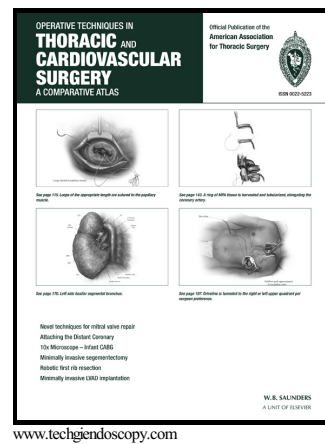


Author's Accepted Manuscript

Total Arterial Revascularization

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PII: S1522-2942(16)30071-X

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1053/j.optechstcvs.2016.08.002>

Reference: YOTCT401

To appear *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery: A*
in: *Comparative Atlas*

Received 17 June 2016
date:

Accepted 17 August 2016
date:

Cite this article as: Silvana Marasco, Total Arterial Revascularization, *Operative Techniques in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery: A Comparative Atlas*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1053/j.optechstcvs.2016.08.002>

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Abstract

Total arterial revascularization (TAR) has been shown to improve both short and long term mortality in coronary artery bypass grafting patients when compared with a single internal thoracic artery (ITA) and vein grafts (Buxton 2015; Zacharias 2009). This benefit has been demonstrated in both younger and older (>70 years) patients (Habib 2012).

Total arterial revascularization typically utilises bilateral ITA grafts, the left as a pedicled graft and the right either pedicled, free or as a Y graft. Skeletonization of the ITA grafts increases available length, decreases devascularization of the chest wall and may decrease sternal wound infection rates. Radial artery grafts are a very versatile conduit also commonly

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