

C117. Stable Sinus Rhythm Following The Maze Procedure With Valve Surgery Results In Significant Improvement In Health Related Quality Of Life

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OBJECTIVES: The maze procedure for the treatment of atrial fibrillation (AF) in combination with other cardiac surgery is becoming more common. However, data regarding the impact of stable sinus rhythm on patients' health related quality of life (HRQL) is lacking.

METHODS: This is a prospective, longitudinal study where all patients who presented for the maze procedure in addition to valve surgery with or without coronary artery bypass surgery (CABG) were enrolled. Patients' health related quality of life was assessed immediately prior to surgery and then at 6 and 12 months post surgery.

RESULTS: From November 2005 thru January 2009, 125 Maze procedures were performed by multiple surgeons, 109 patients enrolled in HRQL preoperatively. Eighty five percent had returned to sinus rhythm at 6 months and 80% were in sinus rhythm at 12 months. The HRQL component scores [physical component score (PCS) and mental component scores (MCS)] increased from baseline (PCS increased 5.7 points (12%) and MCS increased 4.04 points (7%). The PCS scores for patients who had returned to sinus rhythm at 6 and 12 months increased significantly from baseline and were much better compared to patients in atrial fibrillation (Figure 1).

CONCLUSIONS: Patients following the combined valve maze procedure who regain their sinus rhythm should expect a significant improvement in HRQL at 6 and 12 months postoperatively. These unique findings provide additional information on the importance of a successful maze procedure in patients with valve disease.

Figure 1

SF12 HRQL Composite Norm Based Physical Scores

