

## Endokarditis umjetnih zalistaka – učestaliji od očekivanja

### Prosthetic valve endocarditis – more frequent than expected

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**Uvod:** Endokarditis umjetnih zalistaka (PVE) je teška komplikacija i bioloških i mehaničkih umjetnih zalistaka. Pojavljuje se u 1-6% bolesnika s umjetnim zalisticima te čini 10-30% svih slučajeva infektivnog endokarditisa (IE). Rani PVE nastaje u prvih godinu dana nakon operacije. PVE ima visoki bolnički mortalitet od 20-40%.<sup>1</sup> Cilj nam je bio analizirati kliničke, mikrobiološke i ehokardiografske osobitosti i ishode endokarditisa umjetnih zalistaka u Kliničkom bolničkom centru Zagreb u dvogodišnjem razdoblju (2016. do 2018.).

**Bolesnici i metode:** Proveli smo retrospektivno istraživanje. U istraživanje su uključeni bolesnici koji su prema modificiranim Dukeovim kriterijima bili klasificirani kao „sigurni“ ili „mogući“ IE te smo analizirali podatke iz bolesničkih kartona i digitalne ehokardiografske baze. Ishodi su bili bolnički mortalitet i reoperacija (hitna i elektivna).

**Rezultati:** Ukupno je zabilježeno 27 slučajeva IE: 19 (70,3%) muškaraca, medijan dobi 64 godine (raspon 28-84). PVE je dijagnosticiran u 14 (51,9%) bolesnika od kojih je 5 (35,7%) imalo aortalni mehanički zalistak, 6 (42,9%) aortalni biološki zalistak, po jedan bolesnik je imao mitralni biološki i mitralni mehanički zalistak, a dvoje (14,3%) su imali popravak mitralnog zalistka. Šest (42,9%) slučajeva se dogodilo u ranom postoperacijskom razdoblju (unutar 60 dana). Ehokardiografijom su prikazane velike vegetacije ( $11,3 \pm 6,4$  mm) u 12 (85,7%) bolesnika. Polovica bolesnika (n = 7) je reoperirano, a mortalitet je bio 14,3% (n = 2). Uzročnici izolirani iz hemokultura su: koagulaza negativni *Staphylococcus* (n = 5; 35,7%), *Staphylococcus aureus* (n = 4; 28,6%), *Enterococcus* spp (n = 2; 14,3%), *Propionibacterium acnes* (n = 1) i *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* (n = 1). U jednog bolesnika nije izoliran uzročnik. Zahvaćenost zalistaka IE-om je prikazano na **slici 1**.

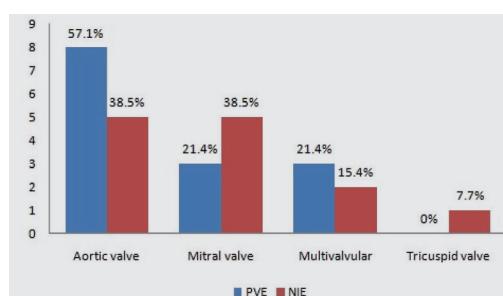
**Zaključak:** Zabilježili smo neočekivano visoki udio PVE u populaciji IE bolesnika, dok je stopa reoperacije i smrtnosti usporediva s podacima iz literature.<sup>1,2</sup> Većina PVE slučajeva zabilježena je u ranom postoperacijskom razdoblju (60 dana) i *Staphylococcus* spp je najčešće izolirani uzročnik kao što je i očekivano. Neovisno o tipu umjetnog zalistka aortalna pozicija je sklonija nastajanju PVE-a.

**Introduction:** Prosthetic valve endocarditis (PVE) is a severe complication in patients with both mechanical and bioprosthetic valves, occurring in 1-6% of patients with valve prosthesis and 10-30% of all infective endocarditis (IE) cases. Early PVE occurs during the first year after cardiac surgery. PVE has a very high in-hospital mortality rate of 20-40%.<sup>1</sup> We aimed to analyze PVE clinical, microbiological and echocardiographic features and outcomes in University Hospital Centre Zagreb during a two-year period (2016-2018).

**Patients and Methods:** A retrospective study was conducted. Patients diagnosed as „definite“ or „possible“ IE according to modified Duke criteria were included and data from in-hospital charts and digital echocardiography database were analyzed. Outcomes were in-hospital mortality and reoperation (both urgent and elective).

**Results:** There were altogether 27 cases of IE: 19 (70.3%) men, median age 64 (range 28-84). PVE was found in 14 (51.9%) patients, among them there were 5 (35.7%) with aortic mechanical prosthesis, 6 (42.9%) with aortic bioprostheses, one patient had a mitral mechanical valve and one bioprosthetic valve, while 2 (14.3%) had mitral valve repair. 6 (42.9%) occurred very early after valve surgery (within 60 days). Large vegetations ( $11.3 \pm 6.4$  mm) were revealed by echocardiography in 12 (85.7%) PVE patients. Half of PVE patients (n=7) were referred to reoperation during initial hospitalization, with mortality rate of 14.3% (n=2). Isolated pathogens in blood culture were: coagulase negative *Staphylococcus* (n=5, 35.7%), *Staphylococcus aureus* (n=4, 28.6%), *Enterococcus* spp (n=2, 14.3%), *Propionibacterium acnes* (n=1) and *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* (n=1). Culture-negative PVE was registered in one patient. IE valve involvement is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Conclusion:** We found an unexpectedly high incidence of PVE among IE patients.<sup>1,2</sup> Contrary, surgery-rate and in-hospital mortality were similar to published data.<sup>2</sup> Most of the PVE in our patients occurred early after valve surgery and *Staphylococcus* spp is predominant isolated pathogen, as it was expected. Interestingly, regardless of prosthesis type, aortic position was predisposed to PVE.



**FIGURE 1. Vegetation distribution according to native valve or prosthetic valve position, among infective endocarditis on native valves (NIE) and prosthetic valve endocarditis (PVE) patients.**

PVE = prosthetic valve endocarditis, NIE = native valve endocarditis

#### LITERATURE

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