Left Main Stem Percutaneous Coronary Intervention: does onsite surgical cover make a difference?

Muhammad Rashid PhD*1.², Mahvash Zaman MBChB*³, Peter Ludman MD ⁴, Harindra C. Wijeysundera PhD ⁵, Nick Curzen PhD ⁶, Tim Kinnaird MD ⁷, Saadiq Moledina MRCP ^{1,2}, J. Dawn Abbott MD ⁸, Cindy L. Grines MD ⁹, Mamas A Mamas DPhil^{1,2}

- 1. Keele Cardiovascular Research Group, School of Medicine, Keele University, Stokeon-Trent, UK
- 2. Department of Academic Cardiology, Royal Stoke University Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent, UK
- 3. Department of Cardiology, Manchester Foundation Trust, Manchester, UK
- 4. Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK
- 5. Schulich Heart Program, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- 6. Faculty of Medicine, University of Southampton & Department of Cardiology, University Hospital of Southampton, UK
- 7. Department of Cardiology, University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom
- 8. Lifespan Cardiovascular Institute, Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University, Providence, RI, United States of America
- 9. Department of Cardiology, Northside Hospital Cardiovascular Institute, Atlanta, GA, USA.

Correspondence to:

Mamas A. Mamas Professor of Cardiology Keele Cardiovascular Research Group, Centre for Prognosis Research, Keele University, UK Email: mamasmamas1@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01782 671654 *joint first authors

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ABSTRACT

Background

Non-surgical centers (NSC) contribute significantly to the capacity of overall PCI in the UK. Whilst previous studies have demonstrated similar PCI outcomes in surgical centers (SC) vs. NSC, it is unknown whether this applies to more complex procedures such as left main stem (LMS) PCI. We compared patient characteristics and outcomes of LMS PCI performed across SC and NSC in England and Wales.

Methods

A retrospective analysis of procedures between January 2006-March 2020 was performed using the British Cardiovascular Intervention Society database and stratified according to the surgical status of the center. The primary outcomes assessed were in-hospital major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events (MACCE), all-cause mortality and bleeding academic research consortium (BARC) stage 3-5 bleeding.

Results

40,744 patients underwent LMS PCI during the period, of which 13922 (34.2%) had their procedure performed at a NSC. The proportion of LMS PCI performed in NSC increased more than two-fold (15.9% in 2006 to 36.7% in 2020). There was no association between surgical cover location and in-hospital mortality (odds ratio [OR] 0.92 95%CI 0.69-1.22), in-hospital MACCE (OR 1.00 95%CI 0.79- 1.25) or emergency CABG (OR 1.00 95%CI 0.95-1.06). NSC had lower BARC 3-5 bleeding complications (OR 0.53 95%CI 0.34-0.82).

Conclusions

There has been an increase in LMS PCI volumes at NSC, particularly elective LMS PCI. LMS PCI performed at NSC was not associated with increased mortality, in-hospital MAC-CE or emergency CABG, despite higher disease complexity.

Key words:

Left main stem disease, Percutaneous coronary intervention, surgical centers, revascularization

NON-STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACS	Acute coronary syndromes
AMI	Acute myocardial infarction
BARC	Bleeding academic research consortium
BCIS	British Cardiovascular Intervention Society
CABG	Coronary artery bypass graft
CI	Confidence interval
CVA	Cerebrovascular accident
DES	Drug eluting stent
FFR	Fractional flow reserve
GP-2b3a	Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor
HQIP	Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership
IHD	Ischemic heart disease
IVUS	Intravascular ultrasound
LMS	Left main stem
LV	Left ventricle
MACCE	Major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events
NHS	National Health Service
NSC	Non-surgical centres
OCT	Optical coherence tomography
PCI	Percutaneous coronary intervention
PVD	Peripheral vascular disease
OR	Odds ratio
SC	Surgical centres
SD	Standard deviation

WHAT IS KNOWN?

• Previous studies have demonstrated similar PCI outcomes at surgical vs. non-surgical centers, although it is unknown whether these findings can be extrapolated to LMS PCI with only a few small reports demonstrating efficacy at non-surgical centers.

WHAT THE STUDY ADDS?

- This national analysis highlights a significant change in practice over the last decade with a significant increase of LMS PCI occurring in non-surgical centers.
- There was no association with increased mortality, in-hospital MACCE or emergency CABG despite increased disease complexity thereby demonstrating in-hospital outcomes are not compromised by absence of onsite surgical backup.

INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, the gold standard treatment for patients with significant left main stem (LMS) disease has been coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG). However, with advancements in stent technology, percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) techniques and imaging, as well as a growing evidence base, the treatment of LMS disease with PCI has evolved from salvage scenarios to include intermediate-low risk patient categories¹⁻⁵.

LMS PCI is a relatively high-risk procedure due to the large proportion of myocardium subtended, which may be associated with ventricular dysfunction, arrhythmias, or hemodynamic instability. Approximately 5% of patients undergoing coronary angiography have significant LMS disease⁶. They may present in elective and acute settings, often posing complex decision making regarding the optimal revascularization strategy, which can be logistically challenging in non-surgical centers (NSC). In the UK, following the publication of the coronary heart disease national framework standard in 2000, there was a considerable expansion of PCI facilities in NSC to accommodate an increasing clinical demand, especially for acute coronary syndromes (ACS)⁶⁻⁸. Following on, the number and proportion of centers performing PCI in NSC have increased, so that since 2011 they represent 64% of centers⁹.

Previous studies undertaken both in North America and the UK have demonstrated no significant difference in outcomes of PCI performed at surgical centers (SC) vs. NSC¹⁰⁻¹⁴. However, it is unknown whether this can be extrapolated to LMS PCI, especially since LMS patients are frequently excluded from larger studies. Single center reports from individual NSC in the UK have demonstrated the safety and efficacy of LMS PCI with modest patient numbers, although they have not been compared to outcomes in SC^{10, 11, 13, 15}.

Our aim was to study the clinical and angiographic profile of patients undergoing unprotected LMS PCI in SC vs. NSC across the UK over a 15 year period. We also sought to investigate associations between the surgical status of centers and clinical outcomes (in-hospital all-cause mortality, MACCE and major bleeding).

METHODS

Study Setting and population

In this retrospective population cohort study, we interrogated the British Cardiovascular Intervention Society (BCIS) registry to include all patients age >18 years undergoing PCI for unprotected LMS disease between 1st January 2006 to 31st March 2020 (figure S1). BCIS PCI registry collects information about clinical characteristics, angiographic profile, procedural pharmacology, and in-hospital outcomes of all patients undergoing PCI in any National Health Service (NHS) acute hospitals⁹. The encrypted and pseudonymized data are used for audit, research and public reporting without formal individual patient consent under section 251 of NHS act 2006. Data are processed by the Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership in a collaboration with the National Institute of Cardiovascular Outcomes Research host. This study did not require institutional ethical approval because we processed the data without patient identifiable information¹⁶⁻¹⁸. Requests to access the dataset from qualified researchers may be sent to the BCIS-NICOR group, but we do not have permission to share the data.

Patients with missing information about important study demographics such as age, in-hospital death and LMS PCI variable were excluded from the study (table S1). The proportion of unavailable information for each variable was reported for the overall cohort as well as the NSC and SC cohorts separately. The final study cohort contained patients from 119 centers which were grouped into onsite SC vs. NSC based on the presence or absence of onsite cardiothoracic surgical support.

The primary outcome was all-cause in-hospital mortality. Secondary outcomes included major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events (MACCE; composite of death, acute stroke/transient ischemic attack and reinfarction), emergency CABG, and bleeding academic research consortium (BARC) stage 3-5 bleeding, as per the standard definition¹⁹.

Statistical Analysis

Patient demographics and procedural characteristics of the SC were compared with the NSC group. Continuous variables were presented as mean values with standard deviation (SD) after checking the data distribution and compared using the t-test. Categorical variables are summarized as percentages and analyzed using the chi-squared test. Cochrane Armitage test was used to study statistically significant differences in the temporal trends of LMS PCI stratified by PCI indication. The missing data were assumed to be missing at random and were imputed using multiple imputations with chained equations (table S1). The levels of unavailable data are high for certain variables, although it has been shown that multiple imputation frameworks are robust even when levels of missingness are extremely high. Although, some protection is offered when data is not missing at random. Ten imputed datasets were generated, and all subsequent analyses were performed on the imputed datasets. Final model estimates were pooled using Rubin's rule^{20, 21}. Multi-level multivariable logistic regression models were used, with random intercepts for centers to account for the nested structure of the data, in order to 1) assess the association between surgical cover status and in-hospital adverse outcomes, namely mortality, MACCE, BARC 3-5 bleeding and emergency CABG, and 2) examine predictors of in-hospital mortality among patients undergoing PCI for LMS

disease. To assess the results from multiple imputation analyses, we also performed a complete case analysis by excluding missing variable information as a sensitivity analysis. All associations are reported as odds ratios (OR) with corresponding 95% confidence intervals (CI).

Variables adjusted for in the models included: age, sex, race, year of procedure, clinical syndrome, previous acute myocardial infarction (AMI), previous PCI, prior coronary artery bypass graft surgery (CABG), diabetes mellitus, renal failure (Creatinine \geq 200 μ mol/l and/or dialysis), family history of ischaemic heart disease (IHD), left ventricular (LV) function, hypercholesterolaemia, peripheral vascular disease (PVD), previous cerebrovascular accident (CVA), hypertension, smoking status, cardiogenic shock, mechanical ventilation, circulatory support (intra-aortic balloon pump or LV assist device), vascular access, number of vessels and lesions attempted, number of drug-eluting stents (DES), use of fractional flow reserve (FFR), intravascular imaging (intravascular ultrasound (IVUS) or optical coherence tomography (OCT)) or calcium modification (rotablation, laser angioplasty), and in-hospital pharmacotherapy (clopidogrel, ticagrelor, prasugrel, warfarin, glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitor (GP-2b3a)). All statistical analyses were performed using Stata 16 MP (College Station, TX).

RESULTS

A total of 40,744 patients underwent unprotected LMS PCI during the study period, of which 13,922 (34.2%) had LMS PCI at NSC. The percentage of LMS PCI undertaken at NSC steadily increased from 15.9% in 2006 to 36.7% in 2020 (Ptrend <0.001) (Figure 1).

Patients in the NSC group were older (mean age 70.9 years vs. 70.4 years, p<0.001) and less likely to be females (26.4% vs. 28.4%, p<0.001) compared to the SCs. Patients in the SC group had higher prevalence of cardiovascular comorbidities such as hypertension (64.1%)

vs. 62.1%, p<0.001), hypercholesterolemia (58.8% vs. 60.4%, p<0.001) and poor LV systolic function (19.2% vs. 17.1%, p<0.001). The NSC group were more likely to be treated with clopidogrel (72.2% vs. 61.7%, p<0.001) as a choice of second antiplatelet following PCI.

There were changes in PCI practice when stratified by the indication. Elective LMS PCI increased from 34.4% in 2006 to 42.8% in 2020 (Ptrend <0.001), which was mirrored with the decrease in the LMS PCI for ACS indication in the NSC from 53.3% to 46.0%, respectively (Ptrend <0.001) (Figure 2). In contrast, the STEMI indication for LMS PCI remained stable in both NSCs and SCs. (Ptrend 0.81) (Figure 3). There were significant center variations in the proportions of LMS PCI, however higher proportions of LMS PCI were undertaken at NSC and the majority of SC performed lower volumes of LMS PCI during the study period (Figure 4).

There were important differences in the angiographic profile of the NSC group compared to the SC group, as reported in Table 1. The NSC group displayed higher disease complexity with an increased number of lesions (\geq 3) treated (30.3% vs. 28.8%, p<0.001), the number of vessels (\geq 3) treated (31.7% vs. 27.9%, p<0.001), and more than three stents used (28.6% vs. 26.8%, p<0.001) compared to the SC group. Intracoronary imaging in the form of IVUS or OCT (43.8% vs. 53.5%, p<0.001) was significantly lower in the SC than in the NSC. Similarly, radial access was less commonly used in the SC (56.9% vs. 63.2%, p<0.001) compared to the NSC. However, atherectomy was less commonly used in the NSC (9.4% vs.11.7%, p<0.001) compared to SC.

The crude in-hospital mortality (7.0% vs. 5.7%, p<0.001), in-hospital MACCE (8.5% vs. 7.6%, p 0.002) and emergency CABG (0.2% vs. 0.1%, p 0.005) were significantly higher in the SCs compared to NSCs. However, after the adjustment of case-mix differences, there was no association between surgical cover status and in-hospital mortality (OR 0.92 95%CI 0.69-1.22), in-hospital MACCE (OR 1.00 95%CI 0.79-1.25) and emergency CABG (OR 1.00

95%CI 0.95-1.06). NSC had significantly lower odds of BARC 3-5 bleeding complications (OR 0.53 95%CI 0.34-0.82) compared to the SCs. Similar outcomes were observed when NSCs were stratified according to PCI indication compared to the SCs (Table 2). The results of complete case analysis showed similar results to the imputated dataset (see table S2).

Finally, the independent predictors of in-hospital mortality are reported in Table 3. Use of IVUS (OR 0.44 95%CI 0.38-0.51), OCT (OR 0.43 95%CI 0.27-0.69) and radial access (0.63 95%CI 0.56-0.71) were strongly associated with lower odds of in-hospital mortality. STEMI presentation (OR 8.17 95%CI 6.46-10.35), cardiogenic shock (OR 6.66 95%CI 5.85-7.59) and female sex (OR 1.24 95%CI 1.11-1.31) were associated with increased inhospital mortality.

DISCUSSION

This is the first national report comparing the clinical characteristics and outcomes of LMS PCI in SCs vs. NSC. We observed an over two-fold increase in PCI for LMS disease at NSC, although there was significant variation in LMS PCI volumes between centers. The proportion of LMS PCI for STEMI has remained stable, but elective LMS PCI activity has increased significantly with an almost 8.4% temporal increase at NSC. There was a higher use of intracoronary imaging and transradial access at the NSC compared to the SC. Finally, despite the higher lesion and case complexity of PCI undertaken at NSC, there was no association between surgical cover status and in-hospital mortality, MACCE and emergency CABG.

The original expansion of NSC in the UK was driven by high rates of cardiovascular disease and a national directive to improve revascularization rates after a prolonged period of inequitable service distribution¹⁴. It was not primarily intended to facilitate high-risk elective

PCI, and yet we observed a significant increase in elective LMS PCI at NSC. There is no formal criteria in the UK regarding which patients can or cannot be treated at a NSC providing the appropriate expertise and equipment is available^{14, 22}. It is plausible that recent trial data, coupled with increased local availability of adjunctive technology such as IVUS/OCT, rotational atherectomy, and circulatory support may have encouraged NSC operators to undertake more complex procedures such as LMS PCI^{1-3, 5, 23}. Data from previous studies have shown that routine PCI can be safely performed without onsite surgical backup^{10, 13-15}. However, our study shows that these practices can safely be extrapolated to high-risk LMS PCI without an increase in in-hospital adverse outcomes.

Patients in the SC group had a higher clinical risk profile with increased prevalence of cardiovascular comorbidities, including hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, LV impairment and renal disease. Some of these patients might have been specifically selected for referral to SC following heart team discussion due to perceived increased risk, given the readily available access to facilities such as mechanical support devices, calcium modification adjuncts, renal dialysis capacity and emergency cardiac surgery. Indeed, we observed increased use of IABP and rotational atherectomy at SC which most likely reflects this increased comorbidity burden.

NSC had a lower incidence of BARC 3-5 bleeding complications than SC which is likely to be driven by the increased use of trans-radial access at NSC, since this is known to be associated with lower access site related bleeding complications^{24–27}. There was a significantly higher use of intravascular imaging (50.6% vs. 39.9%) at the NSC compared to SC. Furthermore, intravascular imaging use was a strong independent predictor of reduced inhospital mortality. IVUS-guided PCI is associated with lower long-term risks of mortality and MACCE compared with angiography-guided PCI in patients undergoing PCI for unprotected left main coronary artery disease^{1, 28, 29}. In Excel IVUS substudy, use of IVUS influenced stent

strategy and equipment size, including larger balloon utilization, high-pressure inflation, identification, and optimization of stent under expansion³. The increased use of radial access and intravascular imaging at NSCs may potentially have resulted in superior medium-long term outcomes given the benefits of less early bleeding combined with the advantages of optimal stent sizing and apposition conferred by intravascular imaging, however this is beyond the remit of our study.

Finally, the requirement for onsite surgery originated from the days of early angioplasty, where emergency CABG occurred in more than 5% of cases but advances in technology have significantly reduced the need for it³⁰. Our cohort demonstrated this, with only 0.2% and 0.1% of patients in the SC and NSC groups respectively required emergency cardiac surgery for LMS PCI.

Given this is an observational study, we could not adjust for variables not collected in the original database. In addition, the study does not report on outcome measures such as repeat revascularization, recurrent MI or MACCE beyond the index hospital admission. Syntax scoring and anatomic information such as the location/type of disease within the LMS were not available. Finally, we are not able to ascertain information about the decision-making processes or use of MDT discussions in these cases.

PCI in the LMS is regarded as a relatively challenging procedure. Decision-making regarding revascularization in LMS disease is often complex and influenced by several factors that should be discussed at multidisciplinary meetings. The use of intracoronary imaging should be considered in every case as it has been shown to impact strategy and outcomes favorably. Our findings suggest that performing this procedure is safe and feasible in NSC^{31, 32}.

CONCLUSION

There has been a significant increase in LMS PCI volumes at NSC, particularly elective LMS PCI. Disease complexity was significantly higher in the NSC cohort, and despite this LMS PCI performed at NSCs was not associated with increased mortality, in-hospital MACCE or emergency CABG compared to SC. These findings suggest that the performance of LMS PCI in hospitals without onsite cardiac surgery does not compromise in-hospital outcomes and is a potential safe and feasible option.

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DISCLOSURES

All authors declare no relevant conflicts in relation to the content of this paper.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

Tables S1-2

Figure S1

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TABLES

 Table 1: Baseline characteristics and angiographic profile of patients undergoing LMS PCI

Variable	Surgical onsite	Surgical offsite	
Number of patients	26822 (65.8%)	13922 (34.2%)	
Age, mean \pm SD	70.4 (11.8)	70.9 (11.4)	< 0.001
Females	7618 (28.4%)	3663 (26.4%)	< 0.001
BMI	27.9 (5.5)	27.9 (5.3)	0.91
Indication			
Stable	10449 (39.0%)	5587 (40.1%)	< 0.001
NSTEMI	11787 (44.0%)	6249 (44.9%)	
STEMI	4582 (17.1%)	2086 (15.0%)	
Smoking status			
Non-smoker	9503 (40.8%)	4673 (38.3%)	< 0.001
Current smoker	3843 (16.5%)	1847 (15.1%)	
Ex-smoker	9932 (42.7%)	5684 (46.6%)	
Comorbidities			
Prior PCI (%)	6901 (26.7%)	4354 (32.1%)	< 0.001
Prior MI (%)	9024 (36.4%)	4790 (36.0%)	0.39
Diabetes (%)	6755 (26.3%)	3438 (25.7%)	0.25
Hypertension (%)	16146 (64.1%)	8155 (62.1%)	< 0.001
Hypercholesterolemia	15220 (60.4%)	7724 (58.8%)	< 0.001
Family history of heart disease (%)	8727 (38.8%)	5178 (43.8%)	< 0.001
Renal disease (%)	2985 (11.3%)	1243 (9.0%)	< 0.001
Peripheral vascular disease	2618 (10.4%)	1353 (10.3%)	0.80
Prior cerebrovascular accident	1791 (7.1%)	997 (7.6%)	0.08
Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction			

Good (LVEF >=50%)	8212 (59.4%)	5186 (66.0%)	< 0.001
Fair (LVEF 30%-49%)	2954 (21.4%)	1326 (16.9%)	
Poor (LVEF <= 29%)	2650 (19.2%)	1341 (17.1%)	
Pharmacology			
GPIIb/IIIa inhibitor	4998 (20.4%)	2544 (19.7%)	0.12
Clopidogrel	14446 (61.7%)	8992 (72.2%)	< 0.001
Prasugrel	735 (3.1%)	328 (2.6%)	0.007
Ticagrelor	4178 (17.8%)	1942 (15.6%)	< 0.001
Warfarin	357 (1.5%)	173 (1.4%)	0.31
Procedural characteristics			
Pressure Wire	1877 (8.0%)	1542 (12.2%)	< 0.001
Intravascular ultrasound	9296 (39.9%)	6404 (50.6%)	< 0.001
Optical coherence tomography	901 (3.9%)	368 (2.9%)	< 0.001
IABP use	2252 (9.0%)	904 (6.8%)	< 0.001
Cardiogenic shock on admission	2737 (12.3%)	1273 (11.4%)	0.02
Number of drug eluting stents			
0	3915 (19.2%)	1882 (18.2%)	< 0.001
1	5704 (28.0%)	2702 (26.1%)	
2	5285 (26.0%)	2801 (27.1%)	
≥3	5457 (26.8%)	2962 (28.6%)	
Number of lesions treated			< 0.001
1	5285 (28.5%)	2563 (26.0%)	
2	6630 (35.8%)	3455 (35.1%)	
≥3	5344 (28.8%)	2984 (30.3%)	
Number of vessels treated			< 0.001
Single vessel PCI	7694 (28.7%)	2870 (20.6%)	
2 Vessel PCI	11638 (43.4%)	6636 (47.7%)	
3 vessel PCI	7490 (27.9%)	4416 (31.7%)	
Directional/rotational atherectomy	2403 (11.7%)	1071 (9.4%)	< 0.001

Radial access	14826 (56.9%)	8543 (63.2%)	< 0.001
Stent Length	27.6 (16.5)	32.7 (20.5)	< 0.001
Stent Diameter	4.0 (0.6)	4.1 (0.6)	< 0.001
Outcomes			
In-hospital MACCE	2242 (8.5%)	1047 (7.6%)	0.002
In-hospital mortality	1802 (7.0%)	773 (5.7%)	< 0.001
Bleeding complications	347 (1.3%)	89 (0.6%)	< 0.001
Emergency CABG	54 (0.2%)	12 (0.1%)	0.005

BMI: Body Mass Index, CABG: Coronary artery bypass graft, GPIIb/IIIa: Glycoprotein IIb/ IIIa, IABP: Intra-aortic balloon pump, LVEF: Left Ventricular Ejection Fraction, MACCE: Major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events, MI: Myocardial Infarction, NSTEMI: Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction, PCI: Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, SD: Standard deviation, STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction. Table 2: Adjusted odds of in-hospital outcomes in the imputated dataset

Outcomes	Reference	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
In-hospital mortality	On-site surgical	0.92 (0.69-1.22)
In-hospital MACCE	On-site surgical	1.00 (0.79-1.25)
In-hospital bleeding	On-site surgical	0.53 (0.34-0.82)
Emergency CABG	On-site surgical	1.00 (0.95-1.06)
Elective PCI		
In-hospital mortality	On-site surgical	0.87 (0.53-1.43)
In-hospital MACCE	On-site surgical	0.96 (0.69-1.33)
In-hospital bleeding	Onsite surgical	0.59 (0.37-0.94)
Emergency CABG	Onsite surgical	0.93 (0.74-1.51)
ACS PCI		
In-hospital mortality	On-site surgical	1.05 (0.78-1.41)
In-hospital MACCE	On-site surgical	0.96 (0.77-1.19)
In-hospital bleeding	On-site surgical	0.46 (0.33-0.63)
Emergency CABG	On-site surgical	0.94 (0.66-1.17)
STEMI PCI		
In-hospital mortality	On-site surgical	1.04 (0.74-1.45)
In-hospital MACCE	On-site surgical	1.00 (0.72-1.40)
In-hospital bleeding	On-site surgical	0.48 (0.30-0.78)
Emergency CABG	On-site surgical	0.99 (0.87-1.30)

ACS: Acute coronary syndrome, CABG: Coronary artery bypass graft, CI: Confidence Interval, MACCE: Major adverse cardiovascular and cerebrovascular events, NSTEMI: Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction, PCI: Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction.

Table 3: Independent predictors of mortality in patients undergoing LMS PCI

Variable	Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)
Indication for PCI	
NSTEMI/ACS	3.15 (2.54-3.91)
STEMI	8.17 (6.46-10.35)
Hypertension	1.00 (0.89-1.13)
Hypercholesteremia	0.80 (0.71-0.89)
Peripheral vascular disease	1.66 (1.41-1.95)
Previous PCI	0.82 (0.70-0.95)
Previous AMI	1.05 (0.92-1.20)
Diabetes mellitus	1.21 (1.07-1.37)
Smoking status	
Current smoker	1.15 (0.97-1.36)
Ex-smoker	1.02 (0.90-1.17)
Clopidogrel use	0.78 (0.68-0.90)
Prasugrel use	0.60 (0.45-0.81)
Ticagrelor	0.72 (0.62-0.88)
IVUS use	0.44 (0.38-0.51)
OCT use	0.43 (0.27-0.69)
Cardiogenic shock	6.66 (5.85-7.59)
Age (per year)	1.01 (1.00-1.01)
Female sex	1.24 (1.11-1.31)
Radial access	0.63 (0.56-0.71)

ACS: Acute coronary syndrome, AMI: Acute myocardial infarction, CI: Confidence Interval, IVUS: Intravascular ultrasound, NSTEMI: Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction, OCT: Optical coherence tomography, PCI: Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction.

FIGURES

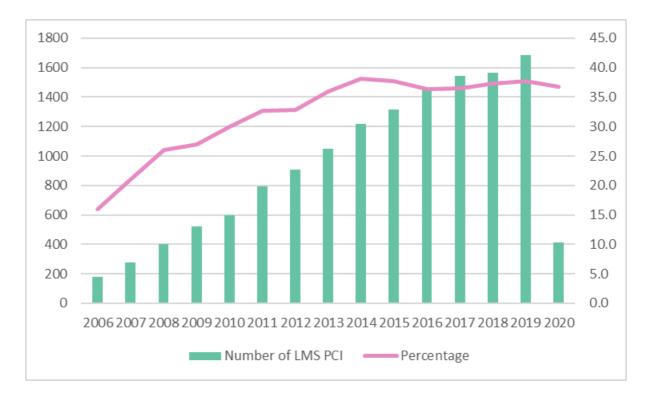


Figure 1: Temporal trends in LMS PCI volumes performed in non-surgical centers

LMS: Left main stem, PCI: Percutaneous coronary intervention

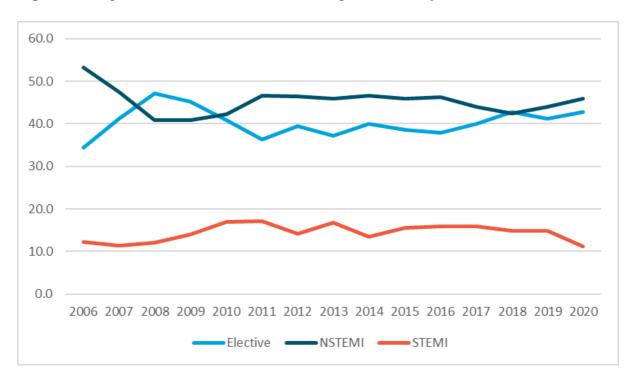


Figure 2: Temporal trends in LMS PCI in non-surgical centers by indication

NSTEMI: Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction, STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction.

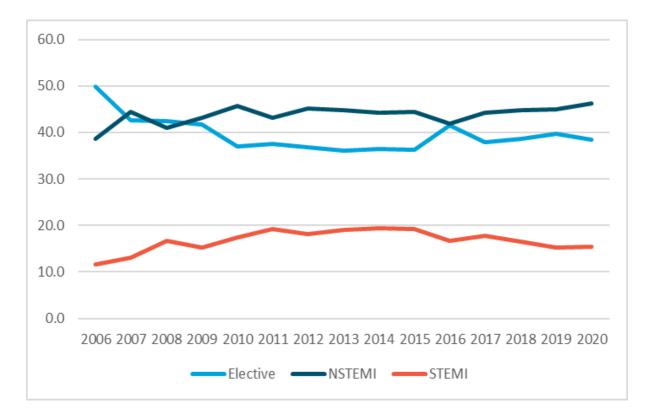


Figure 3: Temporal trends in LMS PCI in surgical centers by indication

NSTEMI: Non-ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction, STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction.

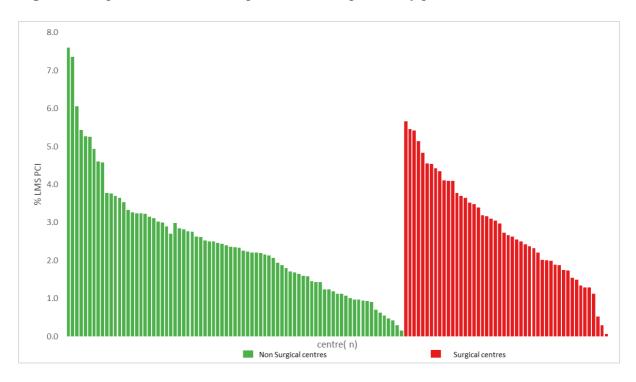


Figure 4: Proportions of LMS PCI per center during the study period

LMS: Left main STEM, PCI: Percutaneous coronary intervention

GRAPHIC ABSTRACT

