

Supplementary

Table S1 Demographics and clinical characteristics according to target vessels

| Risk factors | LAD (n=210) | LCX (n=80) | RCA (n=210) | P value |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Age (years) | 64 [55, 69] | 60 [49, 67] | 64 [55, 71] | 0.044* |
| Male | 178 (84.8) | 72 (90.0) | 177 (84.3) | 0.441 |
| Hypertension | 132 (62.9) | 52 (66.3) | 145 (69.0) | 0.407 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 66 (31.4) | 34 (42.5) | 70 (33.3) | 0.198 |
| Smoking history | 100 (47.6) | 43 (53.8) | 115 (54.8) | 0.313 |
| OMI | 58 (27.6) | 20 (25.0) | 58 (27.6) | 0.890 |
| Prior PCI | 59 (28.1) | 30 (37.5) | 63 (30.0) | 0.294 |
| Prior CABG | 3 (1.4) | 3 (3.8) | 13 (6.2) | 0.039* |
| Prior failed attempt | 40 (19.0) | 8 (10.0) | 67 (31.9) | <0.001* |
| Stroke | 9 (4.3) | 4 (5.0) | 20 (9.5) | 0.079 |
| Presentation at the first admission | | | | |
| Stable angina | 168 (80.0) | 63 (78.8) | 161 (76.7) | 0.706 |
| Unstable angina | 18 (8.6) | 8 (10.0) | 24 (11.4) | 0.621 |
| NSTEMI | 20 (9.5) | 7 (8.8) | 20 (9.5) | 0.977 |
| STEMI | 4 (1.9) | 2 (2.5) | 5 (2.4) | 0.928 |
| Presentation at follow up | | | | |
| Stable angina | 201 (95.7) | 77 (96.3) | 204 (97.1) | 0.732 |
| Unstable angina | 6 (2.9) | 3 (3.8) | 4 (1.9) | 0.646 |
| NSTEMI | 3 (1.4) | 0 (0.0) | 2 (1.0) | 0.548 |
| STEMI | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | – |
| Laboratory and auxiliary examinations | | | | |
| Creatinine (μmol/L) | 82 [71, 92] | 81 [74, 98] | 80 [70, 91] | 0.640 |
| hs-CRP (mg/L) | 1.50 [0.50, 4.45] | 1.20 [0.60, 3.25] | 1.55 [0.60, 3.90] | 0.738 |
| White blood cell count ($\times 10^9/\text{L}$) | 6.17 [5.36, 7.27] | 6.72 [5.36, 8.15] | 6.56 [5.64, 7.69] | 0.111 |
| Platelet ($\times 10^9/\text{L}$) | 203 [167, 236] | 203 [167, 236] | 202 [164, 235] | 0.631 |
| Hemoglobin (g/L) | 142 [129, 147] | 141 [132, 150] | 139 [129, 148] | 0.412 |
| Total cholesterol (mmol/L) | 3.61 [2.8, 4.44] | 3.64 [2.92, 4.49] | 3.64 [3.07, 4.45] | 0.707 |
| Low density lipoprotein (mmol/L) | 1.88 [1.28, 2.62] | 1.54 [1.26, 2.61] | 1.82 [1.40, 2.49] | 0.783 |
| Triglyceride (mmol/L) | 1.44 [1.06, 2.03] | 2.04 [1.23, 2.89] | 1.62 [1.13, 2.32] | 0.016* |
| High density lipoprotein (mmol/L) | 1.00 [0.83, 1.18] | 0.85 [0.73, 1.05] | 0.96 [0.81, 1.11] | 0.008* |
| Lp (a) (mg/L) | 154 [69, 331] | 199 [82, 534] | 178 [96, 450] | 0.009* |
| HbA1c (%) | 5.9 [5.5, 6.7] | 6.1 [5.6, 6.9] | 6.0 [5.6, 6.8] | 0.407 |
| Pre-PCI hs-cTnT (ng/mL) | 0.012 [0.008, 0.025] | 0.011 [0.008, 0.028] | 0.011 [0.008, 0.025] | 0.901 |
| Post-PCI hs-cTnT (ng/mL) | 0.068 [0.030, 0.189] | 0.086 [0.041, 0.215] | 0.075 [0.034, 0.178] | 0.910 |

Data are shown as median [IQR 25, 75] or n (%). *, P<0.05. LAD, left anterior descending artery; LCX, left circumflex artery; RCA, right coronary artery; OMI, old myocardial infarction; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting; NSTEMI, non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; STEMI, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; hs-CRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein; Lp (a), lipoprotein (a); hs-cTnT, high-sensitivity cardiac troponin T; IQR, interquartile range.

Table S2 Lesion and procedural features according to target vessels

| Risk factors | LAD (n=210) | LCX (n=80) | RCA (n=210) | P value |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Syntax score | 25.0 [20.5, 28.5] | 21.0 [11.5, 26.0] | 19.5 [11.0, 26.0] | <0.001* |
| J-CTO score | 2 [1, 3] | 2 [2, 3] | 2 [2, 3] | 0.792 |
| Collateral circulation | | | | |
| Ipsilateral | 17 (8.1) | 31 (38.8) | 12 (5.7) | <0.001* |
| Contralateral | 86 (41.0) | 14 (17.5) | 113 (53.8) | <0.001* |
| Bilateral | 107 (51.0) | 35 (43.8) | 85 (40.5) | 0.093 |
| Rentrop classification | | | | |
| 1 | 24 (11.4) | 18 (22.5) | 15 (7.1) | <0.001* |
| 2 | 160 (76.2) | 56 (70.0) | 162 (77.1) | 0.434 |
| 3 | 26 (12.4) | 6 (7.5) | 33 (15.7) | 0.167 |
| Dual angiography | 102 (48.6) | 28 (35.0) | 119 (56.7) | 0.004* |
| Revascularization strategy | | | | |
| Antegrade | 167 (79.5) | 70 (87.5) | 160 (76.2) | 0.104 |
| Retrograde | 5 (2.4) | 0 (0.0) | 5 (2.4) | 0.378 |
| Hybrid | 38 (18.1) | 10 (12.5) | 45 (21.4) | 0.211 |
| Wire cross technique | | | | |
| Wire escalation | 174 (82.9) | 73 (91.3) | 161 (76.7) | 0.014* |
| Parallel wiring | 14 (6.7) | 5 (6.3) | 18 (8.6) | 0.691 |
| ADR | 2 (1.0) | 0 (0) | 2 (1.0) | 0.681 |
| R-CART | 12 (5.7) | 1 (1.3) | 19 (9.0) | 0.046* |
| Kissing wire | 8 (3.8) | 1 (1.3) | 9 (4.3) | 0.453 |
| Intra-stent occlusion | 17 (8.1) | 4 (5.0) | 21 (10.0) | 0.382 |
| Stent length (mm) | 61 [42, 71] | 45 [33, 60] | 84 [64, 108] | <0.001* |
| Average stent diameter (mm) | 2.81 [2.68, 3.00] | 2.50 [2.41, 2.63] | 3.00 [2.80, 3.25] | <0.001* |
| Minimal stent diameter (mm) | 2.50 [2.50, 2.75] | 2.50 [2.25, 2.50] | 2.62 [2.50, 3.00] | <0.001* |
| Side-branch loss | 4 (1.9) | 0 (0) | 2 (1.0) | 0.375 |
| Dissection/hematoma | 1 (0.5) | 1 (1.3) | 7 (3.3) | 0.030* |
| Collateral perforation | 1 (0.5) | 0 (0.0) | 7 (3.3) | 0.082 |
| calMR after CTO PCI | 18.3 [14.1, 23.6] | 20.7 [15.9, 25.7] | 16.6 [12.8, 21.1] | <0.001* |
| CTFC after CTO PCI | 9 [7, 13] | 16 [12, 19] | 16 [12, 20] | <0.001* |
| Target lesion restenosis at follow up | 23 [11.0] | 12 [15.0] | 59 [28.1] | <0.001* |
| Diameter stenosis at follow-up** (%) | 9.94±27.94 | 14.14±33.96 | 24.01±37.12 | <0.001* |

Data are shown as median [IQR 25, 75] or n (%) or mean ± SD. *, P<0.05; **, the most severe residual stenosis in the target vessel after PCI. LAD, left anterior descending artery; LCX, left circumflex artery; RCA, right coronary artery; ADR, antegrade dissection re-entry; R-CART, reverse controlled antegrade and retrograde subintimal tracking; calMR, coronary angiography derived-index of microcirculatory resistance; CTO, chronic total occlusion; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; CTFC, corrected thrombolysis in myocardial infarction frame count; IQR, interquartile range.

Table S3 Demographics and clinical characteristics

| Risk factors | Slow to normal flow (n=17) | Consistent slow flow (n=12) | P value | Consistent normal flow (n=428) | Normal to slow flow (n=43) | P value |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Age (years) | 63 [50, 68] | 56 [51, 64] | 0.499 | 63 [55, 69] | 62 [55, 66] | 0.373 |
| Male | 16 (94.1) | 12 (100.0) | 1.000 | 366 (85.5) | 33 (76.7) | 0.128 |
| Hypertension | 13 (76.5) | 8 (66.7) | 0.873 | 281 (65.7) | 28 (65.1) | 0.944 |
| Diabetes mellitus | 6 (35.3) | 2 (16.7) | 0.494 | 150 (35.0) | 12 (27.9) | 0.347 |
| Smoking history | 9 (52.9) | 7 (58.3) | 0.774 | 222 (51.9) | 20 (46.5) | 0.503 |
| OMI | 8 (47.1) | 5 (41.7) | 0.774 | 116 (27.1) | 7 (16.3) | 0.123 |
| Prior PCI | 7 (41.2) | 5 (41.7) | 0.979 | 124 (29.0) | 16 (37.2) | 0.260 |
| Prior CABG | 1 (5.9) | 1 (3.4) | >0.99 | 15 (3.5) | 2 (4.7) | >0.99 |
| Prior failed attempt | 7 (41.2) | 4 (33.3) | 0.968 | 93 (21.7) | 11 (25.6) | 0.562 |
| Stroke | 2 (11.8) | 0 (0.0) | 0.498 | 26 (6.1) | 5 (11.6) | 0.162 |
| Presentation at the first admission | | | | | | |
| Stable angina | 14 (82.4) | 8 (66.6) | 0.595 | 339 (79.2) | 31 (72.1) | 0.279 |
| Unstable angina | 0 (0.0) | 2 (16.7) | 0.163 | 41 (9.6) | 7 (16.3) | 0.166 |
| NSTEMI | 2 (11.8) | 2 (16.7) | 1.000 | 39 (9.1) | 4 (9.3) | 0.967 |
| STEMI | 1 (3.4) | 0 (0.0) | >0.99 | 9 (2.1) | 1 (2.3) | 1.000 |
| Presentation at follow-up | | | | | | |
| Stable angina | 17 (100.0) | 12 (100.0) | – | 414 (96.7) | 39 (90.7) | 0.121 |
| Unstable angina | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | – | 10 (2.3) | 3 (7.0) | 0.200 |
| NSTEMI | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | – | 4 (0.9) | 1 (2.3) | 0.946 |
| Laboratory and auxiliary examinations | | | | | | |
| Creatinine (μmol/L) | 85 [76, 97] | 80 [71, 87] | 0.283 | 81 [71, 92] | 79 [67, 92] | 0.126 |
| hs-CRP (mg/L) | 1.60 [0.50, 6.80] | 1.60 [0.65, 4.55] | 0.611 | 1.50 [0.60, 3.60] | 1.50 [0.60, 3.85] | 0.716 |
| White blood cell count ($\times 10^9/\text{L}$) | 6.62 [5.25, 7.75] | 6.89 [5.98, 8.38] | 0.556 | 6.37 [5.40, 7.57] | 6.45 [5.40, 8.07] | 0.847 |
| Platelet ($\times 10^9/\text{L}$) | 190 [166, 213] | 216 [189, 242] | 0.107 | 201 [163, 238] | 210 [169, 228] | 0.845 |
| Hemoglobin (g/L) | 142 [138, 154] | 150 [142, 153] | 0.471 | 141 [130, 148] | 138 [126, 146] | 0.587 |
| Total cholesterol (mmol/L) | 3.47 [3.35, 3.83] | 3.89 [3.38, 5.03] | 0.195 | 3.66 [3.00, 4.44] | 3.67 [3.30, 4.94] | 0.429 |
| Low density lipoprotein (mmol/L) | 1.74 [1.53, 2.14] | 2.10 [1.67, 3.33] | 0.211 | 1.85 [1.33, 2.54] | 1.94 [1.24, 2.94] | 0.054 |
| Triglyceride (mmol/L) | 1.54 [1.18, 1.75] | 1.74 [1.56, 2.39] | 0.263 | 1.54 [1.10, 2.21] | 1.97 [1.32, 2.76] | 0.886 |
| High density lipoprotein (mmol/L) | 0.96 [0.84, 1.08] | 0.94 [0.85, 1.05] | 0.744 | 0.97 [0.81, 1.14] | 1.03 [0.78, 1.14] | 0.768 |
| Lp (a) (mg/L) | 179 [90, 384] | 301 [123, 830] | 0.370 | 168 [76, 411] | 236 [103, 558] | 0.159 |
| HbA1c (%) | 5.8 [5.5, 7.1] | 5.9 [5.5, 6.2] | 0.746 | 5.9 [5.6, 6.7] | 6.0 [5.7, 6.7] | 0.938 |
| Pre-PCI hs-cTnT (ng/mL) | 0.011 [0.009, 0.028] | 0.013 [0.007, 0.032] | 0.777 | 0.011 [0.008, 0.026] | 0.010 [0.007, 0.017] | 0.282 |
| Post-PCI hs-cTnT (ng/mL) | 0.146 [0.093, 0.217] | 0.122 [0.031, 0.231] | 0.419 | 0.068 [0.030, 0.184] | 0.113 [0.046, 0.263] | 0.072 |
| Ejection fraction in the first hospitalization (%) | 57.5±11.7 | 63.0±6.1 | 0.034* | 60.0±9.3 | 59.8±8.3 | 0.513 |
| Change in low density lipoprotein (mmol/L)** | -0.22±1.04 | -0.49±0.62 | 0.444 | -0.45±0.87 | -0.58±1.08 | 0.750 |
| Change in triglyceride (mmol/L)** | 0.52±2.16 | -0.47±0.80 | 0.018* | 0.01±1.75 | 0.34±2.09 | 0.382 |
| Change in high density lipoprotein (mmol/L)** | 0.09±0.19 | 0.19±0.64 | 0.556 | 0.05±0.30 | 0.03±0.15 | 0.630 |
| Change in Lp (a) (mmol/L)** | -15±176 | -97±210 | 0.879 | -43±187 | -65±123 | 0.357 |
| Change in ejection fraction (%)** | 2.33±9.09 | -1.25±6.81 | 0.200 | 0.23±6.32 | 0.03±6.09 | 0.950 |

Data are shown as median [IQR 25, 75], n (%) or mean ± standard deviation. *, P<0.05; **, the values recorded at follow up minus the values recorded during the first hospitalization. OMI, old myocardial infarction; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; CABG, coronary artery bypass grafting; NSTEMI, non-ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; STEMI, ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction; hs-CRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein; Lp (a), lipoprotein (a); hs-cTnT, high-sensitivity cardiac troponin T; IQR, interquartile range.

Table S4 Lesion and procedural features

| Risk factors | Slow to normal flow (n=17) | Consistent slow flow (n=12) | P value | Consistent normal flow (n=428) | Normal to slow flow (n=43) | P value |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|
| Syntax score | 23.5 [19.5, 25.0] | 13.5 [9.5, 21.5] | 0.180 | 22.5 [17.5, 27.5] | 21.0 [10.5, 28.0] | 0.140 |
| J-CTO score | 2 [1, 2] | 2 [1, 3] | 0.826 | 2 [1, 3] | 2 [1, 3] | 0.746 |
| Target vessel | | | | | | |
| LAD | 4 (23.5) | 0 (0) | 0.121 | 197 (46.0) | 9 (20.9) | 0.002* |
| LCX | 4 (23.5) | 0 (0) | 0.121 | 68 (15.9) | 8 (18.6) | 0.644 |
| RCA | 9 (52.9) | 12 (100) | 0.009* | 163 (38.1) | 26 (60.5) | 0.004* |
| Collateral circulation | | | | | | |
| Ipsilateral | 5 (29.4) | 0 (0.0) | 0.059 | 50 (11.7) | 5 (11.6) | 0.992 |
| Contralateral | 7 (41.2) | 10 (83.3) | 0.023* | 178 (41.6) | 18 (41.9) | 0.973 |
| Bilateral | 5 (29.4) | 2 (16.7) | 0.727 | 200 (46.7) | 20 (46.5) | 0.978 |
| Rentrop classification | | | | | | |
| 1 | 1 (5.9) | 2 (16.7) | 0.749 | 46 (10.7) | 6 (14.0) | 0.523 |
| 2 | 12 (70.6) | 9 (75.0) | 0.793 | 327 (76.4) | 32 (74.4) | 0.771 |
| 3 | 4 (23.5) | 1 (8.3) | 0.570 | 55 (12.9) | 5 (11.6) | 0.819 |
| Revascularization strategy | | | | | | |
| Antegrade | 11 (64.7) | 9 (75.0) | 0.582 | 345 (80.6) | 32 (74.4) | 0.333 |
| Retrograde | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 9 (2.1) | 0 (0) | 1.000 |
| Hybrid | 6 (35.3) | 2 (16.7) | 0.494 | 74 (17.3) | 11 (25.6) | 0.178 |
| Wire cross technique | | | | | | |
| Wire escalation | 17 (100.0) | 9 (75.0) | 0.060 | 348 (81.3) | 35 (81.4) | 0.989 |
| Parallel wiring | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 33 (7.7) | 3 (7.0) | 0.863 |
| ADR | 0 (0.0) | 0 (0.0) | – | 4 (0.9) | 0 (0) | 1.000 |
| R-CART | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 28 (6.5) | 3 (7.0) | 0.913 |
| Kissing wire | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 15 (3.5) | 2 (4.7) | 0.701 |
| Intra-stent occlusion | 1 (5.9) | 3 (25.0) | 0.356 | 33 (7.7) | 5 (11.6) | 0.369 |
| Stent length (mm) | 57 [38, 70] | 40 [0, 86] | 0.370 | 64 [48, 86] | 71 [57, 98] | 0.403 |
| Average stent diameter (mm) | 3.00 [2.67, 3.27] | 2.73 [2.56, 3.27] | 0.511 | 2.81 [2.64, 3.00] | 3.01 [2.75, 3.50] | 0.477 |
| Minimal stent diameter (mm) | 2.50 [2.50, 3.00] | 2.50 [2.44, 2.94] | 0.588 | 2.50 [2.50, 2.75] | 2.75 [2.50, 3.25] | 0.009* |
| Side-branch loss | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 3 (0.7) | 2 (4.7) | 0.016* |
| Dissection/hematoma | 0 (0.0) | 1 (8.3) | 0.414 | 7 (1.6) | 1 (2.3) | 0.739 |
| Collateral perforation | 2 (11.8) | 1 (8.3) | 1.000 | 5 (1.2) | 0 (0) | 0.476 |
| CTFC after CTO PCI | 28 [28, 33] | 38 [36, 45] | <0.001* | 12 [9, 17] | 16 [12, 21] | <0.001* |
| calMR after CTO PCI | 35.4 [22.3, 41.0] | 30.5 [23.0, 47.8] | 0.972 | 17.4 [13.1, 22.5] | 19.5 [15.2, 25.2] | 0.048* |
| CTFC at follow up | 20 [14, 24] | 40 [33, 70] | <0.001* | 15 [12, 20] | 52 [30, 98] | <0.001* |
| Target lesion restenosis at follow up | 2 (11.8) | 8 (66.7) | 0.008* | 54 (12.6) | 30 (69.8) | <0.001* |
| Diameter stenosis at follow-up** (%) | 9.41±22.21 | 60.83±46.21 | 0.006* | 10.78±27.31 | 76.91±36.21 | <0.001* |

Data are shown as median [IQR 25, 75] or n (%) or mean ± standard deviations. *, P<0.05; **, the most severe residual stenosis in the target vessel after CTO PCI. CTO, chronic total occlusion; LAD, left anterior descending artery; LCX, left circumflex artery; RCA, right coronary artery; ADR, antegrade dissection re-entry; R-CART, reverse controlled antegrade and retrograde subintimal tracking; CTFC, corrected thrombolysis in myocardial infarction frame count; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; calMR, coronary angiography derived-index of microcirculatory resistance; IQR, interquartile range.

Table S5 Independent risk factors of periprocedural myocardial injury* in logistic regression model

| Risk factors | Adjusted odds ratio (95% CI) | P value |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| Slow flow after CTO PCI | 4.12 (1.68–10.07) | 0.002 |
| Stent length | 1.01 (1.01–1.01) | 0.021 |
| Syntax score | 1.03 (1.01–1.05) | 0.006 |

*¹, defined according to the fourth universal definition of myocardial infarction. CI, confidence interval; CTO, chronic total occlusion; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention.