

Special Issue

Latest Advances in Paravalvular Leak

Message from the Guest Editors

Paravalvular leak (PVL) is a common complication associated with surgical valve replacement and more recently transcatheter valve implantation procedures. Early recognition and intervention are imperative for appropriate management, as medical therapy is not effective. The results of systematic review and meta-analysis suggest that successful trans-catheter PVL reduction is associated with a decrease in cardiac mortality and functional class improvement in patients unsuitable for surgical correction. A surprising number of different devices, vascular plugs, and more recently newly dedicated devices have been used to close aortic or mitral paravalvular leaks. Nevertheless, transcatheter interventions have followed a difficult path of development. The difficulties have been mostly linked to technical issues, such as visualization of the defect and suboptimal delivery systems. The Special Issue will summarize the most relevant data on the clinical, diagnostic, and technical aspects of PVL treatment and will point out to its limitations and future development.

Guest Editors

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