

## Thoracoabdominal aorta

# How “shaggy” is too “shaggy” to treat ?

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# Disclosures

No conflict of interest  
relevant to this topic



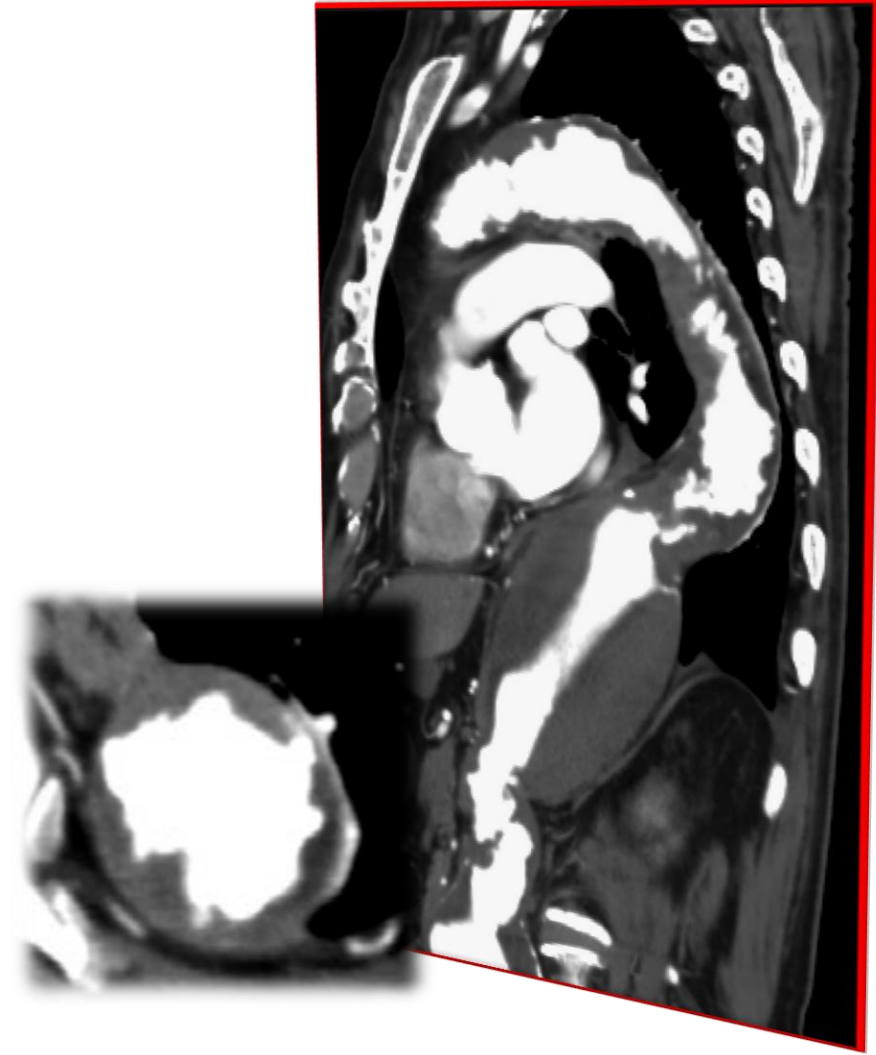
# Definitions

“Extensive atheromatous disease with diffuse ulcers associated with soft, loosely held debris and a paucity of actual thrombus.”

(Hollier LH, 1991)

“Irregular atheroma surface with finger-like projections and thickness >5mm in non aneurysmal aortic segment.”






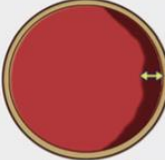
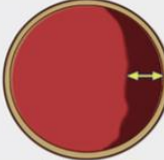
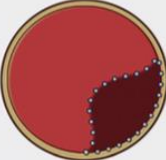
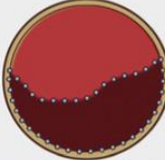


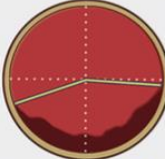
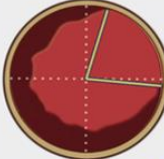
(Yokawa K, 2019)



# Classification (Mayo)

## AWT Aortic Wall Thrombus

“0 to 10 scale to score thrombus type, thickness, area of involvement, circumference, and number of affected segments.”

SEGMENTS (A, B, & C)	 None=0    1 segment=1    2-3 segments=2			2
THROMBUS TYPE				2
	None=0	Smooth lining=1	Finger-like projections=2	
THICKNESS				2
	None=0	1-4mm=1	≥5mm=2	
AREA				2
	0-24%=0	25%-50%=1	≥50%=2	
CIRCUMFERENCE				2
	0-90°=0	91°-179°=1	180°-360°=2	
				<b>Total 0-10</b>

# Severity (Mayo)

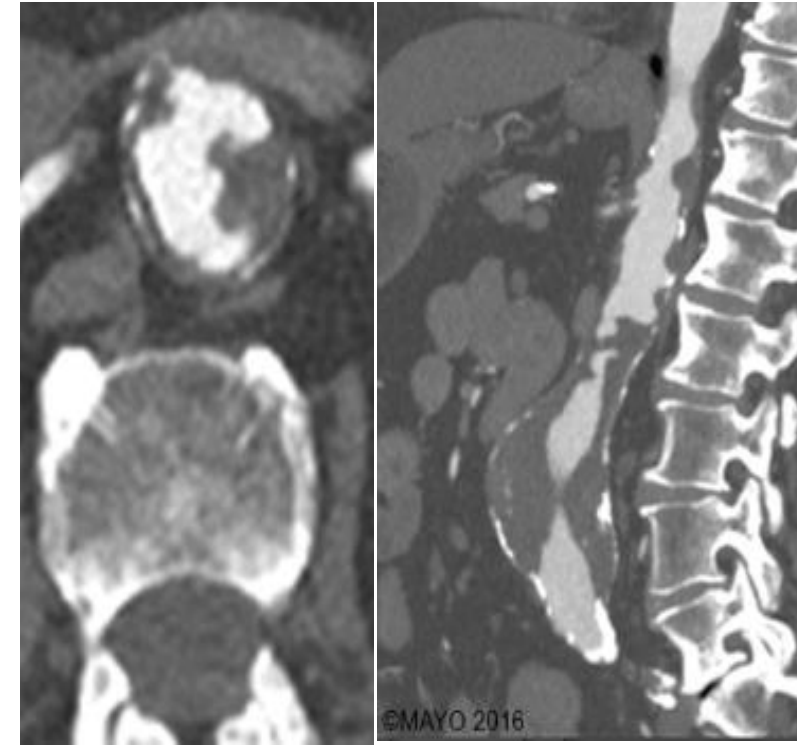
*MILD (0-3)*



*MODERATE (4-8)*



*SEVERE (9-10)*

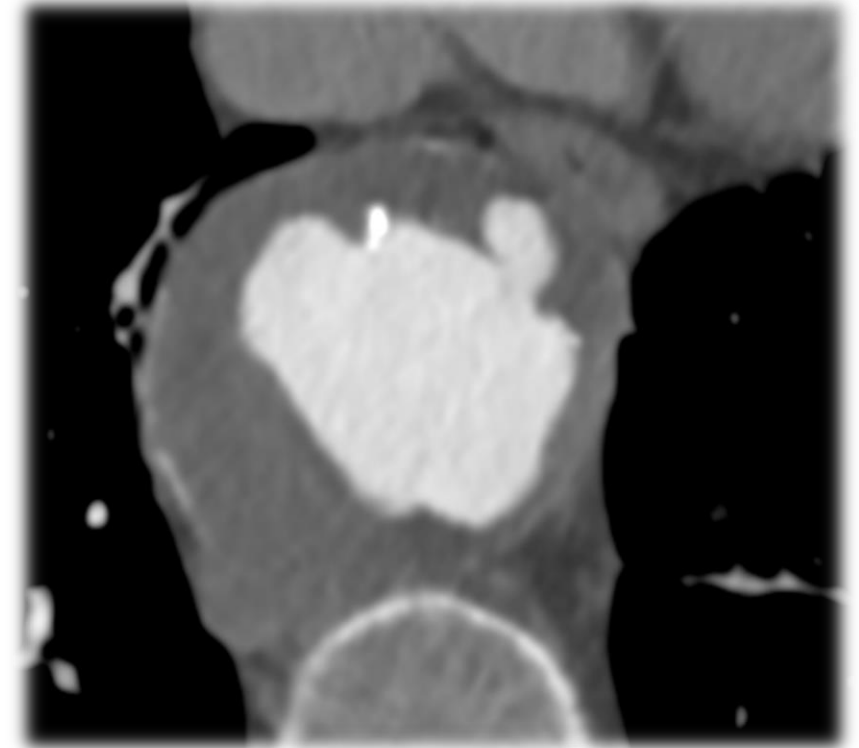


# Shaggy score (Tokyo University)

Measurements are made every 5 mm,  
In the ascending, descending and  
abdominal aorta, if ...

- ulcer like thrombus
- thrombus thickness  $\geq 5\text{mm}$
- thrombus  $> 2/3$  aortic circumference

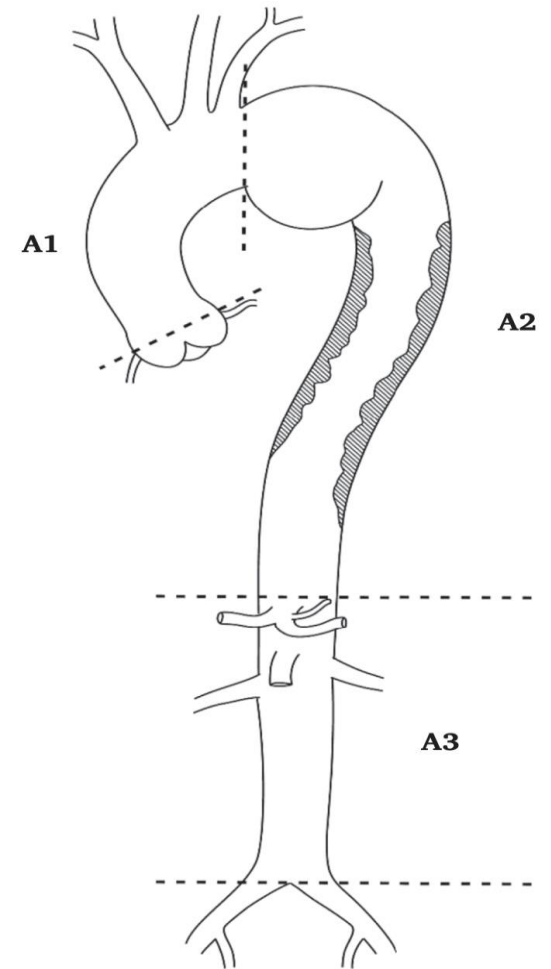
1 “shaggy point” is added to the score



# Shaggy score (Tokyo University)

- A1 – Ascending
  - A2 – Descending
  - A3 – Abdominal
- $\geq 10$  points

More embolic complications  
after TEVAR





# Embolization

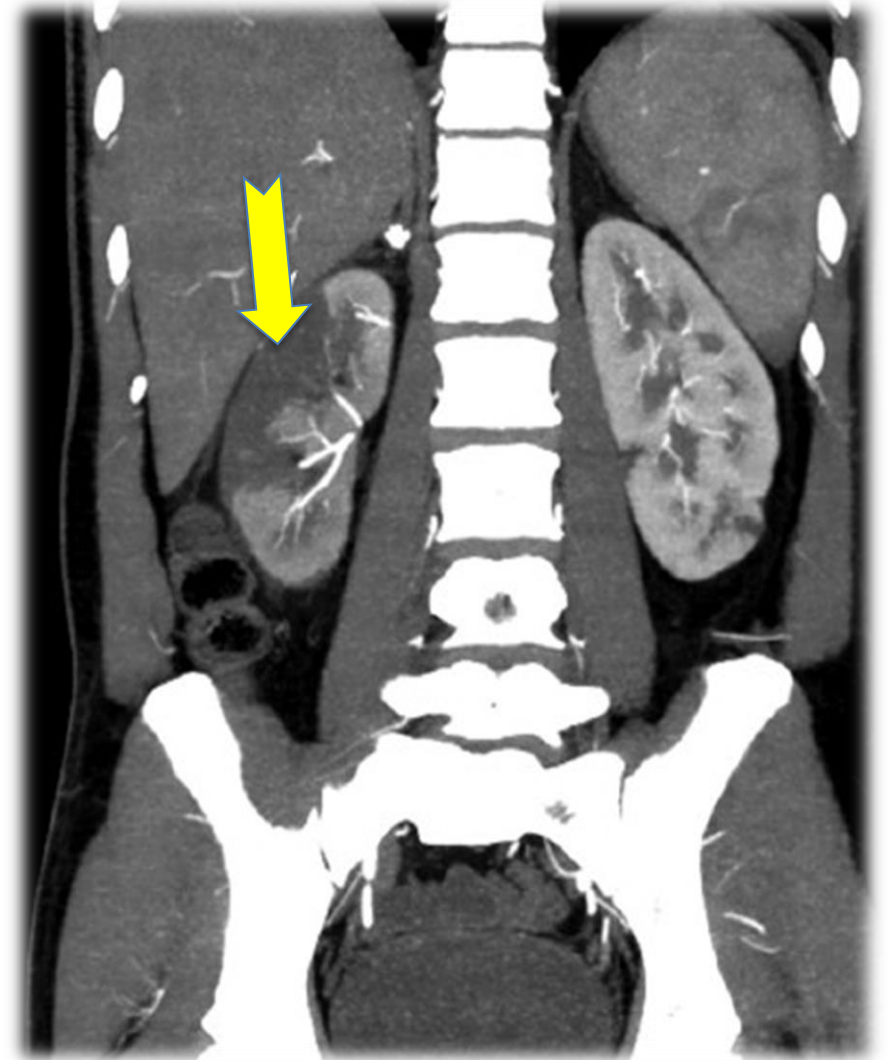
- **Peripheral**
- Renal
- Visceral
- Brain
- Spinal cord





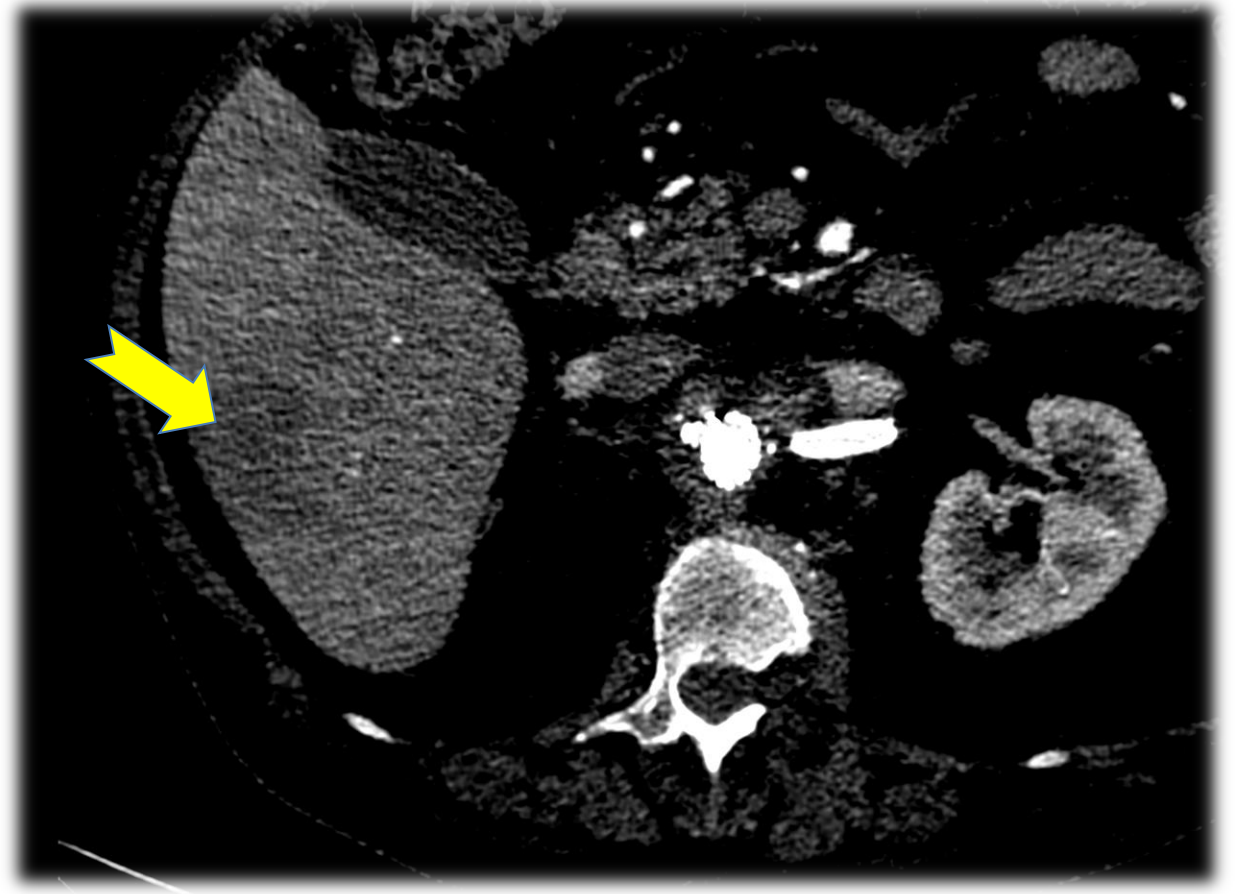
# Embolization

- Peripheral
- **Renal**
- Visceral
- Brain
- Spinal cord



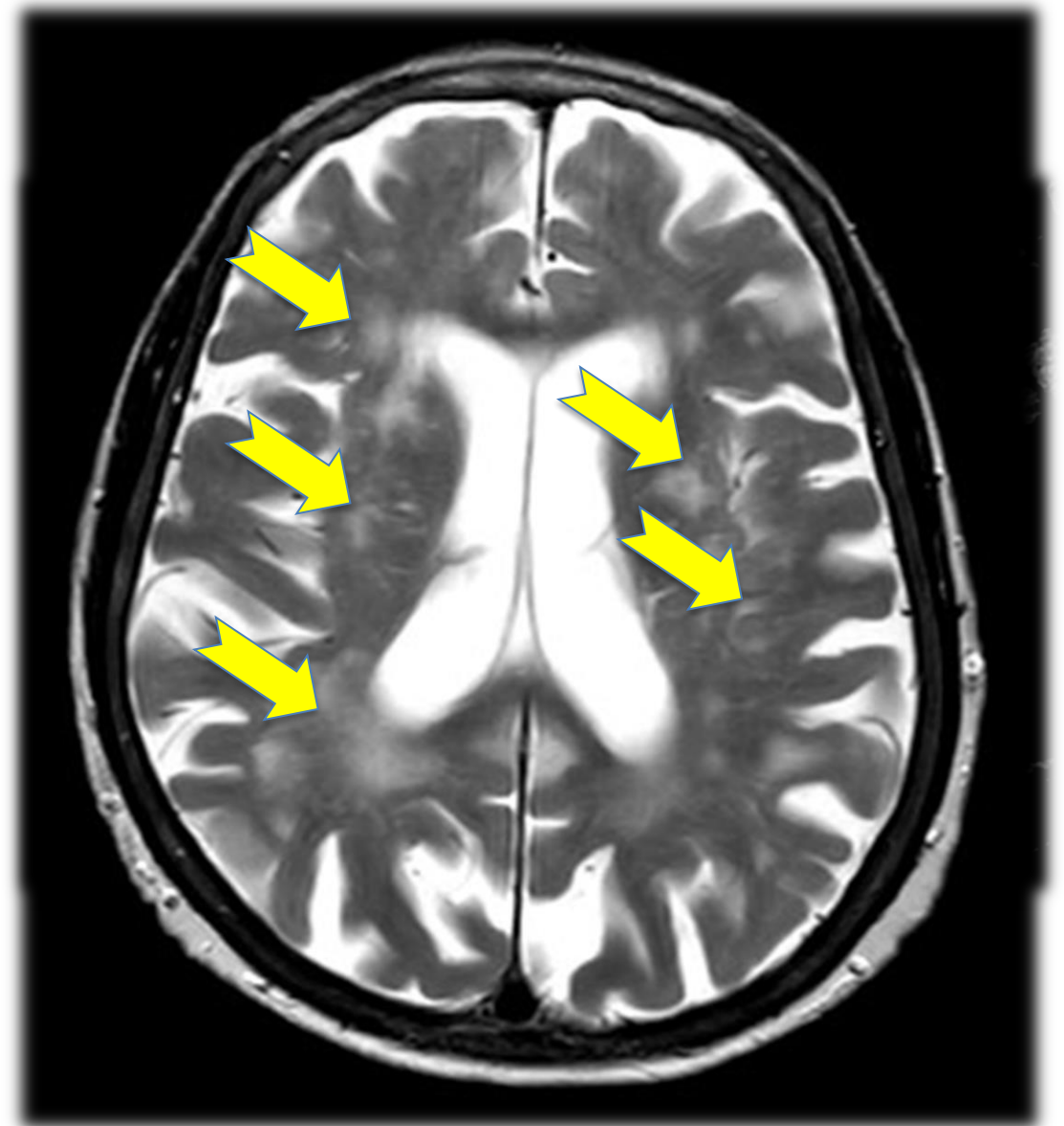
# Embolization

- Peripheral
- Renal
- **Visceral**
- Brain
- Spinal cord



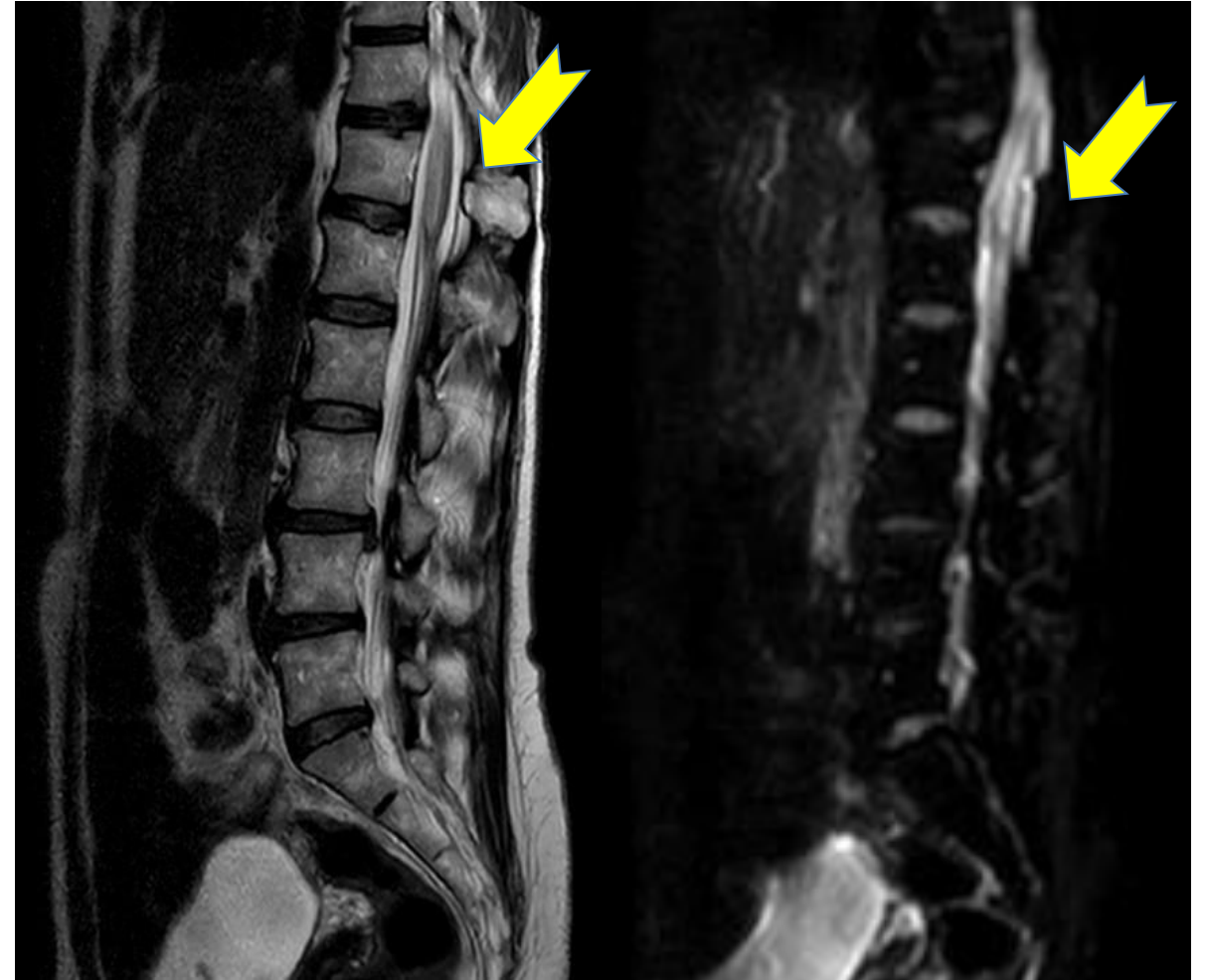
# Embolization

- Peripheral
- Renal
- Visceral
- **Brain**
- Spinal cord



# Embolization

- Peripheral
- Renal
- Visceral / MOF
- Brain
- **Spinal cord**



# TEVAR Results @ Mayo

(Shaggy are only PRA and type IV TAAA)

	non-Shaggy* (185)	Moderate to Severe** (114)
Mortality	4.3	0.8
Stroke	2.7	2.6
SCI	3.2	2.6
Liver, Kidney, Spleen infarction	na	55.2
Bowel ischemia	2.7	2.6

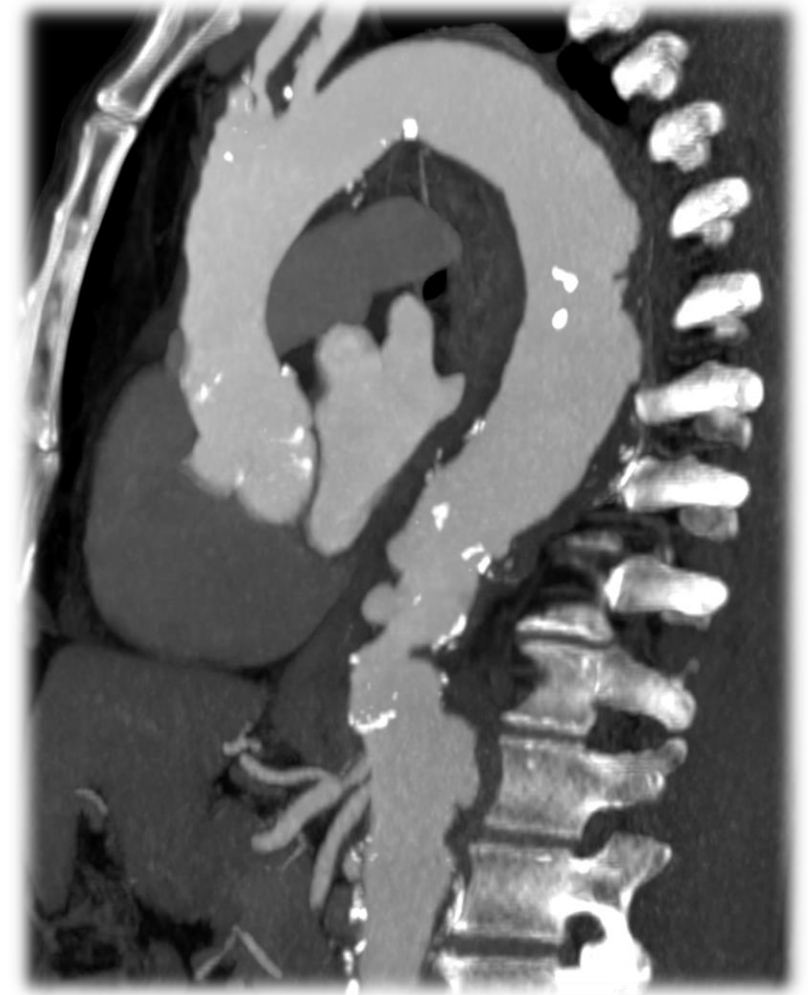


# Open repair results @ Kobe

	Non-shaggy (76)	Shaggy (36)	p.
Mortality	5 (6.6)	12 (33.3)	<.001
SCI	5 (6.6)	10 (27.8)	.003
Stroke	4 (5.3)	1 (2.8)	.664
Acute renal failure	11 (13.9)	15 (41.7)	<.001
Composite outcome	15 (19.7)	20 (55.6)	<.001

# Embolization prevention strategies

- Medical therapy
- During Endo repair
- During Open repair



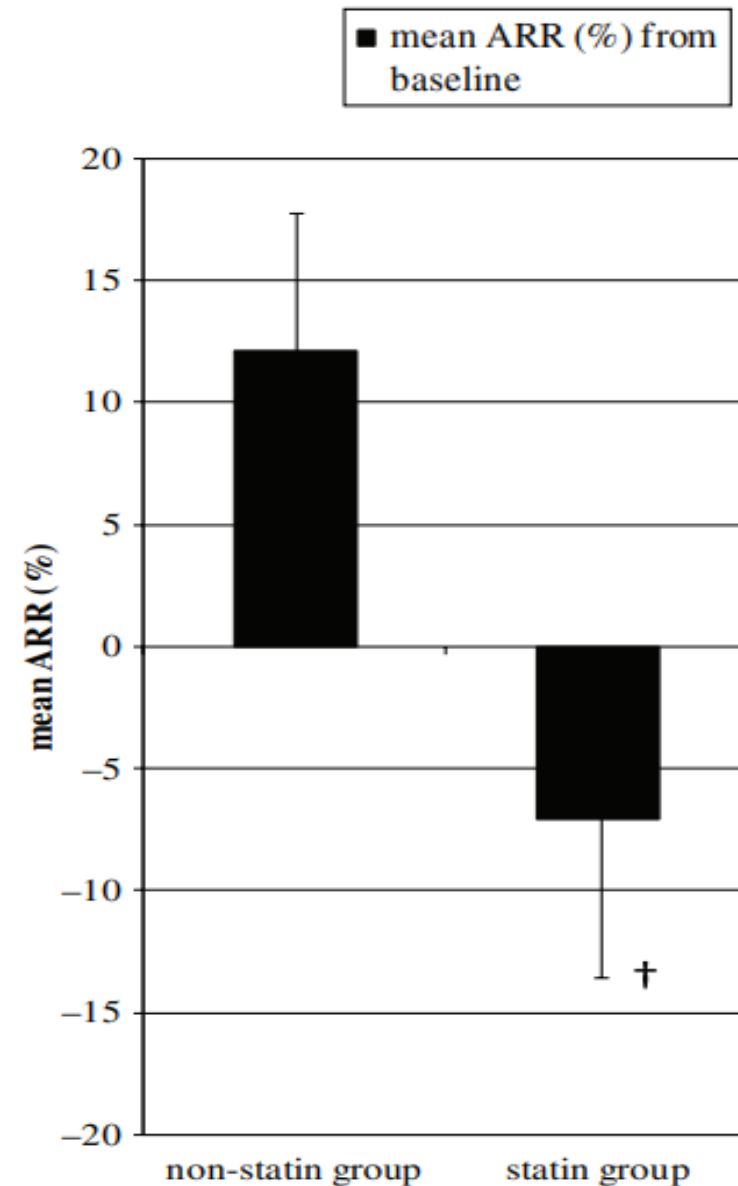


# Medical therapy

Statins reduce aortic atheromas in pts. with shaggy aorta

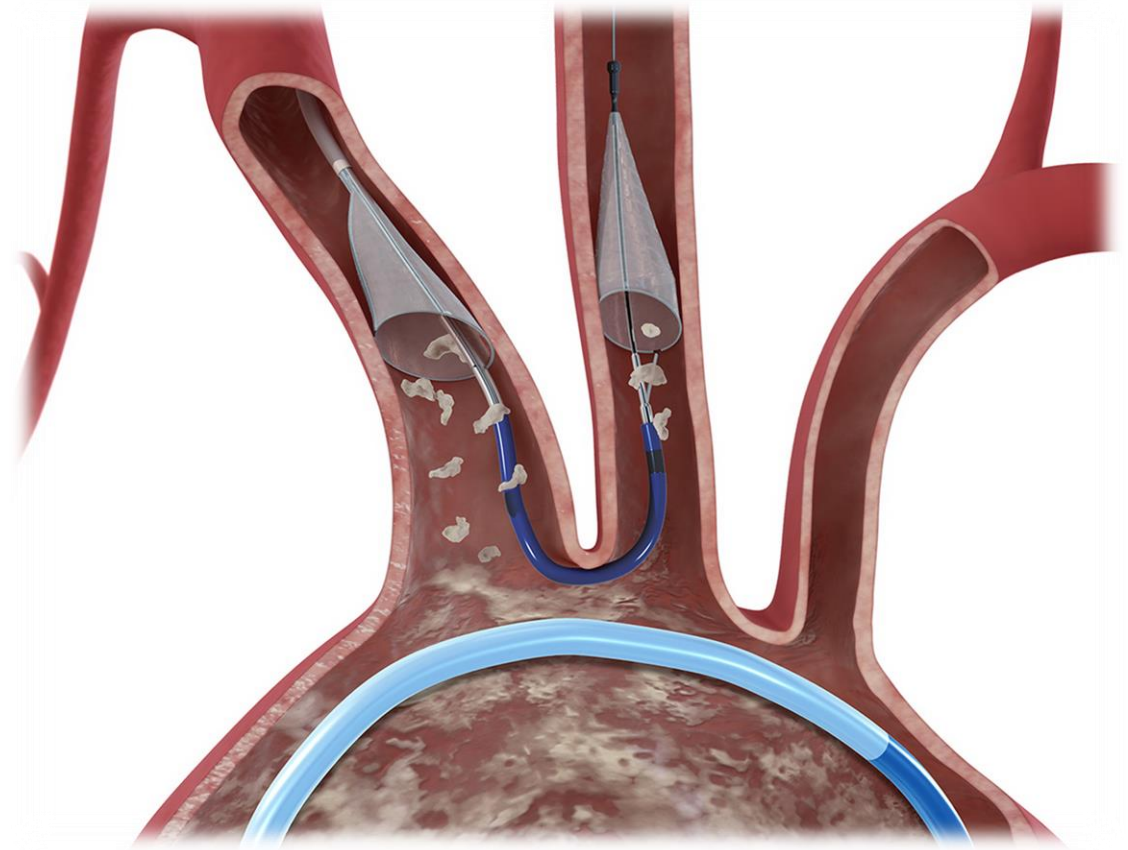
Atheroma reduction ratio (ARR):

- non-statin group: +12.1%
- statin group: -7.1% ( $p < 0.01$ )



# Endo prevention strategies

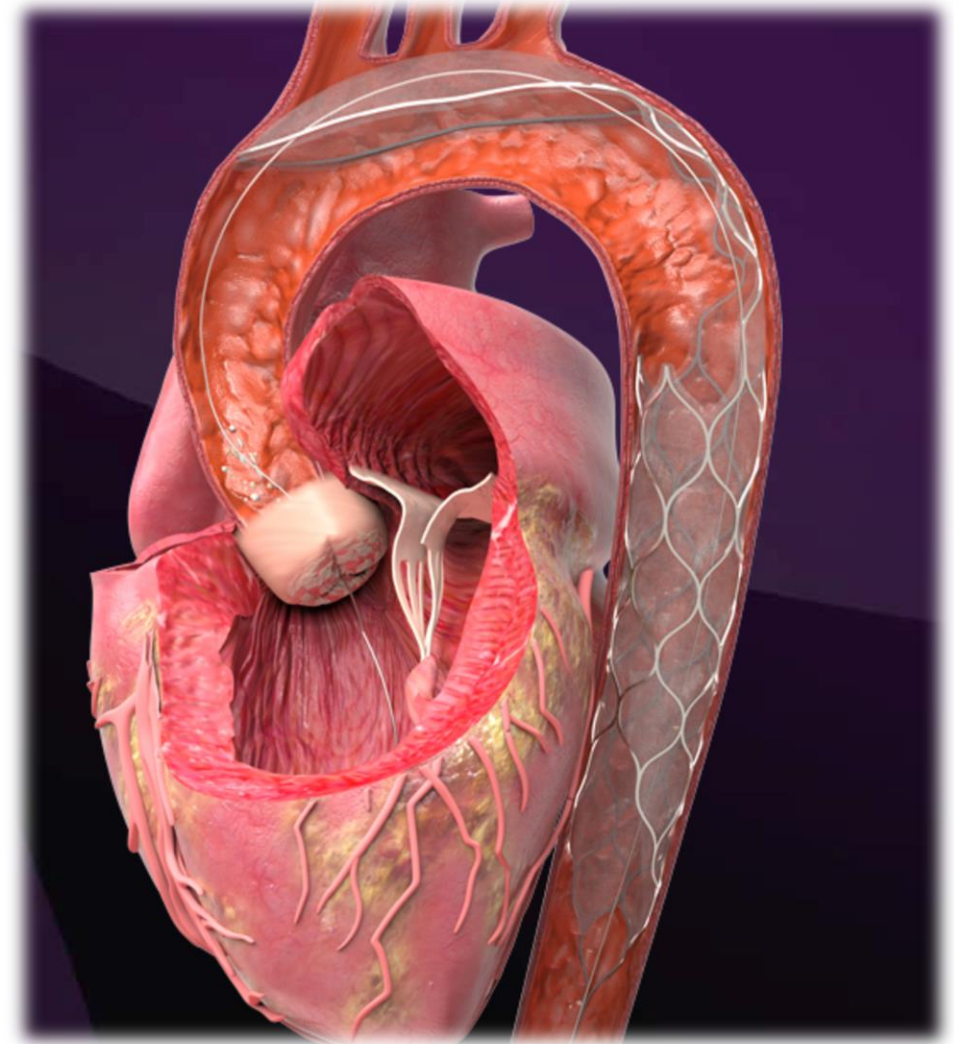
- Reduce manipulation
- SAT: filters
- Visceral: filters?
- Patients selection



SENTINEL by Boston Scientific – Cerebral protection system

# Endo prevention strategies

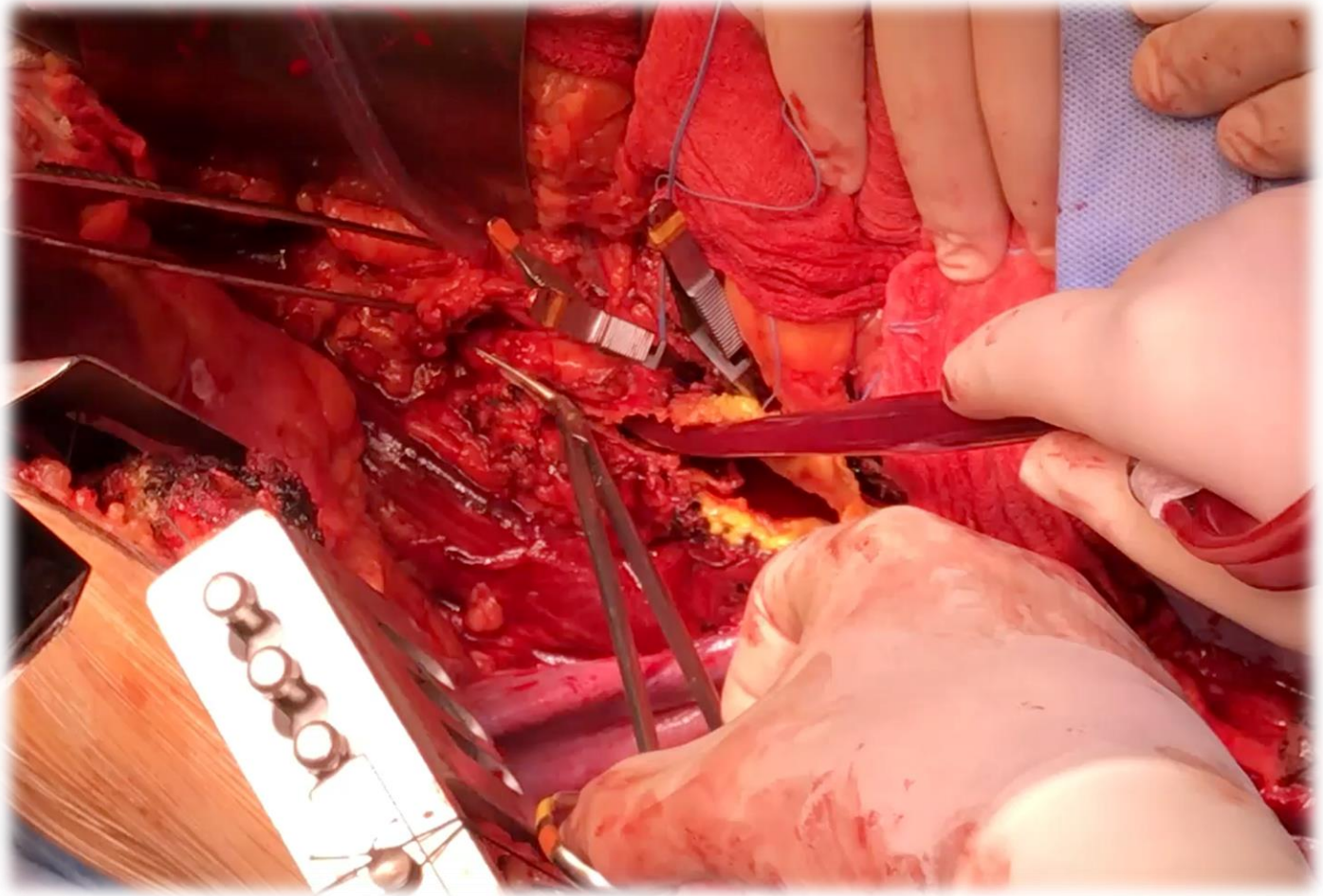
- Reduce manipulation
- SAT: filters
- Visceral: filters?
- Patients selection



CAPTIS by Filterlex – Full-body embolic protection system

# Open prevention strategies

- No sequential clamping
- Visceral clamping
- LHBP after clamping
- Multibranched grafts
- Patients selection



# Shaggy TAAA Open repair @ San Raffaele

<b>2012-2021</b>	<b>Total 58 (%)</b>
Mortality	12.1
SCI	10.3
Stroke	3.5
Acute renal failure (RIFLE stage 4-5)	13.8
Any embolization	27.6
Composite outcome*	39.7



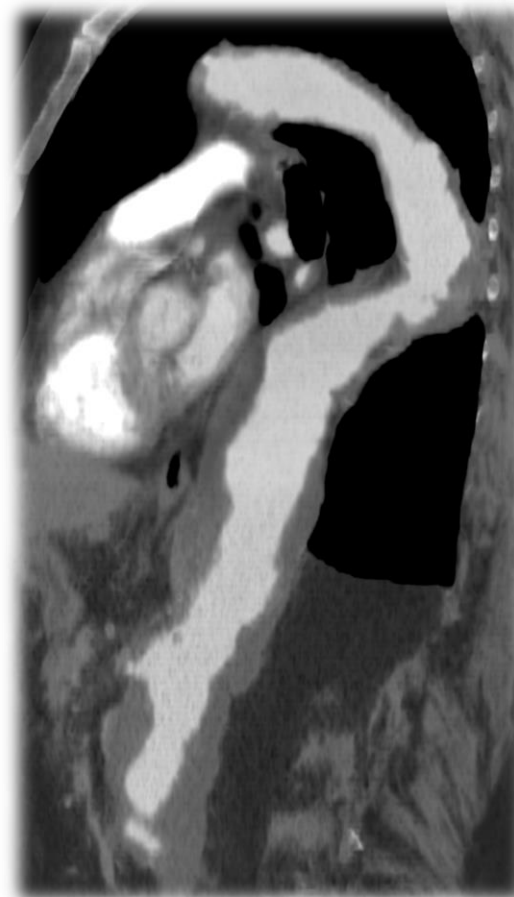


# Shaggy vs non-Shaggy TAAA Open repair @ San Raffaele

	<b>non-Shaggy 130 (%)</b>	<b>Shaggy 58 (%)</b>	<b>p.</b>
Mortality	6.9	12.1	.26
SCI	7.7	10.3	.57
Stroke	3.8	3.5	1
Acute renal failure (RIFLE stage 4-5)	5.4	13.8	.07
Any embolization	9.2	27.6	.001
Composite outcome*	17.7	39.7	<.001

# Propensity score matching

- Matching 1:1
- Matched for: Sex, Age, TAAA Extension
- 48 shaggy vs 48 non-shaggy





# Propensity score matching

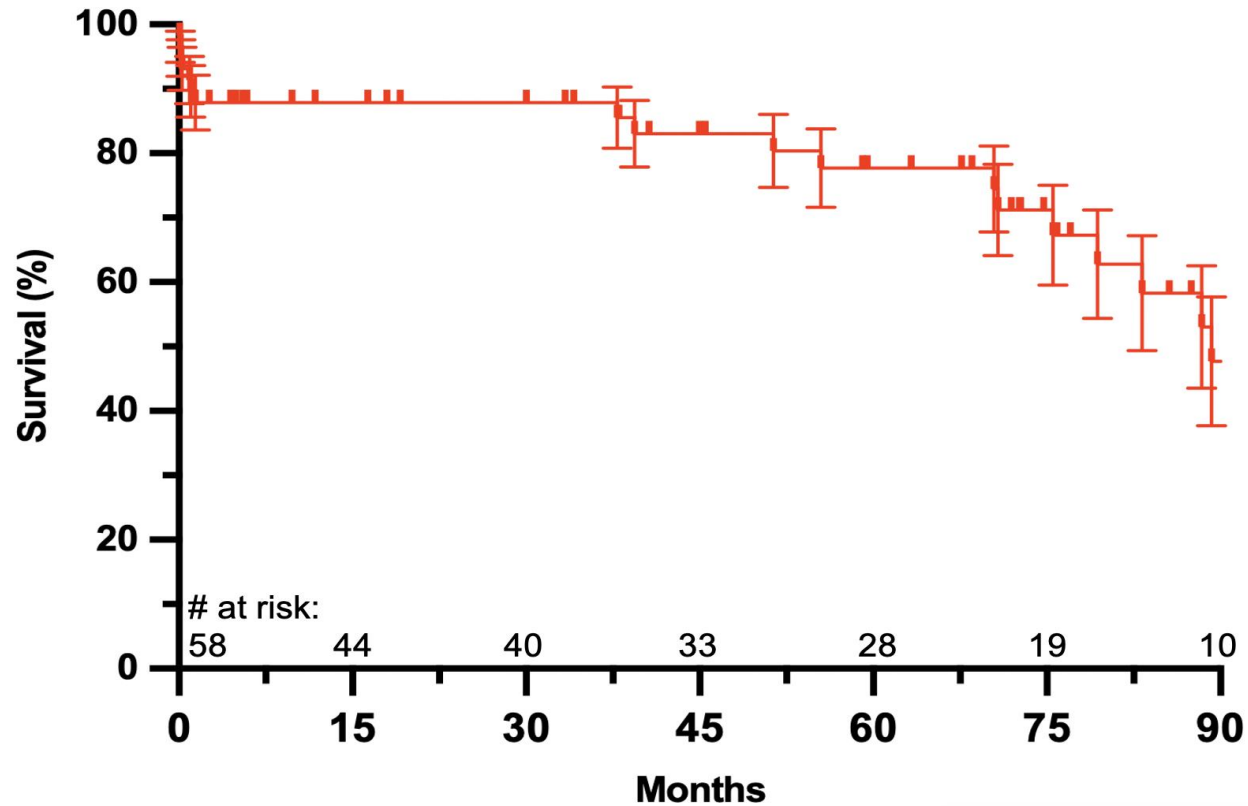
	<b>non-Shaggy 48 (%)</b>	<b>Shaggy 48 (%)</b>	<b>p.</b>
Mortality	2.1	10.4	<.001
SCI	8.3	8.3	1
Stroke	0	4.2	.25
Acute renal failure (RIFLE stage 4-5)	0	16.7	.002
Any embolization	8.3	25.0	.03
Composite outcome*	4.2	29.2	.02

# Impact of shaggy score in TAAA open repair

- 16 pts. with  $\geq 1$  end-organ embolization
- 42 pts. without end-organ embolization

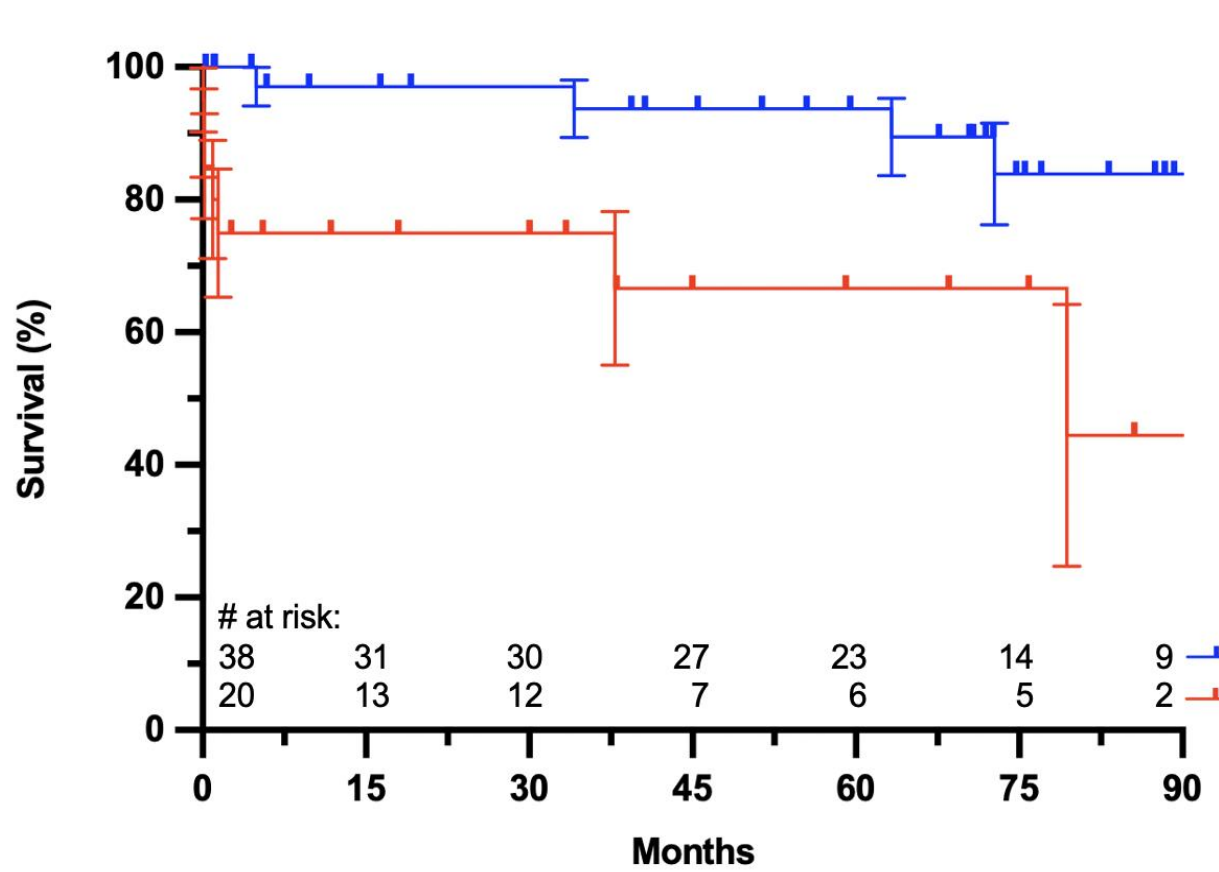
	Total 58	Pts with embolization 16	Pts without embolization 42	p.
Shaggy average score	12.63	13.75	12.21	0.546

# Survival after TAAA open repair in pts with shaggy aorta



1 year – 88 %  
5 year – 78 %  
7 year – 58 %

# Survival after TAAA open repair in pts with shaggy aorta



	with Embolization	without Embolization
5 year:	67 %	94 %
7 year:	44 %	84 %

# Conclusions

- Shaggy is a risk factor for both open and endo TAAA repair
- Despite different prevention strategies the embolization rate is still relevant during open repair
- Embolization has an impact on early and mid-term survival
- Better strategies and cautious patients selection are needed

# Aknowledgments:

## The “shaggy” aorta study team



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