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Drug-Coated Balloons for Coronary Artery
Disease:

Third Report of the International DCB Consensus Group

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Abstract

Although drug-eluting stents are still the default interventional treatment of coronary artery disease, drug-coated balloons (DCBs) represent a novel alternative therapeutic strategy in certain anatomic conditions. The effect of DCBs is based on the fast and homogenous transfer of antiproliferative drugs into the vessel wall during single balloon inflation by means of a lipophilic matrix without the use of permanent implants. Although their use is established for in-stent restenosis of both bare-metal and drug-eluting stents, recent randomized clinical data demonstrate a good efficacy and safety profile in de novo small-vessel disease and high bleeding risk. In addition, there are other emerging indications (e.g., bifurcation lesions, large-vessel disease, diabetes mellitus, acute coronary syndromes). Because the interaction among the different delivery balloon designs, doses, formulations, and release kinetics of the drugs used is important, there seems to be no "class effect" of DCBs. On the basis of the amount of recently published data, the International DCB Consensus Group provides this update of previous recommendations summarizing the historical background, technical considerations such as choice of device and implantation technique, possible indications, and future perspectives.

Keywords:

Consensus statement; coronary artery disease; drug-coated balloon

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