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Contemporary outcomes of conventional aortic valve replacement in 638 octogenarians: insights from an Italian Regional Cardiac Surgery Registry (RERIC)

Di Eusanio M, Fortuna D, Cristell D, Pugliese P, Nicolini F, Pacini D, Gabbieri D, Lamarra M; RERIC (Emilia Romagna Cardiac Surgery Registry) Investigators.

Collaborators (9)

Contini GA, Gabbieri D, Pacini D, Pigini F, Barattoni MC, Zussa C, Fortuna D, De Palma R, Grilli R.

Source

Department of Cardiac Surgery, S'Orsola-Malpighi Hospital, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy. marco.dieusanio2@unibo.it

Abstract

OBJECTIVES:

Few data exist on contemporary outcomes after conventional aortic valve replacement (AVR) in the elderly. Accordingly, we evaluated contemporary outcomes and identified predictors of reduced survival in a large series of octogenarians undergoing AVR.

METHODS:

The Regione Emilia Romagna Cardiac Surgery registry (RERIC) database (n = 2 6938) was queried for clinical features, hospital and mid-term outcomes of octogenarians undergoing AVR between 2003 and 2009. Predictors of hospital and mid-term mortality were identified.

RESULTS:

The study population consisted of 638 patients. NYHA class III-IV, congestive heart failure, cerebrovascular disease, extra-cardiac arteriopathy, mostly exacerbated patients' clinical profile. Mean log-EuroSCORE was 13.0%. Overall hospital mortality and stroke rates were 4.5% and 1.3%, respectively. Other post-operative complications included renal failure (4.9%), intubation time >48 h (3.4%), complete atrio-ventricular block (4.4%). NYHA III-IV (OR = 2.7; CI 95%:1.2-6.7) and CCS III-IV (OR = 3.1; CI 95%:1.1-9.4) emerged as independent predictors of hospital mortality on multivariate analysis. At 6 years, octogenarians' survival rate was similar to the expected survival of the age- and sex-matched regional population. CCS III-IV (HR = 2.1; CI 95%:1.2-4), preoperative creatinine > 2.1 (HR = 2.8; CI 95%:1.4-5.9), extra-cardiac arteriopathy (HR = 1.5; CI 95%:1.1-2.1) and peripheral neurological dysfunction (HR = 3.8; CI 95%:1.4-10.4) emerged as independent risk factors for decreased 6 years' survival.

CONCLUSIONS:

This study, showing that contemporary outcomes after AVR are excellent, may help to improve treatment decision-making in elderly patients with aortic valve disease.