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Impaired left atrial function predicts inappropriate shocks in primary prevention implantable cardioverter-defibrillator candidates

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Introduction

Implantable cardioverter-defibrillators (ICD) are effective in preventing sudden cardiac death in patients with left ventricular dysfunction and heart failure.¹ However, inappropriate ICD shocks, most commonly caused by atrial fibrillation (AF), occur frequently, and are associated with impaired quality of life,² increased mortality,³ and healthcare cost.⁴ Therefore, risk assessment of inappropriate shocks in individual patients prior to ICD implantation is critically important for the clinical decision-making.

A history of AF prior to ICD implantation is a major predictor of inappropriate shocks.³ However, patients may have asymptomatic AF⁵ that is clinically unrecognized prior to ICD implantation. In addition, patients may develop a new onset of AF after ICD implantation. Therefore, there is a need for a metric that predicts the risk of inappropriate shocks even in the absence of clinically recognized AF prior to ICD implantation.

Recent studies indicate that remodeling processes in the left atrial (LA) structure and function precede AF substrate maturation^{6,7}. For example, larger LA volumes and lower LA function using tissue-tracking cardiac magnetic resonance (CMR) predict new development of AF in a substudy of a large prospective cohort.⁸ Therefore, we hypothesized that LA structural and functional remodeling quantified by tissue-tracking CMR predicts inappropriate shocks independent of a history of AF prior to ICD implantation. To test our hypothesis, we analyzed patients in the Prospective Observational Study of Implantable

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Cardioverter-Defibrillators (PROSE-ICD), a multicenter prospective cohort study to identify risk factors for arrhythmic death in primary prevention ICD candidates.⁹

Methods

Study Design

PROSE-ICD is a multicenter, prospective observational study of patients with cardiomyopathy eligible for a primary prevention ICD, conducted from 2003 to 2013. The details of study were described previously (online Data Supplement).⁹ The protocol was approved by the institutional review board, and all participants provided informed consent. Among the 1,189 participants enrolled in the PROSE-ICD study, CMR was offered to all the participants who were scheduled for ICD implantation at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, to assess cardiac structure and function. Fifty percent of eligible patients agreed to undergo CMR. The reasons for non-enrollment were refusal to participate in the CMR study (78% of those non-enrolled), claustrophobia (7%) and insufficient time to schedule the scan before device implantation (15%). As a result, a total of 367 participants underwent CMR prior to ICD implantation. Among the 367 participants who underwent CMR, we excluded 9 participants for poor image quality, and 196 participants in whom cine CMR of LA was performed only in the long-axis four-chamber view. Thus, we included a total of 162 participants in this study whose cine CMR of LA is available in both the long-axis four-chamber and the two-chamber views.

At enrollment, all patients underwent a baseline comprehensive history and cardiovascular physical examination, and a standard 12-lead electrocardiography. Then they underwent single-chamber or dual-chamber ICD, or cardiac resynchronization with an ICD (CRT-D) implantation based on the current guidelines.¹⁰ The systems used were manufactured by Boston Scientific (Natick, Massachusetts), Medtronic (Minneapolis, Minnesota) and St. Jude Medical (St. Paul, Minnesota). Stability and sudden onset algorithms were activated in all devices. Additional detection algorithms evaluating the atrial rate were activated in dual-chamber ICDs and CRT-Ds. The programming of tachycardia therapy cutoff rates and therapies was left to the discretion of the operators.

Patient Follow-up and Outcomes

The patients were evaluated every 6 months after implantation and after any ICD shock event reported by the patients or via remote transmission. At each visit, ICDs were interrogated to assess arrhythmic events. All stored electrograms from delivered ICD therapies were adjudicated by 2 clinical cardiac electrophysiologists blinded to patient demographic information, and each electrophysiologist independently determined the rhythm at the time of initial detection and after therapy delivery. Disagreements on the diagnosed rhythm were reviewed by a third electrophysiologist for final adjudication. In this study, the endpoint was the first occurrence of an inappropriate shock. The cause of inappropriate therapy was categorized as follows; atrial fibrillation or flutter (AF/AFL), supraventricular tachycardia including sinus tachycardia (SVT), or abnormal lead sensing. Management of inappropriate shocks was left to the discretion of the electrophysiologist who cared for the patient.

CMR Imaging and Analysis

The patients were scanned in sinus rhythm with a 1.5-T scanner, Signa CVI (General Electric, Milwaukee, USA) or Avanto (Siemens Medical Systems, Erlangen, Germany). The details of the CMR protocol were reported previously (online Data Supplement).¹¹ Multimodality Tissue Tracking software (MTT; version 6.0, Toshiba, Japan) was used to obtain phasic LA volumes, strain, and strain rate from four-chamber and two-chamber cine images. Details of the MTT¹² and its validation¹³ and reproducibility^{13,14} have been described previously. Briefly, LA endocardial and epicardial borders were manually traced in the biplane images, excluding pulmonary veins and LA appendage (Figure 1A, 1B). Maximum LA volume (V_{\max} ; at end systole before mitral valve opening), minimum LA volume (V_{\min} ; at end diastole after mitral valve closure), and pre-atrial contraction LA volume (V_{preA}) were measured using the LA volume curve generated by the biplane Simpson's method (Figure 1C). All volumes were subsequently indexed according to body surface area. Global longitudinal strain and strain rate curves were generated by averaging strain and strain rate in all LA segments within the biplane views, and LA maximum strain (S_{\max}), LA pre-atrial contraction strain (S_{preA}), LA strain rate in left ventricular (LV) systole (SR_s), LV early diastole (SR_e), and LA contraction (SR_a) were measured (Figure 1D, 1E). The parameters of volume were calculated as follows: LA stroke volume (LASV) = $LAV_{\max} - LAV_{\min}$, LA total emptying fraction (EF) = $(V_{\max} - V_{\min}) \times 100\% / V_{\max}$, LA passive EF = $(V_{\max} - V_{\text{preA}}) \times 100\% / V_{\max}$, and LA active EF = $(V_{\text{preA}} - V_{\min}) \times 100\% / V_{\text{preA}}$. All CMR analyses were performed blinded to clinical outcomes.

Statistical Analysis

Continuous variables are expressed as mean \pm standard deviation (SD) or median [interquartile range; 25th–75th percentile], and categorical variables are expressed as frequencies and percentages. We used Pearson's χ^2 test for categorical variables and the Student t-test or Mann-Whitney U test for parametric or nonparametric continuous variables, respectively. We used Kaplan-Meier methods and log-rank test to estimate the cumulative incidence of events. Cox proportional hazards models were used to determine predictors of inappropriate shocks. Univariable analyses of all baseline variables were performed. Multivariable analysis was performed for each LA parameter found to be significant on univariable analysis by adjusting for history of AF prior to ICD implantation, age younger than 70 years, and QRS less than 120ms. The calculated relationship was presented as a hazard ratio (HR) with a 95% confidence interval (CI). Receiver-operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis was generated to assess the incremental value of each LA parameter individually over the base model included AF history, age and QRS duration to predict inappropriate shocks. ROC curve was also used to identify the best cut-off value of LA indices for predicting inappropriate shocks. We used JMP Pro Version 12.1.0 (SAS Institute Inc, Cary, NC, USA) to perform all statistical analyses. A difference with a p value of less than 0.05 was considered significant.

Results

Baseline Characteristics

Demographics of the study participants are presented in Table 1. Average age at baseline was 56.4 ± 14.6 years, with 70% men. The mean ejection fraction was $27.9 \pm 10.6\%$ with a relatively balanced distribution of cardiomyopathy etiology. Most patients received a single-chamber ICD (57%) with 21% receiving dual-chamber systems and 22% cardiac resynchronization therapy devices. The median lowest cutoff zone for tachycardia therapy was programmed to 200 (185–200) beats per minute.

Inappropriate ICD shocks

During the follow-up period of 4.0 ± 2.9 years, 26 of 162 patients (16%) experienced one or more inappropriate shocks (Figure 2). The mean time from implantation to first inappropriate shock was 2.0 ± 1.6 years. The most common cause of inappropriate shocks was AF/AFL, occurring in 19 patients (73%), followed by SVT in 5 patients (19%), and abnormal lead sensing in 2 patients (8%) (one T-wave oversensing and one lead fracture). Among the 26 patients, 7 patients had more than one inappropriate shock episode due to AF/AFL. Two of the 7 patients had inappropriate shocks due to both of AF and AFL.

The patients with inappropriate shocks were more likely to have a history of AF than those without inappropriate shocks (38% vs. 13%, $p=0.001$) (Table 1). In 27 patients with a history of AF before device implantation, 10 patients developed inappropriate shocks due to AF/AFL. In patients without a history of AF, 16 patients developed inappropriate shocks due to AF/AFL in 9 patients, SVT in 5 patients, and abnormal lead sensing in 2 patients. There was no significant difference in other baseline characteristics between patients with and without inappropriate shocks, including the etiology of cardiomyopathy, LV ejection fraction, antiarrhythmic drugs, device type, and lower rate cutoff. However, among 27 patients with a history of AF, 1 of 9 patients (10%) on antiarrhythmic drugs including amiodarone received an inappropriate shock. In contrast, 9 of 18 patients (50%) off antiarrhythmic drugs received inappropriate shocks (hazard ratio: 0.13, $p=0.037$). No interventional therapy including catheter ablation was performed during the follow-up.

The LA measurements using tissue-tracking CMR are summarized in Table 2. Patients with inappropriate shocks had lower LA total EF and active EF, lower S_{\max} and S_{preA} , and lower absolute value of SR_a , compared to those without inappropriate shocks.

Predictors of inappropriate ICD shocks

In univariable Cox models, significant predictors of inappropriate shocks included (Table 3): history of AF before ICD implantation, age <70 years, QRS duration <120 ms, larger minimum LA volume, smaller LA stroke volume, lower LA EFs (total EF and active EF), lower LA strains (S_{\max} and S_{preA}), and lower absolute values of LA strain rates (SR_s and SR_a). In multivariable models adjusting for history of AF, age <70 years, and QRS duration <120 msec, LA parameters which remained significant were lower S_{\max} (HR: 0.96, $p=0.044$), lower S_{preA} (HR: 0.94, $p=0.030$), and lower absolute value of SR_a (HR: 0.25, $p<0.001$). Lower S_{\max} , S_{preA} , and absolute value of SR_a were significantly associated with

inappropriate shocks due to AF/AFL after multivariable-adjustment, but not due to SVT and abnormal lead sensing (online Data Supplement Table 1). The best cut-off values of LA parameters for predicting inappropriate shocks were 20.6% for S_{\max} [area under the curve (AUC): 0.65, sensitivity: 77%, specificity: 48%], 14.6% for S_{preA} (AUC: 0.67, sensitivity: 89%, specificity: 41%), and 1.00 /s for absolute value of SR_a (AUC: 0.73, sensitivity 77%, specificity: 62%). Sensitivity and specificity of history of AF prior to ICD implantation were 39% and 87%, respectively. Kaplan-Meier curves for each parameter are shown in Figure 3.

Incremental value of LA function as a predictor of inappropriate ICD shocks

The AUC of $LASR_a$ added to the base model used for multivariable analyses was significantly higher than base model alone (0.79 vs. 0.69, $p=0.033$) (Figure 4). The AUC of S_{\max} and S_{preA} added to the base model trended insignificantly higher than the base model alone. Kaplan-Meier curves of combinations of AF history and $LASR_a$, with a cut-off absolute value of 1.00 /s, are shown in Figure 5. The patients with higher absolute value of $LASR_a$ and no history of AF (Group 1 in Figure 5), representing 53% of the cohort, had the lowest incidence of inappropriate ICD shocks (1.0%/year) ($p<0.05$ by log-rank test). The patients with lower absolute value of $LASR_a$ and no history of AF (Group 2 in Figure 5), comprising 31% of the cohort, had as high an incidence of inappropriate shocks (8.3%/year) as those with AF history (9.7%/year; Group 3 and 4 in Figure 5; $p>0.05$ by log-rank test).

Discussion

Summary of main findings

This is the first report to demonstrate an association between LA function and inappropriate shocks in primary prevention ICD recipients. The main findings are as follows: 1) the patient demographics that associated with inappropriate shocks included a history of AF prior to ICD implantation, age younger than 70 years, and QRS duration narrower than 120ms; 2) impaired LA function assessed by tissue-tracking CMR was an independent predictor of inappropriate shocks; and 3) strain rate in LA contraction (SR_a) improved the predictive value of inappropriate shocks beyond the patient demographics.

Patient demographics

Our results are consistent with previous reports demonstrating AF as the most common risk factor for inappropriate shocks.³ In this study, the incidence of inappropriate shocks due to AF/AFL was 73%; however, the sensitivity of AF history prior to ICD implantation to predict inappropriate shocks was only 39%. In contrast, the specificity of AF history was relatively high at 87% but no prior history of AF would potentially miss the 61% incidence of inappropriate shocks. It is because AF history underdetects asymptomatic AF⁵ and new-onset AF. These results confirm the need for structural and functional precursors to AF that reflect the adverse atrial remodeling process.

Our results are also consistent with previous studies which identified a younger age as an independent predictor for inappropriate shocks.¹⁵ The potential mechanism is a higher ventricular rate due to faster atrioventricular conduction associated with younger age, despite a lower incidence of AF, compared with an older age.¹⁶ Our results also showed that

the QRS duration narrower than 120 ms was associated with inappropriate shocks. This finding likely reflects that fact that the QRS duration wider than 120 ms indicates an underlying conduction system disease, which could be associated with reduction of the ventricular response rates to below the rate cutoffs.¹⁷ Thus, age less than 70 years and QRS duration less than 120ms could impact on the higher ventricular response during AF, which related to inappropriate shocks.

LA volume and function

Our results show that independent predictors of inappropriate shocks are not LA volumetric parameters, but LA functional parameters such as S_{\max} , S_{preA} , and SR_a , which reflect the reservoir (collection of pulmonary venous return during ventricular systole), the conduit (passage of blood to the LV during early diastole), and the booster pump function (augmentation of LV filling during late diastole), respectively. In particular, SR_a improved the predict value of inappropriate ICD shocks, and the patients with lower absolute value of LA SR_a (≤ 1.0 /s) had high incidence of inappropriate shocks with or without AF history. This finding highlights the critical importance of impaired LA function as a surrogate for LA fibrosis that harbors AF.¹⁸ This concept is supported by several lines of evidence. For example, S_{\max} is an independent predictor of the maintenance of sinus rhythm after successful cardioversion in patients with recent-onset AF.¹⁹ In addition, LA booster pump function is an independent predictor of new-onset AF in a prospective cohort without a prior history of AF.⁷ SR_a is also reduced in recent-onset AF despite normal LA size.²⁰ Given the significant clinical impact of inappropriate shocks on medical and psychological prognosis of the patients, it is critically important to identify patients with a high risk of inappropriate shocks regardless of AF history.

Clinical implications

We found that LA functional parameters assessed by tissue-tracking CMR are independent predictors of inappropriate ICD shocks beyond demographical predictors. For candidates deemed at high risk for an inappropriate ICD shock, cardiac electrophysiologists can recommend a dual-chamber ICD^{21,22} with therapy reduction programming including combinations of higher detection rates and longer detection intervals, which have been shown to reduce inappropriate ICD shocks.^{23,24} Our findings expand upon the growing evidence supporting the utility of CMR as a valuable risk stratifier of outcomes in ICD recipients.^{11,25} Our results may support a routine use of speckle-tracking echocardiography to assess LA function prior to ICD implantation. The portability of echocardiography is an advantage over CMR that can be incorporated into a routine clinical workflow. However, a potential disadvantage of echocardiogram over CMR is longer time for off-line speckle-tracking analysis for strain and strain rate measurements due to a difference in baseline signal-to-noise ratio of the images and occasional inability to view the entire LA epicardium in both two-chamber and four-chamber views. To expand the routine clinical use of LA functional assessment prior to ICD implantation, further studies will be required demonstrating the improved clinical outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

Limitations

First, 162 patients were included in the study out of 1,189 patients initially enrolled, with a small number of inappropriate ICD shocks (n=26). Therefore, there is a non-negligible chance of selection bias which could have affected the results. Second, we used two different scanners, Siemens Avanto and GE Signa, for assessment of LA structure and function. However, MTT is cross-scanner, or scanner-independent, software, where strain and strain rate measurements are only influenced by temporal and spatial resolution of CMR images. Since we used the same pre-determined protocol in both the scanners, the difference in scanner should not have affected our strain and strain rate measurements. Third, the predictors of inappropriate ICD shocks are a function of the cohort characteristics. However, our cohort represents a clinically realistic sample of primary prevention ICD candidates, where AF was the most common cause of inappropriate shocks.³ Fourth, we do not have the detailed information of AF occurrence and the influence of additional therapies for inappropriate shocks for two reasons: 1) the endpoint of this study was the first occurrence of inappropriate shock; and 2) 57% of patients underwent single-chamber ICD implantation with which it was hard to detect AF during the follow-up. Although the sample size is relatively small, antiarrhythmic drugs may decrease inappropriate shocks in patients with a history of AF. Fifth, the patients without AF history prior to ICD implantation may have included those with clinically unrecognized AF. It is possible that more rigorous and continuous ECG monitoring may uncover clinically unrecognized AF and improve the predictive value of a history of AF. However, assessment of LA function is still advantageous in that it does not require lengthy monitoring periods and can provide clinically useful information about structural remodeling precursors to AF.

Conclusion

Impaired LA function assessed by tissue-tracking CMR is an independent predictor of inappropriate shocks in primary prevention ICD candidates. LA booster pump function assessed by SR_a particularly improves the predictive value for inappropriate shocks beyond demographic predictors such as a history of AF and a younger age.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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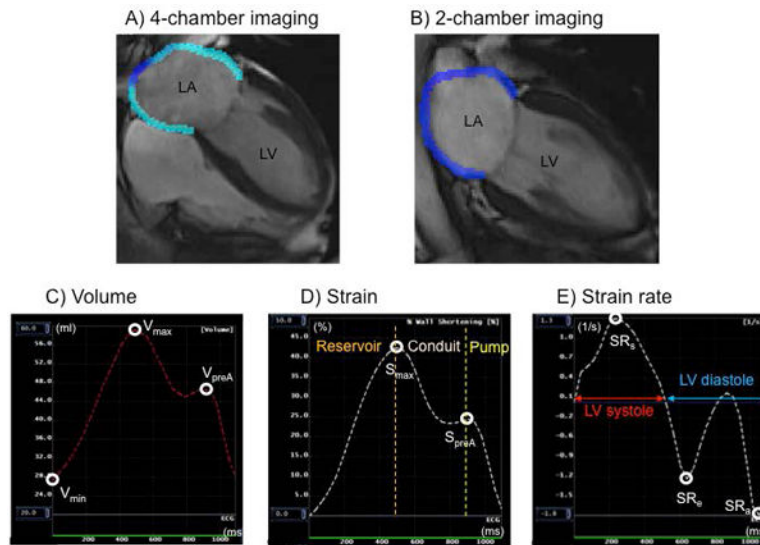


Figure 1.

Image analysis and measurements of left atrium (LA) using tissue-tracking cardiac magnetic resonance. Tracing of LA endocardial and epicardial borders were performed at the end of left ventricular systole (A; four-chamber view, B; two-chamber view). Maximum LA volume (V_{max}), minimum LA volume (V_{min}), and pre-atrial contraction LA volume (V_{preA}) were identified from the LA volume curve (C). LA maximum strain (S_{max}) and pre-atrial contraction strain (S_{preA}) were identified from global longitudinal strain curve (D). LA strain rate in left ventricular (LV) systole (SR_s), LV early diastole (SR_e), and LA contraction (SR_a) were identified from the LA strain curve (E).

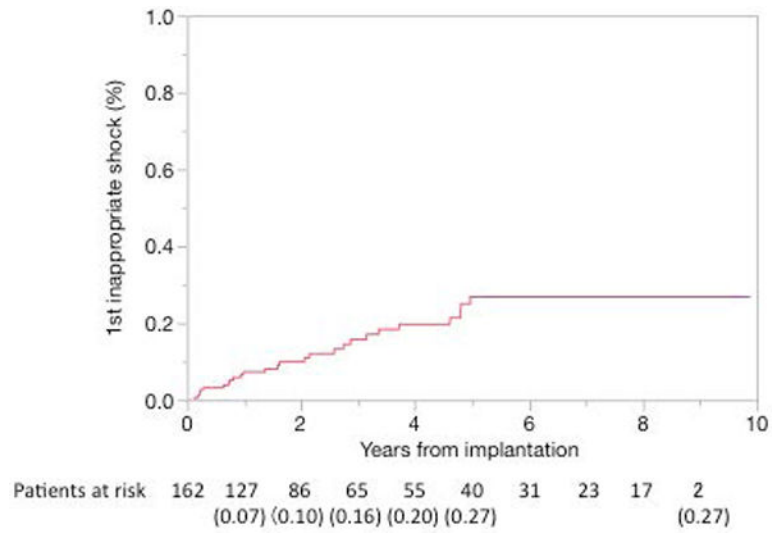


Figure 2. Cumulative probability of first occurrence of inappropriate ICD shock. The values of parentheses are Kaplan-Meier estimates of the cumulative probability of a first occurrence of inappropriate shock.

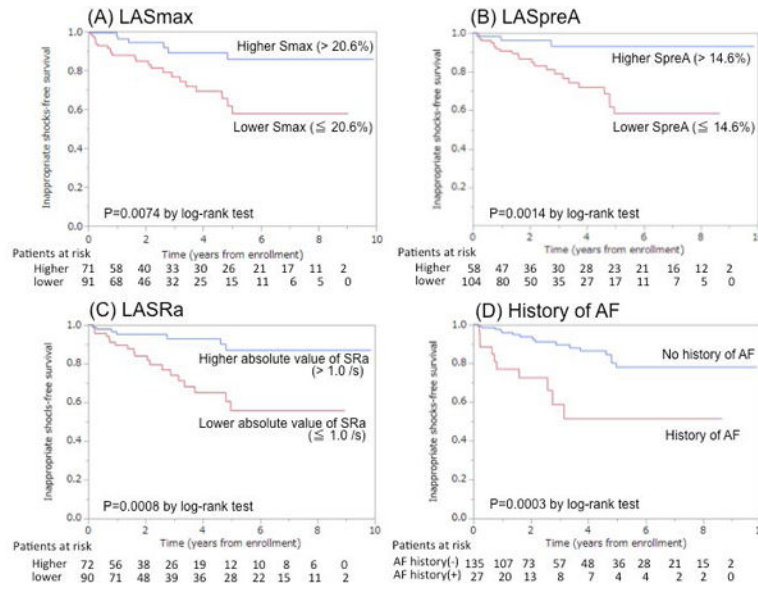
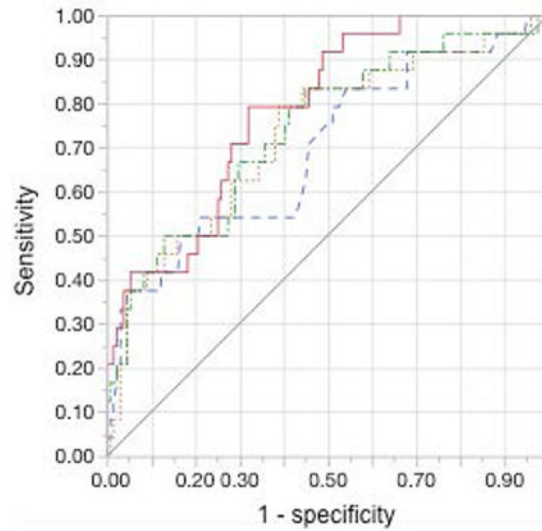


Figure 3. Kaplan-Meier curves showing time to a first occurrence of inappropriate ICD shock according to left atrial (LA) parameters (A–C) and history of atrial fibrillation (AF) prior to ICD implantation (D). The cutoff of LA maximum strain (S_{max}), pre-atrial contraction strain (S_{preA}), and absolute value of strain rate in LA contraction (SR_a) were $\leq 20.6\%$ (A), $\leq 14.6\%$ (B), and ≤ 1.0 /s (C) for the lower group, respectively.



	AUC	95%CI	P value
Base model	0.69	0.56 - 0.80	-
Base model + S_{\max}	0.73	0.60 - 0.83	0.26
Base model + S_{preA}	0.74	0.61 - 0.84	0.11
Base model + SR_a	0.79	0.68 - 0.86	0.033

Figure 4.

Receiver-operating characteristic curves of left atrial parameters to predict inappropriate ICD shocks over the base model including history of atrial fibrillation, age, and QRS duration. The area under the curve (AUC) of absolute value of strain rate in LA contraction (SR_a) added to the base model was significantly higher than the base model alone.

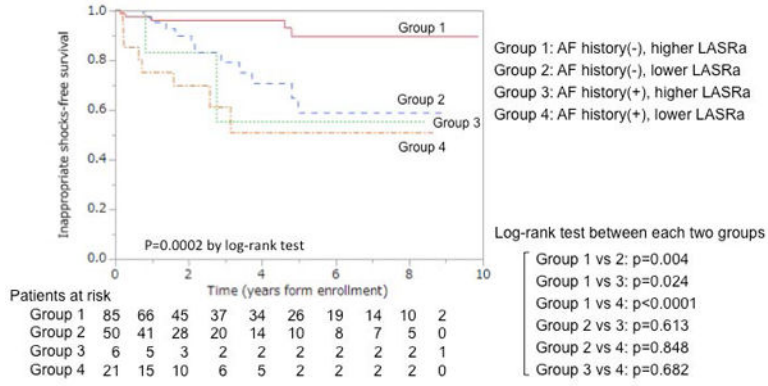


Figure 5. Kaplan-Meier curves showing time to a first occurrence of inappropriate ICD shock by combination of left atrial (LA) strain rate in LA contraction (SR_a) and history of atrial fibrillation (AF) prior to ICD implantation. Group 1 included patients with higher absolute value of SR_a and no history of AF, Group 2 with lower absolute value of SR_a and no history of AF, Group 3 with higher absolute value of SR_a and history of AF, and Group 4 with lower absolute value of SR_a and history of AF. The SR_a cutoff was ≤ 1.0 /s for the lower group.

TABLE 1

Patient Demographics

	Total (N = 162)	No Inappropriate ICD Shock (N = 136)	Inappropriate ICD Shock (N = 26)	P Value
Age, years	56.4 ± 14.6	56.7 ± 15.0	54.8 ± 12.3	0.56
Male	113 (70)	93 (68)	20 (77)	0.39
Race				0.22
Caucasian	99 (61)	86 (63)	14 (54)	
African American	55 (34)	43 (32)	12 (46)	
Other	8 (5)	7 (5)	0 (0)	
NYHA class				0.57
I	36 (22)	28 (21)	8 (31)	
II	70 (43)	59 (44)	10 (38)	
III	56 (35)	46 (35)	8 (31)	
Ischemic cardiomyopathy	74 (46)	63 (46)	11 (42)	0.71
History of AF	27 (17)	17 (13)	10 (38)	0.001
Hypertension	95 (59)	81 (60)	14 (54)	0.59
Diabetes	41 (25)	37 (27)	4 (15)	0.20
Smoker	68 (42)	58 (43)	10 (38)	0.16
QRS duration, msec	112 (96 – 140)	113 (96 – 144)	104 (93 – 119)	0.08
Medication				
ACE-I/ARB	141 (87)	121 (89)	20 (77)	0.09
Beta-blocker	140 (86)	120 (88)	20 (77)	0.12
Antiarrhythmics	13 (8)	11 (8)	2 (8)	0.95
CMR characteristics of LV				
LV EF, %	27.9 ± 10.6	26.5 ± 11.0	29.2 ± 9.9	0.64
LV EDVI, mL/m ²	123.6 ± 40.4	124.7 ± 40.9	118.0 ± 37.9	0.46
LV ESVI, mL/m ²	91.4 ± 40.4	92.0 ± 41.0	88.2 ± 37.6	0.67
LV mass index, mL/m ²	76.9 ± 22.3	76.5 ± 21.4	79.2 ± 26.8	0.59
LV total LGE, g	15.5 (0 – 38.9)	17.2 (0 – 39.7)	5.8 (0 – 36.5)	0.29
Device type				0.92
Single	92 (57)	76 (56)	16 (62)	
Dual	34 (21)	29 (21)	5 (19)	
Dual/Biventricular	36 (22)	31 (23)	5 (19)	
Lower rate of cutoff, bpm	200 (185 – 200)	200 (185 – 200)	196 (188 – 200)	0.47
ATP used	87 (54)	45 (56)	11 (42)	0.17

Data are presented as mean ± standard deviation, n (%), or median (interquartile range).

ACE-I/ARB = angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor/angiotensin receptor blockers; AF = atrial fibrillation; ATP = antitachycardia pacing; CMR = cardiac magnetic resonance; EDVI = end-diastolic volume index; ESVI = end-systolic volume index; ICD = implantable cardioverter defibrillators; LGE = late gadolinium enhancement; LV = left ventricle; NYHA = New York Heart Association.

TABLE 2

Left Atrial Parameters by Inappropriate ICD Shocks

	No Inappropriate ICD Shock (N = 136)	Inappropriate ICD Shocks (N = 26)	P Value
LAVI _{min} , mL/m ²	25.3 (17.9 – 38.9)	35.8 (18.0 – 59.5)	0.16
LAVI _{max} , mL/m ²	42.5 (32.7 – 57.2)	49.2 (30.2 – 68.7)	0.39
LAVI _{preA} , mL/m ²	38.5 (28.3 – 53.0)	42.5 (28.3 – 67.4)	0.31
LASVI, mL/m ²	16.0 ± 6.1	13.6 ± 5.8	0.09
LA total EF, %	38.0 (25.0 – 48.9)	31.0 (16.7 – 43.5)	0.049
LA passive EF, %	10.1 (4.9 – 16.2)	9.6 (4.3 – 15.2)	0.83
LA active EF, %	30.7 (16.6 – 39.8)	25.7 (9.1 – 33.4)	0.027
LAS _{max} , %	20.4 (10.9 – 27.9)	13.2 (6.5 – 21.0)	0.014
LAS _{preA} , %	12.9 (6.4 – 18.6)	8.8 (2.8 – 14.0)	0.006
LASR _s , 1/s	0.78 (0.47 – 1.05)	0.60 (0.29 – 0.94)	0.051
LASR _e , 1/s	-0.46 (-0.75 – -0.29)	-0.45 (-0.64 – -0.21)	0.44
LASR _a , 1/s	-1.1 (-1.64 – -0.64)	-0.79 (-1.1 – -0.25)	0.004

Data are presented as median (interquartile range), or mean ± standard deviation.

EF = emptying fraction; LA = left atrium; S_{max} = maximum strain; S_{preA} = pre-atrial contraction strain; SR_a = strain rate at atrial contraction; SR_e = strain rate at left ventricular early diastole; SR_s = maximum strain rate; SVI = stroke volume index; VI_{max} = maximum indexed volume; VI_{min} = minimum indexed volume; VI_{preA} = pre-atrial contraction indexed volume; Abbreviations as in Table 1.

TABLE 3

Predictors of Inappropriate ICD Shocks

Parameters	Univariable			Multivariable, Adjusted		
	HR	95% CI	P value	HR	95% CI	P value
History of AF	3.80	1.66 – 8.31	0.002			
Age < 70 years	3.82	1.13 – 23.8	0.028			
Sex (male)	1.36	0.58 – 3.73	0.50			
QRS < 120ms	2.53	1.02 – 7.63	0.046			
LAVI _{min} , mL/m ²	1.02	1.00 – 1.03	0.027	1.01	0.99 – 1.02	0.36
LAVI _{max} , mL/m ²	1.01	0.99 – 1.03	0.097			
LAVI _{preA} , mL/m ²	1.01	0.99 – 1.03	0.084			
LASVI, mL/m ²	0.92	0.85 – 0.98	0.012	0.94	0.87 – 1.01	0.11
LA total EF, %	0.96	0.94 – 0.99	0.006	0.98	0.95 – 1.06	0.13
LA passive EF, %	0.98	0.93 – 1.02	0.36			
LA active EF, %	0.96	0.93 – 0.99	0.004	0.98	0.95 – 1.00	0.11
LAS _{max} , %	0.94	0.90 – 0.98	0.002	0.96	0.91 – 0.99	0.044
LAS _{preA} , %	0.91	0.85 – 0.96	0.001	0.94	0.87 – 0.99	0.030
LASR _s , 1/s	0.26	0.08 – 0.75	0.011	0.41	0.12 – 1.42	0.096
LASR _e , 1/s	0.51	0.16 – 1.32	0.18			
LASR _a , 1/s	0.26	0.11 – 0.55	0.002	0.25	0.10 – 0.57	<0.001

LASRe and LASRa are presented as absolute value. A Cox regression model was used. Multivariable modeling was performed by adjusting each variable for history of AF, age < 70 years, and QRS < 120ms which were significant in univariable analyses.

CI = confidence interval; HR = hazard ratio; Abbreviations as in Table 1.2.