

Atrial Fibrillation Catheter Ablation vs. Surgical Ablation Treatment: A Multi-Center Randomized Clinical Trial

Discussion

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Disclosures

Research support

- St. Jude Medical
- Medtronic

Consultant and speaker

- Edwards Lifesciences
- AtriCure

Cleveland Clinic

- Right to royalties from AtriCure for sale of device for LAA occlusion

The Trial

- One of few RCTs of surgical ablation
- Only RCT comparing catheter to surgical ablation
- Majority of pts had failed CA
- Contemporary and intense rhythm assessment

The Finding

- In “difficult” patients
 - SA more effective
 - SA has greater morbidity

Inferences

- If CA fails, consider SA
- Reduce morbidity associated with SA
 - Drainage

Questions

- **Electrophysiologic testing in SA**
- **Evolution of procedure over 4 yrs**
- **Importance of LAA treatment in SA**