

1550661

Carotid Atherosclerosis: Ultrasound and Doppler Findings in the Setting of Acute Coronary Syndrome

*Radzishovsky, E; Sharif, D; Shahla, C; Khalil, A; Rosenschein, U
Bnai Zion medical center, Haifa, Israel*

Carotid atherosclerosis is associated with coronary atherosclerosis. Moreover, the culprit ruptured and unstable atherosclerotic plaque causes other unstable remote coronary plaques as shown by intra-coronary Ultrasound.

Aim: Prospective evaluation of carotid ultrasound and Doppler findings in patients presenting with Acute Coronary Syndrome.

Methods: 90 consecutive Patients, presenting with Acute Coronary Syndrome were evaluated. All had carotid Ultrasound and Doppler examination and complete echocardiogram, laboratory blood tests were undertaken. 90 subjects had 72 coronary angiography/

Results: Intima-media thickness was greater than normal (>0.6 mm.) in 80% (n-72).

Plaques, occupying more than 30% of the lumen were in 41% (n-37).

Peak systolic velocity greater than 125 cm/sec was found in 22% (n-20). Ratio of internal to common carotid systolic velocities >2 was found in 10% (n-9). Some criteria for carotid stenosis was found in 92% of whole group, 96% of those with Left Ventricular Hypertrophy, 100% of those with 3 - Vessel Disease and 92% of Patients With Aortic Regurgitation.

Conclusion: Most patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome have increased intima-media thickness and fulfill some criteria for Carotid stenosis, 3- Vessel Disease and Left Ventricular Hypertrophy increase probability of carotid stenosis in these patients. Follow-up carotid evaluation is warranted.