

Comparison of
Preoperative Aortic
Valve Imaging
Techniques for Patients
with Aortic Insufficiency
Undergoing Aortic Valve
Repair Surgery

AATS Aortic Symposium 2024

1. Objective
2. Methods
3. Results
4. Conclusions

Objective

- To report the comparative accuracy of pre-repair imaging techniques for determination of bicuspid aortic valve phenotype, using the de Kerchove repair-oriented classification and measurement of **commissural orientation, geometric heights** and **functional commissural heights** using:
 - 4D CTA
 - 3D TEE
 - Surgeon's intraoperative measurements

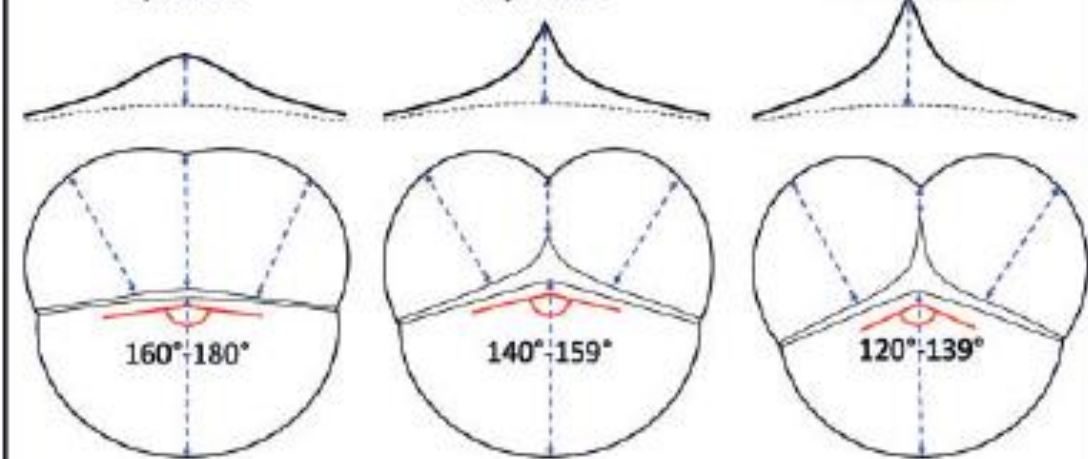
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Anatomical & Repair-oriented Classification Of BAV Phenotypes

Type A
Symmetric

Type B
Asymmetric

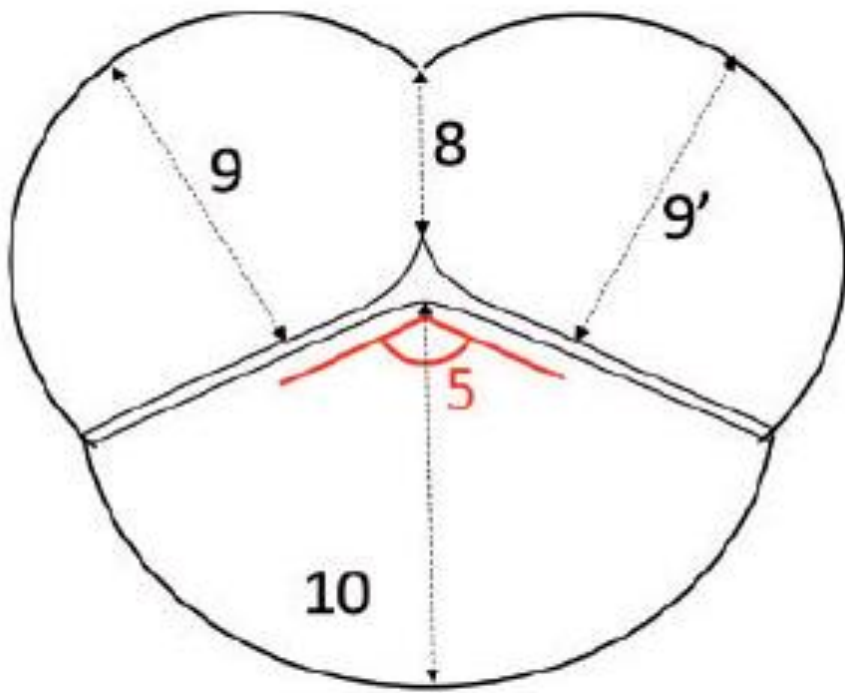
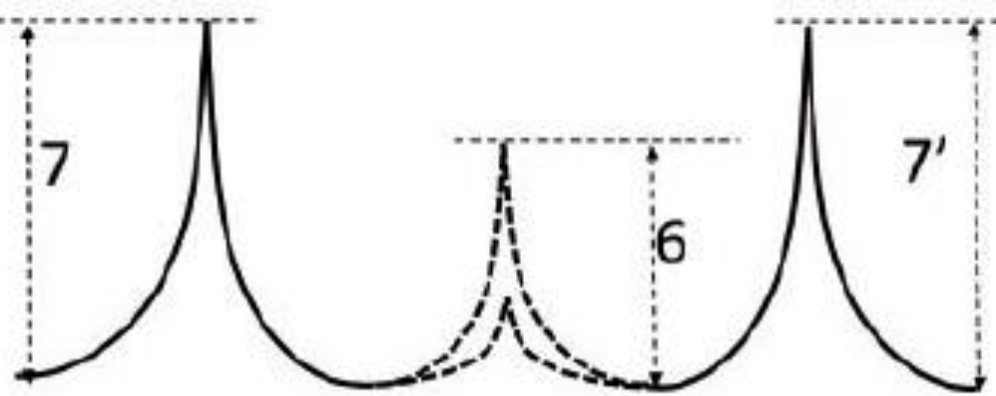
Type C
Very Asymmetric



Methods

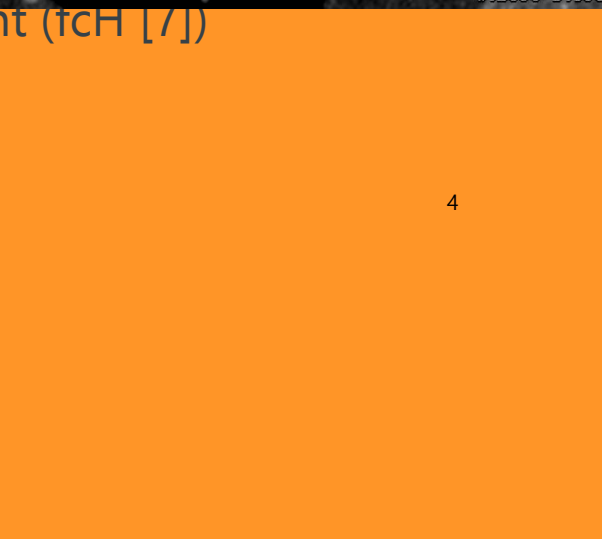
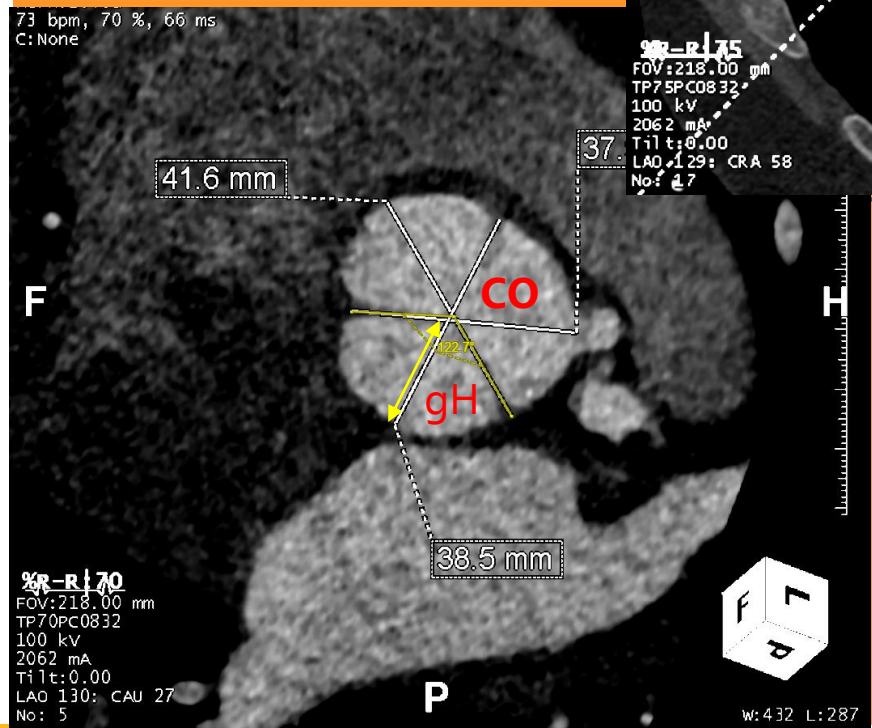
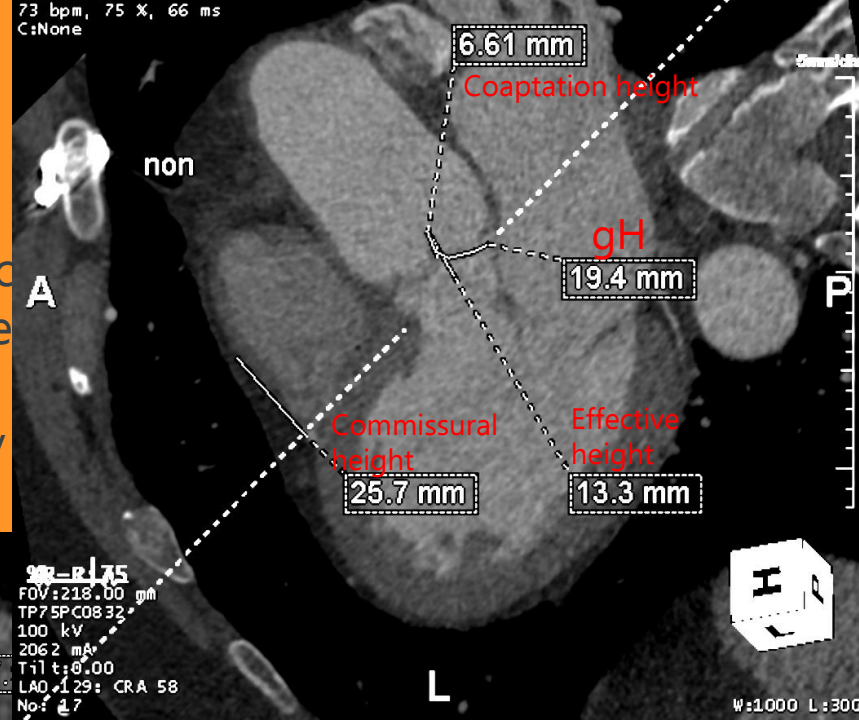
- Prospective, non-randomized, observational design
- Patients undergoing aortic valve repair surgery for predominant aortic insufficiency and/or aortic root aneurysm
- 22 patients accrued over 12 month study period, followed for 3 years postoperatively
- Preoperative 4D CTA and 3D TEE obtained, read by dedicated imaging cardiologists
- Intraoperative measurements from surgeon on the arrested heart pre-repair
- Excluded if aortic valve replacement performed or imaging incomplete





Methods

- Gold standard technique following variable
- AV phenotype by (CO [5])



Methods

- Cohen's kappa (κ), Spearman's rank (r_s) and Pearson (r) correlation coefficients were used to describe agreement of phenotype and measurements between gold standard and other measurement techniques
 - $\kappa \leq 0$ indicates no agreement
 - 0.01–0.20 indicates none to slight agreement
 - 0.21–0.40 indicates fair
 - 0.41– 0.60 indicates moderate
 - 0.61–0.80 indicates substantial
 - 0.81–1.00 indicates almost perfect agreement
- r or r_s 0 – 0.30 indicates negligible correlation
- 0.30 – 0.50 indicates low positive
- 0.50 – 0.70 indicates moderate positive
- 0.70 – 0.90 indicates high positive
- 0.90 – 1.00 indicates very high positive correlation



Results

- TEE ($\kappa=0.902$, $p<0.01$) was more likely to agree with CTA for AV phenotype than intraoperative assessment ($\kappa=0.729$, $p<0.01$), however both were likely to agree with CTA
- TEE was thus more accurate than intraoperative measurement at predicting CO ($r_s=0.79$, $p<0.01$ vs $r_s=0.58$, $p=0.01$)

AV Phenotype		CTA (n)			
		BAV-A	BAV-B	BAV-C	TAV
Intra-op (n)	BAV-A	3	1	1	0
	BAV-B	0	0	4	0
	BAV-C	0	0	2	0
	TAV	0	0	0	9
κ (95% CI, p)		0.729 (0.541-0.916, $p<0.01$)			
AV Phenotype		CTA (n)			
		BAV-A	BAV-B	BAV-C	TAV
TEE (n)	BAV-A	3	0	1	0
	BAV-B	0	1	0	0
	BAV-C	0	0	5	0
	TAV	0	0	0	7
κ (95% CI, p)		0.902 (0.719 - 1, $p < 0.01$)			
CO (degrees)		CTA	Intra-op	TEE	
Median (IQR)	120 (116.75, 129.25)	120 (120-150)	109.5 (60.0, 151.0)		
r_s (95% CI, p)		0.58 (0.10-0.87, $p = 0.01$)	0.79 (0.46-0.98, $p < 0.01$)		



Results

- Both CTA and TEE were unlikely to predict, and measured shorter than, intraoperative gH measurement
- There was a low positive agreement of gH within CTA and TEE; neither tended to over or underestimate the other
- Measurements of fcH by CTA did not agree with, and were shorter than, intraoperative measurement at all commissures (LN, LR, RN)

gH (mm)	Intra-op	CTA	TEE	CTA	TEE
Median (IQR)	22 (21-25)	19 (17.25-21)	21 (19.25-23.95)	19 (17.25-21)	21 (19.25-23.95)
r_s (95% CI, p)		0.31 (-0.3-0.72, $p=0.22$)	0.22 (-0.21-0.58, $p=0.36$)		0.40 (-0.14-0.72, $p=0.11$)

fcH - LN (mm)	Intra-op	CTA
Median (IQR)	30 (26.75-30)	21.7 (19.2-24.43)
r_s (95% CI, p)		0.02 (-0.34-0.46, $p=0.93$)

fcH - LR (mm)	Intra-op	CTA
Mean \pm SD	27.4 \pm 2.41	23.03 \pm 4.83
r (95% CI, p)		0.27 (-0.54-0.82, $p=0.52$)

fcH - RN (mm)	Intra-op	CTA
Median (IQR)	30 (28.5, 30)	25.7 (21.7, 28.68)
r_s (95% CI, p)		0.06 (-0.44-0.65, $p=0.83$)



Conclusions

- TEE appears more accurate than intraoperative assessment in predicting AV phenotype by measurement of CO compared to the gold standard of CTA (CTA>TEE>intraoperative measurement)
- CTA and TEE did not agree with and predicted shorter gH and fcH than intraoperative measurement (Intraoperative measurement>CTA+TEE)

8

8

