

Assessment of Two Techniques Securing Sapien Valves Placed in Mitral Position *by*

Ovidiu Moise | Roy Sheinbaum | John Zaki | Warren Choi

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There are few reports of attempts to replace a diseased mitral valve using Sapien valves designed for the aortic position in patients who are considered extreme surgical risk. The use of this technique for “hybrid surgical mitral valve replacement” correlates with highly variable success rate with 30-day mortality as high as 35%.

We present two of these techniques with different securing methods and different results.

The balloon expandable Sapien XT valve can be an alternative approach in mitral valve replacement surgery with concomitant presence of severe mitral annular calcification. However, the possibility of severe paravalvular leak and significant displacement of the prosthetic valve or even valve embolism must be considered. In our limited experience, placement of anchoring sutures to the LV apex does not seem to be an effective approach for securing the mitral prosthesis in position.

Following the success of TAVR we can anticipate much further development in transcatheter mitral valves.

* - University Of Texas, McGovern School of Medicine, Houston - Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia