up the celestial heavens and bailout the mechanical thrombectomy failures in stroke?

Atlas condenado a segurar os céus e resgatar falhas da trombectomia mecânica no acidente vascular cerebral isquêmico?

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Despite the efficacy (70–80%) of large vessel occlusion (LVO) strokes mechanical thrombectomy (MT)¹, some cases do not result in recanalization. Major causes of MT failure is mainly due to intracranial atherosclerotic disease², but there are other reasons such as fibrin-rich clots and calcified thrombi³.

If calcified thrombus signals (Figure 1) associated with MT technique fail, bailout stenting with permanent placement of a self-expanding stent should be considered^{4,5}.

The safety and efficacy of this rescue technique have already been described.

We placed one laser cut stent (Figures 2 and 3) after 3 attempts of MT (SOLUMBRA technique and balloon guiding catheter) with a final thrombolysis in cerebral infarction (TICI) 2a. Patient was discharged from the hospital with National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale (NIHSS) of 17, and 30 days image follow-up is demonstrated in Figure 4.

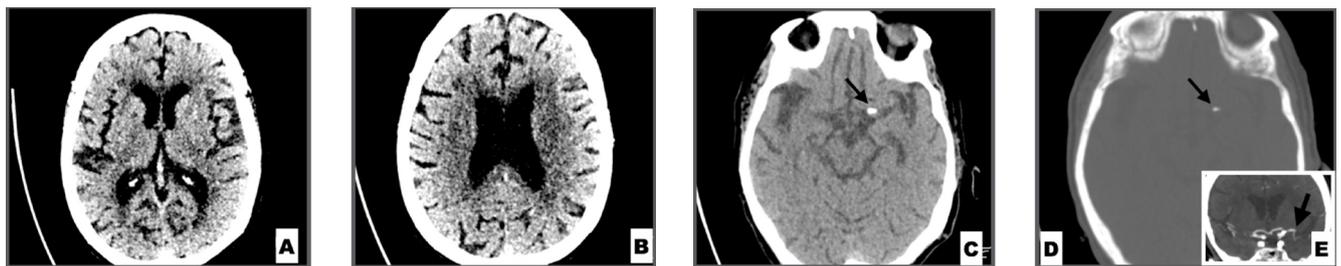


Figure 1. (A) Non-contrast brain computed tomography basal ganglia level; (B) non-contrast brain computed tomography corona radiata level; (C) non-contrast computed tomography demonstrates a calcified clot in the left M1 segment (arrow); (D) computed tomography head bone window with the calcified clot in the left M1 segment (arrow); (E) internal carotid artery with left M1 occlusion (arrow).

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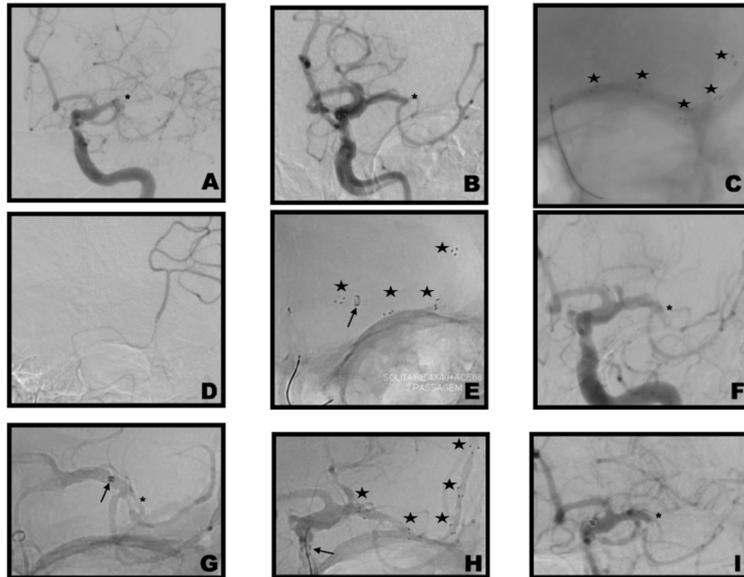


Figure 2. (A) Left internal carotid artery DSA image in the anteriorposterior projection shows the proximal occlusion of the left M1 segment; (B) DSA image after the first pass mechanical thrombectomy (SOLUMBRA technique) with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars); (C) non subtraction image from the left internal carotid artery with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars); (D) Rebar 18 (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) microcatheter DSA image; (E) second pass non subtraction image from the left internal carotid artery with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars) and the large bore aspiration catheter ACE 68 (arrow) (Penumbra, Alameda, California, USA); (F) DSA image after the second pass mechanical thrombectomy (SOLUMBRA technique) with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars) and the large bore aspiration catheter ACE 68 (arrow) (Penumbra, Alameda, California, USA) before the ACEC 68 approach to the clot; (G) Marksmann (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) microcatheter DSA image near the occlusion (asterisk); (H) third pass non subtraction image from the left internal carotid artery with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars) and the large bore aspiration catheter ACE 68 (arrow) (Penumbra, Alameda, California, USA) before the ACEC 68 approach to the clot; (I) DSA image after the third pass mechanical thrombectomy (SOLUMBRA technique) with a 4x40 mm Solitaire platinum Stent retriever (ev3/Covidien, Irvine, CA, USA) with the typical 3 radiopaque markers in each 10 mm (Stars) and the large bore aspiration catheter ACE 68 (arrow) (Penumbra, Alameda, California, USA) before the ACEC 68 approach to the clot. Asterisk in the occlusion site.

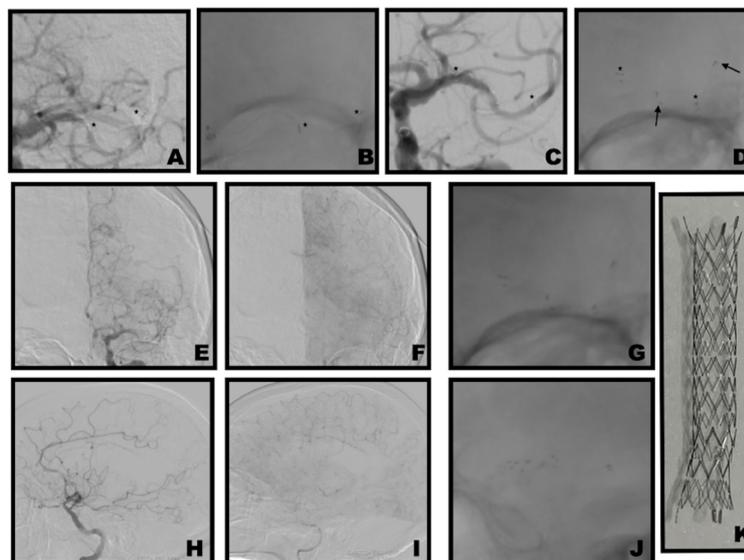


Figure 3. (A) 3x24 mm Neuroform Atlas (Stryker Neurovascular, Fremont, California, USA) beyond the occlusion site; Stars in the radiopaque markers of the Stent. (B) Non subtraction image with the first Neuroform Atlas (3x24 mm); Stars in the radiopaque markers of the Stent. (C) Second Neuroform Atlas (3x21 mm) in the right position; Stars in the radiopaque markers of the Stent. (D) Non subtraction image with both Neuroform Atlas Stents (3x24 mm — arrows in the radiopaque markers; 3x21 mm — Stars). (E) Left internal carotid artery DSA AP image after the bailout stenting rescue technique with a TICI 2a result. (F) Late arterial phase of the left internal carotid artery DSA AP image after the bailout stenting rescue technique with a TICI 2a result; (G) AP non subtraction image. (H) Left internal carotid artery DSA lateral image after the bailout stenting rescue technique with a TICI 2a result. (I) Late arterial phase of the internal carotid artery DSA lateral image after the bailout stenting rescue technique with a TICI 2a result. (J) Lateral non subtraction image. (K) Neuroform Atlas (Stryker Neurovascular, Fremont, California, USA): laser-cut self-expanding, open-cell, nitinol Stent.

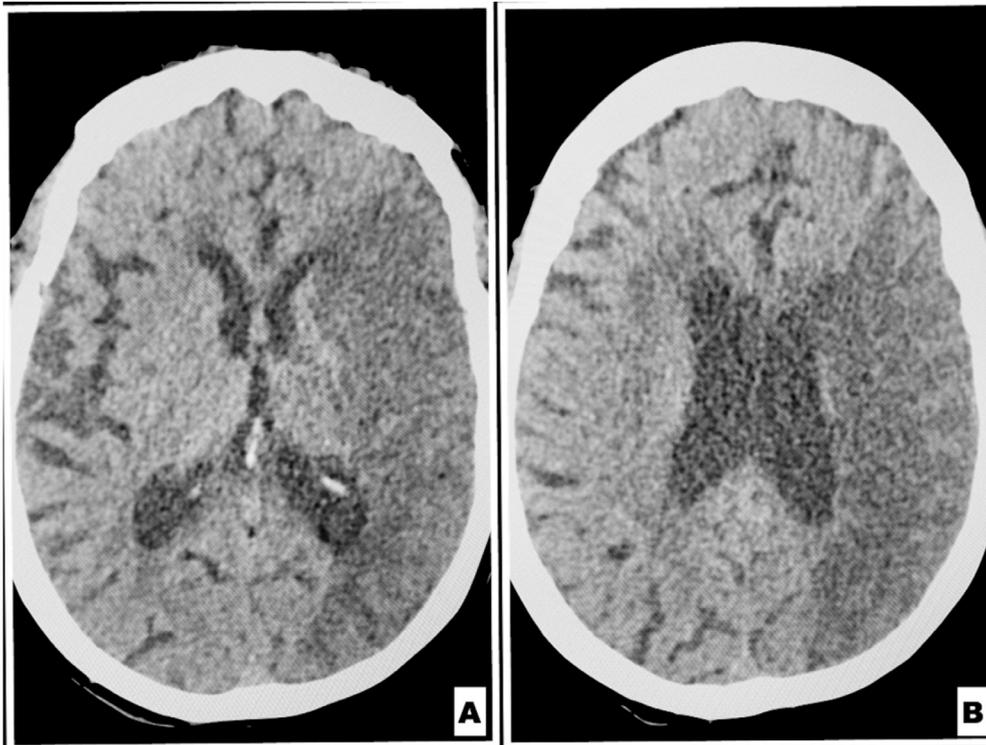


Figure 4. (A) 30 days follow-up non contrast brain computed tomography basal ganglia level; (B) 30 days follow-up non contrast brain CT corona radiata level. (B) 30 days follow-up non contrast brain CT corona radiata level.

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