

# The Rastelli Procedure: Adverse Impact on Surgical Outcomes of a Ventricular Septal Defect Noncommitted to the Great Arteries.

CLAUDIA N. VILLALBA<sup>1</sup>, MARCELA I. WOLOSZYN<sup>2</sup>, MARIELA D. MOURATIAN<sup>3</sup>, JORGE BARRETA<sup>4</sup>, JUAN P. LAURA<sup>MTSAC,5</sup>, HORACIO FAELLA<sup>MTSAC, 6</sup>, HORACIO CAPELLI<sup>MTSAC, 7</sup>

Received: 07/27/2009  
Accepted: 03/01/2010

**Address for reprints:**  
Dr. Horacio Capelli  
Libertador 2630  
(1425) Buenos Aires  
Phone number: 011-4801-3586  
Fax number: 011-4806-9251  
e-mail: horaciocapelli027@  
hotmail.com

## SUMMARY

### Background

The Rastelli procedure is complex surgical procedure with marked morbidity and mortality in the medium and long-term follow-up. These adverse outcomes seem to be more frequent when the ventricular septal defect (VSD) is anatomically remote or noncommitted to the aorta.

### Objective

To evaluate the impact of the anatomical location of the VSD on the outcomes of the Rastelli procedure.

### Material and Methods

A total of 47 patients were included with a mean follow-up of 6 years after surgery (15 months-14 years). Patients were divided into two groups: group I (committed VSD, n=29) and group II (remote or noncommitted VSD, n=18).

### Results

During the immediate postoperative period, reoperations and arrhythmias were more frequent in group II (p=0.05 and p=0.06, respectively).

After a mean follow-up of 3 years (1 day-13 years) following surgery, 22 patients underwent 27 reoperations.

A residual VSD was closed in 11 patients at a mean of 1 month, 8 of which were remote VSD (p=0.007).

Six patients developed subaortic stenosis requiring surgery at a mean of 5 years.

The right ventricle-to-pulmonary artery conduit was replaced in 12 patients at a mean of 5 years.

Immediate postoperative mortality was 6% (3 patients).

Global mortality was 17.2% (n=8); 7 patients had noncommitted VSD (p=0.003).

### Conclusions

Remote VSD in patients undergoing the Rastelli procedure is associated with: 1) increased mortality, 2) greater incidence of reoperations in the immediate postoperative period, and, 3) a trend towards greater incidence of arrhythmias in the immediate postoperative period.

REV ARGENT CARDIOL 2010;78:315-322.

## Key words

> Cardiac Surgery - Double Outlet Right Ventricle - Transposition of the Great Arteries - Pulmonary Stenosis

## Abbreviations

MV	Mechanical ventilation	DORV	Double outlet right ventricle
SPA	Subclavian-pulmonary artery anastomosis	PE	Pulmonary stenosis
AVB	Atrioventricular block	AIVR	Accelerated idioventricular rhythm
CPB	Cardiopulmonary bypass	TGA	Transposition of the great arteries
ASD	Atrial septal defect	RV-PA	Right ventricle-pulmonary artery
VSD	Ventricular septal defect	X	Mean

Department of Cardiology, Hospital de Pediatría "Prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan". Buenos Aires, Argentina  
MTSAC Full Member of the Argentine Society of Cardiology

<sup>1</sup> Chief Cardiology Resident

<sup>2</sup> Cardiology Fellow

<sup>3</sup> Attending Physician, Department of Cardiology

<sup>4</sup> Primary Surgeon, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery

<sup>5</sup> Chief of the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery

<sup>6</sup> Chief of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory

<sup>7</sup> Chief of the Department of Cardiology

## BACKGROUND

In 1969, Giancarlo Rastelli proposed the surgical procedure that bears his name for the treatment of patients with transposition of the great arteries (TGA) with ventricular septal defect (VSD) and pulmonary stenosis (PS). (1-3) This procedure was subsequently used for other congenital heart defects, as double outlet right ventricle (DORV) with pulmonary stenosis. (4)

The clear benefit is that this technique preserves the function of both ventricles (biventricular repair) with left ventricular baffling to the aorta. (5) The Rastelli surgery is a complex surgical procedure with marked morbidity and mortality in the medium and long-term follow-up. (6) The most frequent complications are residual VSD, the development of left ventricular outflow tract obstruction, stenosis or insufficiency of the conduit between the right ventricle and the pulmonary artery (RV-PA) (7-9) and ventricular arrhythmias. (10)

Left ventricular baffling to the aorta emerging from the right ventricle is technically easier when the VSD is committed to the great arteries. On the contrary, remote VSD, which is seen in 1/3 of cases, is technically more difficult. In the latter group of patients, either the Nikaidoh procedure (aortic translocation and biventricular outflow tract reconstruction) (7, 11, 12) or the Fontan-Kreutzer procedure (right heart bypass) are valid options.

The anatomical position of the interventricular septum and the presence of abnormal attachments in the tricuspid and or mitral valve to the margin of the VSD where LV baffling to the aorta becomes more difficult, (13-17) are determinant factors to choose the best surgical technique in this group of patients; however, we did not find any references in the bibliography about the outcomes of the Rastelli procedure according to the type of VSD. For this reason, the goal of the present study was to evaluate the impact of the anatomical location of the VSD on the immediate outcomes of the Rastelli procedure and on the short and long-term follow-up.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

We conducted a retrospective study in a cohort of 47 patients undergoing the Rastelli procedure between January 1989 and December 2007 in the *Hospital de Pediatría "Prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan"*.

Patients with congenitally corrected transposition of the great arteries requiring the Rastelli procedure and associated atrial switch operation, DORV and TGA with VSD associated with pulmonary atresia and unsuitable pulmonary vascular tree anatomy, and those lost to follow-up were excluded from the study.

Mean age at surgery was 4 years (15 months - 8 years). Mean weight was 14 kg (6.300-22 kg).

Two anatomical variants were identified: TGA in 24 patients and DORV in 23. Right ventricular outflow obstruction was secondary to pulmonary stenosis in 41 patients and to pulmonary atresia in 6. The following types of VSD were identified: subaortic (2 patients, 49%), subpulmonary (3, 6.4%), doubly committed subarterial (3,

6.4%), muscular (9, 19%) and inlet (9, 19%) defects. Patients were divided into two groups according to the location of the VSD relative to the great arteries: group I (committed VSD, n = 29) and group II (remote or noncommitted VSD (n = 18). Subaortic or subarterial VSDs were considered related to the great arteries. In addition, those perimembranous or muscular defects adjacent to the aorta were also considered committed when left ventricular baffling to the aorta originating in the right ventricle seemed to be feasible after echocardiographic examination. On the contrary, inlet and remote muscular VSDs were considered noncommitted.

The associated defects were patent ductus arteriosus in 16 patients, right aortic arch in 7, atrial septal defect (ASD) in 6, coronary artery anomaly in 6, double superior vena cava system in 7, juxtaposition of the atrial appendages in 3, situs inversus with dextrocardia in 3, straddling tricuspid valve in 3, tricuspid valve dysplasia in 2, vascular ring in 1, and complete atrioventricular canal in 1.

The diagnosis was made on the basis of clinical, radiological, electrocardiographic and, especially, echocardiographic and angiographic findings.

Palliative preoperative procedures included atrial balloon septostomy and subclavian-pulmonary artery anastomosis (SPA). Eleven patients required atrial septostomy, mean age 3.4 months (1 day - 14 months). A total of 42 SPA were performed in 38 patients, mean age 6.4 months (1 day - 30 months): left SPA in 28, right SPA in 6 and bilateral subclavian-pulmonary artery anastomosis in 4 patients.

The characteristics of the study population are described in Table 1.

## Surgical technique

All 47 patients underwent median sternotomy, and were placed on cardiopulmonary bypass using bicaval cannulation and cardioplegic solution. Mean cardiopulmonary bypass time was 186.76 min (83-420) and mean aortic cross-clamp time was 91.86 min (44-187).

In all cases, the VSD was baffled with to the aorta with a Dacron patch.

The right ventricular outflow tract was reconstructed using aortic homograft in 18 patients, pulmonary homograft in 22 and pericardial baffle in 7. Additional procedures were used in 32 patients: VSD enlargement in 16, resection of the infundibular septum in 13, closure of ASD in 3, repair of main pulmonary artery and/or pulmonary artery branches in 3, tricuspid valve repair in 2, detachment of tricuspid chordae in 2 and mitral valve repair in 1.

## Follow-up

All the patients included in the present study were followed-up since hospital discharge until the end of the study; mean postoperative follow-up was 6 years (15 months-14 years).

All patients were evaluated at our institution and underwent physical examination, chest-X ray, electrocardiogram, color-Doppler echocardiography, exercise stress test and 24-hour Holter monitoring. Twenty patients required cardiac catheterization.

## Statistical Analysis

Data were stored using Microsoft Office Excel 2003©. All calculations were performed using Statistix 8.0© software package.

Frequency and/or percentage distribution were established for all the variables in relation with the total number of cases; values were expressed as proportions, mean and standard deviation or median and interquartile range.

**Table 1.** Characteristics of the population operated on with the Rastelli procedure

Variables	Committed VSD (29 patients, 62%)	Non-committed VSD (18 patients, 38%)
Anatomic characteristics:		
– DORV	16 (55%)	7 (39%)
– TGA with VSD	13 (45%)	11 (61%)
– PE	27 (93%)	14 (78%)
– PA	2 (7%)	4 (22%)
Associated anomalies:		
– Patent <i>ductus</i> arteriosus	11 (37%)	5 (28%)
– Right aortic arch	5 (17%)	2 (11%)
– ASD	3 (10%)	3 (17%)
– Coronary artery anomaly	4 (14%)	2 (11%)
– Double superior vena cava system	4 (14%)	3 (17%)
– Juxtaposition of the atrial appendages	2 (7%)	1 (5.5%)
– <i>Situs inversus</i> with dextrocardia	2 (7%)	1 (5.5%)
– <i>Straddling</i> tricuspid valve	1 (3.5%)	2 (11%)
– Tricuspid valve dysplasia	1 (3.5%)	1 (5.5%)
– Vascular ring	1 (3.5%)	0
– Complete atrioventricular canal	0	1 (5.5%)
Palliative preoperative procedures		
– Atrial septostomy	6 (20%)	5 (28%)
– Age undergoing atrial septostomy (mean in months ± SD)	4 (5.6)	2.4 (1.1)
– SPA	20 (67%)	18 (100%)
– LSPA	15 (52%)	13 (72%)
– RSPA	3 (10%)	3 (17%)
– RSPA + LSPA	2 (7%)	2 (11%)
– Age undergoing palliative procedure (mean in months± SD)	3.7 (± 4.3)	7.3 (± 7.8)
Rastelli procedure		
– Age (mean in years ± SD)	3.8 (± 1.6)	4.3 (± 1.6)
– Weight (mean in kg ± SD)	13.8 kg (± 4.2)	16 kg (± 3.6)
– VSD enlargement	8 (28%)	8 (44%)
– Resection of the infundibular <i>septum</i>	6 (21%)	7 (39%)
– Closure of ASD	2 (7%)	1 (5.5%)
– Repair of main pulmonary artery and/or pulmonary artery branches	3 (10%)	0
– Tricuspid valve repair	1 (3.5%)	1 (5.5%)
– Detachment of tricuspid chordae	1 (3.5%)	1 (5.5%)
– Mitral valve repair	0	1 (5.5%)
– Pulmonary homograft	13 (45%)	9 (50%)
– Aortic homograft	10 (34%)	8 (44%)
– Pericardial baffle	6 (21%)	1 (6%)
– CBP time(mean-SD)	169.21 (± 55)	215.65 (± 67)
– Aortic cross-clamp time (mean-SD)	81.68 (± 20)	108.65 (± 38)

ASD: Atrial septal defect. DORV: Double outlet right ventricle. TGA with VSD: Transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect. PE: Pulmonary stenosis. PA: Pulmonary atresia. SPA: Subclavian-pulmonary artery anastomosis. LSPA: Left subclavian-left pulmonary artery anastomosis. RSPA: Right subclavian-right pulmonary artery anastomosis. ASD: Atrial septal defect. CPB: Cardiopulmonary bypass. SD: Standard deviation.

Continuous variables were compared using the Student’s t test or Mann-Whitney test as applicable. Fisher’s exact test or chi square test were used to compare proportions. A p value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

OR and the corresponding 95% confidence interval were determined.

Medium-term survival was estimated using the Kaplan-Meier method.

**RESULTS**

**Cardiopulmonary bypass time and aortic cross-clamp time**  
 Mean cardiopulmonary bypass time and mean aortic cross clamp time were 69.21 min (± 55) and 81.68 min (± 20), respectively in group I (committed VSD) and 215.65 (± 67) and 108.65 min (± 38), respectively, in group II (non-committed VSD) (p = 0.01).

### Duration of mechanical ventilation and hospitalization

Mean duration of mechanical ventilation (MV) and hospitalization were 1 day (1-6 days) and 8 days (6-13 days), respectively for group I and 2 days (1.5-4.5 days) and 8 days (5-25 days), respectively for group II ( $p = 0.15$  and  $p = 0.54$ , respectively).

### Mortality

Three patients (6%) died in the immediate postoperative period (mean 4 days, 3-5 days) due to multiple organ failure. The remaining five deaths occurred at 5 months (mean, 2-17 months), resulting in medium-term mortality of 10.6%. Seven out of 8 patients who died had remote VSD ( $p = 0.003$ ) (Table 2).

### Survival

Overall survival was 82.8% after a mean follow-up of 6 years (15 months-14 years) following corrective surgery. Survival was higher in the group of patients with committed VSD ( $p = 0.003$ ) (Figure 1).

### Arrhythmias

During the immediate postoperative period, 9 patients

presented arrhythmias: atrioventricular block (AVB) ( $n = 4$ ), junctional tachycardia ( $n = 3$ ) and junctional rhythm ( $n = 2$ ). Arrhythmias were more frequent in group II (6 patients) compared to group I (3 patients), but this difference was not significant ( $p = 0.06$ ), and was not related with enlargement of the VSD during surgery ( $p = 0.64$ ). A definite pacemaker was implanted to 4 patients with AV block; all these patients were in group II ( $p = 0.14$ ).

During long-term follow-up, one patient had an episode of ventricular tachycardia with left bundle branch block pattern three years after the Rastelli procedure; the anatomic substrate was severe stenosis of the homograft increasing right ventricular pressure to 80% of systemic pressure. The arrhythmia was controlled after homograft was replaced and right ventricular pressure returned to normal levels. Another patient presented accelerated idioventricular rhythm (AIVR) 8 years after corrective surgery. Both patients belonged to group II ( $p = 0.14$ ).

### Reinterventions

Three years (mean, 1 day - 13 years) after corrective surgery, 39 reinterventions were performed: 12

**Table 2.** Analysis of mortality

Patient	Type of VSD	Palliative surgery (number)	Age undergoing Rastelli procedure	Reoperations (number)	Cause of mortality	Age of death (time after surgery)
1	I	- LSPA -21 days old - RSPA - 15 months old (2)	5 years	-RV-PA conduit replacement -LV-to-aorta baffle revision and replacement of the RV-PA conduit (2)	Uncontrolled infection in infectious endocarditis (atypical mycobacterium, <i>Mycobacterium fortuitum/chelonii</i> complex)	7 years (19 months)
2	II	- RSPA - 1 month (1)	6 years	-LV-to-aorta baffle revision and replacement of the RV-PA conduit -Closure of VSD (2)	Uncontrolled infection in infectious endocarditis ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	6.5 years (9 months)
3	II	- RSPA - 6 months (1)	3 years	-Removal of VSD patch + Glenn (1)	Multiorgan failure Low cardiac output syndrome	3 years (3 days)
4	II	- LSPA - 6 months (1)	3 years	- Closure of LV-RA communication (1)	Infectious endocarditis ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> )	3 years (4 days)
5	II	- LSPA -15 days - RSPA - 2 months (2)		- Closure of residual VSD and of LV-RA communication (1)	Infectious endocarditis ( <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> )	(32 days)
6	II	- LSPA - 18 months (1)	4 years and 4 months	(0)	Multiorgan failure	4 years and 4 months (5 days)
7	II	- RSPA - 25 months (1)	3 years and 7 months	(0)	Infectious endocarditis ( <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ) with residual VSD	3 years and 9 months (75 days)
8	II	(0)	6 years and 11 months	- Closure of residual VSD + closure of mitral cleft (1)	Severe ventricular dysfunction Low cardiac output syndrome	7 years (51 days)

VSD: Ventricular septal defect. LSPA: Left subclavian-left pulmonary artery anastomosis. RSPA: Right subclavian-right pulmonary artery anastomosis. RV-PA: Right ventricle-pulmonary artery. LV: Left ventricle. LV-RA: left ventricle-right atrium

interventional catheterization procedures in 9 patients and 27 reoperations in 22.

**Interventional catheterization procedures**

Interventional catheterization procedures included balloon angioplasty of the stenotic homograft in 9 patients, balloon angioplasty of branch pulmonary artery stenosis in 2, stent implant in branch pulmonary

arteries in 2, embolization of aortopulmonary collateral vessels in 1, persistent left superior vena cava in 1 and closure of left ventricular-to-right atrial communication in 1 (Figure 2).

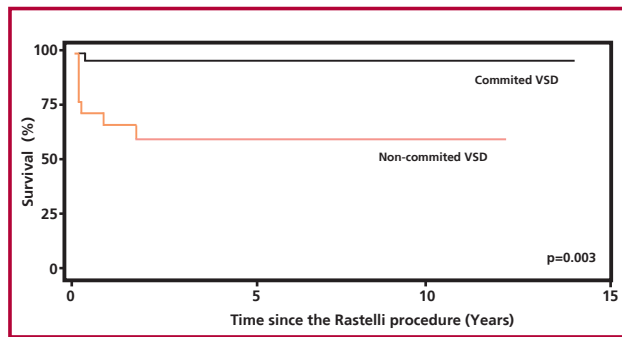
**Reoperations**

Reoperations included closure of VSD, resection of subaortic stenosis and/or LV-to-aorta baffle revision and replacement of the RV-PA conduit.

Three patients (6%) were reoperated in the immediate postoperative period: LV-to-aorta baffle revision in 1 and closure of the VSD in 2. All three patients had non-committed VSD (p = 0.05).

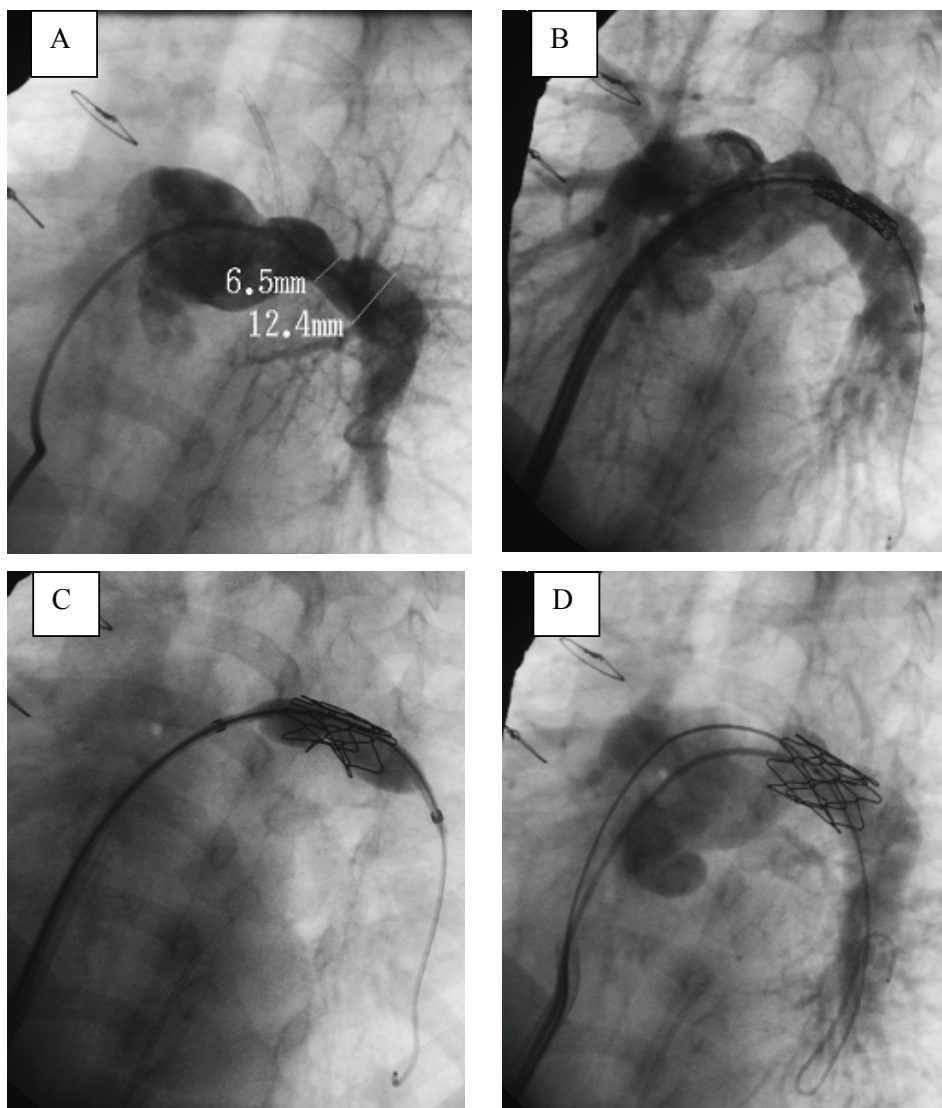
One month after the procedure (mean; 1 day - 6 months), 11 patients (23%) required VSD closure. VSD was non-committed in 8 patients (p = 0.007). VSD was secondary to infectious endocarditis in 6 patients.

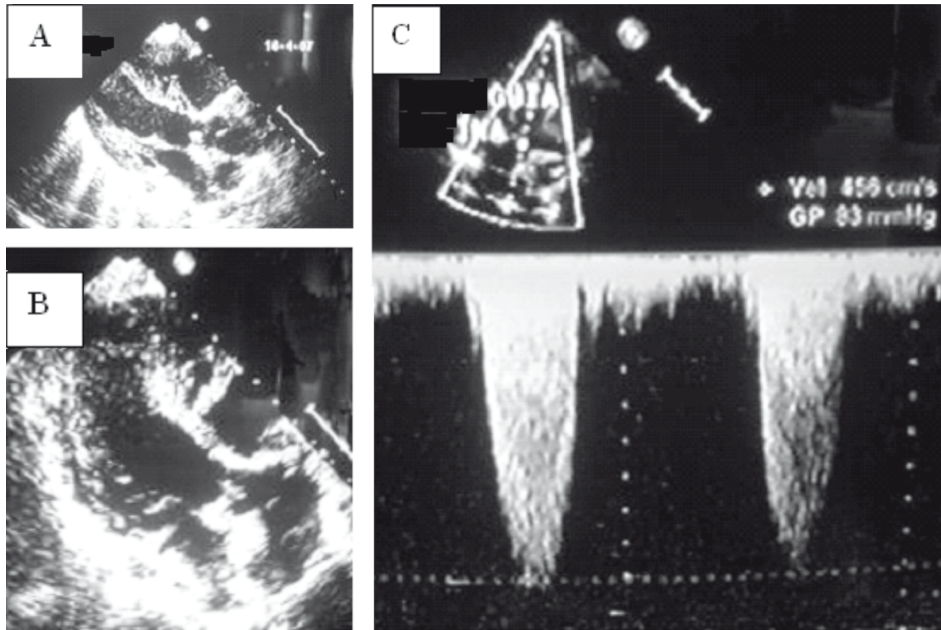
Six patients (12.8%) developed significant subaortic stenosis requiring surgery after a mean of 5 years (2-9 years). Four of these patients belonged to group II (p = 0.31) (Figure 3).



**Fig 1.** Survival after the Rastelli procedure in both groups.

**Fig 2.** Angiography of a patient with DORV who underwent left subclavian-left pulmonary artery anastomosis at the age of 7 months and Rastelli procedure at 3 years and 7 months. Seven months after surgery, the patient required balloon angioplasty of the right pulmonary artery and stent implantation in the left pulmonary artery. The images show the latter procedure.





**Fig 3.** Echocardiography image from a patient with DORV with VSD and PE undergoing the Rastelli procedure at the age of 3 years and 7 months, who developed severe subaortic stenosis 5 years after surgery. The patient had a subaortic VSD. The left panels (A and B) show the subaortic stenosis and the left ventricular baffle to the aorta with anterior and right orientation in the left parasternal long axis view. The right panel (C), shows the gradient of severe subaortic stenosis in a five-chamber apical view.

The RV-PA conduit was replaced in 12 patients (25%) at a mean of 5 years (3 months-13 years) due to conduit stenosis in 7, insufficiency in 2, infectious endocarditis in 2 and conduit stenosis and insufficiency in 1.

Five of these 12 patients had non-committed VSD ( $p = 0.78$ ). Six aortic homografts, 5 pulmonary homografts and 1 pericardial baffle were replaced at a mean of  $40 \pm 22$  months,  $40 \pm 23$  months and 137 months, respectively. We did not find significant differences between both homografts used as RV-PA conduits ( $p = 0.56$ ).

The results are summarized in Table 3.

## DISCUSSION

The Rastelli procedure is the conventional surgery for TGA with VSD and PS and DORV with PE. (2, 18) The medium and long-term clinical outcomes show that these patients are not free of complications and reinterventions, (8, 9, 19) which are apparently more frequent when the VSD is anatomically remote or non-committed to the aorta. For this reason, many centers prefer univentricular correction rather than biventricular repair in the presence of this type of VSD.

In this retrospective study, we have compared the outcomes of the Rastelli procedure in patients with committed versus non-committed VSD, confirming that remote VSD has an adverse influence on these outcomes. In fact, in this subgroup of patients of our series, mortality, need of early reinterventions, residual VSD, arrhythmias and the development of subaortic stenosis were higher than in patients with VSD committed to the great arteries.

The surgical procedure is more complex in non-committed VSDs, with higher cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) time and aortic cross-clamp time, which might

explain the greater *mortality*.

In addition, the technical difficulties related to the procedure produce suboptimal hemodynamic results and higher incidence of *reoperations*.

In the presence of a non-committed VSD, it is technically more difficult to construct the LV baffle tunnel to the aorta, requiring longer patches and a peculiar intraventricular disposition. These factors explain the greater incidence of *residual VSD* seen in these patients. Even more, as many of these patients have an inlet muscular VSD, the surgeon has to be very cautious to preserve the bundle of His, probably contributing to residual VSD.

The trend towards greater incidence of *arrhythmias and/or AV block* in the immediate postoperative period was not related to enlargement of the VSD as an additional surgical procedure, and coincides with the findings of other series (4, 20). We consider that this trend was related to trauma and inflammation of the perinodal area as a consequence of a more complex surgery and to the bundle of His passing anterosuperiorly to an inlet muscular VSD. In fact, the two patients requiring definite pacemaker implantation had an inlet muscular VSD.

As opposed to other series, (4, 21) the presence of arrhythmias in our study in the long-term was non-significant: only 4.2% in 5 years.

The development of *subaortic stenosis* is a complication described after the Rastelli procedure; in our patients, we found an incidence of 12.7% after a mean follow-up of 5 years, a number that is similar to that previously reported. The incidence of subaortic stenosis was high in patients with remote VSD due to the persistence of a restrictive VSD with insufficient enlargement or an elongated left ventricular outflow tract with anterior orientation; however, this difference was not significant. Probably, this might be the

**Table 3.** Results of the Rastelli procedure

Variable	Committed VSD (n = 29).	Non-committed VSD (n = 18).	OR	95% CI	p
Aortic cross-clamp time, min (mean-SD)	81.68 (± 20)	108.65 (± 38)			0.01
-CBP time, min (mean-SD)	169.21 (± 55)	215.65 (± 67)			0.01
Days in MV (median-IQR)	1 (1-6)	2 (1.5-4.5)			0.15
Days of hospitalization (median-IQR)	8 (6-13)	8 (5-25)			0.54
Arrhythmia in the immediate postoperative period	3	6	4.33	0.92-20.3	0.06
Reoperations	11	11	0.61	0.76-8.6	0.12
Reoperations in the immediate postoperative period	0	3			0.05
Reoperation for closure of VSD	3	8	1.93	1.52-31.51	0.007
Reoperations due to subaortic stenosis	2	4	0.25	0.04-1.59	0.18
Mortality	1	7	2.88	1.95-1.62	0.003

IQR: Interquartile range. SD: Standard deviation. MV: Mechanical ventilation. VSD: Ventricular septal defect.

consequence of multifactorial causes, such as conal septal hypertrophy and preexistent discontinuity between the mitral valve and the aortic valve producing a fibrous diaphragm, as seen in two of our patients with committed VSD.

Replacement of the RV-PA conduit due to stenosis or insufficiency is inevitable after the Rastelli procedure and independent of the anatomic position of the VSD; it is the consequence of the natural history of homografts. In our series, 25% of our patients presented this complication after 5 years, similar (20, 22) and lower) than the frequency reported by other studies, and without differences between both groups. However, the incidence of reoperations was lower with pericardial conduits.

Since June 2005, we are developing an initial experience with the Nikaidoh procedure, that consists of translocation of the great arteries avoiding the complex baffling of a remote VSD to the aorta.

Seven patients have already been operated on. In all cases, the surgery consisted on aortic translocation, reimplantation of coronary arteries and right ventricle to pulmonary artery connection using aortic (3 patients) or pulmonary (4 patients) homografts.

No deaths occurred with this procedure. None of the patients developed residual VSD or significant outflow tract obstruction of both ventricles. Due to the suboptimal outcomes obtained with the Rastelli procedure and the encouraging preliminary results of the Nikaidoh procedure, we believe that the latter is the surgical technique of choice in patients with remote VSD.

## CONCLUSIONS

Remote VSD in patients undergoing the Rastelli procedure is associated with: 1) increased mortality, 2) greater incidence of reoperations in the immediate postoperative period, and, 3) a trend towards

greater incidence of arrhythmias in the immediate postoperative period.

In this subgroup of patients with non-committed VSD, the Nikaidoh procedure emerges as the best option in terms of immediate hemodynamic results and of potential complications in the medium and long-term. When this alternative is not possible, univentricular correction should be considered.

## RESUMEN

### Cirugía de Rastelli: impacto adverso de la comunicación interventricular no relacionada con los grandes vasos en los resultados quirúrgicos

#### Introducción

La evolución de los pacientes operados con técnica de Rastelli revela que se trata de un procedimiento quirúrgico complejo no exento de morbilidad y mortalidad a mediano y a largo plazos. Las complicaciones serían, aparentemente, más frecuentes cuando la comunicación interventricular (CIV) es anatómicamente remota o no relacionada con la aorta.

#### Objetivo

Evaluar el impacto de la localización anatómica de la CIV en la cirugía de Rastelli.

#### Material y métodos

Se incluyeron 47 pacientes con una media (X) de seguimiento posquirúrgico de 6 años (15 meses-14 años). Los pacientes se subdividieron en: grupo I, CIV relacionada con la aorta (n = 29) y grupo II, CIV remota o no relacionada (n = 18).

#### Resultados

En el posquirúrgico inmediato, las reoperaciones (p = 0,05) fueron más frecuentes en el grupo II, en el cual se observó también una tendencia a mayor frecuencia de arritmias (p = 0,06).

Luego de una X = 3 años (1 día-13 años) posquirúrgicos se realizaron 27 reoperaciones en 22 pacientes.

Se cerró CIV residual en 11 pacientes a una X = 1 mes. En 8 de ellos, la CIV era remota ( $p = 0,007$ ).

Desarrollaron estenosis subaórtica que requirieron cirugía 6 pacientes a una X = 5 años.

Se reemplazó el conducto ventrículo derecho-arteria pulmonar en 12 pacientes a una X = 5 años.

La mortalidad en el período posquirúrgico inmediato fue del 6% (3 pacientes).

La mortalidad global fue del 17,2% ( $n = 8$ ); 7 pacientes tenían CIV no relacionada ( $p = 0,003$ ).

### Conclusiones

La CIV remota en la cirugía de Rastelli se asocia con: 1) mayor mortalidad, 2) mayor frecuencia de reoperaciones en el posquirúrgico inmediato y 3) tendencia a mayor frecuencia de arritmias en el posquirúrgico inmediato.

**Palabras clave** > Cirugía cardíaca - Ventrículo derecho con doble salida - Transposición de los grandes vasos - Estenosis pulmonar

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Backer CL, Mavroudis C. The Rastelli Operation. Operative Techniques. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2003;8:121-30.
2. Rastelli GC. A new approach to "anatomic" repair of transposition of the great arteries. *Mayo Clin Proc* 1969;44:1-12.
3. Morel VO, Jacobs JP, Quintessenza JA. Surgical management of the transposition with ventricular septal defect and obstruction to the left ventricular outflow tract. *Cardiol Young* 2005;15:102-5.
4. Kreutzer C, De Vive J, Oppido G, Kreutzer J, Gauvreau K, Freed M, et al. Twenty-five year experience with Rastelli repair for transposition of the great arteries. *J Thoracic Cardiovasc Surg* 2000;120:211-23.
5. Sato Y, Ayusawa M, Komatsu S, Matsumoto N, Ichikawa M, Yoda S, et al. MCDT evaluation of a double outlet right ventricle after the Rastelli procedure. *Int J Cardiol* 2007;117:430-2.
6. Hu S, Liu Z, Li S, Shen X, Wang X, Liu J, et al. Strategy for biventricular outflow tract reconstruction: Rastelli, REV or Nikaidoh procedure? *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2008;135:331-8.
7. Yeh TJ, Ramaciotti C, Leonard S, Roy L, Nikaidoh H. The aortic translocation (Nikaidoh) procedure: Midterm results superior to the Rastelli procedure. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2007;133:461-9.
8. Giardini A, Donti A, Gargiulo G, Formigari R, Bonvicini M, Picchio F. Trascatheter residual ventricular septal defect closure after Rastelli operation. *Cathet Cardiovasc Interv* 2005;64:209-12.
9. Vouhé PR, Tamisier D, Leca F, Ouaknine R, Vernant F, Neveux JY. Transposition of the great arteries, ventricular septal defect, and pulmonary outflow tract. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1992;103:428-36.
10. Capelli H, Faella H. Cardiopatías congénitas. En: Bertolasi CA, Barrero C, Gimeno G, Liniado G, Mauro V, editores. Transposición completa de los grandes vasos. Buenos Aires: Editorial Médica Panamericana; 2000. p. 2507-14.
11. Morell VO, Jacobs JP, Quintessenza JA. Aortic translocation in the management of the transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect and pulmonary stenosis: results and follow-up. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2005;79:2089-92.
12. Hu SS, Li SJ, Wang L, Wang LQ, Xiong H, Li LH, et al. Pulmonary and aortic translocation in the management of transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect and left ventricular outflow tract obstruction. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 2007;133:1090-2.
13. Imamura ES, Morikawa T, Tatsuno K, Konno S, Arai T, Sakakibara S. Surgical consideration of ventricular septal defect associated with complete transposition of the great arteries and pulmonary stenosis: with special reference to the Rastelli operation. *Circulation* 1971;44:914-23.
14. Huhta JC, Edwards WD, Danielson GK, Feldt RH. Abnormalities of the tricuspid valve in complete transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1982;83:569-76.
15. Villagra F, Quero-Jimenez M, Maitre-Azcarate MJ, Gutierrez J, Brito JM. Transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect: Surgical considerations concerning the Rastelli operation. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1984;88:1004-11.
16. Kurosawa H, Van Mierop LH. Surgical anatomy of the infundibular septum in transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1986;91:123-32.
17. Niinami H, Imai Y, Swatari K, Hoshino S, Ishihara K, Aoki M. Surgical management of tricuspid malinsertion in the Rastelli operation: Conal Flap Method. *Ann Thorac Surg* 1995;59:1476-80.
18. Rastelli GC, McGoon DC, Wallace RB. Anatomic correction of transposition of the great arteries with ventricular septal defect and subpulmonary stenosis. *J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg* 1969;58:545-52.
19. Brown JK, Ruzmetov M, Okada Y, Vijay P, Turrentine MW. Surgical results in patients with double outlet right ventricle: a 20-year experience. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2001;72:1630-5.
20. Hörer J, Schreiber C, Dworak E, Cleuziou J, Prodan Z, Vogt M, et al. Long-term results after the Rastelli repair for transposition of the great arteries. *Ann Thorac Surg* 2007;83:2169-75.
21. Dearani JA, Danielson GK, Puga FJ, Mair DD, Schleck CD. Late results of the Rastelli operation for transposition of the great arteries. *Semin Thorac Cardiovasc Surg Pediatr Card Surg Annu* 2001;4:3-15.
22. Takeuchi K, Murakami A, Sekiguchi A, Hirata Y, Maeda K, Kitahori K, et al. Fate of equine pericardial roll conduit for Rastelli operation during long-term follow-up. *Congenit Heart Dis* 2007;2:121-4.