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# **Iatrogenic Dissection of Saphenous Vein Graft Treated Successfully with Angioplasty**

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## Keywords

Dissection; Iatrogenic; Vein graft; Saphenous vein; Angioplasty; Stent; Coronary artery

#### **Abbreviations**

SVG: Saphenous Vein Graft; OM: Obtuse Marginal; 6Fr: 6 French; JR: Judkins Right; CD: Coronary Dissection

## **Clinical Image**

An 82-year-old male presented complaining of dyspnea and edema for days. He had a history of coronary artery bypass grafting in 1998. Physical exam was significant for distended jugular veins and lung bases crakles. Echocardiogram showed new akinesia of the apex and distal anterior segments. Ejection Fraction deteriorated from 55% to 35%. Cardiac catheterization revealed 80% stenosis of the saphenous vein graft (SVG) to the left anterior descending artery and 90% stenosis of ostial SVG to obtuse marginal (OM) artery. Engagement of the OM graft using a 6Fr JR4 guide catheter caused dissection of the SVG's ostium (Figure 1 and Video 1), which was treated with an Everolimus eluting stent. Iatrogenic coronary dissection (CD) is a complication of angiography of vessels with abnormal integrity that occurs, very rarely, in aging vein grafts. Stiffer guide catheters can cause mechanical trauma to the vessel wall, especially with deep engagement. The hydraulic pressure of contrast injection can further elicit a tear [1]. CD is divided into 6 types (A-F); F is a dissection resulting in total occlusion. Predictors for complete occlusion include female gender, hypertension, unstable angina, hyperlipidemia, diabetes, smoking, age ≥ 60 and repeat angioplasty [2]. Patients with iatrogenic CD have higher in-hospital and post-discharge myocardial infarction [1]. A CD resulting in acute closure is associated with a 10-fold increase in mortality and nonfatal myocardial infarction [2]. Non-obstructive CD can be treated conservatively. Patients with ischemia, or who suffer total occlusion of the vessel should be considered for revascularization [3].

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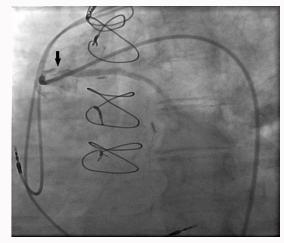
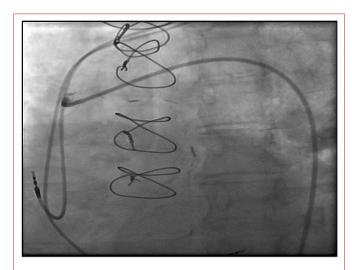


Figure 1: Angiography of a saphenous vein graft to the obtuse marginal artery showing a dissection of the ostium of the vein graft.



**Video 1:** Angiography of a saphenous vein graft to the obtuse marginal artery showing a dissection of the ostium of the vein graft.

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