

Invasive Vs. Conservative Treatment of SCAD

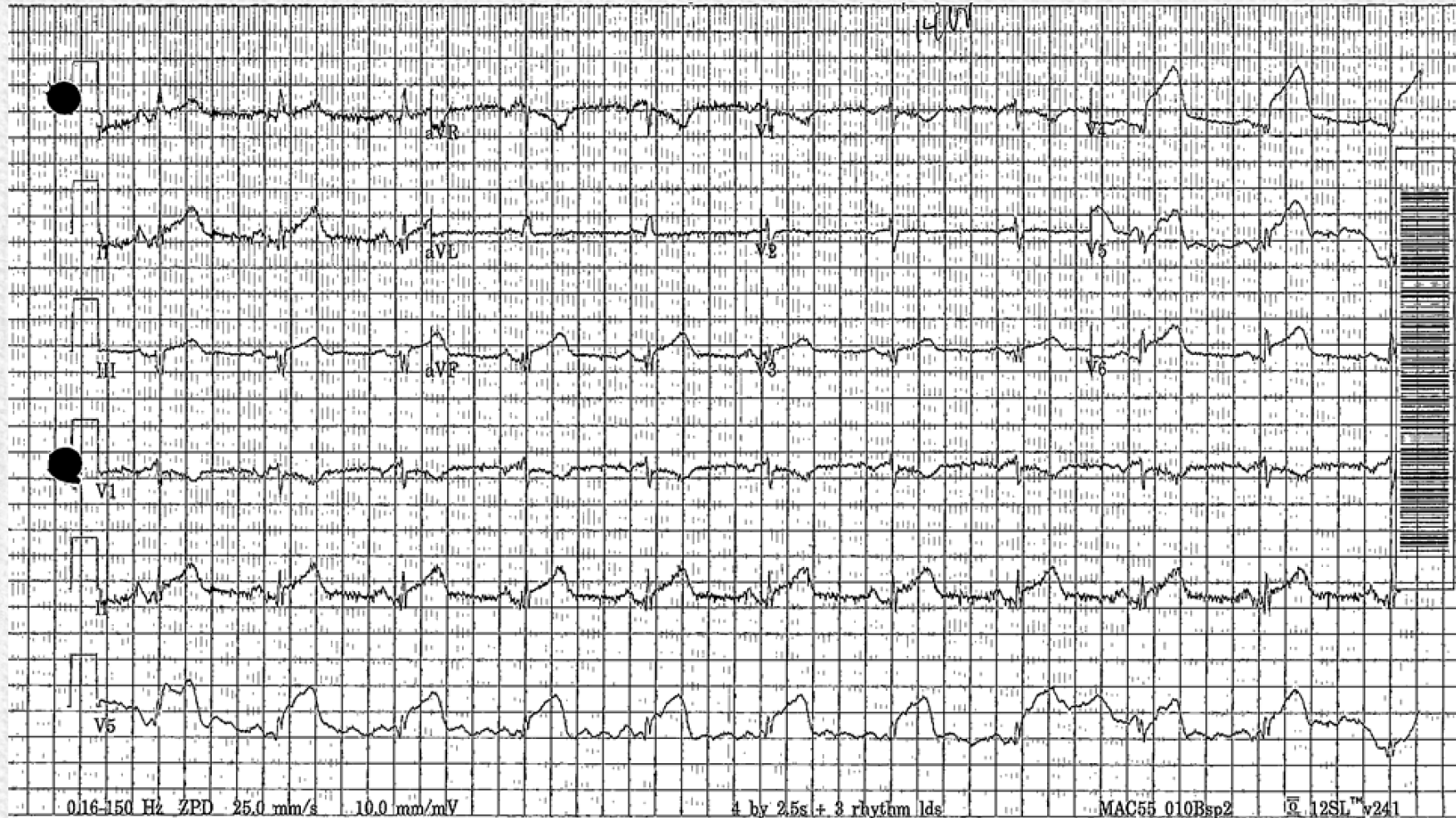
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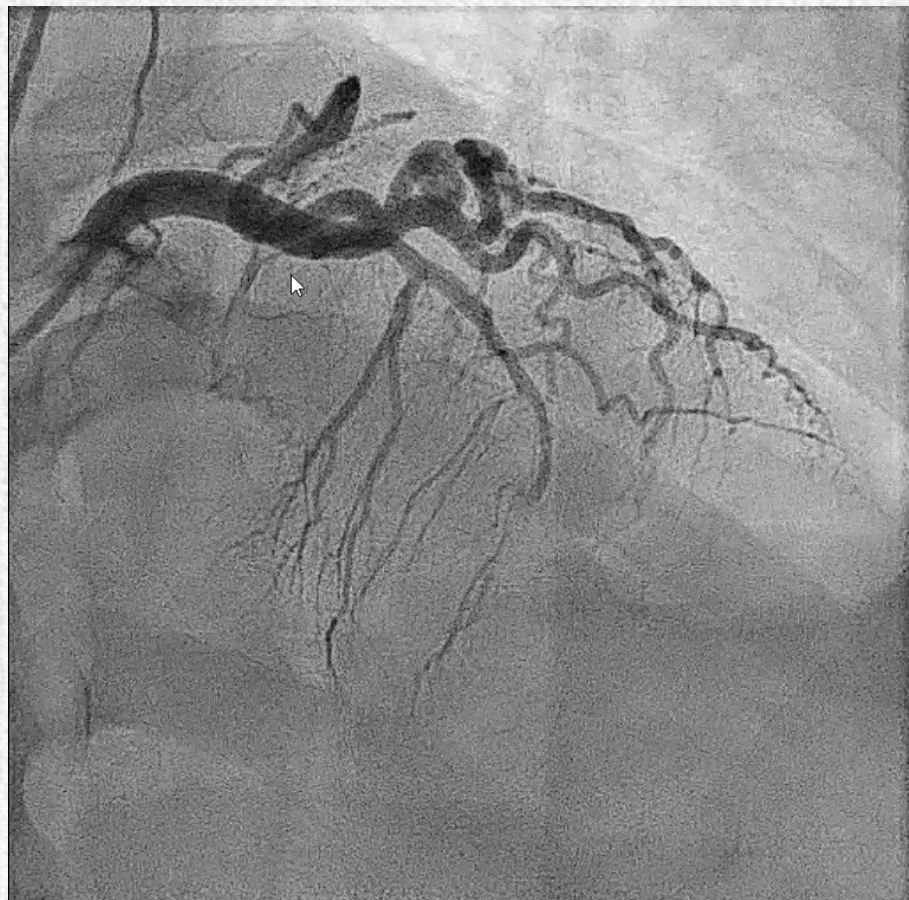
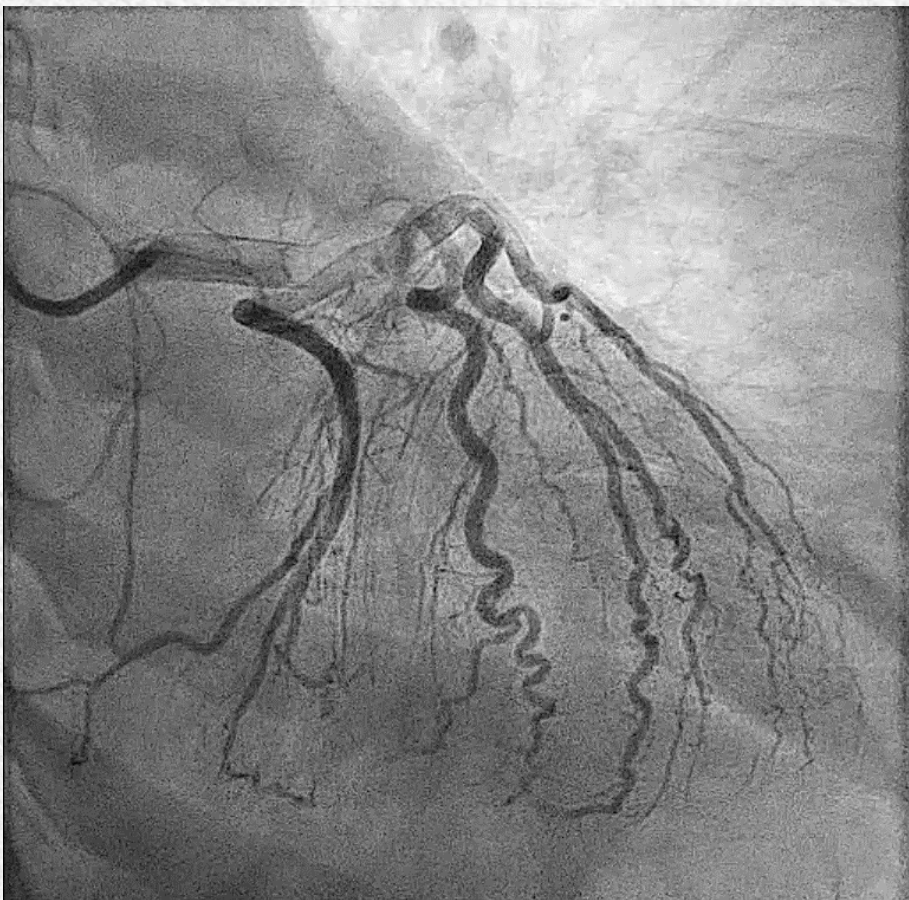
MedStar Washington Hospital Center, USA



48 year old female presented with left sided chest pain that radiates to the left shoulder and diaphoresis











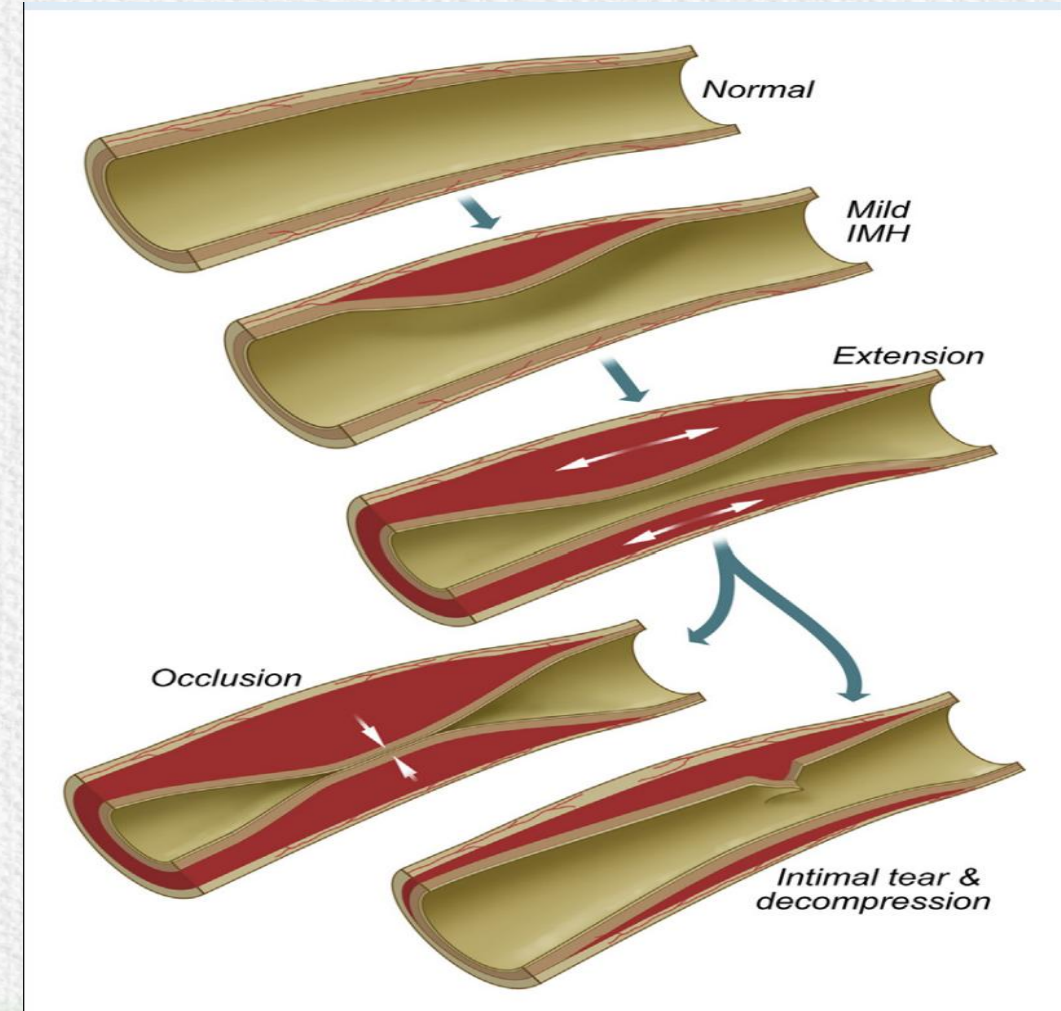
SCAD Definition

- Definition: Separation of the layers of an epicardial coronary-artery wall by intramural hemorrhage, with or without an intimal tear.
- Not associated with atherosclerosis, iatrogenic injury, or trauma.



Pathophysiology

- Two hypothesis exist
- **“Inside-out”** suggests that blood enters the subintimal space from the true lumen after development of an endothelial-intimal disruption or “flap”
- **“Outside-in”** hypothesis, the hematoma arises de novo in the media, possibly from disruption of traversing micro vessels



Statistics and Epidemiology

- Women comprise ~90% of SCAD with a mean age of presentation between 44 and 53 years.
- Studies have estimated a prevalence of SCAD as high as 4% of patients presenting with ACS.
- SCAD is the underlying cause of up to 35% of all ACS cases in women less than 50 years of age.



Diagnosis

- Coronary Angiography: Imperfect Gold standard.
- SCAD often occurs in the mid-to-distal coronary arteries with the LAD most commonly affected.
- IVUS vs OCT
- Coronary CTA (proximal SCAD) or to assess healing.

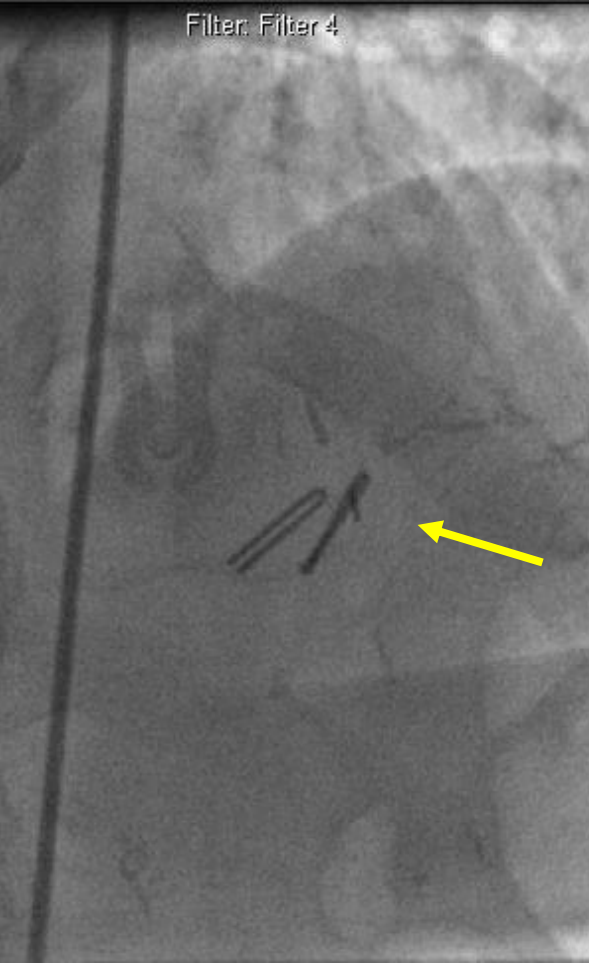


Angiographic SCAD Classification

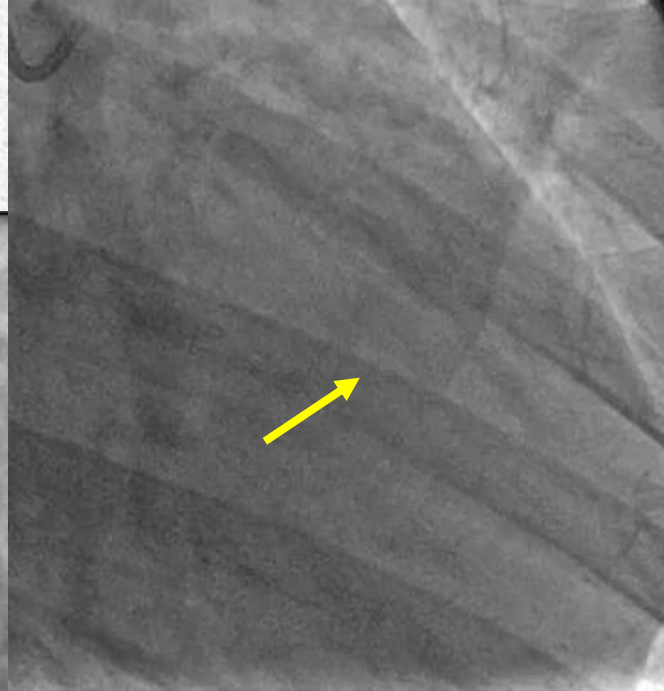
Type 1

Multiple radiolucent lumen

Filter: Filter 4



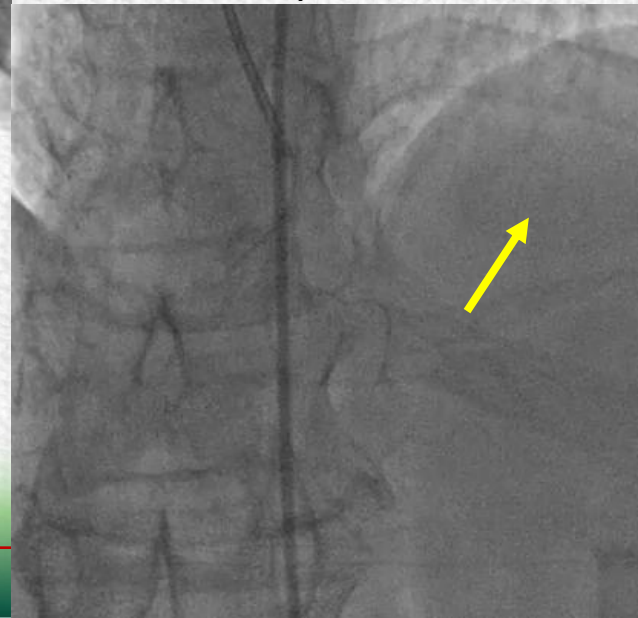
Type 2A



Diffuse stenosis with normal proximal and distal segments

Type 2B

Diffuse stenosis that extends to distal tip of vessel

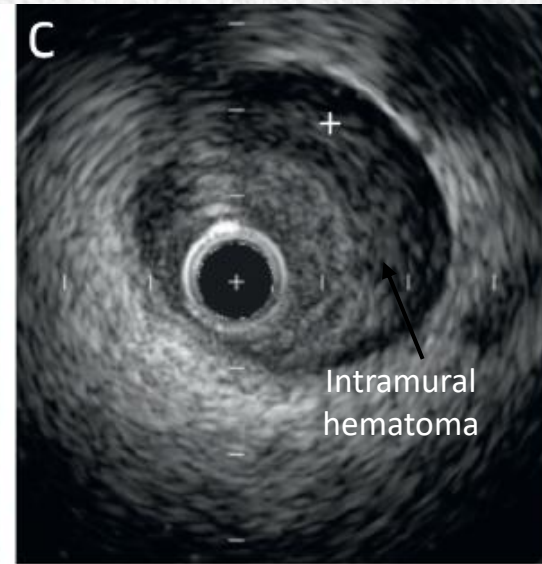
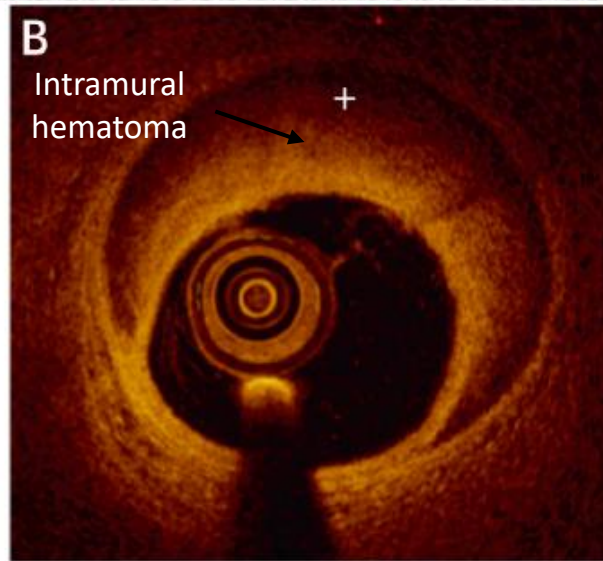
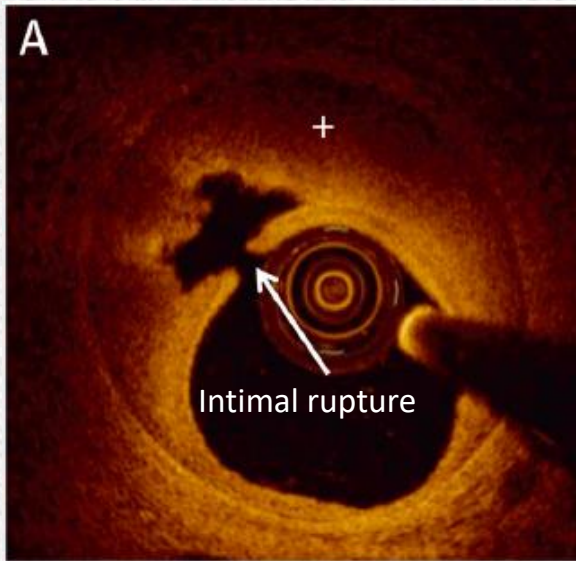


Type 3

Mimics atherosclerosis



Diagnosis of SCAD on OCT/IVUS



OCT:

- Better resolution (10-20 microns)
- Clearly delineate true/false lumen, intramural hematoma, intimal tear, intraluminal thrombi
- Poorer penetration (may not see full extension of hematoma in some areas)

IVUS:

- Lower resolution (150-200microns)
- Can delineate true/false lumen, intramural hematoma, intraluminal thrombi
- May not visualize intimal tear
- Better penetration (can visualize full vessel extent of hematoma)



Guidelines

2022 ACC/AHA/SCAI

9.6. Revascularization in Patients With SCAD

Recommendations for Revascularization in Patients With SCAD
Referenced studies that support the recommendations are summarized in [Online Data Supplement 22](#).

COR	LOE	Recommendations
2b	C-LD	1. In patients with SCAD who have hemodynamic instability or ongoing ischemia despite conservative therapy, revascularization may be considered if feasible. ¹⁻⁵
3: Harm	C-LD	2. Routine revascularization for SCAD should not be performed. ¹⁻⁵



JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF CARDIOLOGY
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PUBLISHED BY ELSEVIER

VOL. 74, NO. 10, 2019

Revascularization in Patients With Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection and ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction



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Results

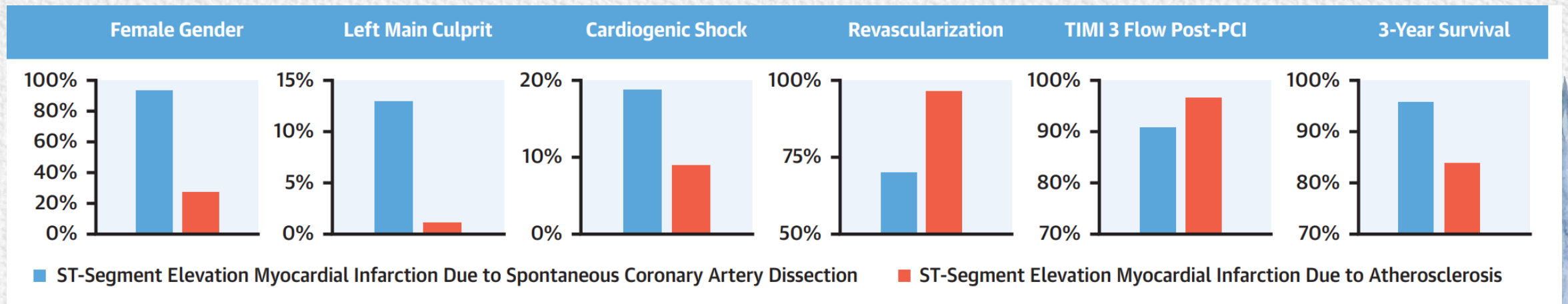
- Retrospective analysis AMI-SCAD vs AMI-ATH at 2 large STEMI centers.
- PCI was pursued in SCAD patients:
 - Ongoing ischemia
 - Proximal or mid-vessel dissection
 - Hemodynamic instability, in whom conservative management is an unsatisfactory alternative

TABLE 2 STEMI-SCAD Characteristics With Versus Without Attempted Revascularization

	STEMI-SCAD Attempted Revascularization (n = 37)	STEMI-SCAD Medical Management (n = 16)	p Value
Age, yrs	49.6 ± 10.3	49.0 ± 10.3	0.85
Culprit artery			0.29
Left main	7 (18.9)	0 (0.0)	
Left anterior descending	17 (46.0)	8 (50.0)	
Right coronary artery	7 (18.9)	4 (25.0)	
Circumflex	6 (16.2)	4 (25.0)	
Dissection location*			0.027
Proximal	16 (43.2)	1 (6.3)	
Mid	14 (37.8)	9 (56.3)	
Distal	7 (18.9)	6 (37.5)	
Initial TIMI flow			0.032
0/1	24 (64.8)	5 (31.3)	
2	8 (21.6)	4 (25.0)	
3	5 (13.5)	7 (43.8)	
Initial ejection fraction, %	47.3 ± 14.5	57.2 ± 8.0	0.014
Cardiogenic shock	10 (27.0)	0 (0.0)	0.023
Cardiac arrest	6 (16.2)	2 (12.5)	0.73
PCI stent	30 (81.1)	NA	NA
PCI angioplasty	3 (8.1)		
CABG	4 (10.8)		

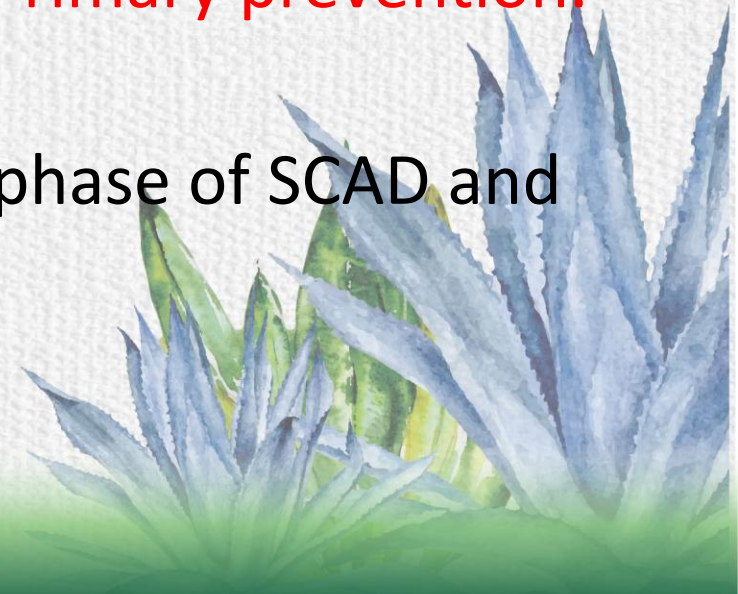
Values are mean ± SD or n (%). *The most proximal dissection location was reported.
Abbreviations as in Table 1.

- PCI strategy for STEMI-SCAD is effective in the majority of patients, with technical success only modestly lower than STEMI-ATH.



Medications

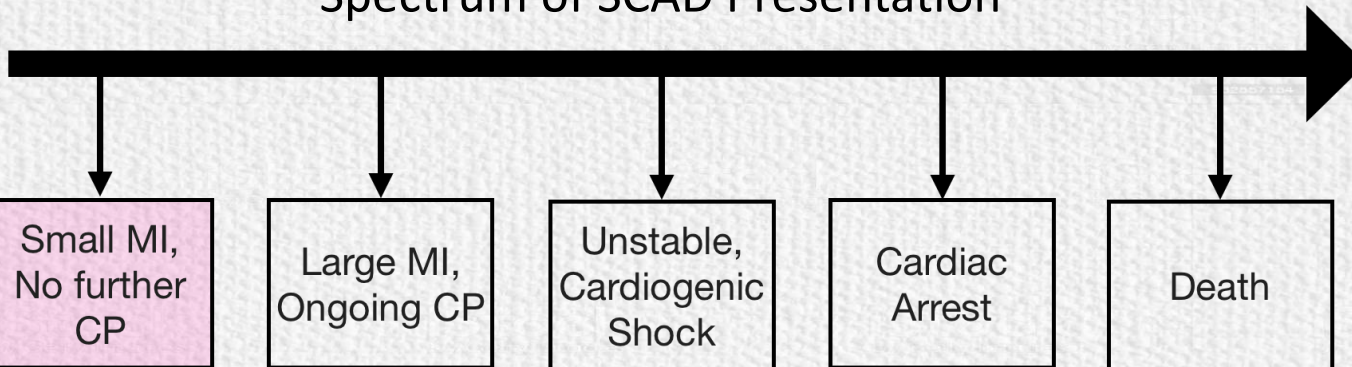
- Beta-blockers: Offers an additional benefit of preventing the recurrence of SCAD.
- Antianginals: Nitrates, calcium-channel blockers, and ranolazine.
- Statin: **No role. Only if meets guideline criteria for HLD/Primary prevention.**
- Antiplatelet: DAPT may be considered during the acute phase of SCAD and for up to 1 year for patients who receive PCI.



Management of SCAD

84% of CanSCAD pts
treated conservatively

Spectrum of SCAD Presentation

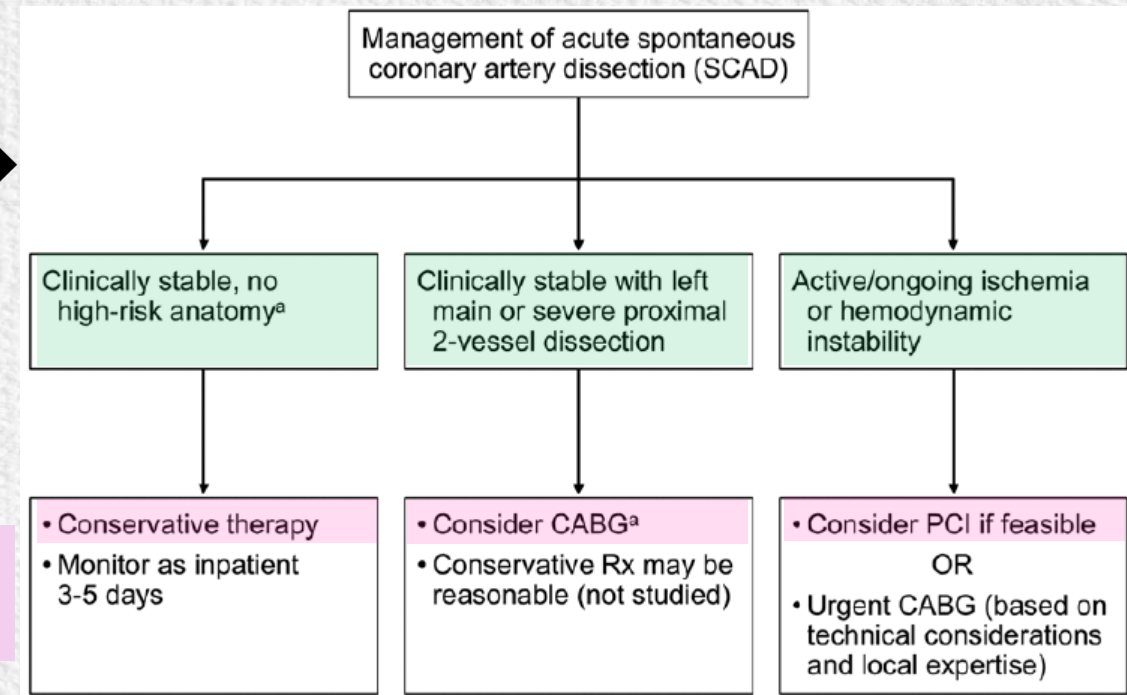


High-risk presentation of death, cardiac arrest, cardiogenic shock, EF<35%, or LM dissection occurred in 7.6% in CanSCAD study

AHA SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT

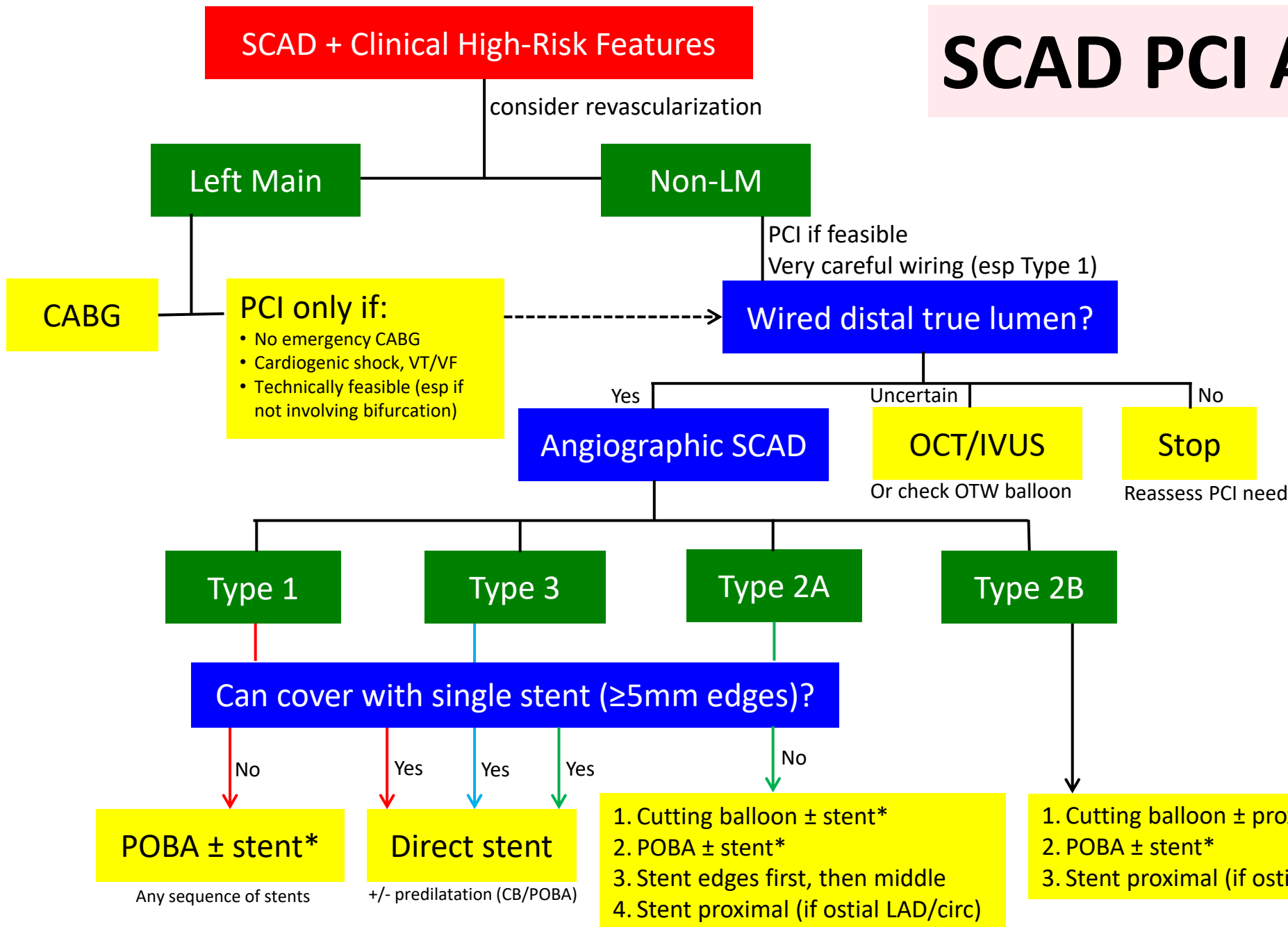
Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection: Current State of the Science

A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association



SCAD PCI Algorithm

SCAD + Clinical High-Risk Features



High-risk Features:

- Ongoing ischemia
- Cardiogenic shock
- Sustained ventricular arrhythmia
- Left main dissection

Options for PCI:

- Wiring only
- POBA ± stent
- Cutting balloon ± stent
- Stenting:
 - Single long stent
 - Either edges first, then middle
 - Proximal first (to avoid retrograde extension)
 - Sequential stenting

*Can avoid stenting especially if normal flow + no residual dissection

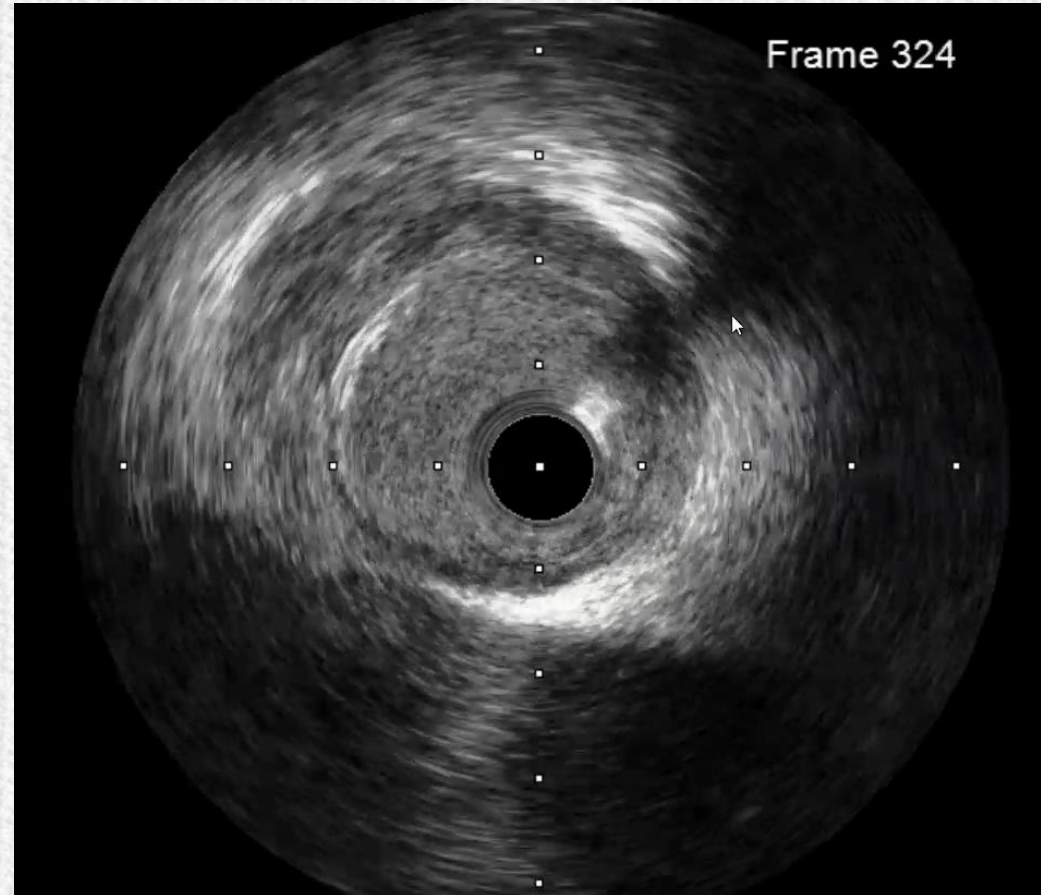
Saw J. EuroIntervention 2019;14:1353-1356.

Prevention

- 18% of patients w/ SCAD develop recurrent MI over a span of 3 to 4 years.
- Avoiding high-intensity endurance training, exercising to the point of exhaustion, and activities that involve a prolonged Valsalva maneuver is thought to be useful.



IVUS





Summary

- In clinically stable pts w/ maintained coronary flow, **a conservative management** strategy is preferred because of the increased risk of adverse outcomes with revascularization.
- Intracoronary imaging is best reserved for cases of diagnostic **uncertainty or where percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) is required.**
- Counseling, risk factor modification, and optimal medical therapy are key for preventing future recurrences.



Thank you

