

# Echocardiographic Evaluation of Aortic Valve Prosthesis

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ASCeXAM/ReASCE 2017  
Philadelphia, PA



## Pre Questions (1)

- Regarding Aortic Prosthetic Valves
  - A. A routine echocardiogram is required very two years after AVR
  - B. An elevated gradient with a decreased EOA is always suggestive of valvular stenosis
  - C. Transthoracic echocardiogram alone is always sufficient to diagnose valvular stenosis
  - D. It is more challenging to quantify para-valvular versus valvular aortic regurgitation.



## Pre Questions (2)

- Patients with Prosthesis-Patient Mismatch
  - A. Have abnormal prosthetic valve function
  - B. Progressively worsen with time
  - C. Have a small valve compared to the demands of their body and cardiac output
  - D. Have a benign condition



### GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

#### Recommendations for Evaluation of Prosthetic Valves With Echocardiography and Doppler Ultrasound

A Report From the American Society of Echocardiography's Guidelines and Standards Committee and the Task Force on Prosthetic Valves, Developed in Conjunction With the American College of Cardiology Cardiovascular Imaging Committee, Cardiac Imaging Committee of the American Heart Association, the European Association of Echocardiography, a registered branch of the European Society of Cardiology, the Japanese Society of Echocardiography and the Canadian Society of Echocardiography, Endorsed by the American College of Cardiology Foundation, American Heart Association, European Association of Echocardiography, a registered branch of the European Society of Cardiology, the Japanese Society of Echocardiography, and Canadian Society of Echocardiography

William A. Zoghbi, MD, FASE, Chair, John B. Chambers, MD,\* Jean G. Dumesnil, MD,<sup>†</sup> Elyse Foster, MD,<sup>‡</sup> John S. Gottdiener, MD, FASE, Paul A. Grayburn, MD, Bijoy K. Khandheria, MBBS, FASE, Robert A. Levine, MD, Gerald Ross Marx, MD, FASE, Fletcher A. Miller, Jr., MD, FASE, Satoshi Nakatani, MD, PhD,<sup>§</sup> Miguel A. Quiñones, MD, Harry Rakowski, MD, FASE, I. Leonardo Rodriguez, MD, Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE, Alan D. Waggoner, MHS, RDCS, Neil J. Weissman, MD, FASE,<sup>||</sup> and Miguel Zabalgaitia, MD, *Houston and Dallas, Texas; London, United Kingdom; Quebec City, Quebec, Canada; San Francisco, California; Baltimore, Maryland; Scottsdale, Arizona; Boston, Massachusetts; Rochester, Minnesota; Suita, Japan; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Cleveland, Ohio; Durham, North Carolina; St Louis, Missouri; Washington, DC; Springfield, Illinois*

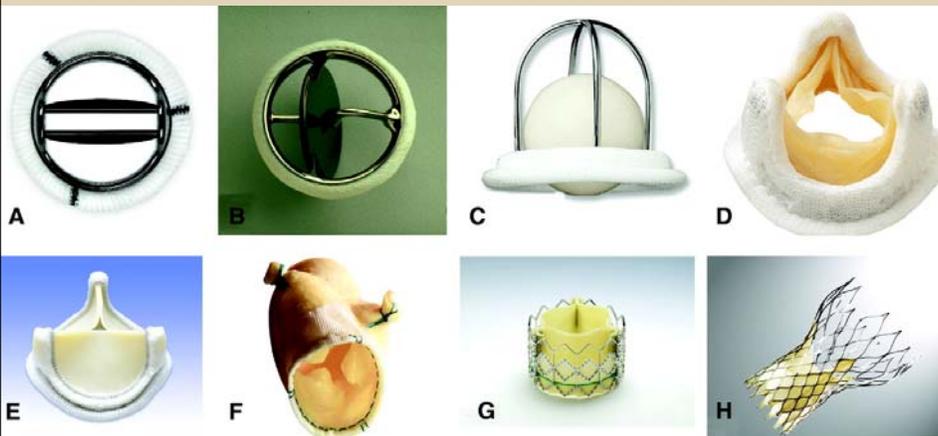
JASE September 2009

## Topics of Discussion

- Types and Flow Profiles of Prosthetic Valves
- Echocardiographic Evaluation: Key Points
- Challenges for Evaluation
- Prosthetic Valves Evaluation
  - Elevated gradients
  - Regurgitation
  - Endocarditis
  - Thrombosis versus pannus



## Types & Flow Profiles of Prosthetic Valves Mechanical Vs. Bioprosthesis Vs. Autografts



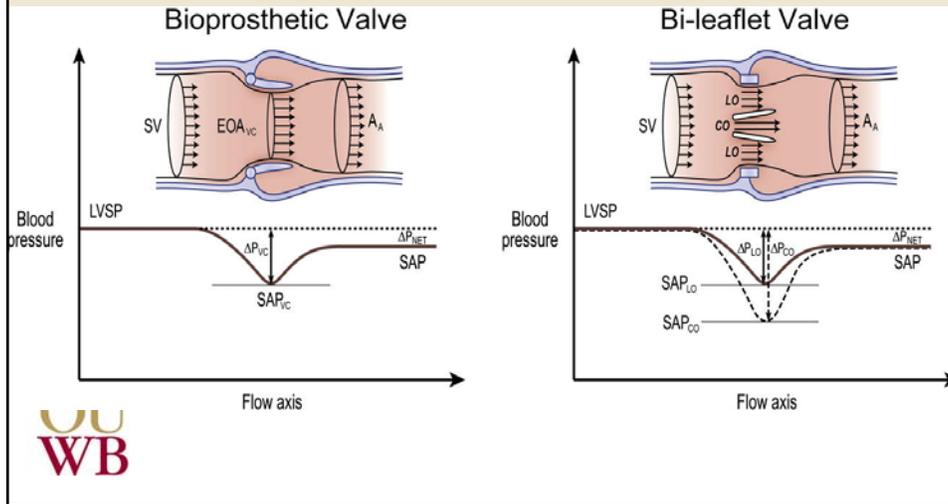
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Pibarot P, Dumesnil J G Circulation 2009;119:1034-1048



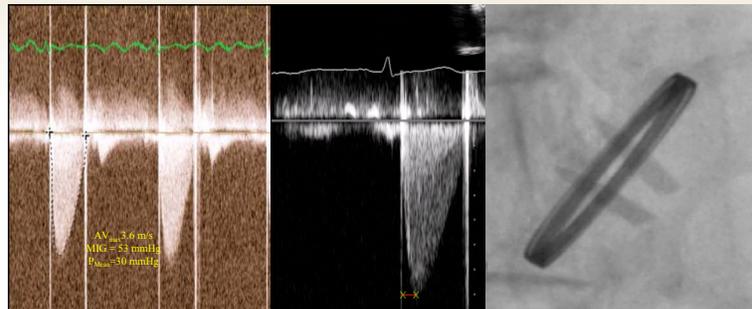
# Types & Flow Profiles of Prosthetic Valves

## Mechanical Vs. Bioprosthetic Flow



# Localized Pressure Loss and High Gradient in Central Orifice of Bileaflet Mechanical Valve

## (?Pressure Recovery)



**OU WB**

• **Fluoroscopy**

## ECHO EVALUATION Guidelines

- CLASS I
  - Initial TTE after AVR (2-4 weeks or sooner if concern for follow up and transfer)
  - Repeat TTE for AVR if there is a change in clinical symptoms or signs suggesting dysfunction
  - TEE for AVR if there is a change in clinical symptoms or signs suggesting dysfunction
- CLASS II
  - Annual TTE in bioprosthetic valves after the first 10 years (5 years in prosthetic statement 2008) but not mechanical valves



Nishimura et al 2014

## ECHO EVALUATION: Key Points

- Clinical picture
- Baseline study
- Type and size of valve
- LV chamber
- BP/HR
- Height/weight/BSA
- Exercise echo may be helpful
- Cinefluoroscopy, CT, MRI



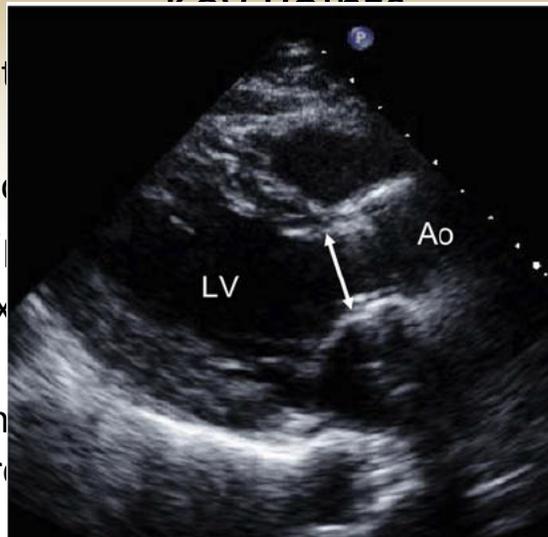
## ECHO EVALUATION: Key Points

- Opening and Closing of leaflets or occluders
- Abnormal densities (calcium/mass/vegetation)
- Stability versus rocking motion
- May use Modified versus Simplified Bernoulli
  - $4V_2^2 - 4V_1^2$  Vs.  $4V_2^2$
- Attention to flow states & adequate Doppler signals



## Echo Evaluation: Key Points

- Adequate
  - LVOT visualization (0.5 to 1 cm)
  - Multiple views
  - Off axis
  - LVOT
  - Eccentric flow
  - Different



## Evaluation of Prosthetic Valves: Challenges

- Large range in what is considered normal
- Mean Gradients produced depend on size and type of valve.
- For any particular patient... it is difficult to differentiate normal from abnormal, hence the need for comparison to older studies
- Shadowing may interfere with assessment of location and amount of regurgitation

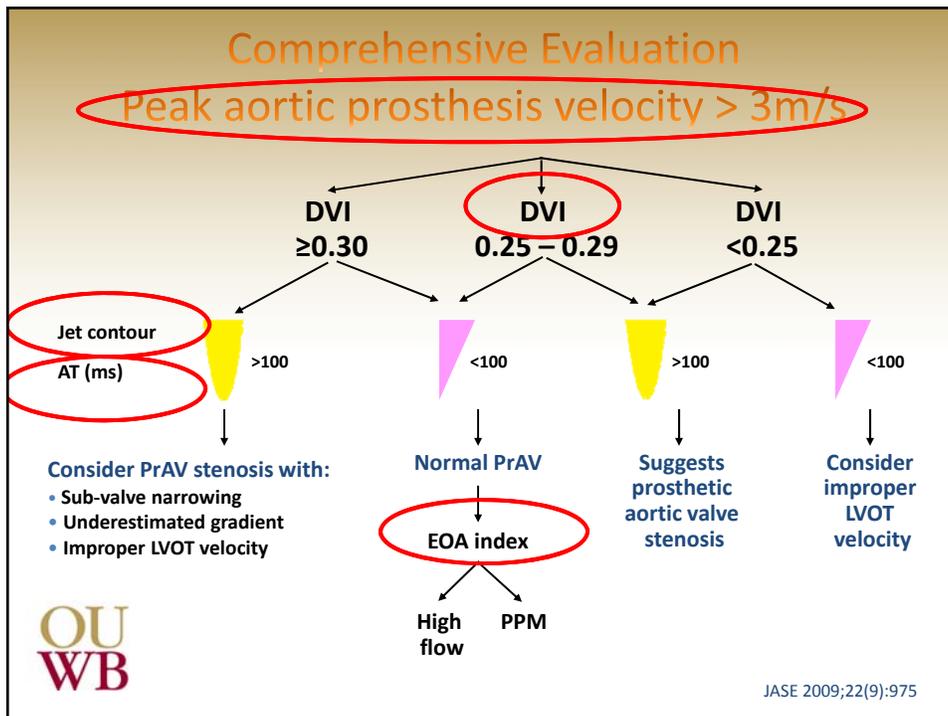


## Bioprosthetic Valve Abnormalities

- Elevated Gradients
- Regurgitation
- Endocarditis
- Thrombosis
- Pannus



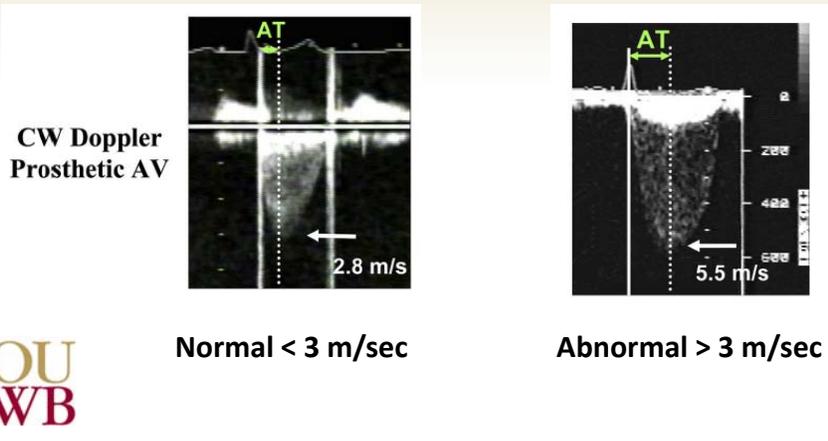
# Echocardiographic Evaluation of Elevated Prosthetic Valve Gradients





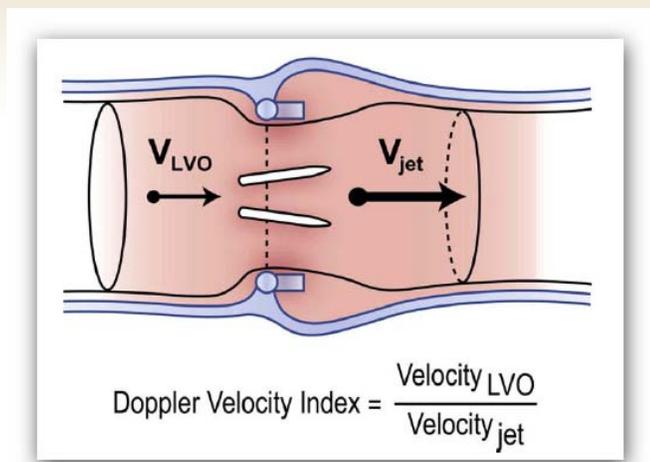
## Parameters Utilized

- Peak prosthetic aortic velocity

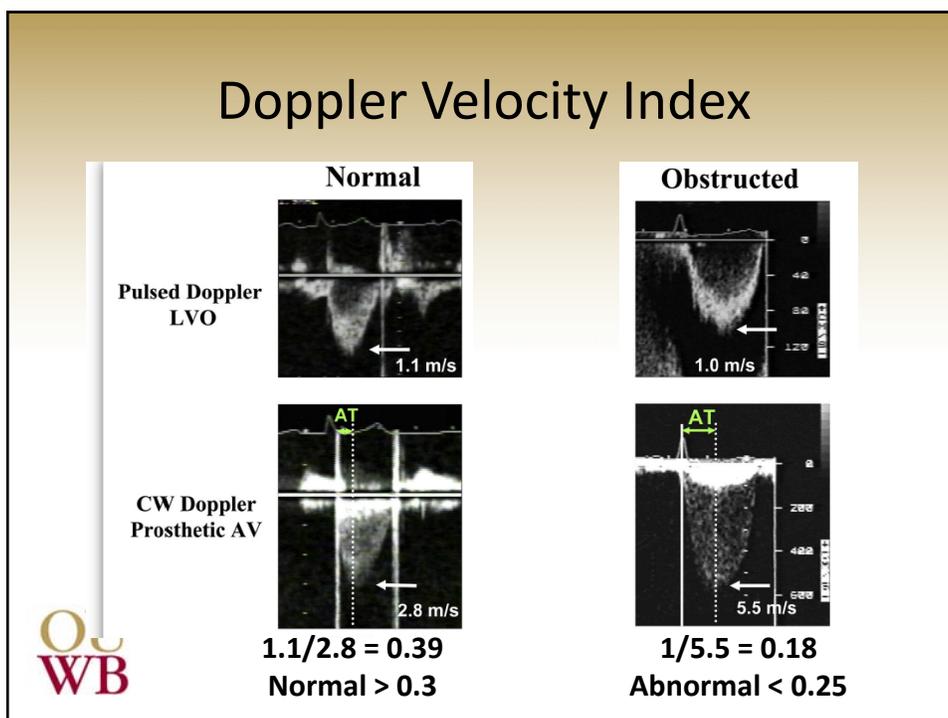


## Parameters Utilized

- Doppler Velocity Index

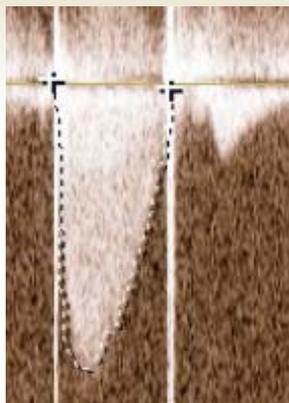


## Doppler Velocity Index

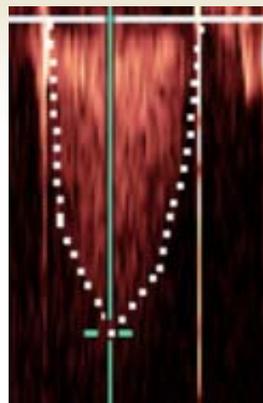


## Parameters Utilized

- Jet Contour



Triangular



Rounded

**OU WB**

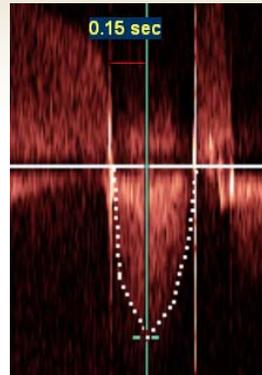
## Parameters Utilized

- Acceleration Time



OU  
WB

80 msec  
Normal < 100 msec



150 msec  
Abnormal > 100 msec

## Parameters Utilized

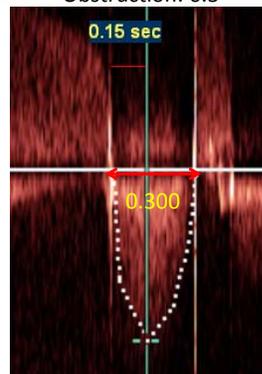
- Acceleration time/ ejection time
- $AT/ET > 0.4$ : Prosthetic valve obstruction

No Obstruction: 0.31



OU  
WB

Obstruction: 0.5

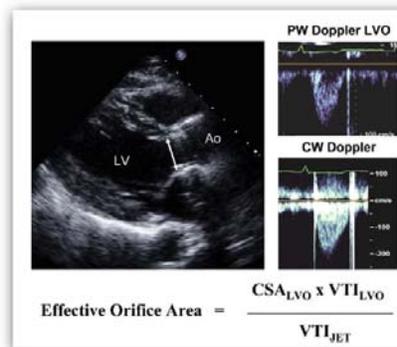


## Parameters Utilized

- Effective Orifice Area and iEOA

$$A_2 \text{ (EOA)} = \frac{A_1 \times V_1}{V_2} \quad \mathbf{iEOA = AVA/BSA}$$

**Normal > 1.2 cm<sup>2</sup>**  
**Abnormal < 0.8 cm<sup>2</sup>**  
**Abnormal < 0.6 cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>**

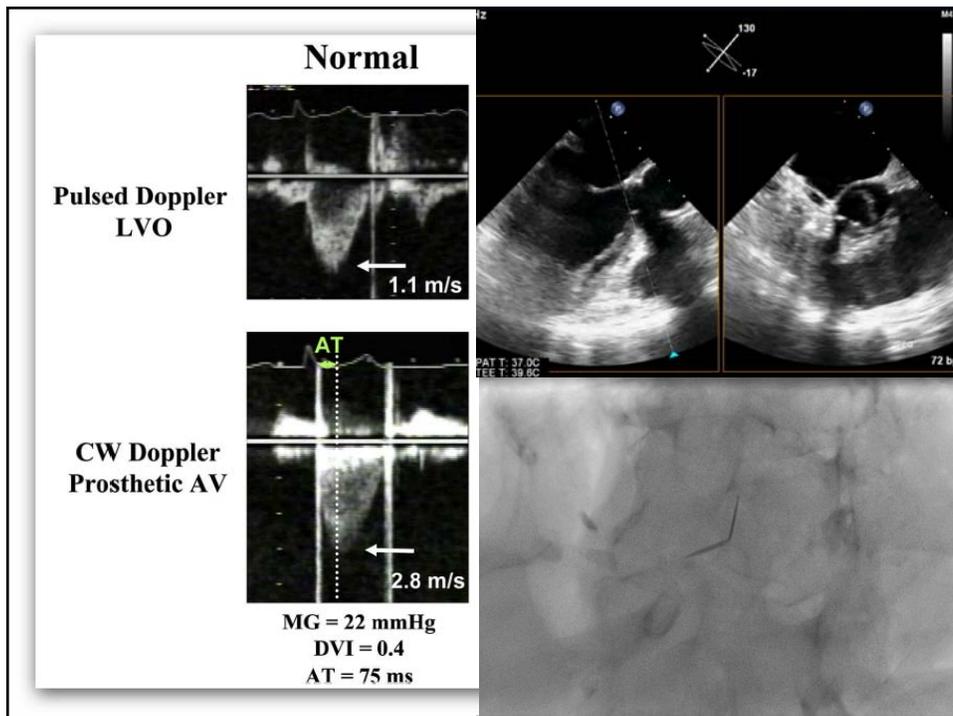


## Cause of Elevated Gradients Across Aortic Prosthesis

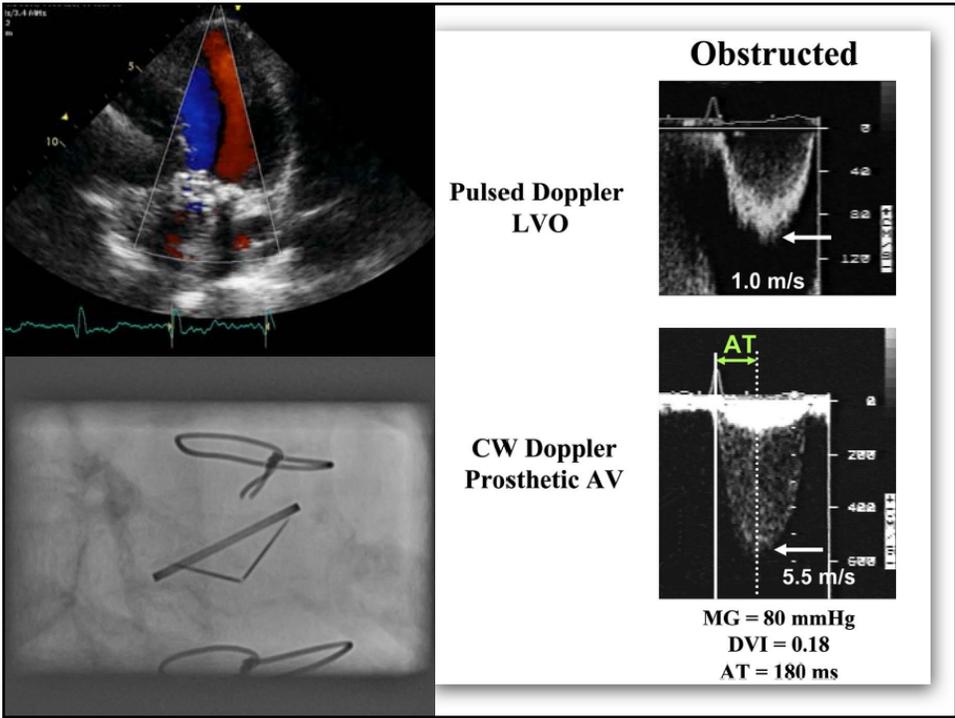
- Errors in Measurement
  - Improper LVOT Velocity
    - Taken too far from flow acceleration
  - Improper AV Velocity (Gradient) Assessment
- Increased Flow
- Pressure Recovery
- Prosthesis patient mismatch
- Prosthesis stenosis



# NORMAL PROSTHESIS FUNCTION



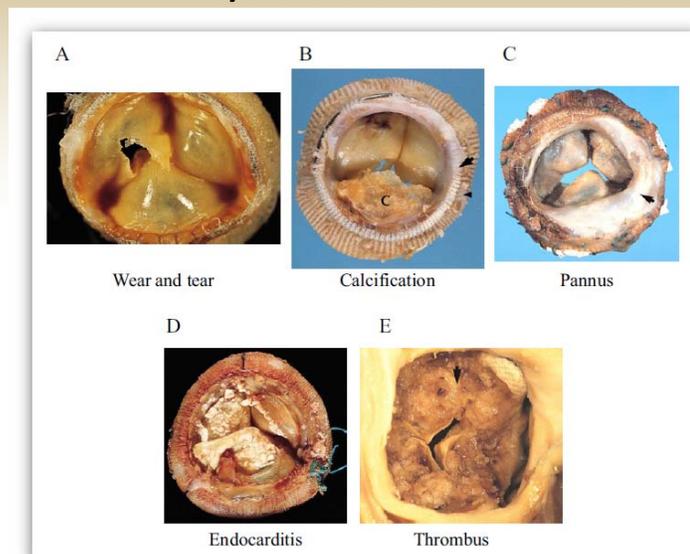
# PROSTHETIC STENOSIS



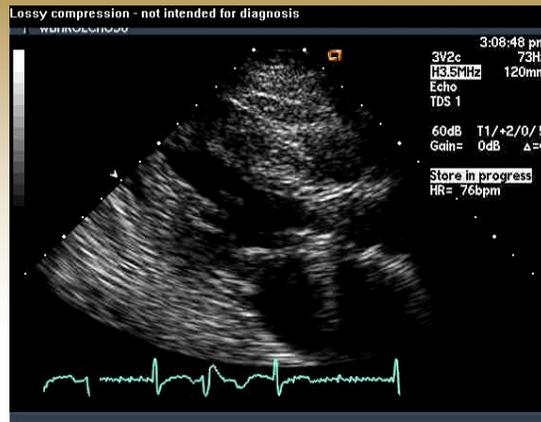
## Doppler of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal	Possible Stenosis	Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	3-4 m/sec	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmHg	20-35 mmHg	> 35 mmHg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	0.29-0.25	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>	1.2 – 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>	< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking	Triangular to intermediate	Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	80-100 ms	> 100 ms

## Mechanisms of Prosthetic Valve Dysfunction



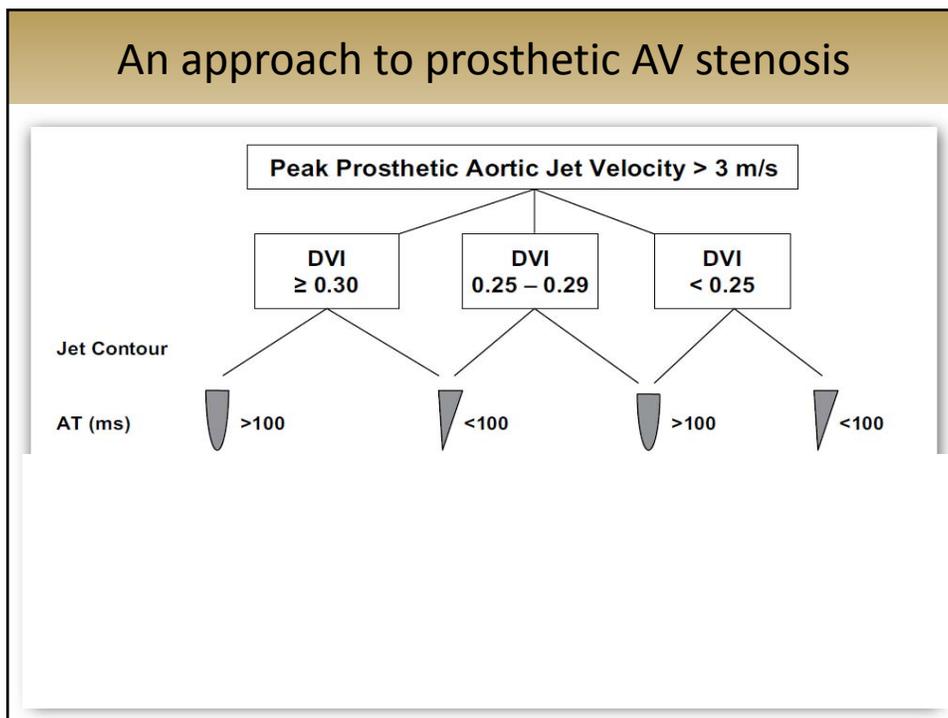
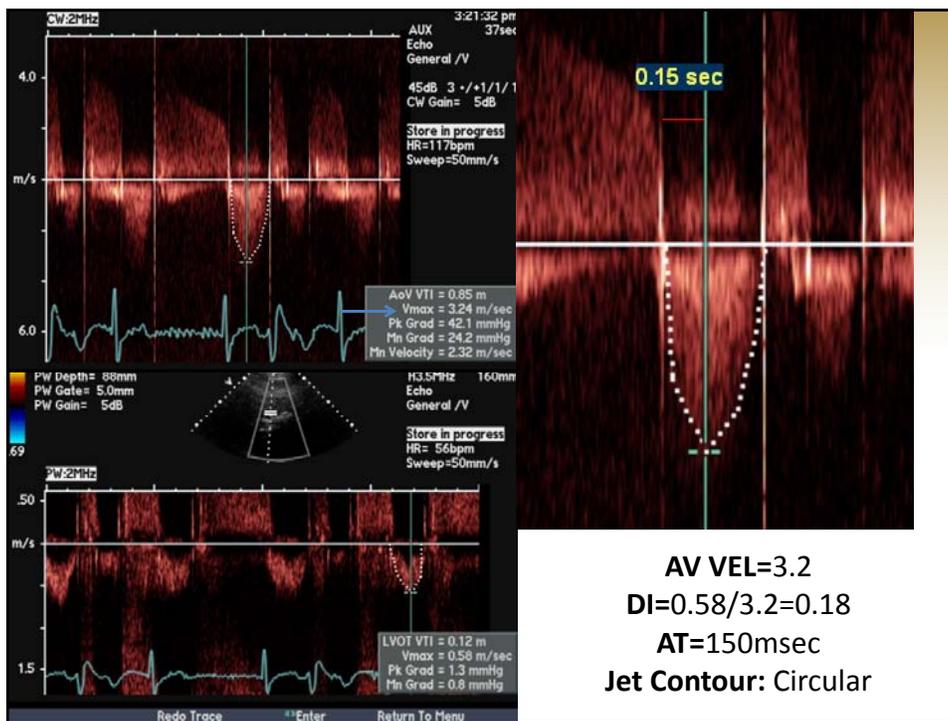
## CASE PRESENTATIONS



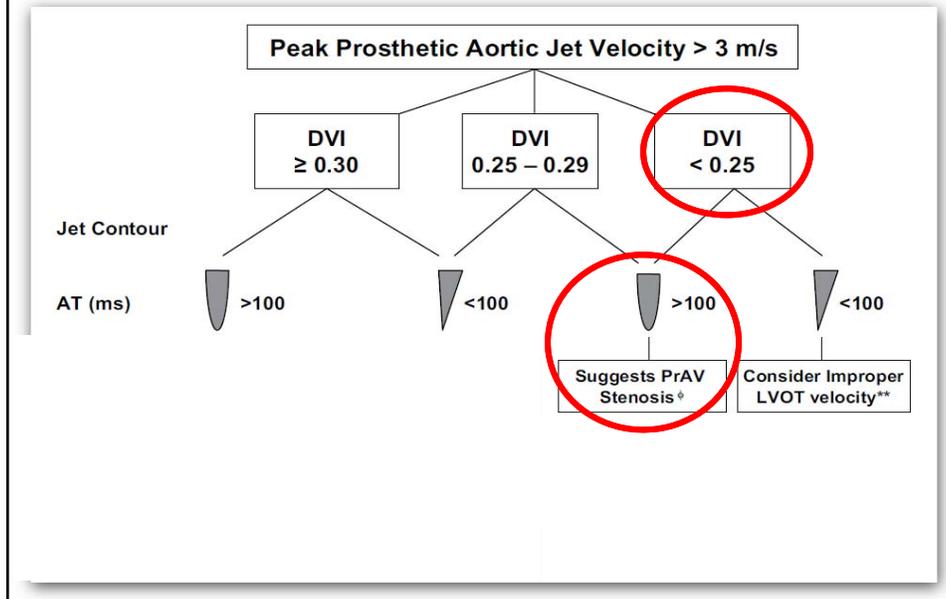
- CASE PRESENTATION (1):
- 81 Y/O with progressive DOE
- PMHx: Rheumatic valve disease, CABG + Mechanical AVR 2003 (19 St Jude Regent Valve)
- TTE: Difficult to visualize mechanical AV







## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis



## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal		Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	<b>3.2</b>	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	<b>24</b>	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	<b>0.18</b>	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>		< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking		Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	<b>150 ms</b>	> 100 ms

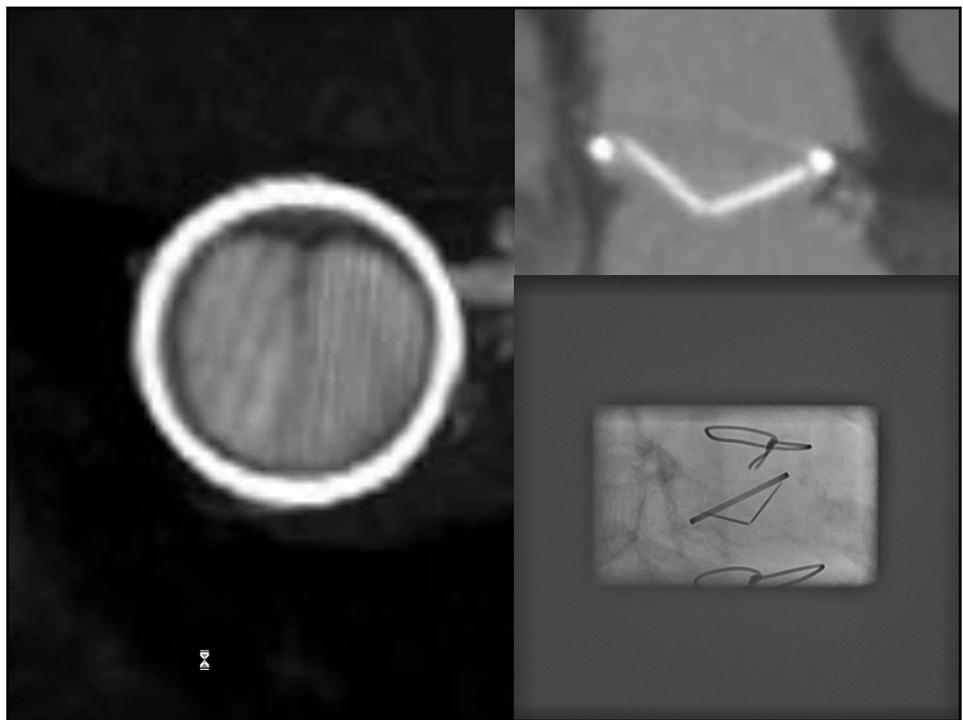
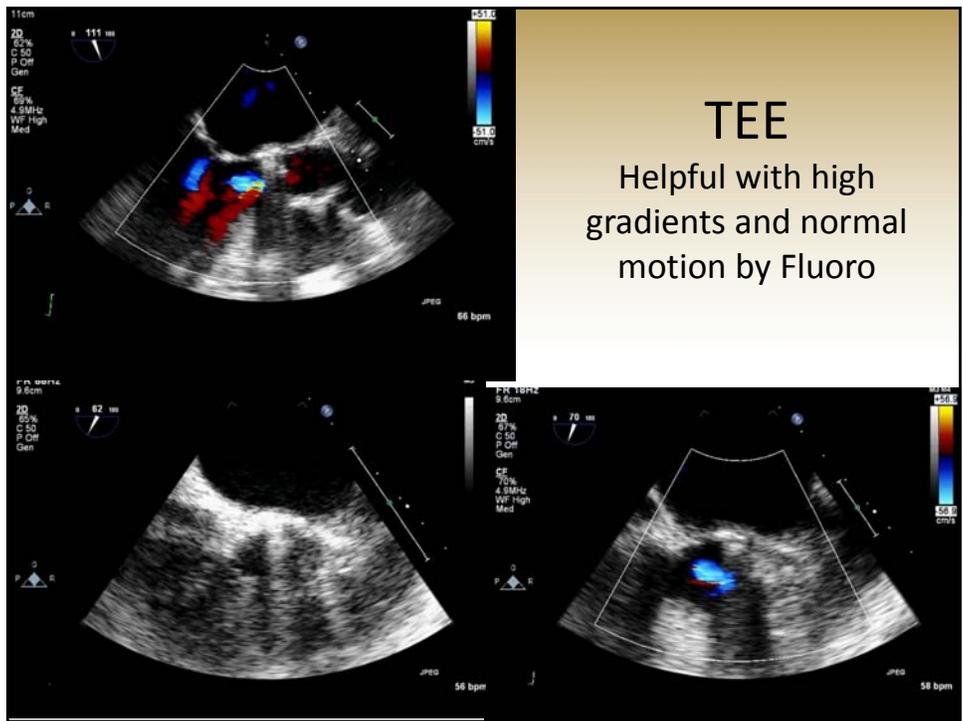
## What is your diagnosis?

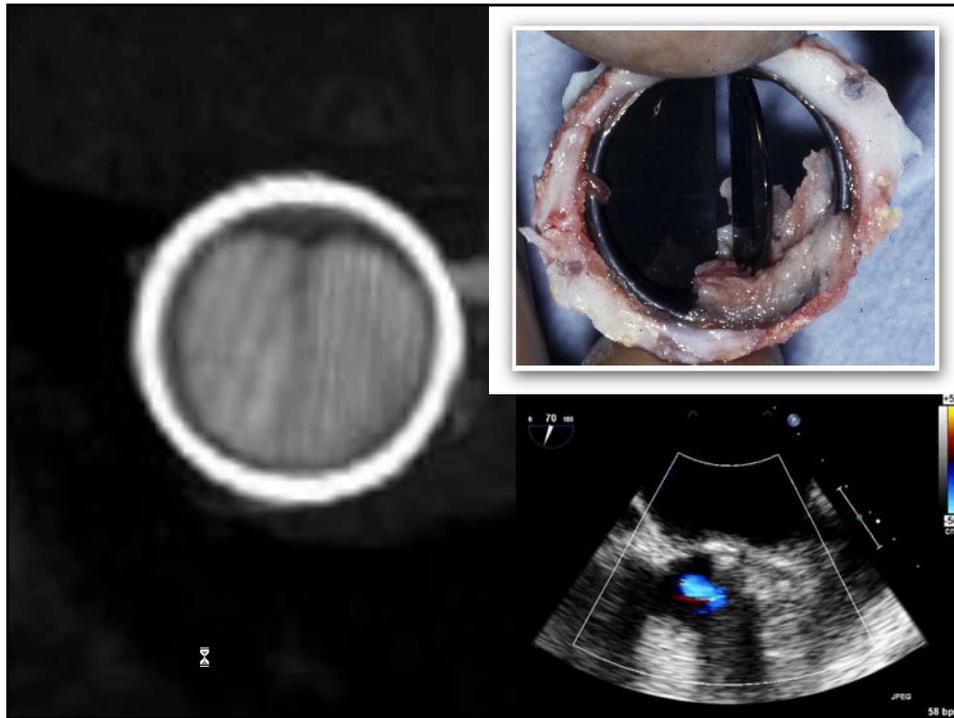
- A) Normal Prosthetic Valve Function
- B) Prosthesis – Patient Mismatch
- C) High Flow State
- D) **Prosthetic Valve Stenosis**
- E) Errors of Measurement: Improper LVOT Velocity



## Additional Studies Needed?

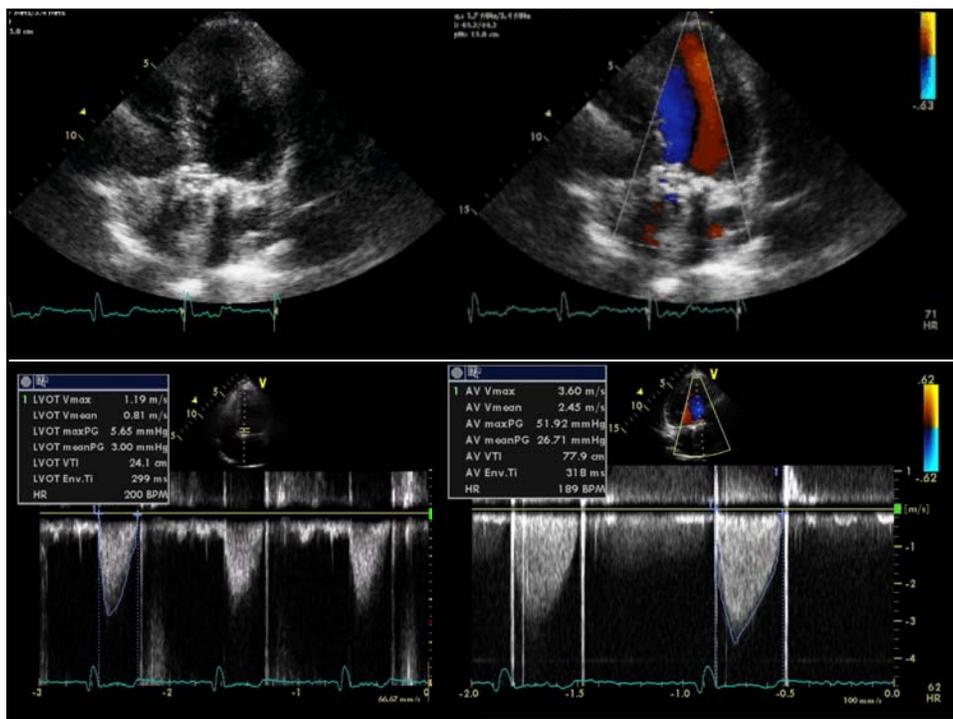






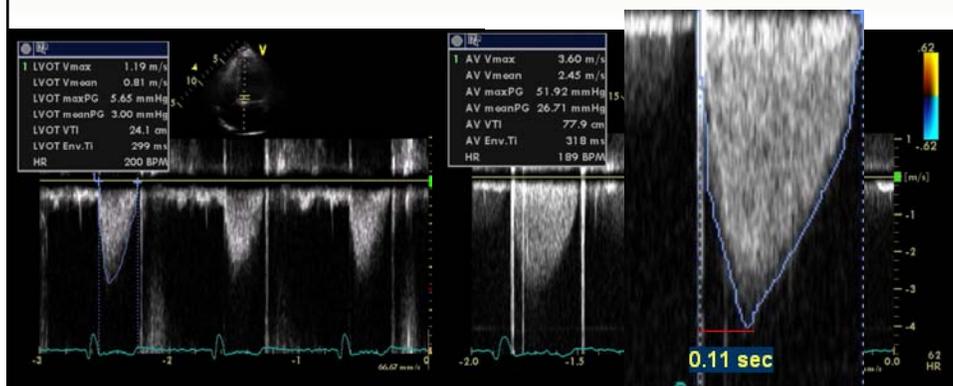
- CASE PRESENTATION (2):
- 67 Y/O F Hx AVR (Bi-Leaflet Mechanical Valve 1998)
- On Coumadin, difficulty maintaining therapeutic INR
- Progressive DOE 6 mos

OU  
WB



AV VEL = 3.6  
 DVI = 1.19 / 3.60  
 DVI = 0.33

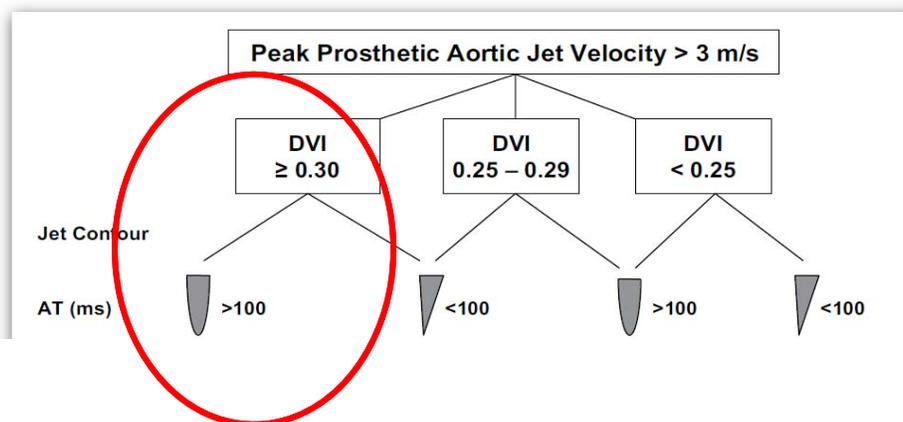
Acceleration Time 0.11 sec



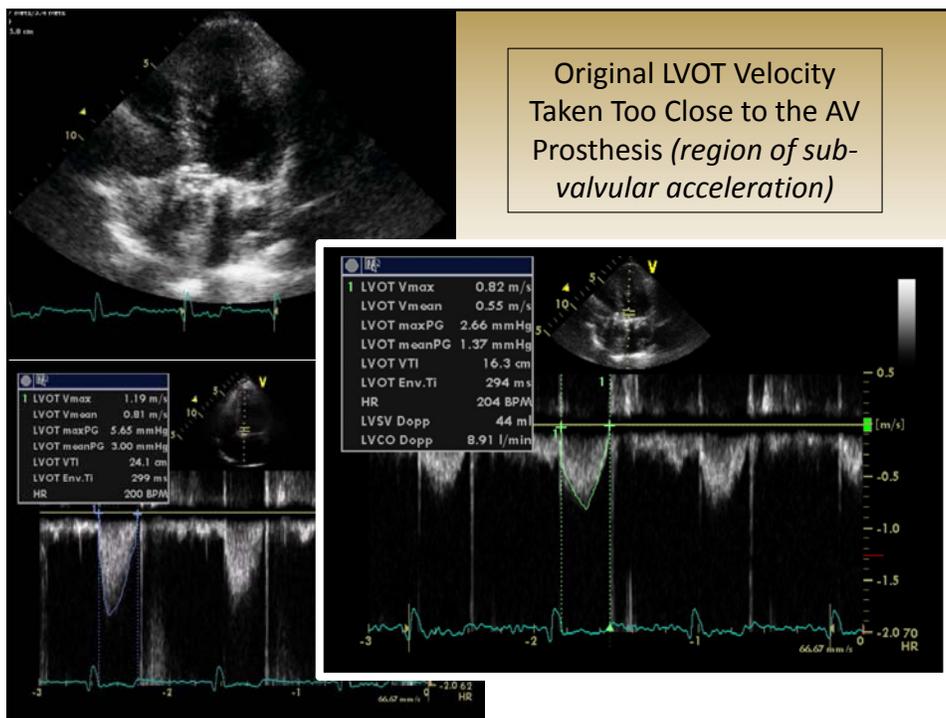
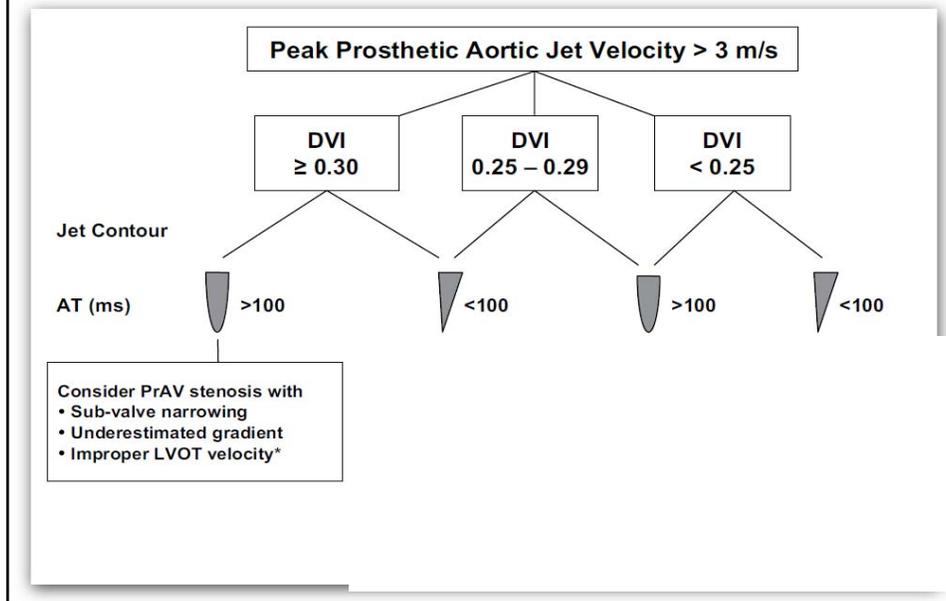
## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal		Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	3.6	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	26	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	0.33	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>		< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking		Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	110 ms	> 100 ms

## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis



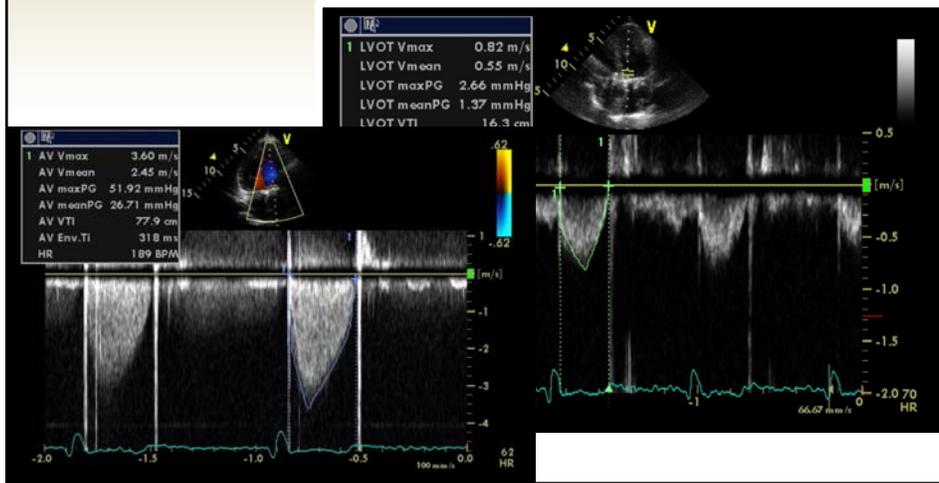
## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis





DVI = Velocity LVO / AV Jet  
 DVI = 0.82 / 3.60  
 DVI = 0.22

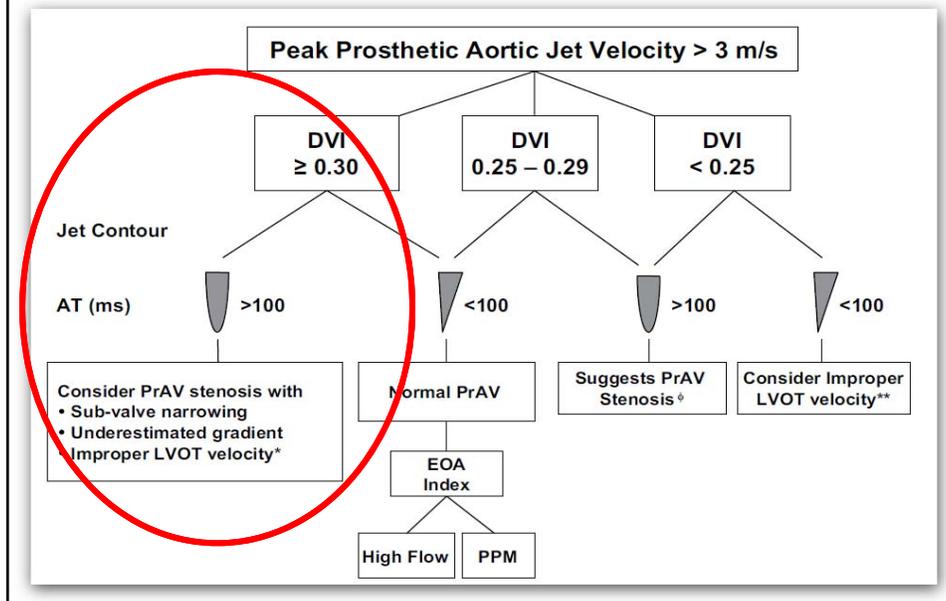
Original LVOT Velocity  
 Taken Too Close to the AV  
 Prosthesis



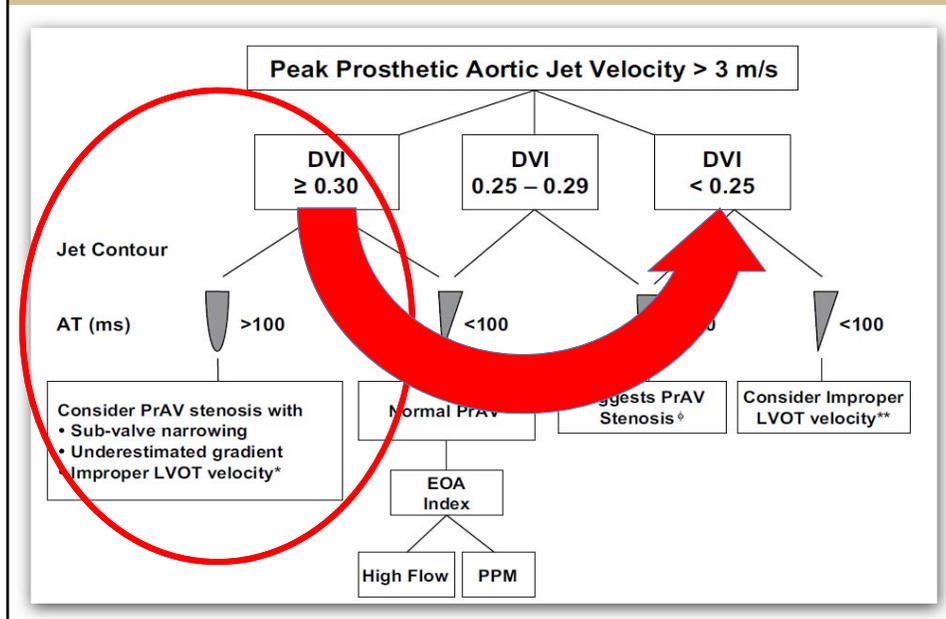
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## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis

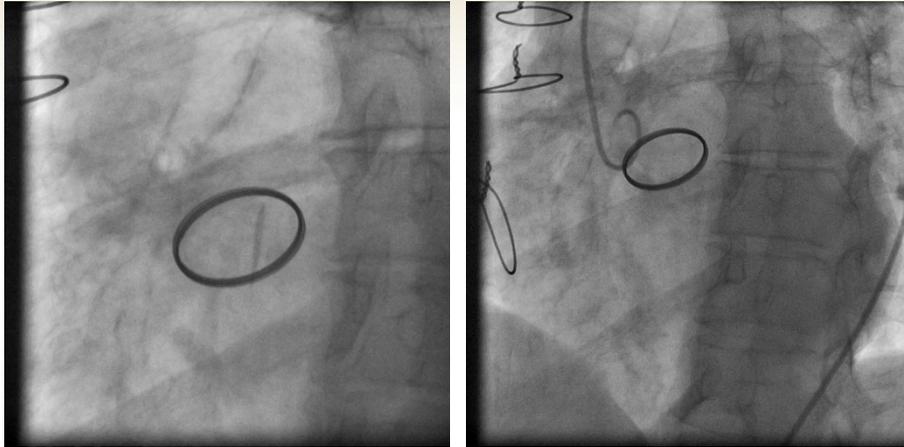


## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis

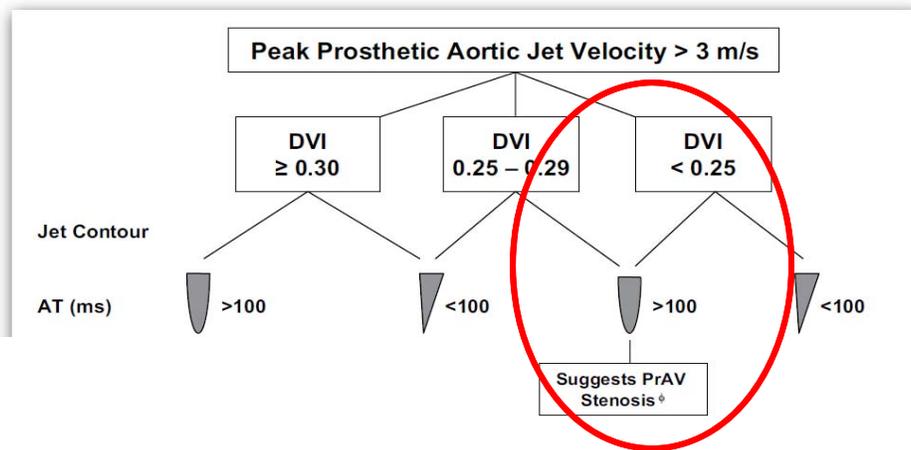


## Surgical Findings

*Well seated valve with a large amount of tissue ingrowth beneath the valve resulting in a frozen leaflet*



## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis



## What is your diagnosis?

- A) Patient – Prosthesis Mismatch
- B) Normal Prosthetic Valve Function
- C) High Flow State
- D) Prosthetic Valve Stenosis
- E) Improper LVOT Velocity



## What is your diagnosis?

- A) Patient – Prosthesis Mismatch
- B) Normal Prosthetic Valve Function
- C) High Flow State
- D) Prosthetic Valve Stenosis
- E) Improper LVOT Velocity (Prosthetic valve stenosis)



PHILIPS X7-2U/TEE TISO.1 MI 0.5

FR 29Hz  
12cm  
xPlane  
67%  
67%  
50dB  
P Off  
Gen

PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 39.6C

72 bpm

- CASE PRESENTATION (3):
- 66 Y/O F Hx AVR (St Jude Valve Conduit 2002 for AR)
- Progressive DOE

OU WB

WBH ECHO  
S5-1  
39Hz  
Zoom

2D  
HGen  
Gn 26  
C 50  
3 / 2 / 0  
75 mm/s

PAT T: 37.0C  
TEE T: 39.6C

56 BPM

X7-2U/TEE

M4 M4  
461.6

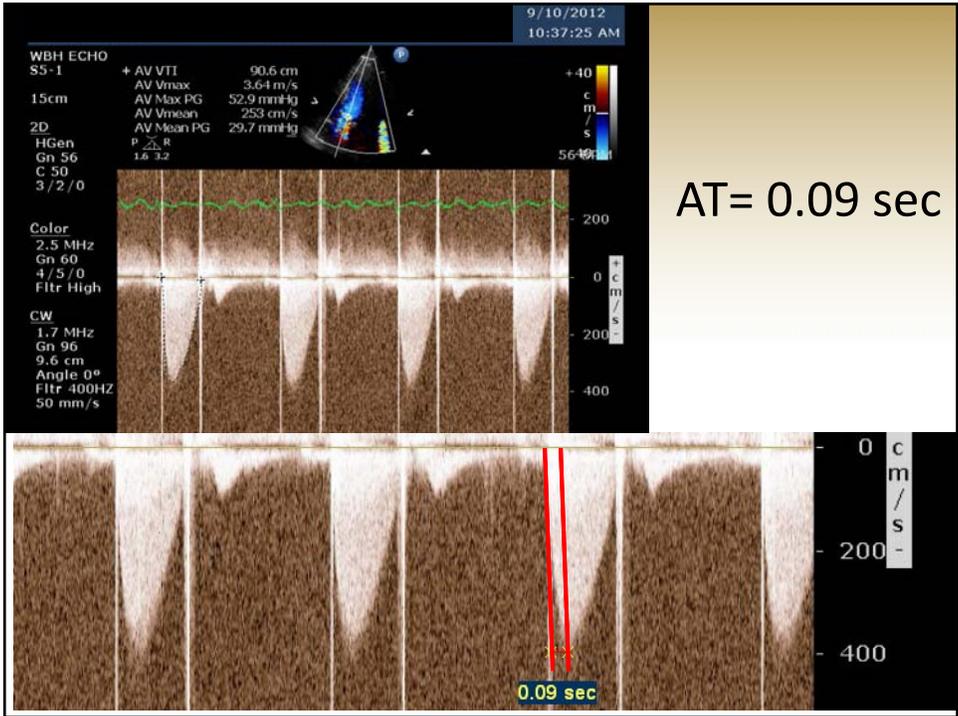
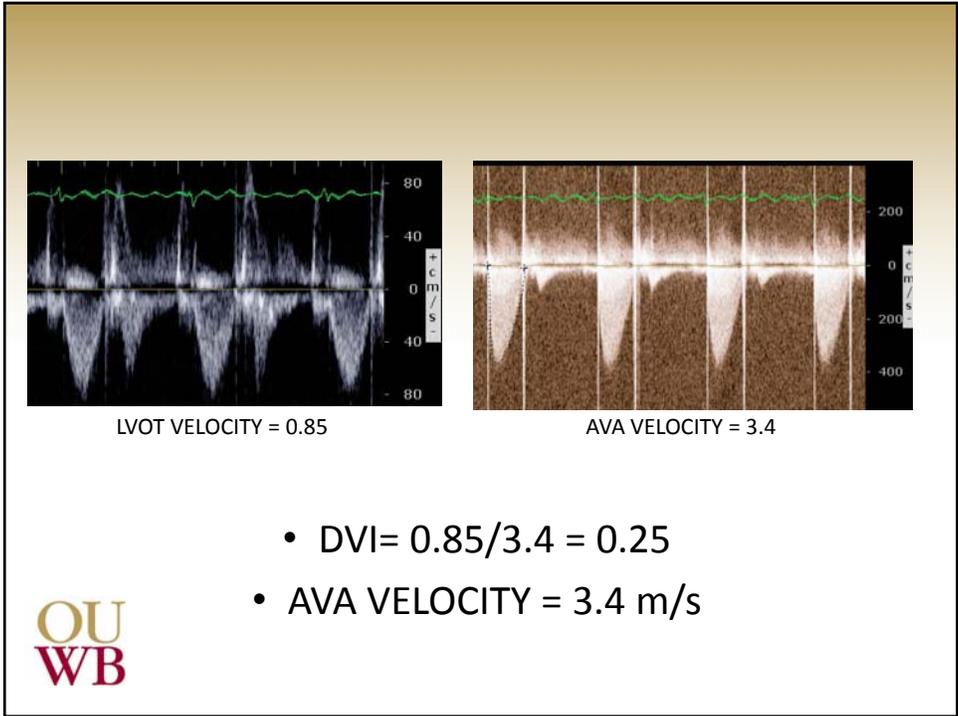
CF  
59%  
4.4MHz  
WF High  
Med

108 100

61.6 cm/s

JPEG

OU WB



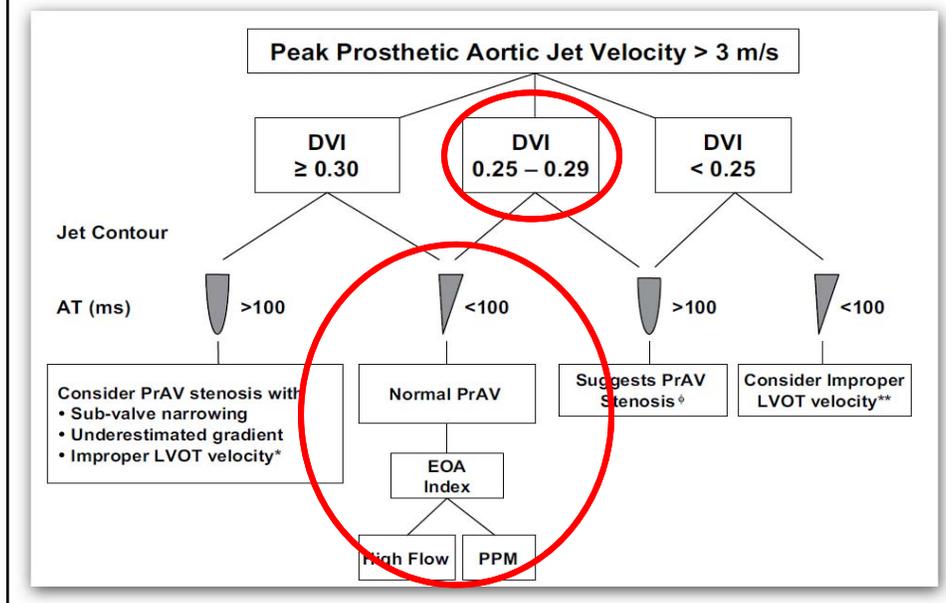
## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal	Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>	< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking	Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	> 100 ms

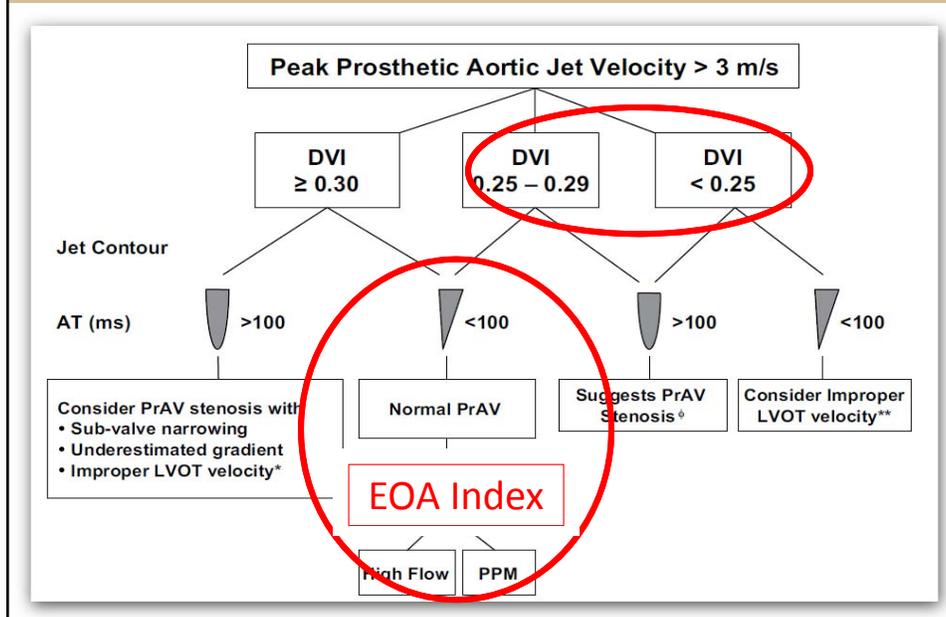
## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal		Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	3.4	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	30	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	0.25	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>		< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking		Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	90 ms	> 100 ms

## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis



## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis





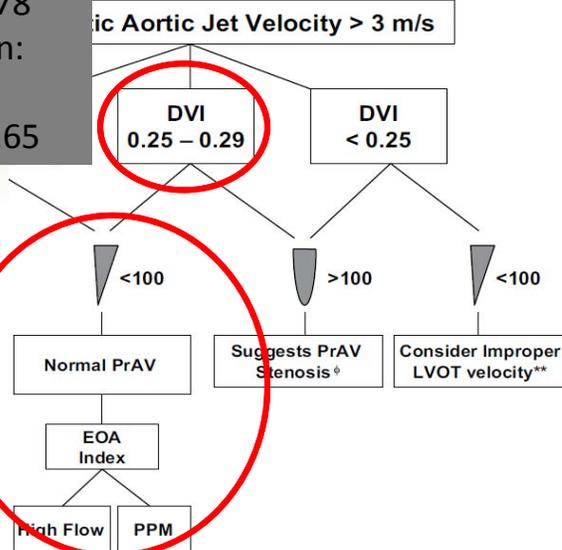
## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis

Indexed EOA = 0.78

PPM occurs when:

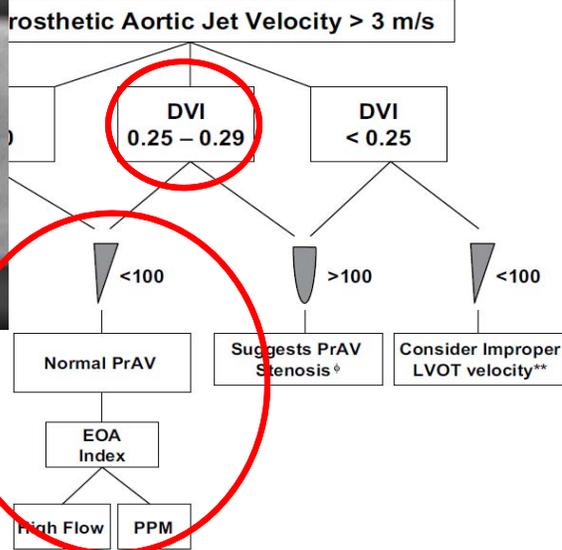
iEOA < 0.85

Severe if iEOA < 0.65



OU  
WB

## An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis



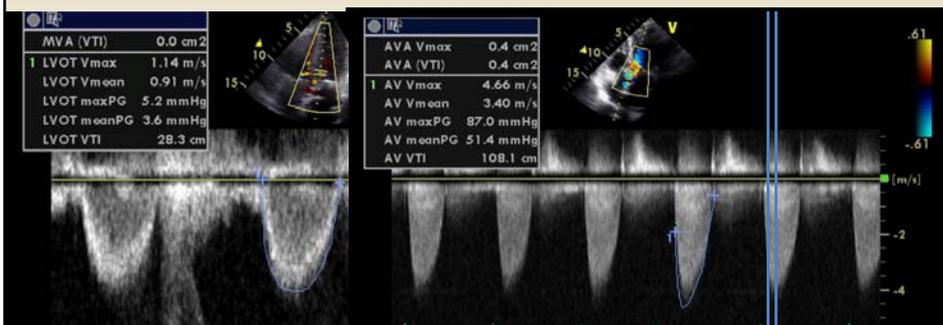
OU  
WB

## What is your diagnosis?

- A) **Prosthesis – Patient Mismatch**
- B) Normal Prosthetic Valve Function
- C) High Flow State
- D) Prosthetic Valve Stenosis
- E) Improper LVOT Velocity (Prosthetic valve stenosis)



## Patient Prosthesis Mismatch



- AVA velocity: 4.6



- DVI:  $1.14/4.6 = 0.25$ , AVA =  $0.4 \text{ cm}^2$
- Acceleration Time: 60 msec

B

## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal		Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	4.6	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	51	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	$\geq 0.3$	0.25	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>	0.4	< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking	TRI	Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	60 ms	> 100 ms

## Patient Prosthesis Mismatch



OU  
WB

## Patient Prosthesis Mismatch

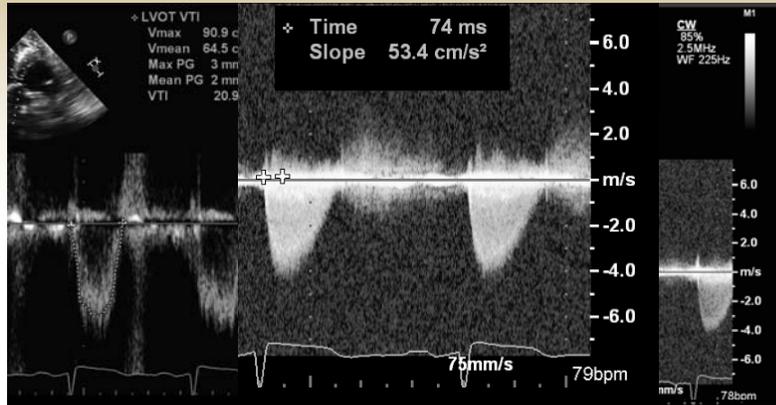
- $\Delta P = Q^2 / (K \times EOA^2)$

- Q = Flow, K = Constant
- For gradients to remain low, EOA has to accommodate and be proportionate to flow
- At rest, Q is determined by BSA, bigger people have bigger flow
- In patients with large BSA and increased flow, a “too small of a valve” with a small EOA will produce a high gradient:
- Small valves + Big people = High gradients

## Patient Prosthesis Mismatch

- More common in SAVR versus TAVR
  - PARTNER 28% vs 20%
  - In smaller annulus even more pronounced
    - 36% Vs 19%

# ECHOCARDIOGRAM



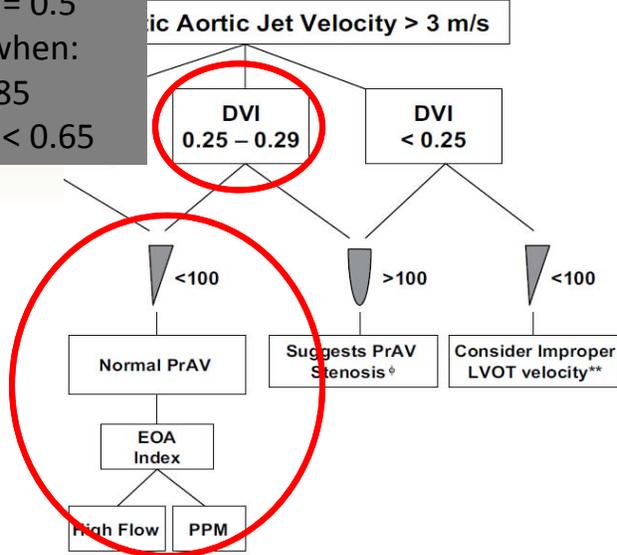
- CASE PRESENTATION
- 69 Y/O F Hx AVR (BIOPROSTHETIC BIOCOR 23 MM 2006)
- SOB, FATIGUE, NEVER FELT MUCH BETTER AFTER SAVR
- BSA 2.2, 6 2'

## Doppler Parameters of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Function

	Normal		Suggests Stenosis
Peak Velocity	< 3 m/s	4.1	> 4 m/s
Mean Gradient	< 20 mmhg	36	> 35 mmhg
Doppler Velocity Index	>= 0.3	0.25	< 0.25
Effective Orifice area	> 1.2 cm <sup>2</sup>	1	< 0.8 cm <sup>2</sup>
Contour of Jet	Triangular Early Peaking	TRI	Rounded Symmetrical contour
Acceleration Time	< 80 ms	74 ms	> 100 ms

# An approach to prosthetic AV stenosis

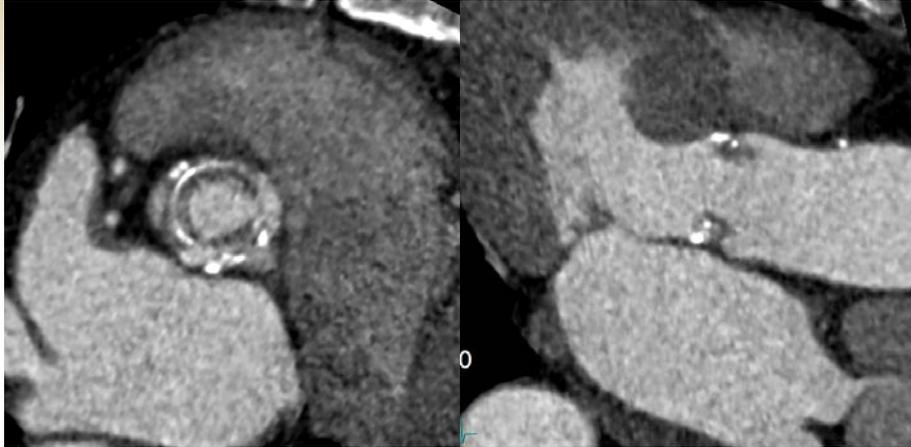
Indexed EOA = 0.5  
PPM occurs when:  
iEOA < 0.85  
Severe if iEOA < 0.65



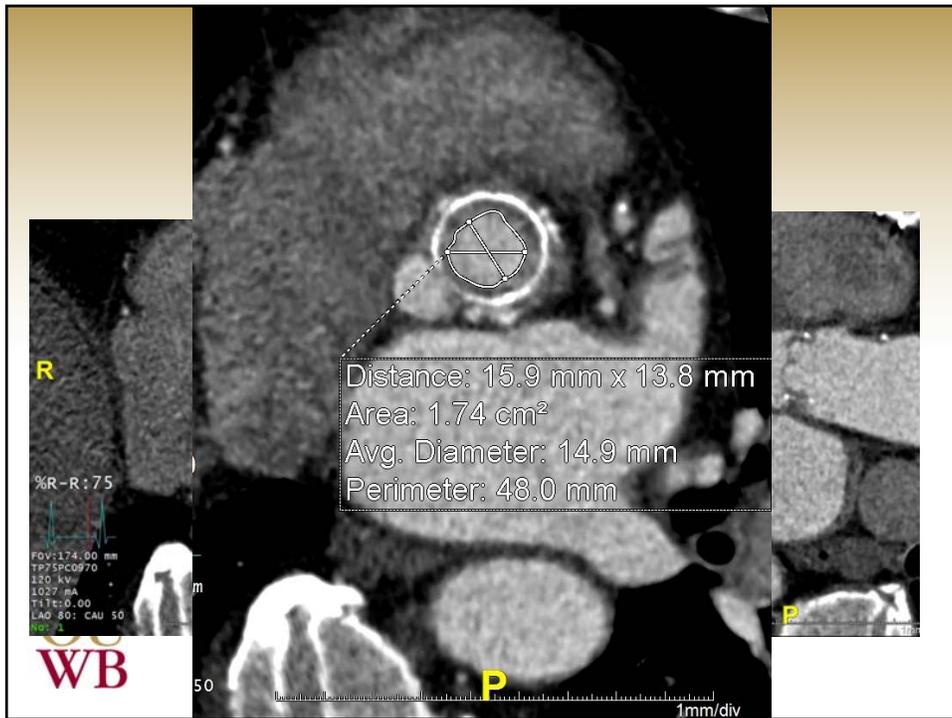
# TEE



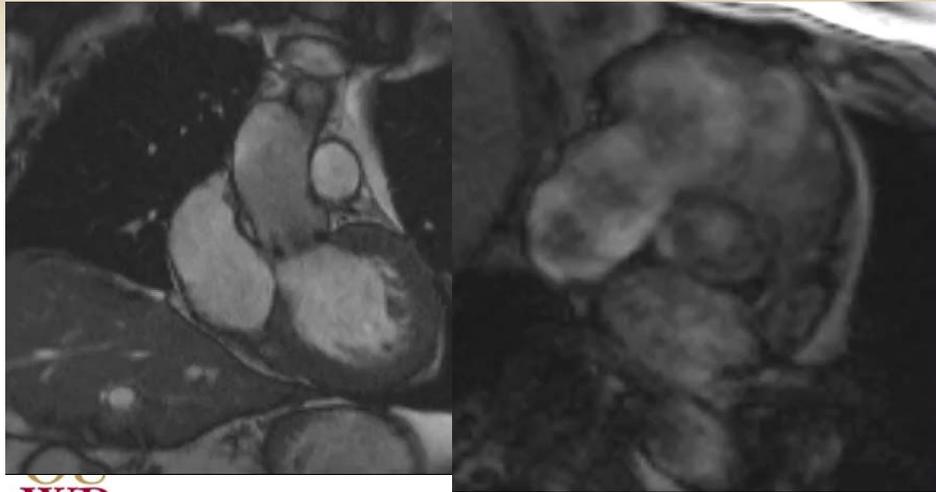
# CTA SYSTOLE



**OU**  
**WB**

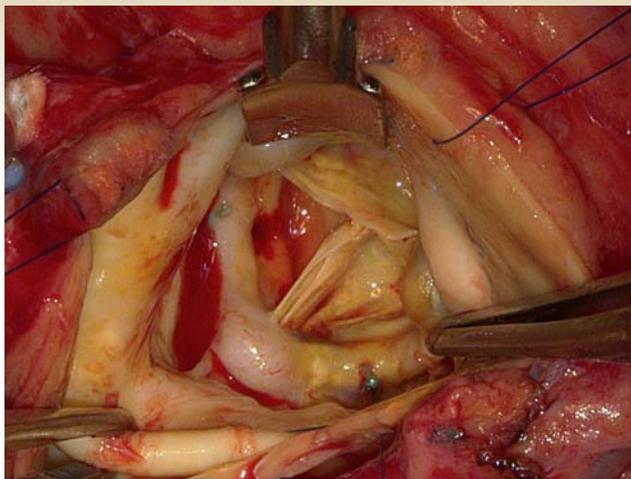


## MRI



WB

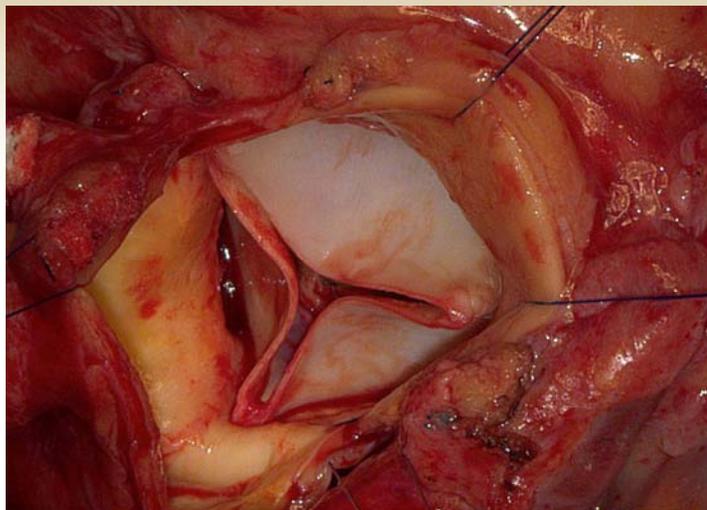
## SURGERY PRE



OU  
WB

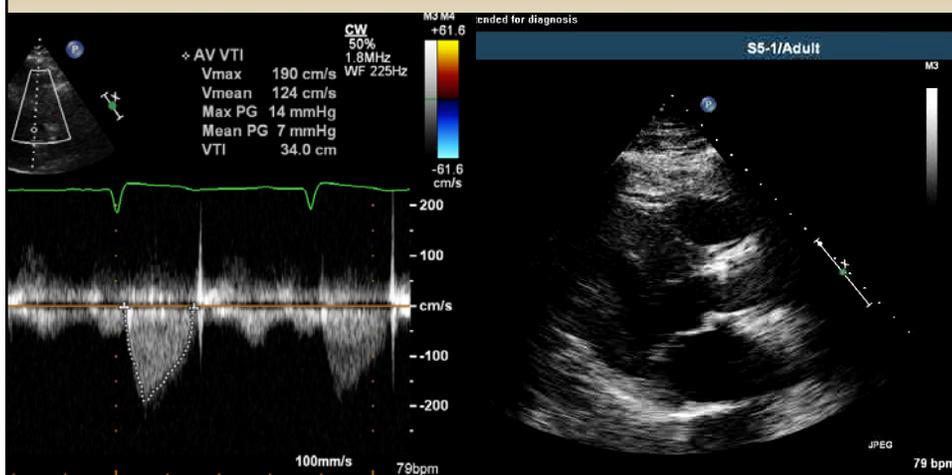


## SURGERY POST



OU  
WB

## ECHO POST



WB

# Echocardiographic Evaluation of Prosthetic Valve Regurgitation



## Types of Regurgitation

- Regurgitation may be
  - Physiological
  - Pathological
- Physiological regurgitation
  - Closing volume (blood displacement by occluder motion)
  - At the hinges of occluder



## Types of Regurgitation

- Pathological
  - Central
    - Mostly with bioprosthetic
    - Technical or infection related
  - Paravalvular
    - Either type, usually the site with mechanical
    - Mild is common after surgery (5-20%) and likely insignificant in the absence of infection
    - Usually after calcium debridement, redo, older patients
    - Hemolytic anemia
    - TAVR



## Central Aortic Regurgitation

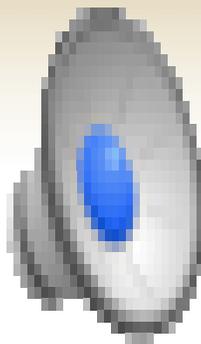


## Central Aortic Regurgitation



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WB

## Central Aortic Regurgitation



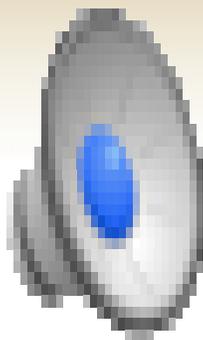
OU  
WB

## Paravalvular Aortic Regurgitation



OU  
WB

## Paravalvular Aortic Regurgitation



OU  
WB

## Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation: TTE

- Challenging due to
  - Shadowing
  - Eccentric Jet
  - Difficult to quantify paravalvular leak
- Width of vena contracta may be difficult to measure
- Off axis views may be required



## Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation

- Jet diameter/LVO diameter <25% in PS views
- Pressure Half Time < 200 ms
- Holodiastolic flow reversal in Descending aorta
- Neck in the short axis view
  - < 10% of sewing ring is mild
  - 10-20% moderate
  - > 20% severe
  - > 40% rocking motion

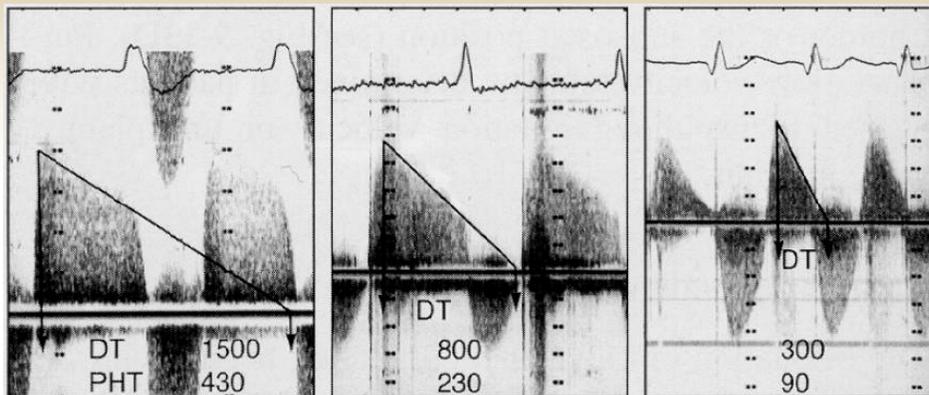


# Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation

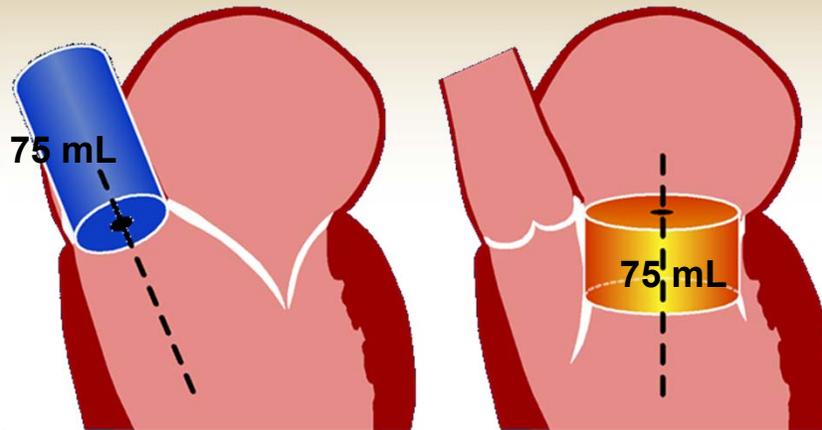
Parameter	Mild	Moderate	Severe
Valve structure and motion Mechanical or bioprosthetic	Usually normal	Abnormal <sup>†</sup>	Abnormal <sup>†</sup>
Structural parameters LV size	Normal <sup>‡</sup>	Normal or mildly dilated <sup>‡</sup>	Dilated <sup>‡</sup>
Doppler parameters (qualitative or semiquantitative) Jet width in central jets (% LVO diameter): color*	Narrow ( $\leq 25\%$ )	Intermediate (26%-64%)	Large ( $\geq 65\%$ )
Jet density: CW Doppler	Incomplete or faint	Dense	Dense
Jet deceleration rate (PHT, ms): CW Doppler <sup>§</sup>	Slow ( $>500$ )	Variable (200-500)	Steep ( $<200$ )
LVO flow vs pulmonary flow: PW Doppler	Slightly increased	Intermediate	Greatly increased
Diastolic flow reversal in the descending aorta: PW Doppler	Absent or brief early diastolic	Intermediate	Prominent, holodiastolic
Doppler parameters (quantitative) Regurgitant volume (mL/beat)	$<30$	30-59	$>60$
Regurgitant fraction (%)	$<30$	30-50	$>50$



# PROSTHETIC VALVE REGURGITATION

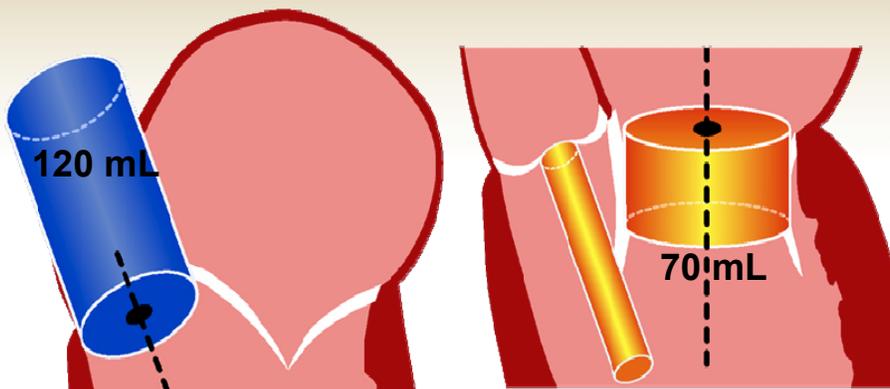


## Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation



OU  
WB

## Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation



OU  
WB

**R Volume =  $120 - 70 = 50$  mL**  
**R Fraction =  $50/120 = 42\%$**



## Assessment of Prosthetic Aortic Valve Regurgitation: TEE

- Identifies:
  - Location,
  - Mechanism,
  - AR width to LVOT width,
  - Posterior jets may be identified
- LVOT obscured by accompanied MV prosthesis
- 3D: value? Especially for transcatheter repair, challenging for AV versus MV



## TAVR ASSESSMENT

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VOL. 9, NO. 2, 2016  
ISSN 1936-878X/\$36.00  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcmg.2015.11.010>

### Assessment of Prosthetic Valve Function After TAVR



Sorin V. Pislaru, MD, PhD, Vuyisile T. Nkomo, MD, MPH, Gurpreet S. Sandhu, MD, PhD

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VOL. 8, NO. 3, 2015  
ISSN 1936-878X/\$36.00  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcmg.2015.01.008>

### Assessment of Paravalvular Regurgitation Following TAVR



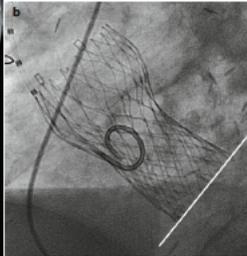
A Proposal of Unifying Grading Scheme

Philippe Pibarot, DVM, PhD,\* Rebecca T. Hahn, MD,† Neil J. Weissman, MD,‡ Mark J. Monaghan, PhD§

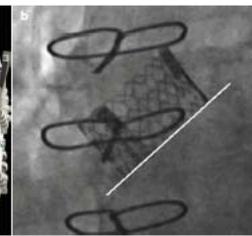
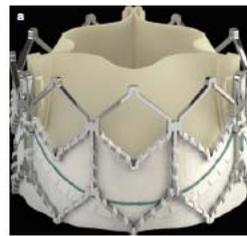
# Trans-Catheter Valves



**CORE VALVE SELF EXPANDING**

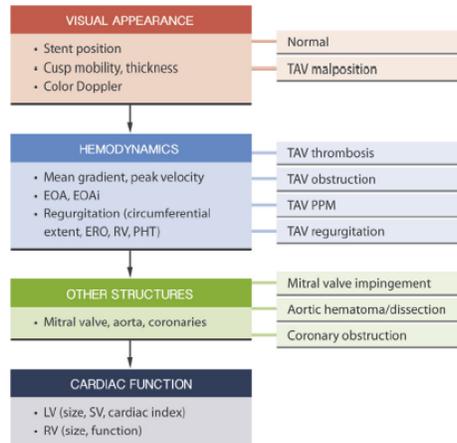
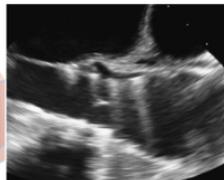
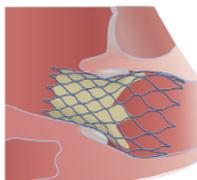
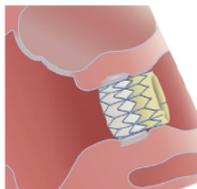


**Sapien Balloon Expandable**

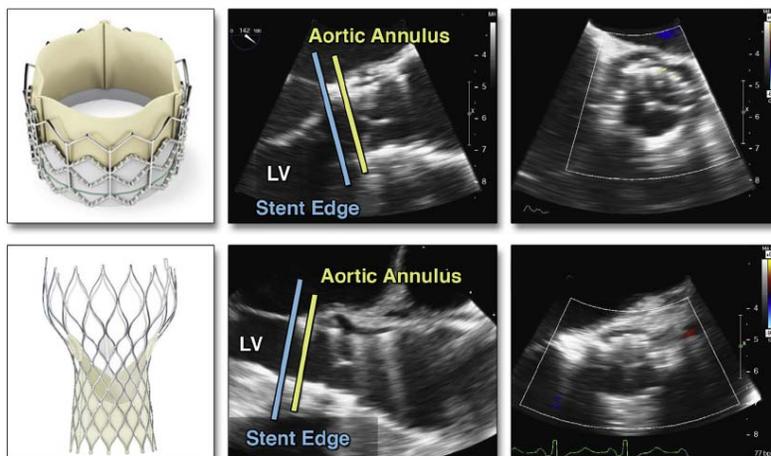


# Trans-Catheter Valves

TAVR Follow-up:  
What Are We Looking For?



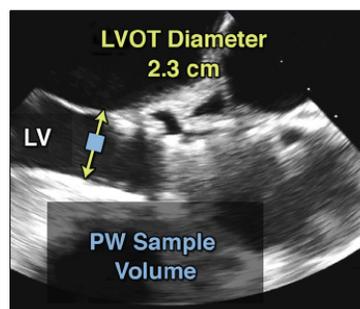
## Trans-Catheter Valves



WB

## Technical Points

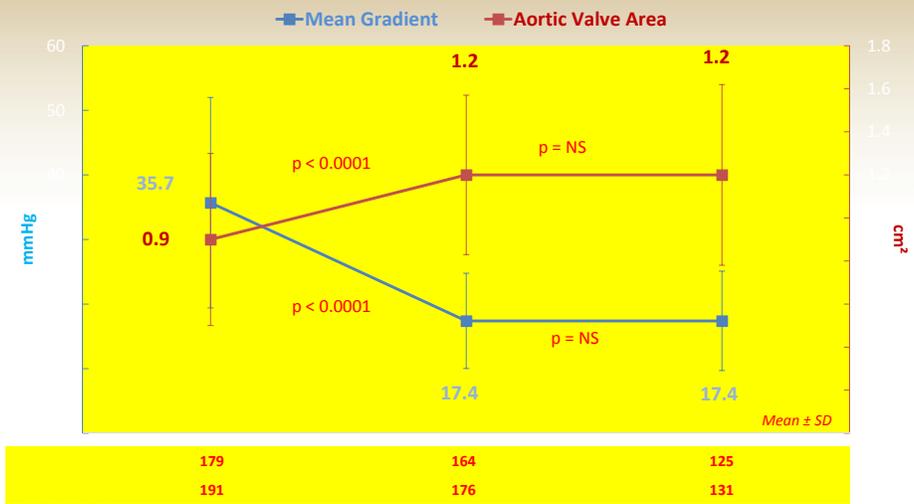
- PW at inferior border of stent
- LVOT diameter
  - Use baseline numbers prior to TAVR
  - BE TAVR: inferior border of stent
  - SE TAVR: inferior border of stent/ 5 mm below leaflets



OU  
WB

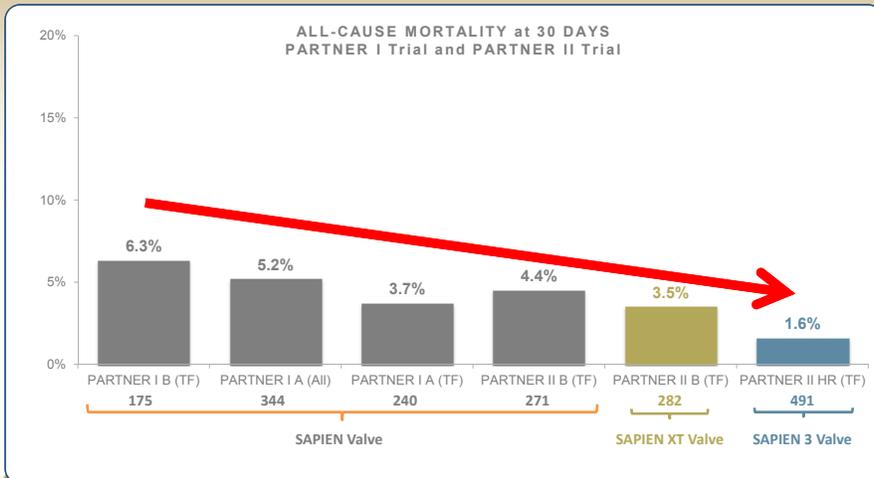
# Echocardiographic Outcomes

Mean Gradient and Aortic Valve Area



WB

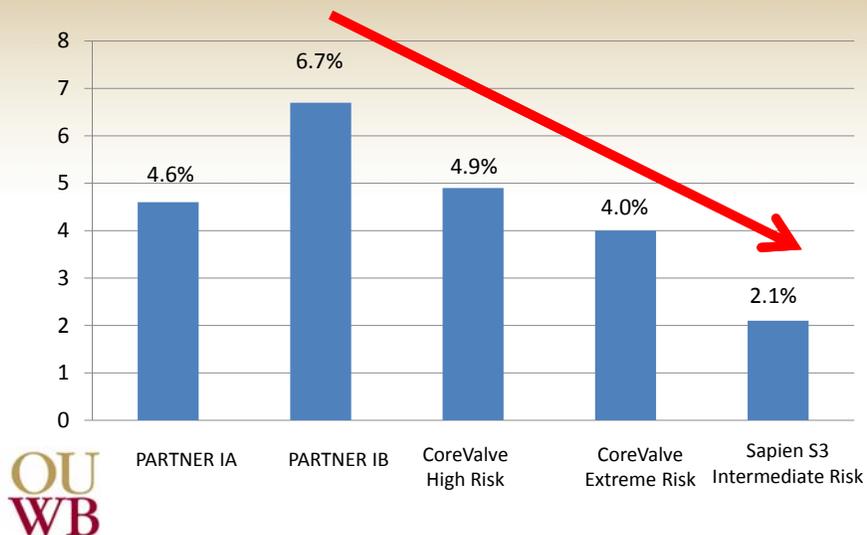
# All-Cause Mortality Has Decreased Overall



WB

104

## All Stroke at 30 Days



## PARAVALVULAR REGURGITATION

### Assessment of Paravalvular Regurgitation Following TAVR

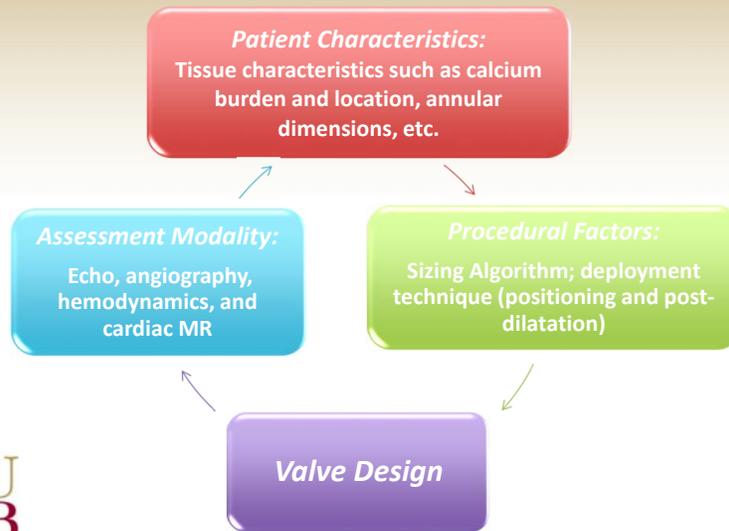
#### A Proposal of Unifying Grading Scheme

Philippe Pibarot, DVM, PhD,\* Rebecca T. Hahn, MD,† Neil J. Weissman, MD,‡ Mark J. Monaghan, PhD§

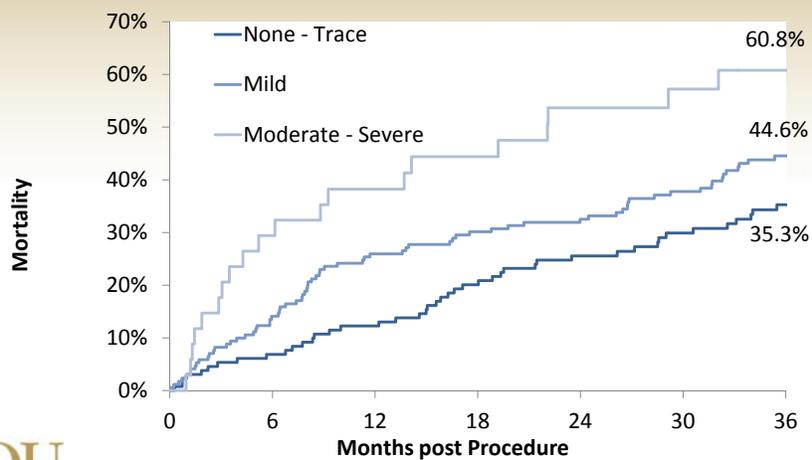
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## Determinants of PVR after TAVR



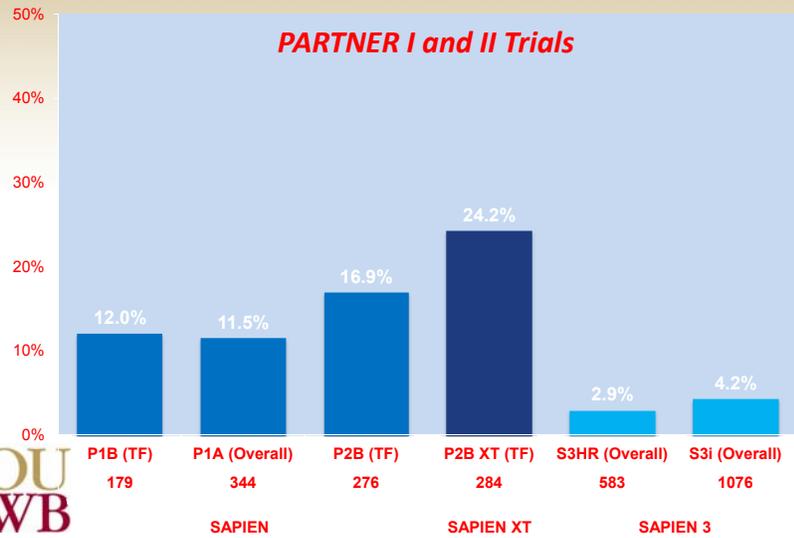
## Impact of Aortic Regurgitation on Mortality: PARTNER Trial



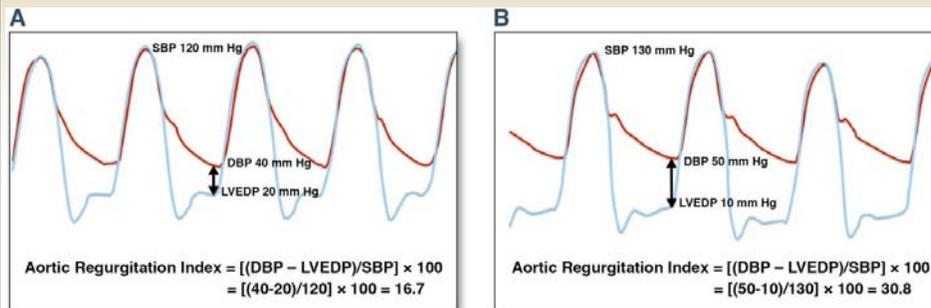
12-15% of patients with  $\geq$  moderate AR

## Moderate/Severe PVL at 30 Days

Edwards SAPIEN Valves

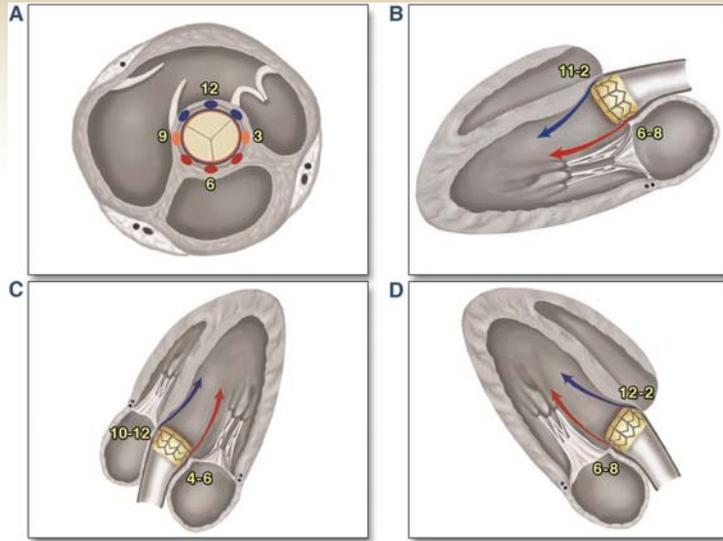


## INVASIVE ASSESSMENT



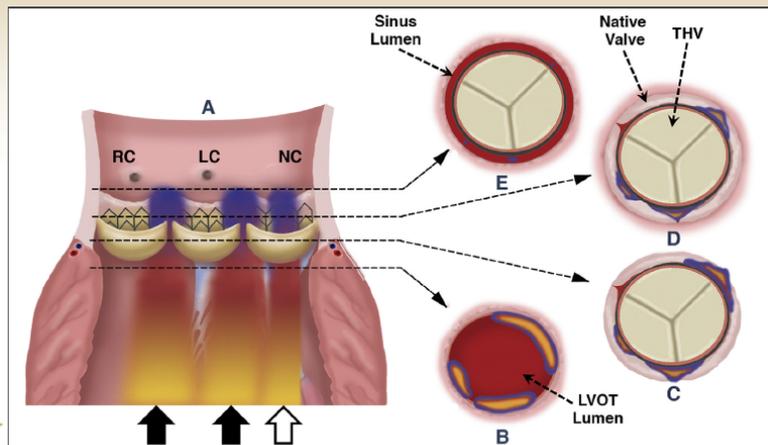
**OU WB**

# ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT



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WB

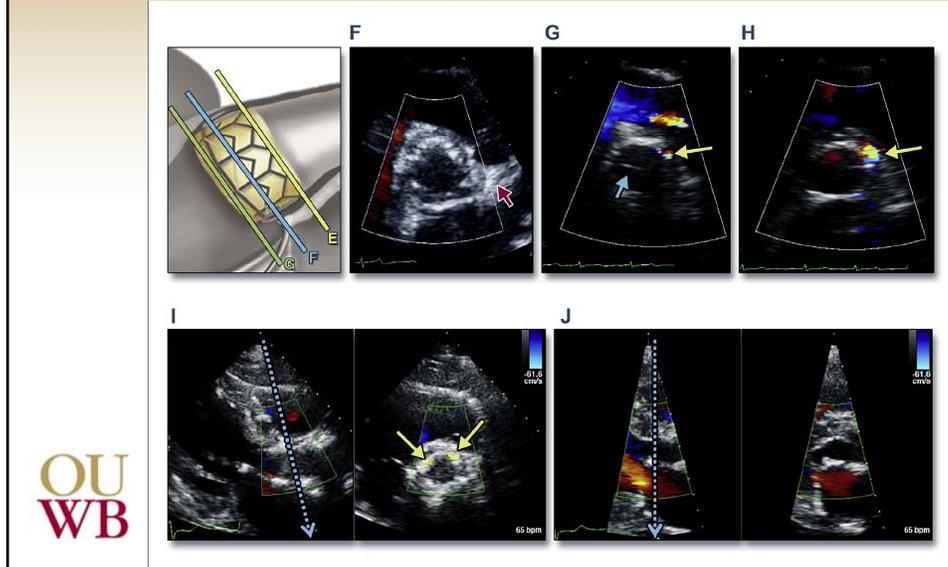
# ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT



OU  
WB



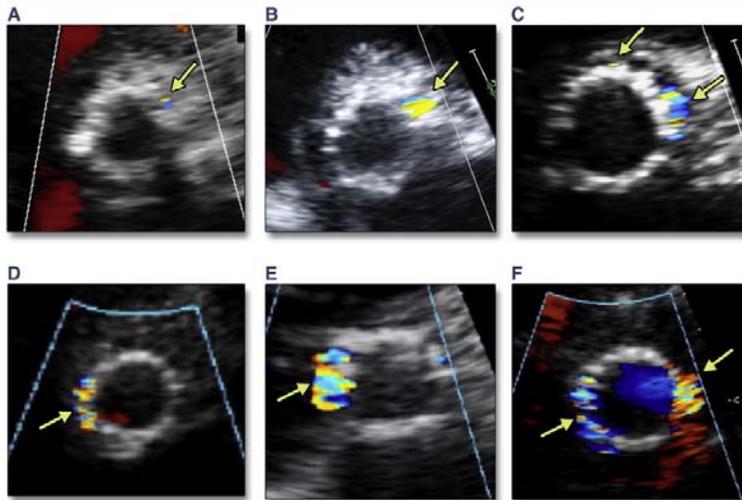
# ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT



# TAVR PVR ASSESSMENT

3-Class Grading Scheme	Trace 1	Mild 1	Mild 2	Moderate 2	Moderate 3	Severe 4
4-Class Grading Scheme	Trace 1	Mild	Mild-to-Moderate	Moderate	Moderate-to-Severe	Severe
Unifying 5-Class Grading Scheme	Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Cineangiography	Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Invasive hemodynamics						
Aortic regurgitation index*	>25	>25	>25	10-25	10-25	<10
Doppler echocardiography						
Structural parameters						
● Valve stent	Usually normal	Usually normal	Normal/abnormal†	Normal/abnormal†	Usually abnormal†	Usually abnormal†
○ LV size‡	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal/mildly dilated	Mildly/moderately dilated	Moderately/severely dilated
Doppler parameters (qualitative or semiquantitative)						
● Jet features§						
○ Extensive/wide jet origin	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Present	Present
○ Multiple jets	Possible	Possible	Often present	Often present	Usually present	Usually present
○ Jet path visible along the stent	Absent	Absent	Possible	Often present	Usually present	Present
○ Proximal flow convergence visible	Absent	Absent	Possible	Often present	Often present	Often present
○ Vena contracta width (mm): color Doppler¶	<2	<2	2-4	4-5	5-6	>6
○ Vena contracta area (mm²): 2D/3D color Doppler¶	<5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	>40
● Jet width at its origin (%LVOT diameter): color Doppler¶	Narrow (<5)	Narrow (5-15)	Intermediate (15-30)	Intermediate (30-45)	Large (45-60)	Large (>60)
○ Jet density: CW Doppler	Incomplete or faint	Incomplete or faint	Variable	Dense	Dense	Dense
○ Jet deceleration rate (PHT, ms): CW Doppler**	Slow (>500)	Slow (>500)	Slow (>500)	Variable (200-500)	Variable (200-500)	Steep (<200)
○ Diastolic flow reversal in the descending aorta: PW Doppler***	Absent	Absent or brief early diastolic	Intermediate	Intermediate	Mild/moderate	Holodiastolic
○ Circumferential extent of PVR (%): color Doppler¶	<10	<10	10-20	20-30	>30	>30
Doppler parameters (quantitative)						
○ Regurgitant volume (ml/beat)¶	<10	<15	15-30	30-40	45-60	>60
○ Regurgitant fraction (%)	<15	<15	15-30	30-40	40-50	>50
○ Effective regurgitant orifice area (mm²)**	<5	<5	5-10	10-20	20-30	>30
Cardiac magnetic resonance imaging						
○ Regurgitant fraction (%)††	<10	<10	10-20	20-30	20-30	>30
	<15	<15	15-25	15-25	25-50	>50

## ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT



## OTHER TAVR ISSUES

- Infective endocarditis 1.1%
  - 62% 60 days-1 year
  - RF: DM, CKD, infections, Performance in cathlab
  - ABX, Surgical survival (38-75%)
- Thrombosis 0.8%
  - RF Cancer, incomplete expansion, overhanging leaflets
  - Anticoagulation
- Structural failure 13 cases
  - 24 months (up to 5 years)
  - Valve in valve

## Echocardiographic Evaluation of Prosthetic Valve Endocarditis



## Endocarditis

- Incidence < 1% and has declined with perioperative antibiotics
- Form in valve ring and extend to and spread to stent, occluder, or leaflet
- Irregular and independently mobile
- Can not adequately differentiate between vegetations, thrombus, pledgets, sutures, etc

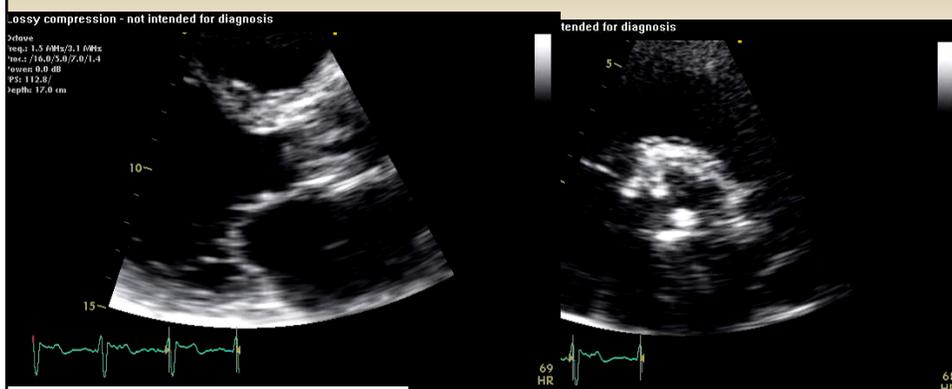


## Endocarditis

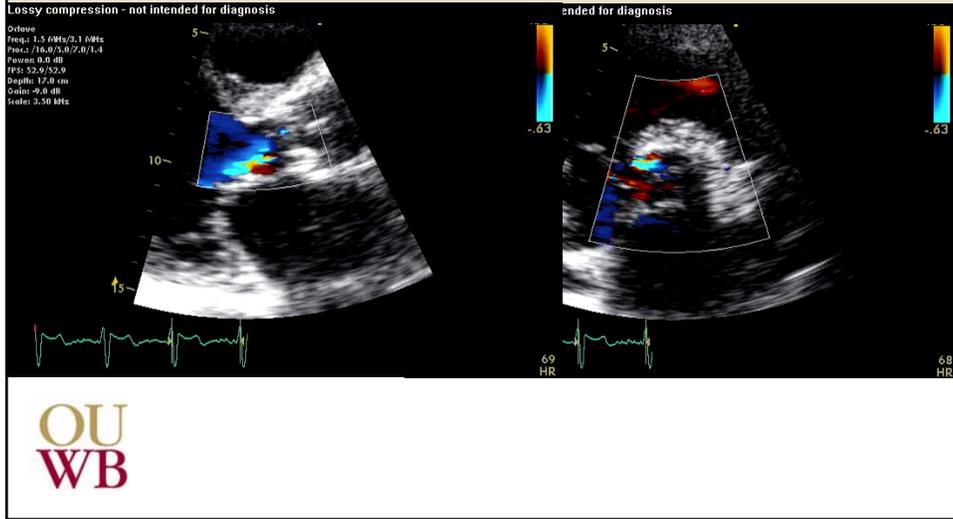
- TEE has better sensitivity and specificity for
  - Vegetations
  - Abscess in the posterior but not anterior location
- Combined TEE and TTE have a NPV of 95%
- If clinical suspicion high and studies negative, repeat studies in 7-10 days



## Parasternal Long



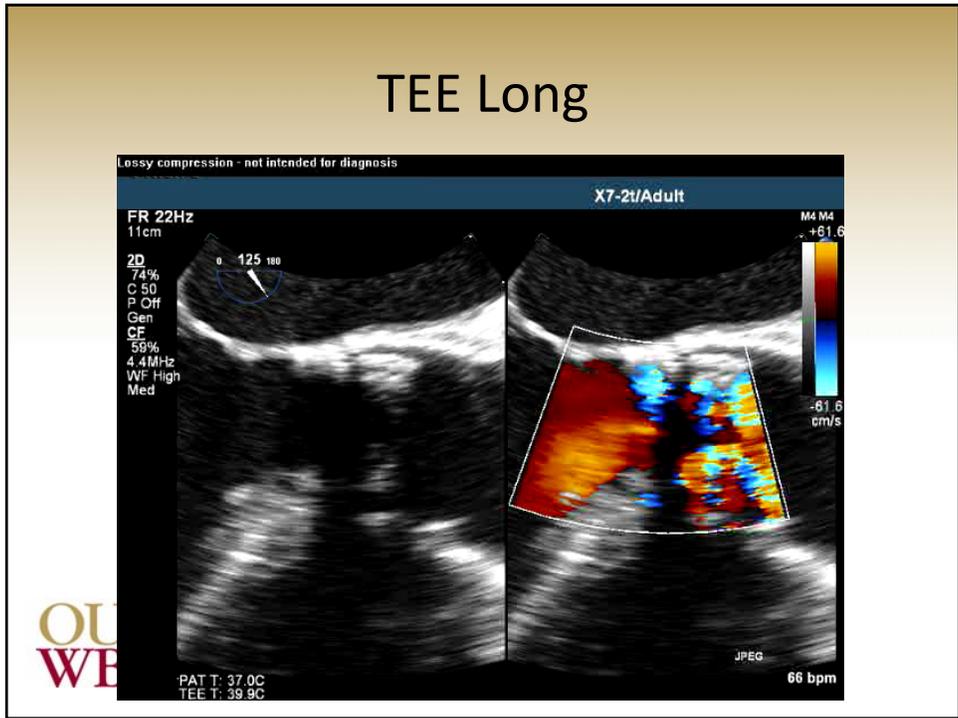
# Color



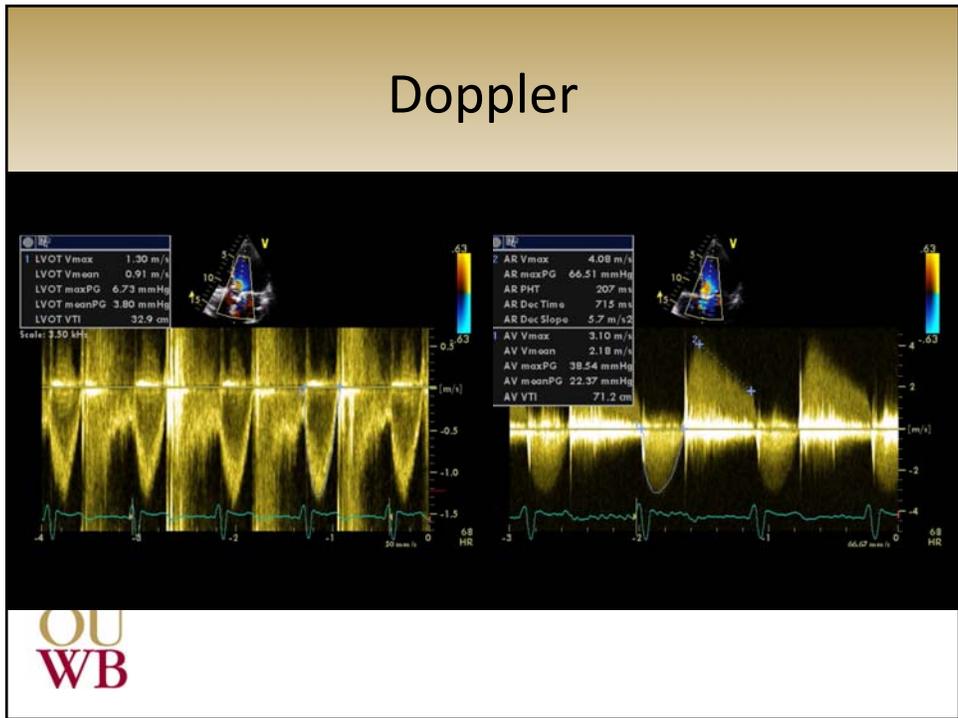
# TEE Short



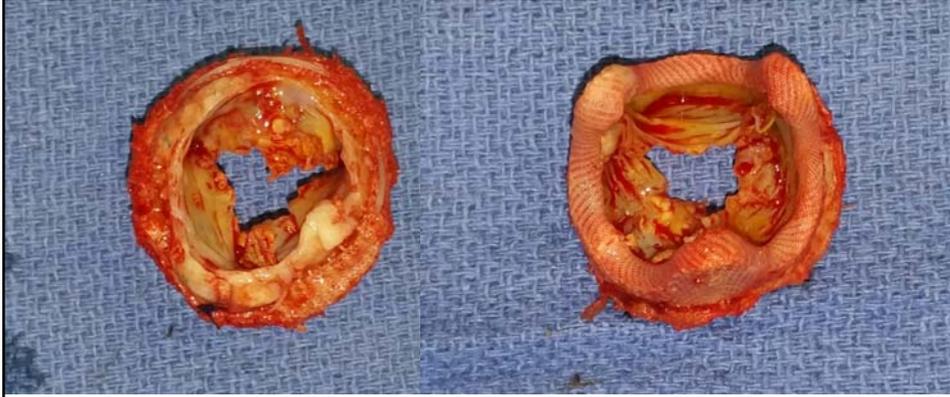
# TEE Long



# Doppler



## Pathology



OU  
WB

## Echocardiographic Evaluation of Prosthetic Valve Thrombosis/Pannus

OU  
WB

# Thrombus versus Pannus

## Thrombus

- Larger
- Soft density similar to myocardium
- More likely to encounter abnormal valve motion
- Short duration of symptom
- Poor anticoagulation
- Size  $< 0.85 \text{ cm}^2$  less likely to embolize
- More with mechanical

## Pannus

- Small
- Dense, 30% may not be visualized
- Longer duration
- More common in aortic



## Pannus

### TEE





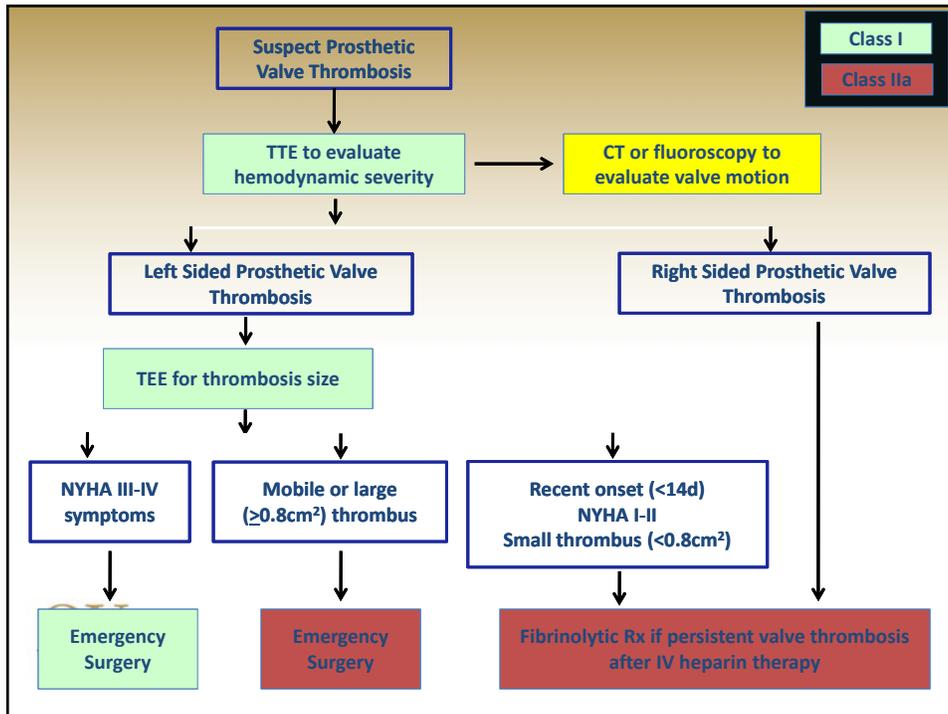
2014 AHA/ACC Guideline for the Management of Patients With Valvular Heart Disease

A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines

## 11.6 Prosthetic Valve Thrombosis

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 Paul Sorajja, MD, FACC, FAHA#  
 Thoralf M. Sundt III, MD\* \*\*<sup>†</sup>  
 James D. Thomas, MD, FASE, FACC, FAHA‡¶



## Pre Questions (1)

- Regarding Aortic Prosthetic Valves
  - A. A routine echocardiogram is required every two years after AVR
  - B. An elevated gradient with a decreased EOA is always suggestive of valvular stenosis
  - C. Transthoracic echocardiogram alone is always sufficient to diagnose valvular stenosis
  - D. It is more challenging to quantify para-valvular versus valvular aortic regurgitation.



## Answer (1)

- D. It is more challenging to quantify para-valvular versus valvular aortic regurgitation.



## Pre Questions (2)

- Patients with Prosthesis-Patient Mismatch
  - A. Have abnormal prosthetic valve function
  - B. Progressively worsen with time
  - C. Have a small valve compared to the demands of their body and cardiac output
  - D. Have a benign condition



## Answer (2)

C. Have a small valve compared to the demands of their body and cardiac output



## Conclusions

- Elevated gradients across prosthetic aortic valves may be due to other factors besides stenosis
- Regurgitation may be physiological or pathological and may be valvular or paravalvular
- Endocarditis, pannus, and thrombosis may be difficult to distinguish based solely on echocardiographic findings
- TAVR has its unique problems

