

# INNOMINATE ARTERY CANNULATION FOR PROXIMAL AORTIC SURGERY

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## Abstract

**Background.** The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of innominate artery cannulation strategy with side graft technique in proximal aortic pathologies. **Methods.** A total of 70 patients underwent innominate artery cannulation with a side graft for surgery on the proximal aorta from 2012 to 2020. There were 46 men and 24 women with an average age of  $56 \pm 13$  years. The indications of surgery were type A aortic dissection in 17 patients (24.3%), aortic aneurysm in 52 patients (74.3%) and ascending aorta pseudoaneurysm in 1 patient (1.4%). The innominate artery was free of disease in all patients. Hypothermic circulatory arrest with antegrade cerebral perfusion was utilized in 60 patients (85.7%). 3 patients had previous sternotomy (4.2%). The most common surgical procedure was ascending aorta and hemiarch replacement in 34 patients (48.5%). **Results.** The mean cardiac ischemia and cardiopulmonary bypass times were  $116 \pm 46$  minutes and  $164 \pm 56$  minutes, respectively. The mean antegrade cerebral perfusion time was  $27 \pm 14$  minutes. The patients were cooled between 22°C and 30°C during surgery. 30-day mortality rate was 7.1% with 5 patients. 1 patient (1.4%) had stroke, 1 patient (1.4%) had temporary neurologic deficit and 8 patients (11.4%) had confusion and agitation that resolved completely in all cases. There was no local complication or arterial injury was encountered. **Conclusions.** Cannulation of the innominate artery with side graft is safe and effective for both cardiopulmonary bypass and antegrade cerebral perfusion. This technique provides excellent neurologic outcomes for proximal aortic surgery.

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