

# Is Quadripolar pacing for everyone?

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# Disclosures

- Independent paid consultant to:
  - Medtronic AF Solutions division
  - MSD Pharmaceuticals
  - EUSA Pharma
- Received grants & hospitality to attend academic meetings from Medtronic, St Jude, Biosense Webster and Boston Scientific
- No stocks/shares

# Do we need it?

- Primary success rates of LV lead placement in most recent reports is currently 90-98%
- Analysis of predictive factors of difficult implantation procedures found “operator experience” as the major factor by multivariate analysis

- LV end-systolic volume is also a factor, especially when combined with low experience

Maybe some need it, but with  
practice, they won't

Maybe some *patients* need it  
- LV sys diam > 6cm?

# Do we need it?

- Can optimisation of pacing settings compensate for a non-optimal left ventricular pacing site?
- Utrecht study suggests YES!
- (well, at least, PARTLY, YES!)

# Chronic thresholds in LV leads

- Most reports suggest this is not a problem

# Will the lead handle the same as a bipolar lead?

- More electrodes = heavier tip
- Heavier tip may be:
  - more difficult to handle
  - Lead to more vessel trauma & dissection

# Will the lead handle the same as a bipolar lead?

- One recent series reported acute success rate of 97.5%
- Re-intervention rate was 8.4% @ 30 days
- Major cause was lead dislodgment, not threshold/sensing problems

# Do more complex leads have better longevity?

- Experience from ICD leads suggests more complexity = more to go wrong!
- How easy will 4 electrodes be to extract?

# How much more will it cost?

- Despite being paid handsomely to present this debate...
- ...St Jude Medical was not, the last time I checked, a charity

Rebuttal



# Belt and Braces

Cockles Singalong & Knees-Up Show

Most patients die before their  
pacemakers need changing even  
with thresholds @ 5V



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CRT works via witchcraft anyway

*A cup of tea and hug every 12 weeks,  
with lots of positive suggestion is  
cheaper, and probably more  
appreciated by patients*