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Cardiopulmonary Bypass and Cardiac Arrest Associated with Inflammatory Responses to CABG Surgery

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Cardiosurgeons have devoted their efforts to developing a flawless operation process for coronary surgery, such as the off-clamp CPB and off-pump techniques, to reduce postsurgical inflammation and complications and costs. Although the off-pump technique has improved greatly and its use has become widespread, it is still not suitable for many patients in a critical condition or too ill for coronary surgery. Consequently, the hybrid on-pump beating-heart technique, off-clamp CPB, has been used for coronary surgery. Recently, off-clamp CPB has been used for its benefits and safety in emergency myocardial revascularization. In contrast, another group has demonstrated that off-clamp CPB may more readily induce new irreversible myocardial injury than does conventional CPB. This controversy must be clarified and settled before this off-clamp CPB hybrid technique becomes the gold standard technique for critically ill or emergency patients.

We retrospectively studied patients who had undergone isolated emergency or urgent CABG surgery from January 2006 to December 2008. We included 43 patients with impaired cardiac function. Statistical analysis showed that the highest plasma level of creatinine was in the conventional CPB group. The proportion of patients requiring additional intra-aortic balloon pump support, the length of ICU stay, the occurrence of ICU fever, and the mortality rate after surgery was significantly lower in the off-clamp CPB group than in the conventional CPB group.

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