

Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization for Chronic Subdural Hematoma: Ready for Primetime?

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Disclosures

Sadly, none...



*"I'm afraid I can't treat you, Mr. Fisk.
I have a conflict of interest."*



Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization for Chronic Subdural Hematoma

Background • Principles • Evidence

Objectives

1. Describe MMAE to patients/families.
2. Summarize current evidence-based guidelines for its use in cSDH.
3. Identify which patient subgroups are and are not reasonable candidates for embolization.



SDH: A History

- SDH appear throughout human history
- Chronic SDH (cSDH) as a distinct entity recognized later
- Initially described as inflammatory '*pachymeningitis hemorrhagica interna*' by Virchow
- Later confirmed to be traumatic by Cushing



Epidemiology: Why is this important?

- cSDHs are common
 - 8.2 cases per 100,000 (age >70) per year.
- By 2030, cSDH is predicted to be the most prevalent cranial neurosurgical condition in adults
 - Estimated 60,000 cases/yr in the US
 - Pts living much longer and much more active into their 90s
 - More pts on anticoagulants and antiplatelets
- Mortality rates increase after cSDH, especially with advanced age
 - Median survival after diagnosis ~4 years
 - Decreases significantly for pts aged 85 and older



Epidemiology: Why is this important?



World Neurosurgery
Volume 80, Issue 6, December 2013, Pages 889-892



Peer-Review Report

Chronic Subdural Hematoma: A Sentinel Health Event

Travis M. Dumont¹, Anand I. Rughani¹, Tara Goeckes², Bruce I. Tranmer¹

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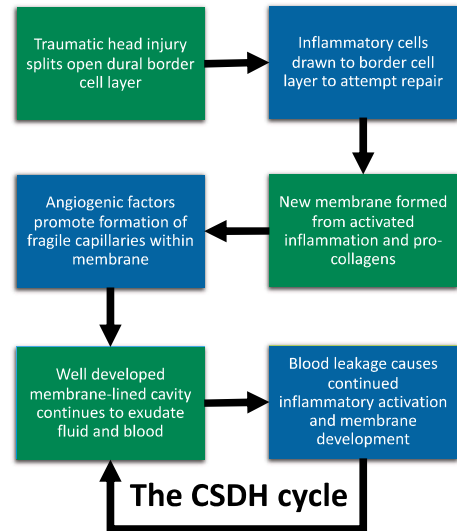
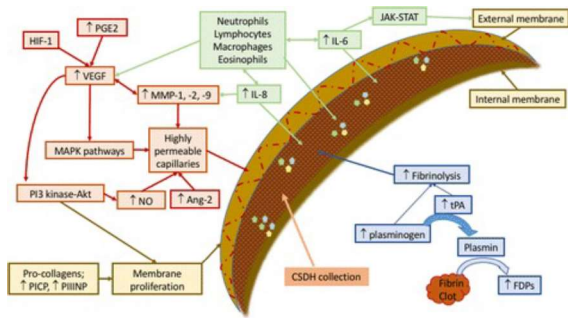
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Pathophysiology



Current Treatment

Asymptomatic vs symptomatic

CSDH > 10 mm, or midline shift > 5 mm

'moderate to severe cognitive impairment, or progressive neurological deterioration attributable to the cSDH, in patients with potential for recovery'

Conservative

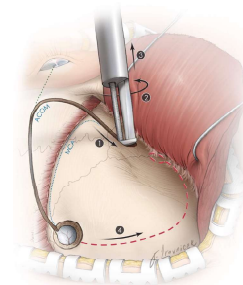
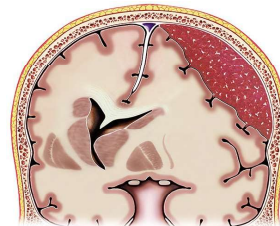
Observation

Medical: Steroids, **statins**, hyperosmolar therapy, reversal/suspension of AC and AP

Surgical

Burr hole drainage +/- subdural or subgaleal drain placement

Craniotomy/craniectomy



Current Treatment

frontiers | Frontiers in Neurology

20%

Incidence, therapy, and outcome in the management of chronic subdural hematoma in Switzerland: a population-based multicenter cohort study

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Risk factors for recurrence of chronic subdural hematoma after surgical evacuation: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Review | Published: 16 October 2023
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Neurosurgical Review

Aims and scope →

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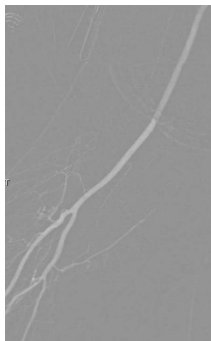
Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization

What is it?

Technique: Arterial access

Femoral access

Ideal for greater than 80% of cases



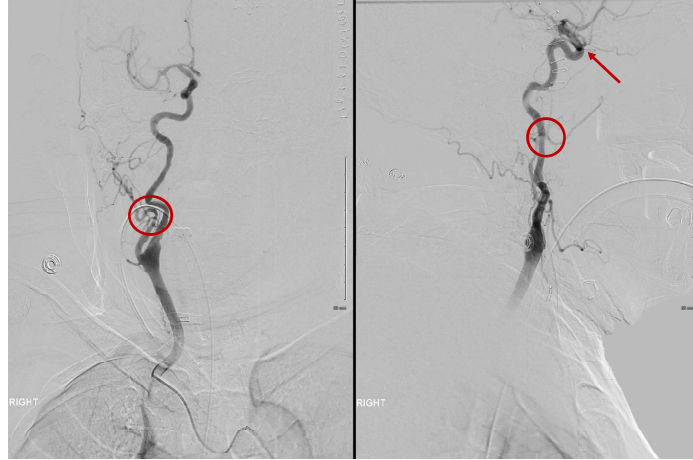
Radial access

Advantageous in some cases
No significant access site hemorrhage

Technique: Arch Navigation and Carotid Imaging

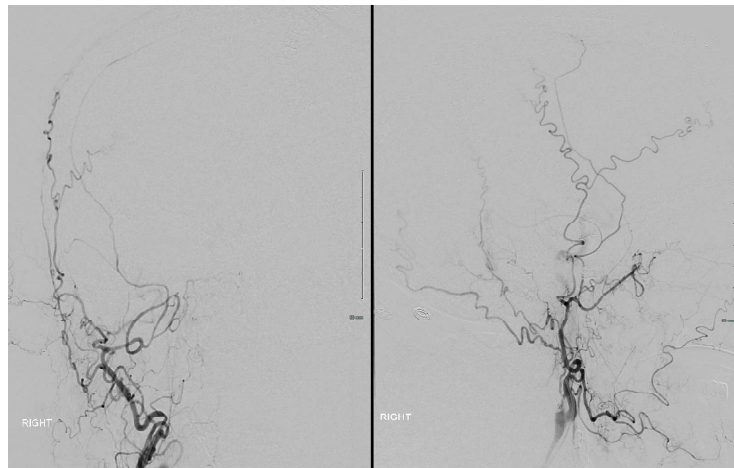
Baseline AP and Lateral views

- Extracranial and proximal intracranial carotid arteries
- Ophthalmic artery origin
- MMA origin



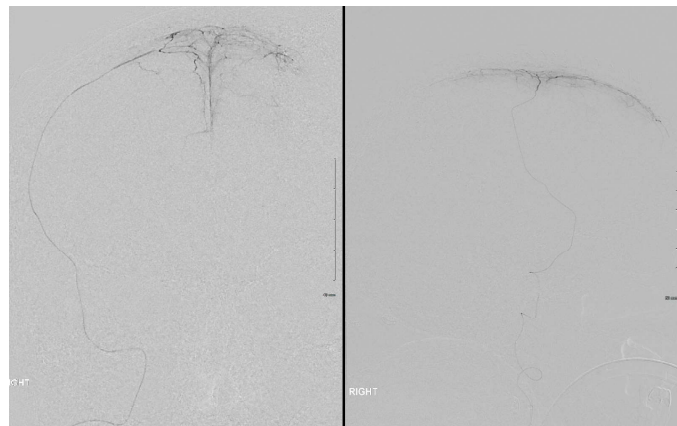
Technique: Selective ECA

For roadmap navigation



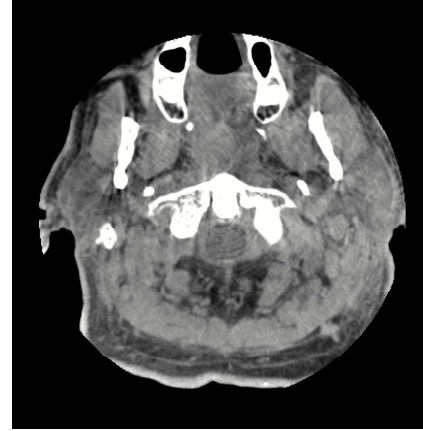
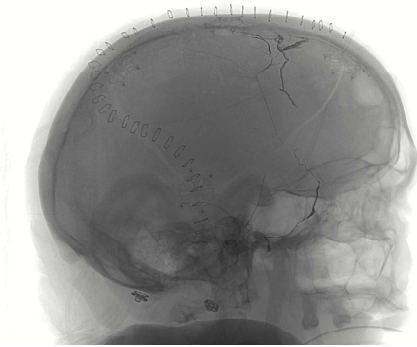
Technique: Selective MMA

Prior to embolic agent injection



Technique: Post-procedure Dyna-CT

To evaluate for non-target embolization and hemorrhagic complications.



Technique: Embolization

Particle Agents (PVA particles, Embospheres, gelfoam)

- Cheap
- Safe (and fast)
- Painless (sedation only)

Liquid Agents (Onyx, n-bCA, SQUID, PHIL)

- Expensive
- Painful (requires GA)
- Risk of catheter retention (low)
- Permanent

Coils

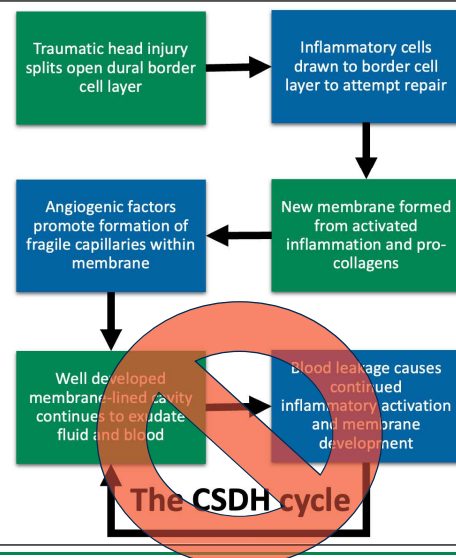


Why the MMA?

Major blood supply to dura (2/3)

Present and readily accessible in >90% patients

Devascularizing membranes via MMA may favor cSDH reabsorption



Is it Safe?

Overall complication rate – 3.79%

Neurologic complications – 1.33%

Stroke: 0.30%

MMA rupture: 0.13%

Vision changes: 0.10%

Facial nerve injury: 0.07%

Non-neurologic: Access site, AKI, etc.

SNIS 20th annual meeting electronic poster abstracts

E-049 Complications of middle meningeal artery embolization – a systematic review

J Gerstl, M Shafi, S Badikol, N Nawabi, R Mekary, M Sukumaran, A Kappel, A Feroze, T Smith, M Aziz-Sultan

Abstract

Introduction Middle meningeal artery (MMA) embolization is becoming an increasingly established treatment option for chronic subdural hematoma (cSDH). Although several systematic reviews have considered outcomes and/or overall incidence of complications following MMA embolization, no prior review has conducted a comprehensive assessment of overall and specific complications following MMA embolization. The aim of the present systematic review was to establish estimates of incidence for overall and specific complications following MMA embolization.

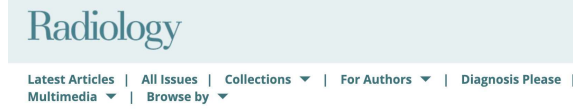
Methods PubMed, Embase and Cochrane were searched for studies reporting complications following MMA embolization in November 2022. Studies with >5 adult patients undergoing MMA embolization for cSDH were included. Outcomes were categorized according to complication type, including neurological complications, cardiovascular complications, infection, and miscellaneous complications. PRISMA guidelines were followed.

Results A total 389 abstracts were screened of which 128 full texts were reviewed. A final 49 studies containing 3009 patients undergoing MMA embolization were included. No complications or mortalities were reported in 28 studies representing 1352 patients. Across the 49 studies, the incidence of overall complications was 3.79% (114/3009 patients).

Neurological complications were reported in 40 patients (1.33%) including: new-onset seizures in 13 patients (0.43%); unspecified stroke in 9 patients (0.30%); aphasia in 4 patients (0.13%); MMA rupture in 4 patients (0.13%); visual changes in 3 patients (0.10%); facial droop in two patients (0.07%); lethargy in one patient (0.03%); imbalance in one patient (0.03%); numbness in one patient (0.03%); headaches in one patient (0.03%); and hemiplegia in one patient (0.03%). Cardiovascular complications were reported in 8 patients (0.27%) including: deep venous thrombosis or pulmonary embolism in two patients (0.07%); tistula in two patients (0.07%); access site hematoma in one patient (0.03%); aortic dissection in one patient (0.03%); femoral artery pseudoaneurysm in one patient (0.03%); and external carotid artery spasm in one patient (0.03%). Infection was reported in 11 patients (0.37%) including: urinary tract infection in three patients (0.10%); pneumonia in three patients (0.10%); and empyema in three patients (0.10%). Other complications reported included: acute kidney injury in three patients (0.10%); catheter herniation in two patients (0.07%); and retained microcatheter in one patient (0.03%). No periprocedural mortalities were reported.

Conclusion The published literature suggests that MMA embolization is a generally well-tolerated procedure, but with a low risk of significant complications, including, but not limited to stroke, seizures, visual obscurations, and facial palsy. Further studies and sub-analyses are needed to fully characterize the incidence of such complications.

Does it Work?



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Original Research
Neuroradiology

Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization for Chronic Subdural Hematoma

Seung Pil Ban, Gyojun Hwang, Hyoung Soo Byoun, Tackeun Kim, Si Un Lee, Jae Seung Bang, Jung Ho Han, Chae-Yong Kim, O-Ki Kwon, Chang Wan Oh

Author Affiliations

Published Online: Oct 10 2017 | <https://doi.org/10.1148/radiol.2017170053>

72 pts underwent MMA embo for cSDH > 10 mm

Historical surgical controls 469 (conventional treatment in 67 and hematoma removal in 402)

27 MMA only, 45 MMA + surgery

No recurrence in the MMA group
1 recurrence in the MMA + surgery group

129 recurrences in historical controls

No complications from MMA embo in this series (excluding 1 recurrence)



World Neurosurgery
Volume 118, October 2018, Pages e570–e574



Original Article

Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization for Recurrent Chronic Subdural Hematoma: A Case Series

NEUROSURGICAL FOCUS

Neurosurg Focus 49 (4)E5, 2020

Thomas W. Link¹, Justin T. Schwarz¹, Stephanie M. Paine¹, Hooman Kam Jared Knopman¹



Middle meningeal artery embolization treatment of nonacute subdural hematomas in the elderly: a multiinstitutional experience of 151 cases

Evan Joyce, MD, MS¹; Michael T. Bounajem, MD¹; Jonathan Scoville, MD¹; Ajith J. Thomas, MD²; Christopher S. Ogilvy, MD³; Howard A. Rilna, MD³; Omar Tanweer, MD³; Elad I. Levy, MD, MBA⁴; Alejandro M. Spioitta, MD⁵; Bradley A. Gross, MD⁶; Brian T. Jankowitz, MD⁶; C. Michael Cawley, MD⁷; Alexander A. Khalessi, MD⁸; Aditya S. Pandey, MD⁹; Andrew J. Ringer, MD¹⁰; Ricardo Hanel, MD, PhD¹¹; Rafael A. Ortiz, MD¹²; David Langer, MD¹³; Michael R. Levitt, MD¹⁴; Mandy Binning, MD¹⁵; Philipp Taussky, MD¹⁶; Peter Kan, MD¹⁷; and Ramesh Grandhi, MD¹⁸

World Neurosurgery
Volume 122, February 2019, Pages 613-619

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Embolization of the middle meningeal artery in patients with chronic subdural hematoma: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Acta Neurochirurgica
The International Journal of Neurological Surgery

Acta Neurochirurgica
Aims and scope →

Literature Review
Middle Meningeal Artery Embolization for Chronic Subdural Hematoma: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Aditya Srivatsan¹, Alino Mohanty²,
Visish M. Srinivasan¹, Ajith Thomas¹,
Peter Kan¹

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Efficacy and safety of middle meningeal artery embolization in the management of refractory or chronic subdural hematomas: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Acta Neurochirurgica
Aims and scope →

Review Article - Vascular Neurosurgery - Other | Published: 04 January 2020
Volume 162, pages 499-507, (2020) [Cite this article](#)

Hematoma: A Review of Established and Emerging Embolic Agents

Thilan Tudor, Stephen Capone, MD, Juan Vivanco-Suarez, MD, Mohamed M. Salem, MD, MPH, Georgios S. Sioutas, MD, Daniel A. Tonetti, MD, MS, Daniel M. Heiferman, MD, Peter Kan, MD, MPH, Brian T. Jankowitz, MD, Jan-Karl Burkhardt, MD, and Visish M. Srinivasan, MD

Recurrence rate 2.1% vs 27.7%
Upfront and salvage MMAE recurrence rates 4.1% and 2.4%
26% chance lower risk of recurrence
20% lower need for surgical rescue

Newest Evidence

3 studies, all presented at ISC Feb 2024

EMBOLISE

MAGIC-MT

STEM

International Stroke Conference 2024

EMBOLISE

- IDE study of Onyx (Medtronic) for MMAE in pts w/ symptomatic subacute or chronic subdural hematoma.
- 39 US centers, targeted enrollment up to 600 pts across 2 arms
 - **Mild cSDH (MLS <5 mm, hematoma thickness <15 mm, minor symptoms such as headache), 1:1 randomization**
 - Observation
 - MMAE
 - **Moderate/severe cSDH (MLS >5 mm, hematoma thickness >15 mm, severe symptoms such as motor deficit), 1:1 randomization**
 - Surgery alone
 - Surgery w/ adjunctive MMAE
- Primary endpoint: Rate of hematoma recurrence/progression requiring surgical drainage within 90 days of treatment
- Secondary endpoints
 - Technical success of MMAE
 - Non-inferiority of MMAE cohort compared to control cohort in each study arm in blinded assessment of functional outcomes (based on mRS, # hospital admissions, and change in appearance of cSDH)

EMBOLISE

Results

4.1% of patients in the MMA embolization group and in 11.3% in the surgery-alone group (relative risk 0.36; 95% CI 0.11-0.80) → NNT 13.8

MMAE noninferior to surgery alone for deterioration in neurologic function through 90 days (11.9% MMAE vs 9.8% control).

100% success rate of target vessel embolization

Safety: Low rate of serious adverse events related to MMA embolization within 30 days (2.0%)

No significant differences between the groups in the rate of stroke or neurological death within 90 days.

Conclusion: MMAE should be considered for patients presenting with symptomatic subacute/chronic SDH requiring surgery.

MAGIC-MT

- Investigator-initiated but industry-sponsored randomized (1:1) controlled trial (n=722) across 31 centers in China
- MMAE (Onyx) in patients with SDH
 - Surgical (Burr hole)
 - MMAE
 - Burr holes alone
 - Conservative
 - MMAE
 - Observation alone
- Exclusions: Craniotomy, pre-treatment with MMAE
- Primary endpoint: Symptomatic SDH or death w/in 90 days.



MAGIC-MT

Results

7.2% MMAE (adjunct or standalone) vs 12.2% Control (Burr holes or conservative)

OR -4.93 (-9.37 to 0.63), p=0.02

NNT 20.3

Significantly fewer serious adverse events within 90 days in the interventional group

6.7% MMAE vs 11.6% control

STEM

- IDE study of Squid (Balt) for MMAE in pts w/ symptomatic subacute or chronic subdural hematoma.
- Industry-supported multi-center prospective randomized clinical trial across 33 centers in the USA, France, and Spain
- 310 patients w/ symptomatic cSDH randomized 1:1 to either standard management (burr hole drainage) or observation, without or without MMAE
- Exclusions: Craniotomy, pre-treatment mRS \geq 2
- Primary endpoint: cSDH recurrence or progression requiring surgical treatment at 180 days, with other secondary endpoints also at 180 days

STEM

Results

MMAE 15.2% vs standard management alone 39.2%
OR 3.60, 95% CI 1.91 to 6.78, p=0.0001
NNT 4.2

Positive effect of MMAE → standalone MMAE 19.1% vs observation 59.2%
OR 6.10, 95% CI 2.43 to 15.40, p=0.001

MMAE as surgical adjunct 12.3% vs surgery alone 25.4%
OR 2.40, 95% CI 0.97 to 6.03, p=0.058

No difference in safety outcomes between the groups

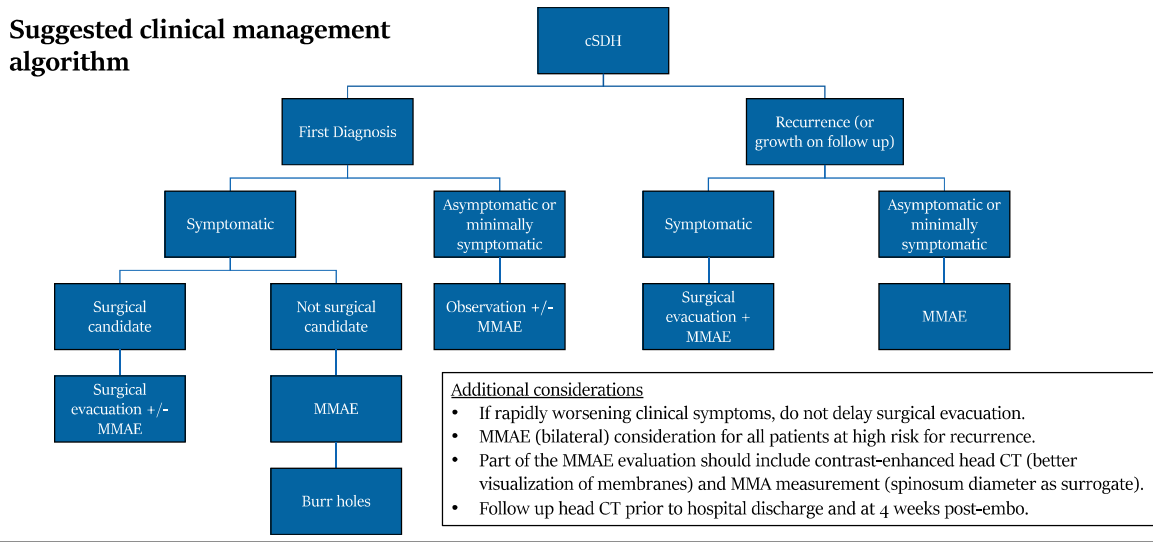
Newest Evidence: EMBOLISE, MAGIC-MT, STEM

MMAE for cSDH is safe and effective in preventing cSDH recurrence or progression

As a standalone treatment (MAGIC-MT and STEM)

As an adjunctive treatment (EMBOLISE)

Suggested clinical management algorithm



MMAE for cSDH is safe and effective in preventing cSDH recurrence or progression, particularly as an adjunct to surgical treatment, and should be considered routinely in the course of clinical care.

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