


eComment: Re: Neurochemical markers during selective cerebral perfusion via the right brachial artery

Authors: Leo A. Bockeria, Bakoulev Center for Cardiovascular Surgery, 121552 Moscow, Russia; Anatoliy I. Malashenkov, Sergey V. Rychin
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We have read with great interest the report of this original and inexpensive technique by Özatik and colleagues [1]. However, in our opinion, direct cannulation of the brachial artery can be difficult in case of a small diameter of the artery. For this purpose, it is probably better to perform a synthetic graft-to-artery anastomosis with graft cannulation, or cannulation of a greater subclavian artery.

We have been applying antegrade cerebral perfusion during aortic arch surgery since 1998. Until now we have experience of 66 such operations. Since 2004 the right-sided unilateral selective antegrade cerebral perfusion (SACP) through the right subclavian artery was predominantly used. Despite the messages of some authors that stroke was more common after a strategy of unilateral SACP [2], we have obtained opposite data. The key point in the successful use of this method is the functioning circle of Willis. In our study, flow velocity in the middle cerebral artery (examined by transcranial Doppler) was demonstrated to be unsignificantly lower in the left cerebral hemisphere with unilateral SACP, and we had no neurologic event. If it is necessary, bilateral SACP can be easily achieved by inserting a cannula in the left carotid artery orifice under direct vision. In our opinion, it is an effective, simple and inexpensive technique.

References
