The increased activity of TIMP-1 in the blood as a predictor of the recurrence of atrial fibrillation in the postoperative period

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The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases-1 and atrial fibrillation recurrence after catheter ablation. Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinases-1 (TIMP-1) is involved in extracellular matrix remodeling which is considered to be a marker of regulation of matrix metalloproteinase activity. An enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay prior to a radiofrequency catheter ablation (RFA) procedure was used for measuring the serum level of TIMP-1 in 210 patients: 80 patients without history of atrial fibrillation (AF) and 130 patients with idiopathic AF (paroxysmal AF – 30, persistent AF – 32, long-standing AF – 35 and permanent AF – 33). Their relationship with intraoperative efficacy and recurrence of AF was evaluated throughout the entire observation period. The observation period was 22.2 ± 7.9 months. TIMP-1 level was higher in the groups of patients with AF than in the control group: 131.51 ± 36.40, 149.5±42.7, 151.5 ± 42.7 and 155.9 ± 44.7 ng/ml for paroxysmal, persistent, long-standing and permanent forms of AF. In the control group, TIMP-1 level was 103.6 ± 20.7 ng/ml. TIMP-1 level increased with the progression of AF. A multifactor analysis showed that TIMP-1 level, history of atrial fibrillation and left atrial volume were independent predictors of sinus rhythm recovery and recurrence of AF. An increase in TIMP-1 level in patients with AF has been shown. An increase in TIMP-1 levels was observed as AF progressed. TIMP-1 is prognostic criteria of arrhythmia recurrence after RFA.

Key words: TIMP-1; recurrence; fibrillation; ablation; matrix.

INTRODUCTION
Atrial fibrillation is the most common sustained arrhythmia in clinical practice. Recent prevalence estimates suggest that at least 33.5 million persons are affected by atrial fibrillation (AF) [1]. Its prevalence increases with age, from 0.1% in people younger than 55 years to more than 9% by 80 years of age [2]. Catheter ablation is the most promising treatment for AF. The multiple procedure success rate of pulmonary vein isolation for paroxysmal AF is approximately 70-80% after long-term follow-up [3]. However, the success rates of pulmonary vein isolation for non-paroxysmal forms are ranging from 55-70% for persistent and 50-60% for long standing AF. Recurrences are common after an initial procedure for non-paroxysmal forms of AF ablation and repeat ablation is often required to maintain freedom from AF [4]. Thus, new non-invasive preoperative predictors for assessment atrial structure remodeling are necessary to select the optimal ablation strategy for patients with AF.

Experimental and clinical researches have shown that, whatever the initial cause or trigger, there is a relationship between AF and alterations in atrial electrical properties [5]. The longer the duration of AF, the more persistent it becomes because of atrial remodeling. Remodeling of cellular ultra-structures, such as myolysis occurring in the atrial myocardium, is known to develop progressively during AF [6]. An increase in the expression of the gap junctions (connexin 40) has been reported to induce changes in the biophysical
properties of the atrial tissue during AF [7, 8]. Enhanced disintegrin and metalloproteinase activity was also reported to be an important mechanism of AF [9] that could lead to atrium diameter expansion, atrial wall thinning and, thus, atrium structure reconstruction [10]. Endogenous proteolytic enzymes involved in extracellular matrix remodeling include the matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) and the tissue inhibitors of metalloproteinases (TIMPs), consequently, the serum level of MMP-9, TIMP-1 and their relationship are considered to be a marker of extracellular collagen degradation [11].

In particular, many reports have demonstrated that TIMP-1 may be implicated in the development of myocardial fibrosis. For example, the TIMP-1 level is an important index for myocardial fibrosis, [12] and also has a close relationship with other cardiovascular diseases [13]. The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between the serum TIMP-1 level and arrhythmia recurrence after catheter ablation in patients with AF at different stages of disease progression.

**METHODS**

This study included 210 consecutive patients with various forms of AF. The main group consisted of 130 patients with AF resistant to drug therapy. The control group consisted of 80 patients without heart rhythm disorders and practically healthy patients (Table 1). The mean age of patients in the main group was 53.5 ± 7.6 years, of them: 52 (40%) women and 78 (60%) men. The mean age of patients in the control group was 51.8±7.9 years, of them: 41 (51.3%) women and 39 (48.8%) men. Both groups are comparable in age (U-test, p = 0.17) and gender (Fisher test, P = 0.55). AF was diagnosed according to a manual (ESC Clinical Practice Guidelines 2016). Exclusion criteria were structural heart diseases; hematologic, renal, or hepatic disorders; inflammations; neoplastic diseases; recent (<3 months) myocardial infarction or stroke; thyrotoxicosis-associated AF; or any acute infections. The study was approved by the Ethical Committee of the Odessa Regional Clinical Hospital, Odessa National Medical University. All patients signed an informed consent.

The day before the RFA, the serum TIMP-1 level was determined, and a transesophageal echocardiography was performed. The method for determining the serum TIMP-1 level is described in the literature [9]. In brief, blood samples were obtained by puncture of the peripheral vein and centrifuged at 3200xg for 10 minutes at a temperature of 4°C within one hour after collection. The serum was separated and stored at a temperature of -80 ° C until the patient-blinded personnel performed the analysis. The serum TIMP-1 level was determined using a standard commercial enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay in vivo according to the manufacturer’s guidelines (Ray Biotech INC, Atlanta, Georgia, USA). The coefficient of variation within and between assays was <10 and <12%, respectively.

The anatomical study of the left atrium (LA) and pulmonary veins was carried out on a spiral computed tomography (computed tomography) scanner “HiSpeed computed tomography/i” manufactured by “General Electric” (USA), with a gantry rotation speed at spiral scanning of 1 rotation per second. The study was conducted against the background of the administration of non-ionic contrast agents using an automatic injector “SimtRac DH” manufactured by Siemens (Germany). The procedure was performed on an empty stomach, under conventional therapy. As a rule, the left cubital vein was punctured to perform a computed tomography scan with angiography of the LA and LV. A 20G venous catheter was inserted into the vein and an automatic injector was connected. The volume of the contrast agent and the rate of its injection were set up in the injector. The volume of the contrast agent depended on the patient’s weight and height (usually 70-100 ml). Contrast agents “Iohexol (GE Healthcare AC, Ireland/Norway)” and “Iopromid (Bayer Pharma AG, Germany)” were used.

Data post-processing included the reconstruction of axial slices, the construction of...
two- and three-dimensional images. A soft-tissue filter was always used to reduce noise and increase contrast resolution. The results of the study were evaluated first by axial slices. Subsequently, reconstructed axial slices were used for a multiplanar reconstruction (multiplanar reconstruction). The construction of two- and three-dimensional reconstructions was performed on the GE workstation “Advantage Windows 2.0”. The dimensions of the mouth of the pulmonary veins were measured in the axial plane and in the oblique plane of the multiplanar reconstruction. The three-dimensional reconstruction was performed in SSD mode, the anatomical structure of the left atrium and pulmonary veins was assessed (the number of veins flowing into the LA by their own mouth, the convergence of the pulmonary veins mouths, the common pulmonary veins collector).

All patients had a catheter AF ablation under general anesthesia. Patients were heparinized to maintain an activated clotting time for more than 300 s. A three-dimensional electroanatomical model was constructed using a NavX electroanatomical mapping system (St. Jude Medical, St. Paul, MN). The ablation procedure included following steps: 1) isolation of pulmonary veins, 2) linear ablation of the mitral isthmus, in the absence of an effect – ablation of the left atrial roof. In the absence of efficiency of the stages 1 and 2, linear ablations were additionally performed, which included a line along the posterior wall of the LV, a line along the cavotricuspid isthmus and isolation of the superior vena cava. The endpoint of the procedure was considered the termination of AF. In the absence of an effect, the sinus rhythm (sinus rhythm) was restored using electrical cardioversion.

According to the 2015 HRS/EHRA/ECAS expert consensus statement on catheter and surgical ablation of AF, any atrial tachycardia (AT), atrial flutter (AFL) or an episode of AF lasting more than 30 seconds three months after ablation should be defined as a recurrence. All patients were monitored every month at the Polyclinic Department of the Odessa Regional Clinical Hospital. If patients complained of heart palpitations, fatigue, or other symptoms related to arrhythmias, the patients underwent 24-hour ECG monitoring. Patients were also advised to visit the attending doctor at any time when they develop symptoms for a 12-lead ECG or 24-hour ECG monitoring. Asymptomatic patients underwent 24-hour or situational ECG monitoring every 3 months after the procedure. The endpoint of the observation period was recording of an AT/AFL/AF recurrence with a duration of more than 30 s.

Statistical data processing was carried out with the aid of the statistical package Statistica 6.1. Testing of the parameters for normality was carried out using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Shapiro-Wilk tests. Descriptive data for quantitative features with normal distribution were presented as mean and standard deviation (M ± σ), those with non-normal distribution were presented in the form of median and interquartile interval (Me). Correlation analysis was performed using the Spearman’s R-test for quantitative values. The relationship between values was evaluated as significant at R> | 0.7 |, moderate at R from | 0.3 | to | 0.7 |, weak at R <| 0,3 |.

**Correlation analysis**

Calculations according to formula:

$$|r| = \frac{\exp[2t/(n-1,5)^{0.5}-1]}{\exp[2t/(n-1,5)^{0.5}+1]}$$

give following threshold values of correlation coefficient modules for a sample of n = 130 persons.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In the postoperative period (12.3 ± 6.4 months), 35 (26.9%) patients developed recurrent AT/AFL/AF. The baseline characteristics of the patients in both groups are shown in Table 1. The data in the table showed no significant differences in age, gender, body mass index (body mass index), hypertension, left ventricle ejection fraction, or medication between the two groups. However, the group of patients with recurrent arrhythmias
had a longer history of arrhythmias, greater LA diameter and a higher TIMP-1 level compared to the group without recurrence (Table 2).

We retrospectively analyzed data from patients in both groups. The level of the recovery of sinus rhythm at stages 1, 2 and 3 in the two groups did not differ significantly. The only difference between the two groups was the linear ablation of the LA roof. At this stage, rhythm recovery was observed in 9 patients in group

| Parameters                          | Paroxysmal AF (n=30) | Persistent AF (n=32) | Long-standing AF (n=35) | Permanent AF (n=33) | Control (n=80) | P   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----|
| Age (years)                        | 52.6±6.8              | 53.4±7.2             | 54.1±8.1                | 53.9±8.2            | 51.8±7.9      | 0.41|
| Gender (male), n (%)                | 19 (63.3)             | 18 (56.3)            | 21 (60)                 | 20 (60.6)           | 39 (48.8)     | 0.3 |
| Gender (female), n (%)              | 11 (36.7)             | 14 (43.8)            | 14 (40)                 | 13 (39.4)           | 41 (51.3)     | 0.28|
| Body mass index (kg/m²)             | 25.9±4.9              | 26.4±5.3             | 27.1±4.4                | 26.6±4.8            | 26.7±4.5      | 0.34|
| AF history (years)                  | 5.3±0.7               | 6.1±0.6              | 5.7±1.1                 | 6.4±1.3             | -             | 0.31|
| AH, n (%)                           | 19 (63.3)             | 20 (62.5)            | 23 (65.7)               | 21 (63.6)           | 11 (13.8)     | 0.2 |
| IHD, n (%)                          | 4 (13.3)              | 4 (12.5)             | 5 (14.3)                | 4 (12.1)            | -             | 0.24|
| Idiopathic AF, n (%)                | 2 (6.7)               | 2 (6.3)              | 3 (8.6)                 | 4 (12.1)            | -             | 0.29|
| EHRA I, n (%)                       | 5 (16.7)              | 6 (18.8)             | 4 (11.4)                | 4 (12.1)            | -             | 0.28|
| EHRA II, n (%)                      | 19 (63.3)             | 18 (56.3)            | 4 (11.4)                | 10 (30.3)           | -             | -   |
| EHRA III, n (%)                     | 6 (20)                | 9 (28.1)             | 21 (60)                 | 8 (24.2)            | -             | -   |
| Ventricular arrhythmias, n (%)      | 11 (36.7)             | 11 (34.4)            | 12 (34.3)               | 11 (33.3)           | -             | *0.38|
| Supraventricular arrhythmias, n(%)  | 13 (43.3)             | 12 (37.5)            | 14 (40)                 | 14 (42.4)           | 32 (40)       | *0.06|
| NYHA I class, n (%)                 | 18 (60)               | 6 (18.8)             | 6 (17.1)                | 6 (18.2)            | 27 (33.8)     | -   |
| NYHA II class, n (%)                | 12 (40)               | 25 (78.1)            | 28 (80)                 | 26 (78.8)           | -             | -   |
| absent                              | 0 (0)                 | 1 (3.1)              | 1 (2.9)                 | 1 (3.0)             | 53 (66.3)     | 0.45|
| TIMP-1, (ng/ml)                     | 131.5±36.40           | 149.5±42.7           | 151.5±42.7              | 155.9±44.7          | 103.6±14.7    | 0.05|
| LA diameter, mm                     | 35.7±2.1              | 41.4±3.2             | 44.3±3.4                | 47.5±4.4            | 34.3±2.0      | 0.05|
| Right lower pulmonary vein, mm      | 15.6±0.7              | 15.1±0.5             | 15.1±0.8                | 15.7±0.9            | 14.8±0.7      | 0.05|
| Right upper pulmonary vein, mm      | 15.6±1.1              | 15.9±0.9             | 15.7±1.2                | 16.0±1.3            | 15.1±1.1      | 0.05|
| Left lower pulmonary vein, mm       | 14.5±1.2              | 14.4±1.1             | 14.1±1.3                | 14.7±1.4            | 14.3±1.2      | 0.05|
| Left upper pulmonary vein, mm       | 16.0±1.1              | 16.1±0.8             | 15.8±1.2                | 16.2±1.3            | 15.3±1.1      | 0.05|

P = Mann-Whitney test, p* = Fisher criterion, AF = atrial fibrillation, AH = artery hypertension, IHD = Ischemic heart disease, EHRA = European heart rate association, NYHA = New York Heart Association, CHF = chronic heart failure, TIMP-1 = tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase–1.
1 and 7 patients in group 2 (9.5% and 20%, respectively, P = 0.04) (Table 3).

Correlation analysis of the TIMP-1 level, clinical and structural parameters of the left atrium revealed the following correlations: the strongest correlations were observed between the level of TIMP-1, the presence of arrhythmia and its severity and between the level of TIMP-1 and right superior pulmonary vein diameter (Table 4).

If the effectiveness in the absence of recurrence after 2 years is estimated according to the Harrington scale using integers, we obtain a non-linear relationship graph.

If non-integers are used to quantify the severity of arrhythmias, we obtain a practically straight-line dependence of the effect of the operation on the severity of arrhythmia.

**Cluster analysis**

Using Cluster analysis, the preoperative level of TIMP-1 was determined in patients with various effects of the operation (Table 5).

In the group of patients without relapse, TIMP-1 level was higher in the groups of patients with relapses of AF than in the group without relapses: 195.5±9.0, 201.0±5.4 and 129.2±3.4 ng/ml for the groups with relapse through 2 years and 7 days and in a group without relapse, respectively. In the group without effect, the MMP-9 level was 187.9±8.9 ng/ml, which indicates the completion of structural

**Table 2. Patients characteristics depending on the effectiveness of the ablation**

| Parameters | Without recurrence (n = 95) | With recurrence (n = 35) | P |
|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Age (years) | 51.3±7.6                    | 54.6±7.9                | 0.057 |
| Gender (male), n (%) | 50 (52.6) | 18 (51.4) | 0.83 |
| Body mass index (kg/m²) | 26.1±4.9 | 27.4±6.1 | 0.33 |
| AF history (months) | 43.2±15.9 | 52.7±17.7 | 0.03 |
| Hypertension n, (%) | 12 (12.6) | 4 (11.4) | 0.82 |
| Left atrial diameter (mm) | 39.4±7.6 | 44.8±9.2 | 0.01 |
| Left ventricle diameter (mm) | 51.3±8.1 | 53.4±7.3 | 0.49 |
| LVEF (%) | 56.8±7.3 | 57.5±9.2 | 0.74 |
| ACE inhibitor n, (%) | 19 (20) | 4 (11.4) | 0.36 |
| Amiodarone n, (%) | 47 (49.4) | 20 (57.1) | 0.74 |
| B-blockers n, (%) | 87 (91.6) | 33 (94.3) | 0.99 |
| TIMP-1 (ng/ml) | 140.6±40.3 | 152.7±44.9 | 0.05 |

Catheter ablation results

Step 1: Pulmonary vein isolation n, (%) | 19 (20) | 4 (11.4) | 0.33 |
Step 2: linear ablation of left atrium n, (%) | 40 (42.1) | 20 (57.1) | 0.29 |
Mitral Isthmus ablation n, (%) | 31 (32.6) | 13 (37.1) | 0.55 |
Left atrial roof n, (%) | 9 (9.5) | 7 (20) | 0.04 |
Step 1 + 2 n, (%) | 59 (62.1) | 241 (68.6) | 0.61 |
Step 3: additional lines n, (%) | 34 (35.8) | 11 (31.4) | 0.33 |
Step 1 +2 + 3 n, (%) | 76 (80) | 26 (74.3) | 0.08 |
Electrical cardioversion n, (%) | 15 (15.8) | 9 (25) | 0.15 |

P = Mann-Whitney test, AF = atrial fibrillation, LVEF = left ventricle ejection fraction, ACE = angiotensin-converting-enzyme, TIMP-1 = tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase–1.

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### Table 3. Four-fold matrix of the relationship between the form of atrial fibrillation and operation efficacy

| Types of AF   | Without recurrence | Recurrence after 2 years | Recurrence after 7 days | Without effect | Total | \((\Sigma n^2/N_x)/N\) |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------|----------------------|
| Paroxysmal AF | n 25               | 0                        | 2                       | 1              | 28    | 0.790                |
|               | n^2/N_x 20.346     | 0                        | 0.154                   | 0.038          | 20.538| 0.790                |
| Persistent AF | n 22               | 2                        | 3                       | 4              | 31    | 0.534                |
|               | n^2/N_x 15.613     | 0.516                    | 0.290                   | 0.516          | 16.548| 0.534                |
| Long-standing AF | n 25              | 4                        | 4                       | 3              | 36    | 0.514                |
|               | n^2/N_x 17.361     | 0.444                    | 0.444                   | 0.250          | 18.499| 0.514                |
| Permanent AF  | n 23               | 4                        | 5                       | 3              | 35    | 0.473                |
|               | n^2/N_x 15.114     | 0.457                    | 0.714                   | 0.257          | 16.543| 0.473                |
| Total         | Ny 95              | 10                       | 14                      | 11             | 130   | 2.311                |

AF – atrial fibrillation,
\[ \xi^2 = [(\Sigma n^2/N_x)/N] - 1 = 1.311 \]
\[ \phi^2 = \xi^2 - (x-1)(y-1)/N = 1.311 - (4-1)(4-1)/130 = 1.241 \]
\[ R = \{\phi^2/(1 + \phi^2)[(xy/(x-1)(y-1))^{0.5}]^{0.5} = 0.860 \]
\[ \mu_R^2 = (1-R^2)/(N-2)^{0.5} = 0.023 \]
\[ R = 0.860\pm0.023. \]

myocardial remodeling. In the control group, TIMP-1 level was 170.0±2.0 ng/ml. TIMP-1 level increases with the progression of AF until complete structural myocardial remodeling.

It should be noted that the clinical features of the patients played an important role on the consequences of the operation (Table 6). The main contribution to the recurrence of atrial fibrillation made hypertonic disease and heaviness of the arrhythmia.

### CONCLUSION

In the present study, we have prospectively studied the TIMP-1 level as predictors of the recurrence of arrhythmia after a procedure of RFA of AF. We found that TIMP-1 levels in patients with AF were significantly higher those in the healthy control population, indicating that TIMP-1 may play a role in the occurrence and maintenance of AF.

For the first time, a close relationship between TIMP-1 and AF [14] was demonstrated. It has been shown that increased expression of TIMP-1 may contribute to the structural remodeling of atriums and to atrial dilatation during AF. TIMP-1 also participates in atrial

Table 4. Matrix of correlation relationships between enzymes/cytokines, clinical indices and left atrial structural parameters

| Parameters | Proteinase inhibitor, TIMP-1 |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| Clinical indices: |                     |
| HD         | 0.50                        |
| IHD        | 0.41                        |
| Arhythm-1  | 0.73                        |
| EHRA       | 0.70                        |
| NYHA       | 0.12                        |
| Sex        | -0.01                       |
| Age        | 0.13                        |
| Left atrial parameters: |               |
| LAVZ       | 0.59                        |
| LAV        | 0.76                        |
| RIPV       | 0.83                        |
| RSPV       | 0.96                        |
| LIPV       | 0.93                        |
| LSPV       | 0.93                        |
remodeling after catheter ablation. In addition, a significant increase in TIMP-1 regulation is associated with a large decrease in the size of the left atrium [15]. Patients who developed recurrence had a higher serum TIMP-1 level, indicating a more serious atrial remodeling and form of AF. These assumptions were confirmed by a long history of AF and large sizes of the LA in this group. To date, the efficacy of RFA in patients with persistent, long-standing and permanent forms of AF remains unsatisfactory. Despite the adoption of new techniques, recent studies have shown that up to 40% of patients had a recurrence of tachycardia after the primary procedure [16]. What patient characteristics can be used to evaluate their prognosis remains unclear. Various candidates were reported to predict the recurrence of AF after catheter ablation, including age, gender, body mass index, ECG, echocardiographic data, observations made using cardiovascular magnetic resonance imaging (magnetic resonance imaging) and some serum or plasma factors [17]. Some of these studies contradict one another, while the most accurate predictors of recurrences after ablation of AF remain uncertain. AF progresses with worsening fibrosis and inflammation. Various inflammatory factor cause focal myocardial necrosis, modulate the functionality of the ion channel, and then initiate structural and electrical atrial remodeling. TIMP-1 is one of the markers of fibrosis and inflammation, which is associated with atrial remodeling in patients with AF. Elevated levels of TIMP-1 are associated with the occurrence and maintenance of AF [18]. In this article, we investigated the factors that may have prognostic significance for the results of catheter ablation of AF in the early and late postoperative period. We observed that traditionally reported factors, such as a history of AF and left atrium diameter, were also significantly associated with AF recurrence. In addition, the serum TIMP-1 level was found to be an independent predictor of recurrence. Thus, to eliminate this bias, the presence of AF without structural heart disease was confirmed in all patients registered in our study. Our data showed that serum TIMP-1 level was effective in predicting the recurrence of AF in this cohort.

The patients included in this study were

### Table 5. Peculiarities of the MMP-9 level of patients with various consequences of the operation

| Inhibitor | Cluster | NR     | R2y    | R7d    | NE    | Norm    |
|-----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|---------|
| TIMP-1    | µg/L    | 129.2±3.4 | 195.5±9.0 | 201.0±5.4 | 188.4±8.3 | 170.0±2.0 |

TIMP-1 = tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase–1, NR = no relapse, R2y = relapse in 2 days, R7d = relapse in 7 days, NE = no effect.

### Table 6. Peculiarities of the clinical status of patients with different consequences of the operation

| Clusters of consequences (n) | Hypertonic Disease (No=0; Yes=1) | Ischemic Heart Disease (No=0; Yes=1) | NYHA (0; 1; 2) | EHRA (1; 2; 3) | Arhythmia-1 (No=0; Supra-ventricular=1; Ventricular=2) | Arhythmia-2 Fibrillation Heavyness, points |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| No Relapse (95)             | 0.72±0.05                        | 0.08±0.03                           | 1.31±0.08       | 1.76±0.07       | 0.83±0.07                                             | 2.15±0.07                                   |
| Relapse after 2 years (10)  | 1.00±0.00                        | 0.50±0.17                           | 1.50±0.27       | 2.80±0.20       | 1.90±0.10                                             | 2.57±0.08                                   |
| Relapse after 7 days (14)   | 0.86±0.10                        | 0.57±0.14                           | 1.57±0.23       | 2.93±0.07       | 1.93±0.07                                             | 2.35±0.16                                   |
| No Effect (11)              | 0.91±0.09                        | 0.36±0.15                           | 1.16±0.29       | 2.41±0.32       | 1.41±0.28                                             | 2.37±0.15                                   |

EHRA = European heart rate association, NYHA = New York Heart Association
a special group of AF. The TIMP-1 level correlates with the intraoperative efficacy of rhythm recovery and relapse in the early and late postoperative period and increases as AF progresses. Patients with constant AF had more extensive fibrosis than patients with persistent AF [19]. Constant AF usually coexists with structural heart disease, which can aggravate fibrosis and inflammation. In recent recommendations, catheter ablation is not recommended for patients with constant AF. This study evaluated only patients with idiopathic AF without apparent structural concomitant pathology which could limit its generalizability. Serum TIMP-1 levels were higher in patients with recurrence and were identified as an independent predictor of arrhythmia recurrence after catheter ablation. In conclusion, we explained that the expression of TIMP-1 increases with the progression of AF and may contribute to structural atrial remodeling and increase the risk of relapse in the postoperative period. This requires the use of more complex integrated approach for the treatment.

The authors of this study confirm that the research and publication of the results were not associated with any conflicts regarding commercial or financial relations, relations with organizations and/or individuals who may have been related to the study, and interrelations of coauthors of the article.

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ПІДВИЩЕННЯ АКТИВНОСТІ ТКАНИНОГО ІНГІБІТОРА МЕТАЛОПРОТЕЙНАЗИ-1 ЯК ПРЕДИКТОРА РЕЦИДИВУ ФІБРИЛЯЦІЇ ПЕРЕДСЕРДЬ У ПІСЛЯОПЕРАЦІЙНОМУ ПЕРІОДІ

Визначалося вплив вмісту тканинного інгібітора металопротеїнази-1 (ТИМП-1) на рецидивування фібриляції передсердь (ФП) після процедур катетерної радіочастотної абляції (КРА). ТИМП-1 бере участь у ремоделюванні позаклітинного матриксу, який вважається маркером регуляції активності матриксних металопротеїназ. За допомогою імуноферментного аналізу до процедур КРА вимірювали сироватковий вміст ТИМП-1 у 210 пацієнтів: 80 пацієнтів без анамнезу ФП і 130 з ідіопатичною формою ФП (пароксизмальна-30, персистуюча-32, тривало-персистуюча-35 і хронічна-33). Оцінювали їх зв'язок з інтраопераційною ефективністю і рецидивом ФП протягом усього періоду спостереження, який становив 22,2 ± 7,9 міс. Вміст ТИМП-1 був вище в контрольній групі (103,6 ± 14,7 нг/мл), у пацієнтів з ФП-131,51 ± 36,40, 149,5 ± 42,7, 151,5 ± 42,7 і 155,9 ± 44,7 нг/мл для пароксизмальної, персистуючої, тривало-персистуючої і хронічної форми відповідно. Оцінювали їх зв'язок з інтраопераційною ефективністю і рецидивом ФП протягом усього періоду спостереження, який становив 22,2 ± 7,9 міс. Вміст ТИМП-1 був вище в контрольній групі (103,6 ± 14,7 нг/мл), у пацієнтів з ФП-131,51 ± 36,40, 149,5 ± 42,7, 151,5 ± 42,7 і 155,9 ± 44,7 нг/мл для пароксизмальної, персистуючої, тривалої і постійної форми відповідно. З прогресування ФП цей показник збільшувався. Багатофакторний аналіз показав, що вміст ТИМП-1, анамнез ФП і об’єм лівого передсердя були незалежними предикторами відновлення
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