

Aortic dissection

Taking into account the arterial fragility which is characteristic of the disease, the occurrence of a dissection and, rarely, the rupture of the aorta are the possible complications. However, these arterial accidents occur in the abdominal aorta more often than the thoracic aorta.



WHAT IS RECOMMENDED

- If an acute chest and/or abdominal pain syndrome is present, it is imperative to urgently check for the presence of a dissection or rupture of the aorta.
- Give preference to non-invasive examinations (such as MRA or CTA) and medical treatment whenever possible.
- For type A aortic dissections, surgical treatment is indicated as the primary option.
- A protocol of permissive hypotension is recommended without compromise to organ function.
- Caution with use of inotropes is recommended.
- Caution with use of indwelling catheters is advised.



WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO

- Use a stent as a first option in the presence of a dissection of the descending aorta; unless there is no other therapeutic alternative.