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FOCUS ON TRANSCATHETER HEART VALVE INTERVENTION

STATE-OF-THE-ART REVIEW

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STRUCTURAL

The PARTNER (Placement of Aortic Transcatheter Valves) II trial cohort B compared the lower-profile SAPIEN XT versus SAPIEN transcatheter heart valve (Edwards Lifesciences, Irvine, California) in inoperable patients with severe aortic stenosis undergoing transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR). Major vascular complications were higher at 30 days in patients undergoing TAVR with SAPIEN compared with SAPIEN XT (15.2% vs. 9.5%; $p = 0.04$). Bleeding requiring blood transfusions was more frequent with SAPIEN compared with SAPIEN XT (10.6% vs. 5.3%; $p = 0.02$). At 1-year follow-up, all-cause mortality, major stroke, or rehospitalization was similar (37.7% SAPIEN vs. 37.2% SAPIEN XT; noninferiority $p < 0.002$). Further improvements in transcatheter valve design may lead to superior patient outcomes.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

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