Clinical News Bulletin

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Loop Technique in a dual stenosis during shunt dilatation procedure with the AndraTec Exeter Retrieval Snare

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General Information: A dialysis shunt system is not a physiological condition. Therefore it is very prone for complications like stenosis and occlusions. An adequate blood flow of 800-1200ml/min allows the shunt for dialysis. Lower flows of < 600 ml/min and the dialysis may becomes inadequate and should therefor be evaluated for a possible stenosis. Dialysis patients are depending on a functional shunt, the flow conditions in the shunt area promote the development of thrombus. This is the reason for an early intervention (PTA or thrombectomy), or a surgical solution with a new anastomoses etc. The amount of dialysis related punctures (every 2-3 days) is changing the structure of the vessel wall as well. A development of calcified lesions, vessel stenosis, Intima hyperplasia is resulting out of that. These factors lead to a reduced blood flow and a shunt insufficiency.

Case presentation:
A 50-year old male dialysis patient was referred to our department to treat a suspected lesion in the upper arm shunt. Angiography revealed 2 very tight stenosis. 1st high grade long stenosis in the brachial and 2nd high grade stenosis in the Vena subclavia in the transition to Vena brachiocephalica sinistra. Fig. 1 / Fig. 2

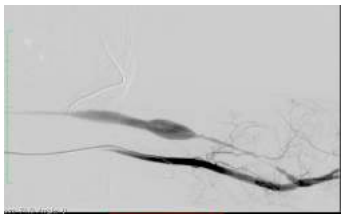

Fig. 1

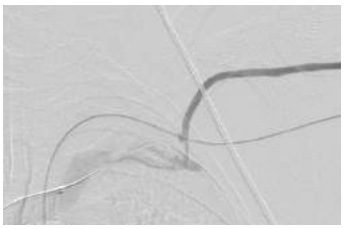

Fig. 2

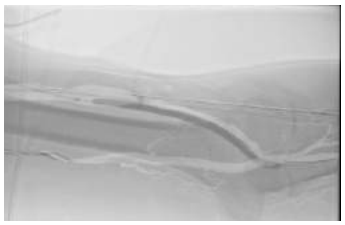

Fig. 3

Material & Technique:
A 5F Terumo sheath has been placed for the 1st puncture in the groin and for the 2nd puncture in the upper arm. A 6x40 PTA balloon has been inserted through the transbrachial access. And a successful PTA has been performed. (Fig. 3)
The **Exeter Snare (AndraTec Germany)** has than been used to perform a Loop Technique to get the wire down to the Vena subclavia (Fig 4).
Finally a second dilatation of the Vena brachiocephalica has been performed to restore the full flow again. (Fig. 5/6/7)

Fig. 4

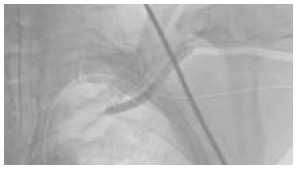

Fig. 5

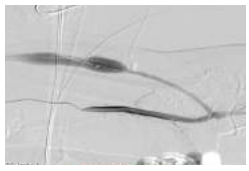

Fig. 6

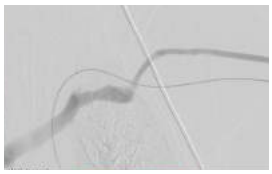

Fig. 7

Conclusion: We have chosen the **Exeter Snare (AndraTec GmbH Germany)** because of its unique design and because of its low sheath compatibility. The performance makes it our 1st product of choice for foreign body retrieval.