

Title: Increased mortality among patients with higher right ventricular volumes: Volumetric analysis of pre-trans-catheter aortic valve replacement CT Angiography.

Authors: Zach Rozenbaum, M.D; Eva Maret, M.D; Lilian Lax, M.D; Haim Shmilovich, M.D; Ariel Finkelstein, M.D; Arie Steinvil, M.D; Amir Halkin, M.D; Shmuel Banai, M.D; Dotan Cohen, M.D; Yan Topilsky, M.D; Shlomo Berliner, M.D, PhD; Dominik Fleischmann, M.D; Galit Aviram, M.D

DOI: 10.4244/EIJ-D-19-00651

Citation: Rozenbaum Z, Maret E, Lax L, Shmilovich H, Finkelstein A, Steinvil A, Halkin A, Banai S, Cohen D, Topilsky Y, Berliner S, Fleischmann D, Aviram G. Increased mortality among patients with higher right ventricular volumes: Volumetric analysis of pre-trans-catheter aortic valve replacement CT Angiography. *EuroIntervention* 2019; Jaa-660 2019, doi: 10.4244/EIJ-D-19-00651

Manuscript submission date: 15 July 2019

Revisions received: 27 August 2019

Accepted date: 27 September 2019

Online publication date: 01 October 2019

Disclaimer: This is a PDF file of a "Just accepted article". This PDF has been published online early without copy editing/typesetting as a service to the Journal's readership (having early access to this data). Copy editing/typesetting will commence shortly. Unforeseen errors may arise during the proofing process and as such Europa Digital & Publishing exercise their legal rights concerning these potential circumstances.

Increased mortality among patients with higher right ventricular volumes:

Volumetric analysis of pre-trans-catheter aortic valve replacement CT

Angiography

Zach Rozenbaum, M.D.^a, Eva Maret M.D.^{b,c}, Lilian Lax, M.D.^d, Haim Shmilovich, M.D.^a, Ariel Finkelstein, M.D.^a, Arie Steinvil, M.D.^a, Amir Halkin, M.D.^a, Shmuel Banai, M.D.^a, Dotan Cohen, M.D.^e, Yan Topilsky, M.D.^a, Shlomo Berliner, M.D., Ph.D.^f, Dominik Fleischmann, M.D.^b, Galit Aviram, M.D.^d.

Brief Title: Automated RV volumetry and mortality in TAVR

^aDepartment of Cardiology, Tel Aviv Medical Affiliated to the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel.

^bDepartment of Radiology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California, U.S.A.

^cDepartment of Clinical Physiology, Karolinska University Hospital, and Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm Sweden.

^dDepartment of Radiology, Tel Aviv Medical Affiliated to the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel.

^eDepartment of Cardiology, Hadassah Medical Center, Jerusalem, affiliated to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Israel.

^fInternal Medicine, Tel Aviv Medical Affiliated to the Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel.

Declarations of interest: Dr. Ariel Finkelstein receives proctor fees from Medtronic and Edwards life-sciences. Dr. Galit Aviram's institution receives a research grant from

Philips Health Care, unrelated to the present study. None of the other authors have disclosures to declare.

Corresponding author: Zach Rozenbaum, M.D. Department of Cardiology, Tel-Aviv Medical Center, 6 Weizman St, Tel-Aviv, 64239, Israel. Email: zachroze@gmail.com.

Abstract

Aims: To assess prognostic implications of increased right ventricle volume index (RVVI) using cardiac-gated computed tomography angiography (CCTA) data among patients undergoing trans-catheter valve implantation (TAVR).

Methods and Results: CCTA of 323 patients who underwent TAVR at Stanford University Medical Center (California, USA) and Tel Aviv Medical Center (Israel) between 2013-2016 were analyzed by an automatic 4-chamber volumetric software and grouped into quartiles according to their RVVI. Higher 1-year mortality rates were noted for the upper quartiles – 5%, 4.9%, 8.6%, and 16% ($p=0.039$), in Q1<59 ml/m², Q2 59-69 ml/m², Q3 69-86 ml/m², and Q4>83 ml/m², respectively. However, the differences were not significant after propensity score adjustments. Sub-analyses of Q1 demonstrated an escalating risk for 1-year mortality in concordance to RVVI; HR 2.28, HR 2.76, and HR 4.7, for the upper 25th, 15th, and 5th percentiles, respectively ($p<0.05$ for all comparisons). After propensity score adjustments for clinical and echocardiographic characteristics only the upper 5th percentiles (RVVI>120 ml/m²) retained statistical significance (HR 2.82, 95% CI 1.02-7.78, $p=0.045$). Notably, 68.7% of patients from this group were considered low-intermediate risk for surgery.

Conclusions: Cardiac volumetric data by CCTA performed for procedural planning may help predict outcome in patients undergoing TAVR.

Disclaimer : As a public service to our readership, this article -- peer reviewed by the Editors of EuroIntervention - has been published immediately upon acceptance as it was received. The content of this article is the sole responsibility of the authors, and not that of the journal

Keywords: Aortic stenosis; Imaging modalities; TAVI

Condensed abstract

CCTA of patients who underwent TAVR at Stanford University Medical Center (California, USA) and Tel Aviv Medical Center (Israel) between 2013-2016 were analyzed by an automatic 4-chamber volumetric software. After adjustment for clinical and echocardiographic characteristics using a propensity score, patients with large RV were at almost a 3-times higher risk for 1-year mortality despite having a low STS score. Thus, cardiac volumetric data by CCTA performed for procedural planning may help predict outcome in patients undergoing TAVR.

Abbreviations list

4CVA, automatic four cardiac chamber volumetric analysis

AS, aortic stenosis

CCTA, coronary computed tomography angiography

CI, confidence interval

HR, hazard ratio

IQR, interquartile range

LA, left atrium

LAVI, left atrial volume index

LV, left ventricle

RA, right atrium

RV, right ventricle

TAVR, trans-catheter aortic valve replacement

Introduction

Over the last decade, trans-catheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) emerged as the treatment of choice in patients with severe aortic stenosis (AS) and prohibitive surgical risk [1,2,3,4,5]. Moreover, recent trials reported promising results even in low surgical risk patients [6,7]. However, clinical experience proves that some patients die relatively soon after the procedure [8]. Currently there are no validated methods for selection of suitable candidates. It had been suggested that patients with right heart failure as a late sequelae of left side valve disease are at an increased risk for adverse outcomes [9,10,11,12,13,14]. The assessment of right heart function is routinely performed by echocardiography, yet volumetric analysis by echocardiography, particularly right heart volumes, may not always be accurate [15,16,17,18]. Cardiac computed tomography angiography (CCTA) is the mandatory pre-interventional imaging modality for patients who are eligible for TAVR. The same imaging study may provide added information, such a cardiac volumetric assessment [19,20]. In the present study we used an automatic four cardiac chamber volumetric analysis (4CVA) of CCTA to calculate the RV size in patients undergoing CCTA prior to TAVR in two tertiary medical centers. We postulated that 4CVA of CCTA may contribute to risk stratification in pre-TAVR patients.

Methods

Study design and patient selection

Between January 2013 and March 2016 patients with severe symptomatic native AS (aortic valve area $<1 \text{ cm}^2$) who underwent TAVR at one of 2 medical centers – Stanford University Medical Center (California, USA) and Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center (TASMC), Israel - were included in the study. Clinical details were prospectively recorded for all patients at baseline and at a 1-year follow-up. Echocardiographic and CT data were recorded at baseline prior to the procedure. The study protocol was approved by the institutional review boards in both centers. Requirement for informed consent was waived due to the retrospective nature of the study.

CCTA acquisition

Retrospectively - gated CCTA were performed with a second-generation dual-source CT (Siemens SOMATOM Definition Flash) at Stanford University Medical Center (n=152) or with a 256x0.625 mm detector rows scanner (iCT 256 Philips Health Care) in TASMC (n=171). At Stanford University Medical Center Cardiac gated chest scan began in the thoracic outlet, and ended at the diaphragm, followed by non-gated abdominal scan which were acquired with contrast injections of 60-110 mL (1.2 mL/kg) of iodinated contrast material at a concentration of 300 mg iodine per mL (Iopamidole, Bracco, Princeton, NJ) at an injection rate of 4-5 mL/sec. In TASMC, scans were acquired with contrast injections of 40-70 mL (0.8 mL/kg) of iodinated contrast material at a concentration of 300 mg iodine per mL (Iomeron, Bracco, Milano, Italy) at an injection rate of 4-5 mL/sec. CT scanning was initiated using automated bolus triggering five seconds after the attenuation in the ascending aorta reached a threshold of 100 Hounsfield Units covering the heart from the tracheal

Disclaimer : As a public service to our readership, this article -- peer reviewed by the Editors of EuroIntervention - has been published immediately upon acceptance as it was received. The content of this article is the sole responsibility of the authors, and not that of the journal

bifurcation to the diaphragm . When abdominal aortic scan was included in the same acquisition, the scan began at the tracheal bifurcation and ended at the femoral arterial bifurcation level, and the injected volume was 60-110 mL (1.2 mL/kg). Data were reconstructed at slice thickness of 0.8 mm or 0.75mm, with an increment of 0.4 mm. Measurements of the aortic annulus were done during the systolic phase scan (35% or 40% of the R to R interval), while all automated volumetric analysis assessments were done on a mid-diastolic phase scan (75% of the R to R interval) which is considered the phase with least motion artifacts [20]. When significant variability in the heart rate was observed, ECG editing was performed immediately following the scan acquisition, and the images used for the annular measurements (at the systolic phase), and the volumetric assessment (at mid-diastolic phase - 75% of the new edited R to R interval), were used.

Volumetric analysis of the cardiac chambers

Automated volumetric measurements of the RV, right atrium (RA), left ventricle (LV), and the left atrium (LA), were obtained using a fully automatic software (Comprehensive Cardiac Analysis, IntelliSpace, Portal Version 6; Philips Healthcare, Cleveland, OH). The algorithm adapts an anatomical model of the heart chambers to the CT image volume [20,21,22]. The output of the volumetric analysis consisted of a three-dimensional (3D) graphic display of the heart segmented into its main structures. We analyzed the volumes of the RV, RA, LV and LA. The volume of each cardiac chamber was automatically calculated as the product of a single voxel volume and the sum of all voxels were included in it. The software allows the relevant segmentation structure to be color-coded and viewed simultaneously in both 3D and 2D superimposed on the reference image in the axial, coronal, sagittal, or cardiac

views (short axis, vertical long axis, horizontal long axis). Each structure was inspected visually on the reference images for conformity to the imaged cardiac anatomy in order to validate the correctness of the segmentation. In cases where the automatic segmentation was visually assessed as incorrect, the chamber's volumetric data were excluded from the study (42 out of 365 patients). Manual tools for correction of the volumetric segmentation are available but were not used in the present study. Volumes were indexed to body surface area and reported as volume indices (ml/m²). Figure 1 shows an example of the automated segmentation output of a patient with an enlarged RV who died within 1-year.

Statistical analysis

Categorical variables were expressed as percentages. Distribution of continuous variables was assessed using histogram and Q-Q plot and expressed as median and interquartile range (IQR). A cubic non-linear regression was used to present the relation between RV volume indices and 1-year mortality. Each volume was correlated to the corresponding average of observed events (i.e. percentages of 1-year mortality) on the y-axis. The trend line was formed according to the eventual estimated non-linear cubic relation. The reference line was set by the overall mean mortality. RV volume indices were divided into quartiles and compared to the lower quartile in regard with mortality risk. Cox regressions were used to assess the relation between RV size and 1-year mortality. Hazard ratios (HRs) and 95% confidence intervals (CIs) were reported. A sub-analysis of the higher quartile was then performed to evaluate cut-offs at which RV volume is independently associated with 1-year mortality. Propensity scores were used to adjust for baseline characteristics (age, gender, body mass index, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidemia,

peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, prior myocardial infarction, prior coronary artery bypass graft, prior valve surgery, permanent pacemaker, atrial fibrillation, CVA/TIA, renal dysfunction, dialysis, COPD, NYHA class IV, STS score), the medical center at which the TAVR was performed, and echocardiographic parameters (interventricular septum, left ventricle ejection fraction, aortic valve area index, aortic valve gradients, left atrial volume index, E/e, E/A, systolic pulmonary artery pressure, mitral regurgitation). A two-tailed $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant. All statistical analyses were performed with SPSS (IBM Corp. Released 2013. IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 22.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp.).

Results

Baseline characteristics

The cohort consisted of 323 patients, 152 from Stanford University School of Medicine and 171 from Tel Aviv Medical Center. The median age was 84 (IQR 80-88) years, the median STS score was 4.8% (IQR 3-7.4), and 51.4% were of female gender. Baseline characteristics according to a division into quartiles of RV volumes (Q1 $< 59 \text{ ml/m}^2$, Q2 59-69 ml/m^2 , Q3 69-86 ml/m^2 , Q4 $> 86 \text{ ml/m}^2$) are presented in Table 1. Patients within the upper quartiles demonstrated lower BMIs, increased rates of female gender and higher STS scores. A higher prevalence of ischemic heart disease (coronary artery disease and prior coronary artery bypass graft) and atrial fibrillation were noted in the upper quartiles of RV volumes. The remaining co-morbidities, as well as the NYHA class, did not statistically differ across the groups. A low-intermediate (STS $< 8\%$) pre-procedural surgical risk was estimated in 86.2%, 87.7%, 80.2%, and 70.3% of patients within Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, respectively (supplemental Table 1).

CT and echocardiography

Disclaimer : As a public service to our readership, this article -- peer reviewed by the Editors of EuroIntervention - has been published immediately upon acceptance as it was received. The content of this article is the sole responsibility of the authors, and not that of the journal

Baseline imaging parameters according to RV volume are presented in Table 2. Echocardiography was available for 273 patients. Patients within the upper quartiles presented with larger volumes of all cardiac chambers by CT.

Echocardiography demonstrated reduced systolic and diastolic function in the upper quartile of RV volumes, according to LV ejection fraction, E/A ratio, LA volume index, and systolic pulmonary artery pressure. Aortic valve area indices were lower and aortic valve gradients (peak and mean) were higher in the upper quartiles of RV volumes. In addition, mitral regurgitation of moderate degree or above was more prevalent in the upper quartile of RV volumes.

Mortality

At 1-year, 28 patients (8.7%) from the entire cohort were deceased. There were no significant differences in 30-day mortality between the groups – 2.5%, 2.5%, 3.7%, 3.7% ($p>0.999$) in Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, respectively. The relation between right ventricle volume indices and 1-year mortality is presented in Figure 2. At 1-year a significantly increased mortality rate was noted for the upper quartiles – 5%, 4.9%, 8.6%, 16% ($p=0.039$), in Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, respectively. In a univariable analysis (Figure 3) the upper quartile of RV volumes was associated with increased mortality compared to the lower quartile (HR 3.74, 95% CI 1.04-13.40, $p=0.043$). Adjustments for baseline characteristics with propensity scores eliminated the differences ($p>0.5$; Table 3). Sub-analyses of Q1 - upper 25th percentiles (>83 ml/m²; $n=81$) vs lower 75th percentiles, upper (>96 ml/m²; $n=48$) 15th percentiles vs lower 85th percentiles, and upper (>120 ml/m²; $n=16$) 5th percentiles vs lower 95th percentiles – demonstrated escalating hazard ratios for 1-year mortality in concordance to RV volumes; HR 2.28 (95% CI 1.10-4.75, $p=0.027$), HR 2.76 (95% CI 1.25-6.09, $p=0.012$), and HR 4.7 (95% CI 1.80-12.4, $p=0.002$), respectively. However, after

adjustments for clinical and echocardiographic characteristics (listed in Table 4) with propensity scores, only the upper 5th percentiles of RV volumes retained statistical significance (HR 2.82, 95% CI 1.02-7.78, $p=0.045$).

Discussion

This is a two-center retrospective analysis of patients undergoing TAVR due to severe AS. The principal finding is that larger RV volume which was automatically calculated based on volumetric analysis of CCTA, is associated with higher mortality at 1-year following the procedure, thus may contribute to risk stratification and predict outcome of patients undergoing TAVR. Notably, approximately 70% of patients with large RV were considered low-intermediate risk for surgery.

Our results are in line with the current literature, showing that patients with RV enlargement who undergo left sided valve interventions have poor outcomes [23], and reduced 1-year survival rates [12]. Right chamber dilatation may occur in patients with AS because of pressure overload from increased left-sided filling pressures and pulmonary artery pressures transmitted to the right side, volume overload from fluid retention or concomitant tricuspid regurgitation, or ventricular interdependence [23,24]. Therefore, it is not surprising that RV dysfunction is a not an uncommon finding, and is associated with adverse outcomes [9,10,11,12,13,14]. As expected, in the present cohort patients with dilated RV had increased pulmonary artery pressure. However, even after adjustment for systolic pulmonary artery pressure (estimated by echocardiography), as well as left side filling pressures and ejection fraction, dilated RV by CT remained an independent predictor of outcome. Thus, in patients with severe RV dilatation the insult of the left-to-right hemodynamic cascade might signify irreversibility, and RV recovery does not consistently ensue after TAVR.

A conspicuous difference between the groups which should be addressed is the distribution of gender across the groups. It is postulated that females carry a better prognosis following TAVR [25]. Nevertheless, gender disparities were adjusted for in the propensity scores. Likewise, the potential anatomical inequalities were accounted for, by providing volume indices (volume per body surface area).

Previous studies had almost been exclusively based on echocardiography. Right heart volume quantification by echocardiography is known to be limited due to the chamber's complex anatomy [14,15,16,17,18]. Currently, there is no precise geometric model which accounts for the volumetric assumptions of the RV, particularly among patients with fluid overload [16]. Measurements may differ significantly at various distances between the tricuspid annulus and the apex [17,26]. It is consequently recommended that the right heart should be imaged from multiple acoustic windows, and therefore the report is depended on a subjective interpretation of the acquired images by the echocardiographer. Moreover, while in certain instances it may be difficult to detect mild abnormalities in RV size [17], it was shown that volumes tend to be overestimated at certain ranges but underestimated in others [15].

We chose to use the fully automated algorithm of the 4CVA for RV volume determination while refraining from corrections with manual tools, in order to emphasize its advantages of easy and fast provision of highly valuable information. This software was trained to identify the various cardiac compartments based on a pre-learned anatomical model, thus enabling efficient workflow by automated cardiac chamber volume calculation. The output of the automated calculations was compared with the results from intensive labor manual segmentation and found to be accurate and highly reproducible [20]. By all means, most post-processing platforms do offer tools which allow assessment of the RV volumes manually or with semi-automated

tools. However, developing strategies that can reliably transform complex visual observations into well-defined algorithmic procedures is an active area of exploration that can enhance clinical practice. Other studies have shown that objectivity, reproducibility, and sensitivity are often improved when characterizations are based upon computer-aided analyses [27].

Limitations

There are several limitations that must be taken into consideration. First, the study is retrospective. Such a design may introduce inherent biases. Second, the high-risk population, i.e. the upper 5th percentile of RV volume, consisted of merely 16 patients, thereby limiting the power of the analysis. Third, volumes were measured at 75% of diastole due to the lowest presence of motion artifacts, therefore they do not represent end-diastole. In a tradeoff between minimizing inaccuracies of the segmentation and determining the true end-diastole volumes, the former prevailed. Furthermore, these methods were consistent for all patients and previous studies examined a similar approach [20,28]. Thin slice-end-diastolic images were not available for our retrospective analysis. Finally, since estimation of RV size with echocardiography is limited in certain cases, such data were not collected and therefore a volumetric comparison for validation purposes was not performed.

Conclusions

In the current study we used objective, non-operator dependent CT data, which were freely available from the already acquired pre-procedural CCTA. Our findings demonstrate that RV enlargement is associated with increased 1-year morality among patients with severe AS undergoing TAVR, regardless of the pre-procedural surgical risk. We thus believe that utilizing data from the CCTA which is

used for procedural planning, can be beneficial and contribute to clinical decision making and setting expectations with patients and their families.

Impact on daily practice

The presented data demonstrates that cardiac volumetric data by CCTA performed for procedural planning may help predict outcome in patients undergoing TAVR and identify patients who are at high risk for adverse outcomes despite having a low pre-procedural surgical risk.

Funding: None

References

1. Gilard M, Eltchaninoff H, Iung B, Donzeau-Gouge P, Chevreul K, Fajadet J, Leprince P, Leguerrier A, Lievre M, Prat A, Teiger E, Lefevre T, Himbert D, Tchetché D, Carrié D, Albat B, Cribier A, Rioufol G, Sudre A, Blanchard D, Collet F, Dos Santos P, Meneveau N, Tirouvanziam A, Caussin C, Guyon P, Bosch J, Le Breton H, Collart F, Houel R, Delpine S, Souteyrand G, Favereau X, Ohlmann P, Doisy V, Grollier G, Gommeaux A, Claudel JP, Bourlon F, Bertrand B, Van Belle E, Laskar M; FRANCE 2 Investigators. Registry of transcatheter aortic-valve implantation in high-risk patients. *N Engl J Med* 2012;366:1705-15
2. Kodali SK, Williams MR, Smith CR, Svensson LG, Webb JG, Makkar RR, Fontana GP, Dewey TM, Thourani VH, Pichard AD, Fischbein M, Szeto WY, Lim S, Greason KL, Teirstein PS, Malaisrie SC, Douglas PS, Hahn RT, Whisenant B, Zajarias A, Wang D, Akin JJ, Anderson WN, Leon MB; PARTNER Trial Investigators. Two-year outcomes after

transcatheter or surgical aortic-valve replacement. N Engl J Med

2012;366:1686-95

3. Leon MB, Smith CR, Mack MJ, Makkar RR, Svensson LG, Kodali SK, Thourani VH, Tuzcu EM, Miller DC, Herrmann HC, Doshi D, Cohen DJ, Pichard AD, Kapadia S, Dewey T, Babaliaros V, Szeto WY, Williams MR, Kereiakes D, Zajarias A, Greason KL, Whisenant BK, Hodson RW, Moses JW, Trento A, Brown DL, Fearon WF, Pibarot P, Hahn RT, Jaber WA, Anderson WN, Alu MC, Webb JG. Transcatheter or Surgical Aortic-Valve Replacement in Intermediate-Risk Patients. N Engl J Med 2016;374:1609-20
4. Makkar RR, Fontana GP, Jilaihawi H, Kapadia S, Pichard AD, Douglas PS, Thourani VH, Babaliaros VC, Webb JG, Herrmann HC, Bavaria JE, Kodali S, Brown DL, Bowers B, Dewey TM, Svensson LG, Tuzcu M, Moses JW, Williams MR, Siegel RJ, Akin JJ, Anderson WN, Pocock S, Smith CR, Leon MB. Transcatheter aortic-valve replacement for inoperable severe aortic stenosis. N Engl J Med 2012;366:1696-70.
5. Wenaweser P, Stortecky S, Schwander S, Heg D, Huber C, Pilgrim T, Gloekler S, O'Sullivan CJ, Meier B, Jüni P, Carrel T, Windecker S. Clinical outcomes of patients with estimated low or intermediate surgical risk undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation. Eur Heart J 2013;34:1894-905
6. Popma JJ, Deeb GM, Yakubov SJ, Mumtaz M, Gada H, O'Hair D, Bajwa T, Heiser JC, Merhi W, Kleiman NS, Askew J, Sorajja P, Rovin J, Chetcuti SJ, Adams DH, Teirstein PS, Zorn GL 3rd, Forrest JK, Tchétché D, Resar J, Walton A, Piazza N, Ramlawi B, Robinson N, Petrossian G,

- Gleason TG, Oh JK, Boulware MJ, Qiao H, Mugglin AS, Reardon MJ; Evolut Low Risk Trial Investigators. Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Replacement with a Self-Expanding Valve in Low-Risk Patients. *N Engl J Med* 2019;380:1706-1715
7. Mack MJ, Leon MB, Thourani VH, Makkar R, Kodali SK, Russo M, Kapadia SR, Malaisrie SC, Cohen DJ, Pibarot P, Leipsic J, Hahn RT, Blanke P, Williams MR, McCabe JM, Brown DL, Babaliaros V, Goldman S, Szeto WY, Genereux P, Pershad A, Pocock SJ, Alu MC, Webb JG, Smith CR; PARTNER 3 Investigators. Transcatheter Aortic-Valve Replacement with a Balloon-Expandable Valve in Low-Risk Patients. *N Engl J Med* 2019;380:1695-1705
8. Arnold SV, Reynolds MR, Lei Y, Magnuson EA, Kirtane AJ, Kodali SK, Zajarias A, Thourani VH, Green P, Rodés-Cabau J, Beohar N, Mack MJ, Leon MB, Cohen DJ; PARTNER Investigators. Predictors of poor outcomes after transcatheter aortic valve replacement: results from the PARTNER (Placement of Aortic Transcatheter Valve) trial. *Circulation* 2014;129:2682-90
9. Schwartz LA, Rozenbaum Z, Ghantous E, Kramarz J, Biner S, Ghermezi M, Shimiiaie J, Finkelstein A, Banai S, Aviram G, Ingbir M, Keren G, Topilsky Y. Impact of Right Ventricular Dysfunction and Tricuspid Regurgitation on Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr* 2017;30:36-46
10. Asami M, Stortecky S, Praz F, Lanz J, Räber L, Franzone A, Piccolo R, Siontis GCM, Heg D, Valgimigli M, Wenaweser P, Roost E, Windecker S, Pilgrim T. Prognostic Value of Right Ventricular Dysfunction on Clinical

Outcomes After Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement. JACC

Cardiovasc Imaging 2019;12:577-587

11. Ren B, Spitzer E, Geleijnse ML, Zijlstra F, de Jaegere PPT, Van Mieghem NM, Tijssen JG. Right ventricular systolic function in patients undergoing transcatheter aortic valve implantation: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Int J Cardiol 2018;257:40-45
12. Lindman BR, Maniar, HS, Jaber WA, Lerakis, S, Mack MJ, Suri RM, Thourani VH, Babaliaros V, Kereiakes DJ, Whisenant B, Miller DC, Tuzcu EM, Svensson LG, Xu K, Doshi D, Leon MB, Zajarias A. Effect of tricuspid regurgitation and the right heart on survival after transcatheter aortic valve replacement: insights from the Placement of Aortic Transcatheter Valves II inoperable cohort. Circ Cardiovasc Interv 2015;8:e002073
13. Ito S, Pislaru SV, Soo WM, Huang R, Greason KL, Mathew V, Sandhu GS, Eleid MF, Suri RM, Oh JK, Nkomo VT. Impact of right ventricular size and function on survival following transcatheter aortic valve replacement. Int J Cardiol 2016;221:269-74
14. Lindqvist P, Calcuttea A, Henein M. Echocardiography in the assessment of right heart function. Eur J Echocardiogr 2008;9:225-34
15. Rozenbaum Z, Granot Y, Steinvil A, Banai S, Finkelstein A, Ben-Gal Y, Keren G, Topilsky Y. Aortic Stenosis with Severe Tricuspid Regurgitation: Comparative Study between Conservative Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement and Surgical Aortic Valve Replacement Combined With Tricuspid Repair. J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2018;31:1101-1108

16. Shimada YJ, Shiota M, Siegel RJ, Shiota T. Accuracy of right ventricular volumes and function determined by three-dimensional echocardiography in comparison with magnetic resonance imaging: a meta-analysis study. J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2010;23:943-53
17. Lai WW, Gauvreau K, Rivera ES, Saleeb S, Powell AJ, Geva T. Accuracy of guideline recommendations for two-dimensional quantification of the right ventricle by echocardiography. Int J Cardiovasc Imaging 2008;24:691-8
18. Schneider M, Thomas Binder T. Echocardiographic evaluation of the right heart. Wien Klin Wochenschr 2018;130:413-420
19. Salgado RA, Leipsic JA, Shivalkar B, Ardies L, Van Herck PL, Op de Beeck BJ, Vrints C, Rodrigus I, Parizel PM, Bosmans J. Preprocedural CT Evaluation of Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement: What the Radiologist Needs to Know. Radiographics 2014;34:1491-514
20. Mao SS, Li D, Vembar M, Gao Y, Luo Y, Lam F, Syed YS, Liu C, Woo K, Flores F, Budoff MJ. Model-based automatic segmentation algorithm accurately assesses the whole cardiac volumetric parameters in patients with cardiac CT angiography: a validation study for evaluating the accuracy of the workstation software and establishing the reference values. Acad Radiol 2014;21:639-47
21. Abadi S, Roguin A, Engel A, Lessick J. Feasibility of automatic assessment of four chamber cardiac function with MDCT: Initial clinical application and validation. Eur J Radiol 2010;74:175-181
22. Ecabert O, Peters J, Schramm H, Lorenz C, von Berg J, Walker MJ, Vembar M, Olszewski ME, Subramanyan K, Lavi G, Weese J. Automatic

- model-based segmentation of the heart in CT images. IEEE Trans Med Imaging 2008;27:1189-1201
23. Nagel E, Stuber M, Hess OM. Importance of the right ventricle in valvular heart disease. Eur Heart J 1996 Jun;17:829-36
24. Grose R, Strain J, Yipintosoi T. Right ventricular function in valvular heart disease: relation to pulmonary artery pressure. J Am Coll Cardiol 1983;2:225-32
25. Chandrasekhar J, Dangas G, Yu J, Vemulapalli S, Suchindran S, Vora AN, Baber U, Mehran R; STS/ACC TVT Registry. Sex-Based Differences in Outcomes With Transcatheter Aortic Valve Therapy: TVT Registry From 2011 to 2014. J Am Coll Cardiol 2016;68:2733-2744
26. Rudski LG, Lai WW, Afilalo J, Hua L, Handschumacher MD, Chandrasekaran K, Solomon SD, Louie EK, Schiller NB.. Echocardiographic Assessment of the Right Heart in Adults: A Report from the American Society of Echocardiography Endorsed by the European Association of Echocardiography and the Canadian Society of Echocardiography. JASE 2010;23:685-713
27. Foran DJ, Chen W and Yang L. Automated image interpretation and computer-assisted diagnostics. Stud Health Technol Inform 2013;185:77-108
28. Walker JR, Abadi S, Solomonica A, Mutlak D, Aronson D, Agmon Y, Lessick J. Left-sided cardiac chamber evaluation using single-phase mid-diastolic coronary computed tomography angiography: derivation of normal values and comparison with conventional end-diastolic and end-systolic phases. Eur Radiol 2016;26:3626–3634

Figures legends

Figure 1: Output example of the fully automated 4-chamber volumetric analysis of the pre-TAVR cardiac CT angiography showing an enlarged right ventricle (right ventricular volume index=127.4 mL/m²).

A. Volumetric model of the 4-cardiac chambers. B. Vertical long axis reformation (4-chamber view). C. Oblique (3-chamber view). Arrow showing the calcified aortic valve. Color code: left atrium = purple, left ventricle = pink, right atrium = yellow, and right ventricle = orange. Abbreviations: LA, left atrium; LV, left ventricle; RA, right atrium; RV, right ventricle.

Figure 2: Relation between right ventricle volume indices and 1-year mortality

Figure 3: Cox survival curves according to right ventricle volume index

Table 1: Baseline characteristics according to right ventricle volume

	Q1 (<59 ml/m ²) n=80	Q2 (59-69 ml/m ²) n=81	Q3 (69-86 ml/m ²) n=81	Q4 (>86 ml/m ²) n=81	p- value
Age (years)	82(79-88)	85(81-88)	84(79-87)	85(80-89)	0.560
Female gender (%)	74	49	56	27	<0.001
BMI (kg/m ²)	27.6(24.4-30.8)	26.4(23-30.1)	26.8(23.2-30.7)	25.1(23-28.2)	0.033
Hypertension (%)	85	79	84	89	0.404
Diabetes mellitus (%)	42	28	25	39	0.054
Dyslipidaemia (%)	82	76	75	79	0.680
Coronary artery disease (%)	46	54	64	69	0.020
Prior myocardial infarction (%)	14	17	25	27	0.114
Prior coronary artery bypass graft (%)	7	17	18	27	0.012
Prior valve surgery (%)	1	3	1	5	0.469
Permanent pacemaker (%)	5	9	5	11	0.364
Atrial fibrillation (%)	15	32	41	43	<0.001
Peripheral vascular disease (%)	10	15	23	16	0.145
CVA/TIA (%)	12	16	20	26	0.140
Renal dysfunction (%)	56	57	51	56	0.841
Dialysis (%)	1	0	0	0	0.490
COPD (%)	22	11	14	16	0.285
NYHA class IV (%)	15	17	20	20	0.842
STS score (%)	4.1(2.7-6.9)	4.2(2.8-6.7)	4.5(2.7-7.4)	6.2(4.1-8.9)	<0.001

Table 2: Baseline imaging parameters according to right ventricle volume

	Q1 (<59 ml/m ²) n=80	Q2 (59-69 ml/m ²) n=81	Q3 (69-86 ml/m ²) n=81	Q4 (>86 ml/m ²) n=81	p-value
CT					
Right ventricle volume index (ml/m ²)	51.2(47-54.6)	63(60.6-66.2)	74.4(71.5-78.5)	99.7(92.1-117.6)	<0.001
Right atrial volume index (ml/m ²)	41.1(36.6-47.2)	47.1(42.5-60.5)	61.5(50.6-75.9)	90.6(70.6-105.1)	<0.001
Left atrial volume index (ml/m ²)	56(46-62.1)	57.1(48.8-69.2)	67.9(58.8-82)	76.2(64.8-88.9)	<0.001
Left ventricle volume index (ml/m ²)	43.9(38.6-55.8)	58.4(51.4-68.8)	65(56.2-74)	84.6(70.2-102.7)	<0.001
Left ventricle mass index (gr/m ²)	82.3(68.5-97.7)	85.9(73.1-102.1)	85.8(73.8-103.7)	97.1(87-114)	<0.001
Echocardiography					
Aortic valve area index (cm ² /m ²)	0.37(0.33-0.45)	0.37(0.31-0.45)	0.37(0.32-0.42)	0.34(0.27-0.41)	0.030
Aortic valve peak gradient (mmHg)	81.4(70.7-98)	72(60-95.3)	71.9(62-90.9)	72.1(57.8-82.3)	0.010
Aortic valve mean gradient (mmHg)	51.8(41.8-61.8)	44.9(37-59)	43.1(37.8-54.3)	42.6(35.8-48.7)	0.004
Left ventricle ejection fraction (%)	60(60-64.7)	60(55-60)	60(55-61.7)	53.9(39.6-60.2)	<0.001
Interventricular septum (mm)	13(12-15)	13(12-14)	13(11-14)	12(11-14)	0.106
E/e' ratio	21.5(15.2-28.1)	22.1(14.3-27.1)	21.4(16.9-29.3)	22.5(17.6-33.5)	0.189
E/A ratio	0.69(0.61-0.83)	0.76(0.59-0.92)	0.96(0.72-1.25)	2(1.22-2.73)	<0.001
Left atrial volume index (ml/m ²)	39.5(32.1-48.7)	37.4(32.7-48.5)	47.6(39.5-59.2)	50.8(43.6-60.6)	<0.001
Systolic pulmonary artery pressure (mmHg)	35(33.6-41)	38(31-46.4)	42(33-55)	52(41.3-64.4)	<0.001
Mitral regurgitation ≥moderate (%)	1.3	2.5	1.2	9.9	0.032

Table 3: Association of right ventricle volume indices with 1-year mortality according to quartiles

	HR (95% CI)	p-value
Univariable		
Q2	1.02 (0.21-5.03)	0.986
Q3	2.29 (0.59-8.87)	0.229
Q4	3.74 (1.04-13.40)	0.043
Propensity score adjusted: Clinical parameters		
Q2	0.91 (0.23-3.66)	0.896
Q3	1.20 (0.35-4.19)	0.773
Q4	1.50 (0.46-4.90)	0.504
Propensity score adjusted: Clinical and echocardiographic parameters		
Q2	0.86 (0.20-3.68)	0.837
Q3	0.95 (0.24-3.80)	0.944
Q4	1.41 (0.36-5.57)	0.623

*Q1 is regarded as the reference group

† Age, gender, body mass index, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidaemia, peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, prior myocardial infarction, prior coronary artery bypass graft, prior valve surgery, permanent pacemaker, atrial fibrillation, CVA/TIA, renal dysfunction, dialysis, COPD, NYHA class IV, STS score, medical center.

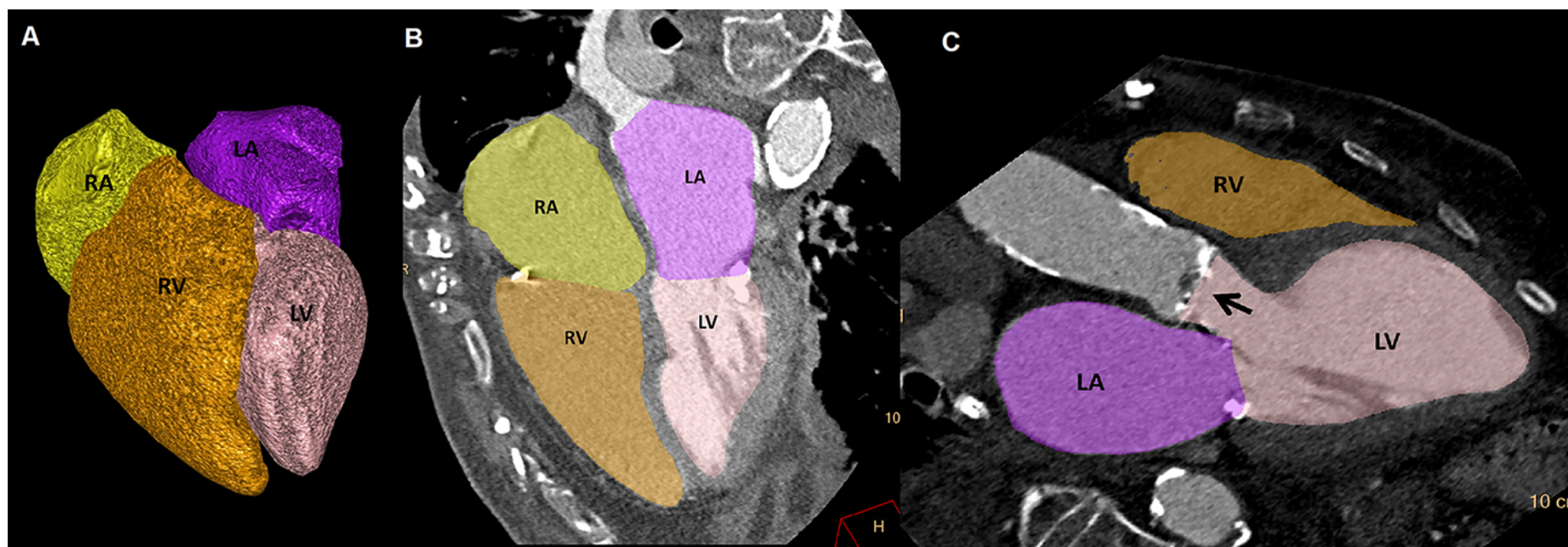
‡ Interventricular septum, left ventricle ejection fraction, aortic valve area index, aortic valve gradients, left atrial volume index, E/e, E/A, systolic pulmonary artery pressure, mitral regurgitation.

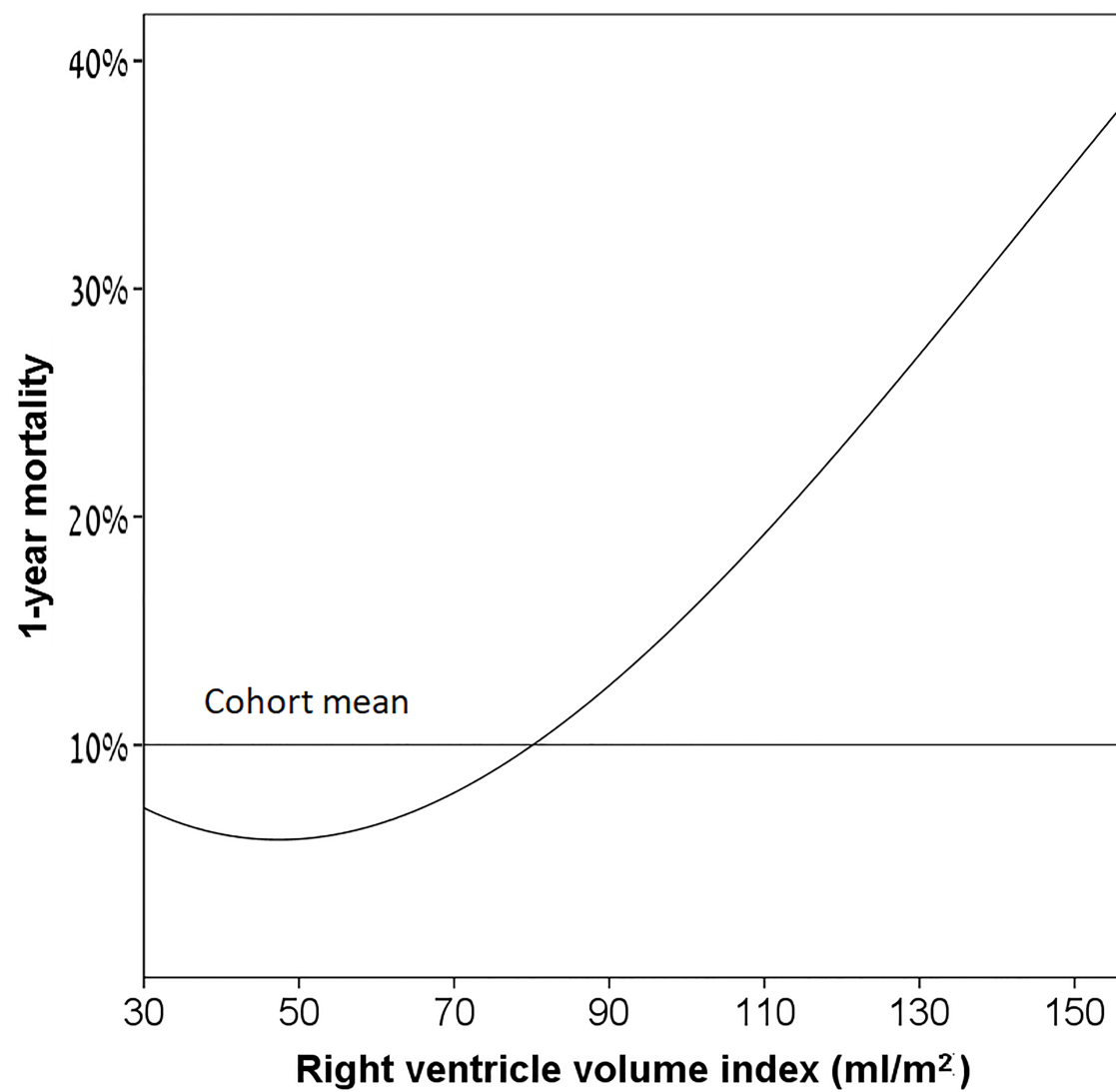
Table 4: Association of right ventricle volume indices with 1-year mortality according to percentiles

Right Ventricle Volume Index	Upper 25 th percentiles (>83 ml/m ² ; n=81) vs lower 75 th percentiles		Upper 15 th percentiles (>96 ml/m ² ; n=48) vs lower 85 th percentiles		Upper 5 th percentiles (>120 ml/m ² ; n=16) vs lower 95 th percentiles	
	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value	HR (95% CI)	p-value
Univariable	2.28 (1.10-4.75)	0.027	2.76 (1.25-6.09)	0.012	4.70 (1.80-12.40)	0.002
Propensity score adjusted: clinical [†] parameters	1.41 (0.63-3.34)	0.407	1.55 (0.68-3.52)	0.300	4.61 (1.73-12.32)	0.002
Propensity score adjusted: clinical [†] and echocardiographic [‡] parameters	1.51 (0.65-3.51)	0.332	1.92 (0.82-4.49)	0.134	2.82 (1.02-7.78)	0.045

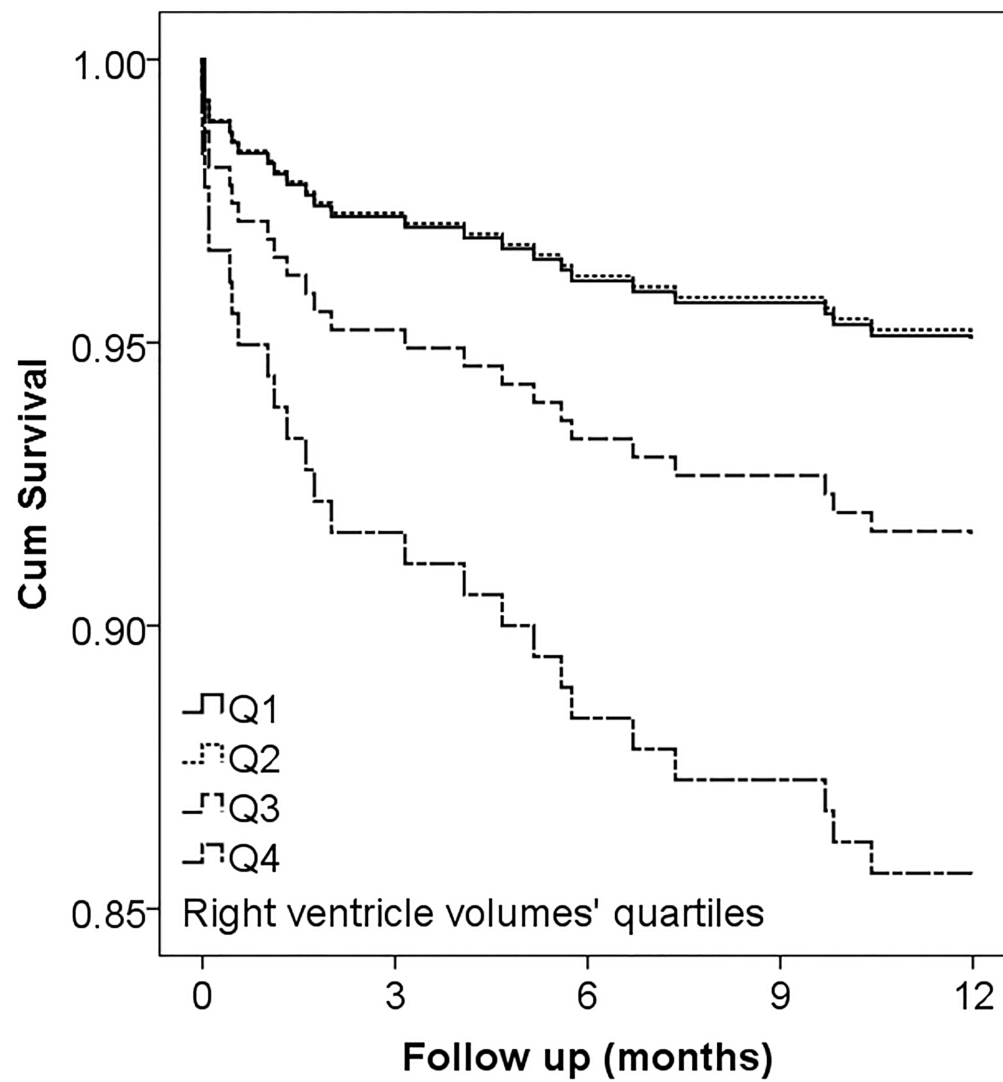
[†] Age, gender, body mass index, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, hyperlipidaemia, peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, prior myocardial infarction, prior coronary artery bypass graft, prior valve surgery, permanent pacemaker, atrial fibrillation, CVA/TIA, renal dysfunction, dialysis, COPD, NYHA class IV, STS score, medical center.

[‡] Interventricular septum, left ventricle ejection fraction, aortic valve area index, aortic valve gradients, left atrial volume index, E/e, E/A, systolic pulmonary artery pressure, mitral regurgitation.





Disclaimer : As a public service to our readership, this article -- peer reviewed by the Editors of EuroIntervention - has been published immediately upon acceptance as it was received. The content of this article is the sole responsibility of the authors, and not that of the journal



Supplemental Table 1: Pre-procedural surgical risk according to right ventricular volume

RV volume index percentile/quartile	Low risk STS<4%	Intermediate risk STS 4-8%	High risk STS≥8%	Low-Intermediate risk STS<8%
Q1	47.5	38.8	13.8	86.2
Q2	46.9	40.7	12.3	87.7
Q3	44.4	35.8	19.8	80.2
Q4	23.5	46.9	29.6	70.3
Upper 15 th percentile	29.2	35.4	35.4	64.6
Upper 5 th percentile	18.8	50	31.3	68.7

Copyright EuroIntervention