## A Novel Driveline Stabilization Technique for VADs

<u>S. Özçobanoğlu</u>, C. Kemaloğlu, U. Koksel, O. Erbasan, I. Golbasi, C. Turkay, O. Bayezid Cardiovascular Surgery, Akdeniz University Faculty of Medicine, Antalya, Turkey

Purpose: Evaluation of a novel driveline stabilization technique for ventricular assist devices. Methods: Left ventricular assist device implanted 39 patients were evaluated for driveline infections retrospectively. Standard driveline stabilization technique was utilized for 27 patients and novel technique was utilized for 12 patients. Novel drive line stabilization includes continuous suturing of driveline scaffold or silicone covering, due to the device, to subcutaneous tissue with bioabsorbable suturing material and cutaneous tissue suturing with two mattress sutures with nonabsorbable suturing material.

**Results:** Totally 14 driveline infections were detected during the follow up period (Mean follow up duration was 8,3 months). In standard technique, number of infection detected patients were 12 and 2 in the novel technique (p: 0,047). Number of patients who received IV antibiotherapy were 6 in standard technique and there was no IV antibiotherapy needed in the novel technique. Two patients with driveline infection in the novel technique group received 10 days of oral antibiotherapy. Repeated driveline infection was detected in 4 patients with standard technique and no repeated driveline infection detected in the novel technique.

**Conclusion:** The novel driveline stabilization technique for VADs has promising results with need of prospective trials and long term follow up results.























Authors: No relationships to disclosure