

## Long term results after prosthetic valve replacement

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Cardiac operation which was performed until in 1992 was consisted of congenital heart disease in 3810, valvular heart disease in 2615, and ischemic heart disease in 406; the total number was 7152 cases including other types of cardiac operation.

Among the 2615 cases receiving valvular surgery, valvuloplasty was performed in 971 and prosthetic valve replacement was in 1644. The type of prosthetic valve was Starr-ball valve at the beginning, and in the last 10 years the St. Jude Medical prosthesis (SJM) has been using in most cases. In this paper the long term results after the SJM valve replacement are described.

3.5% died in the early postoperative period and late deaths occurred in 5.2%. There were no late complications related to the prosthetic valve dysfunction, while thromboembolic complication rate was 0.41 / patient-years. The bleeding complication rate related to anti-coagulant therapy was 0.20 / patient-years. Hemolysis following implantation was seen in 0.36% of patients in the early postoperative period, but there was none in the late period. There was no prosthetic valve endocarditis. Reoperation required in five (0.25 / patient-years) patients; the causes were consisted of thrombosed valve and hemolysis. The ten year survival rate after discharge from hospital was 94.8% and the rehabilitation rate was 79.4%

Their clinical results after mitral valve replacement with SJM prosthesis in the anti-anatomical position showed excellent durability and low incidence of valve-related complications.