

„Stent for life” initiative and 4-years experience of cath lab in Uzice

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Introduction: Coronary artery disease is the most common cause of death worldwide. Initiative „Stent for Life” (SFL) was launched in 2009 with the objectives to: increase the treatment of patients with myocardial infarction with ST segment elevation (STEMI) undergoing primary percutaneous coronary intervention (PPCI) to more than 70%, raise the rate of PPCI to more than 600 procedures per million people a year, organize a network of catheterization laboratories which will be non-stop available. Catheterization laboratory in General Hospital (GH) Užice was opened 12.12.2011.

Methods: This publication included all patients from our catheterization laboratory in the period from 12.12.2011. to 01.08.2015. taking special notice on patients with diagnosis of STEMI. This was done with objective to observe implementation of SFL initiative in our everyday practice.

Results: During the following period 3547 procedures were performed, of which 2270 diagnostic coronary angiography, 595 PPCI, 665 elective PCI. The number of procedures is growing by 5% a year. There were 1029 patients with diagnosis of myocardial infarction, of which 805 was STEMI and 224 NSTEMI. 732 (90.94%) patients with STEMI were treated with reperfusion therapy (mechanical or pharmacological), of which 595 (73.9%) undergoing PPCI. Overall mortality in patients with STEMI is 5.83%. Coronary angiography was performed within the same hospitalization for patients with NSTEMI in 89% of cases.

Conclusion: The opening catheterization laboratory in GH Užice has achieved first of the three goals of the SFL initiative in the form of raising the percentage of patients with STEMI who were treated with PPCI to more than 70%. The remaining two objectives will be obtained by achieving non-stop availability of PPCI. All secondary objectives in terms of increasing the number of interventions, establishing cooperation with surrounding municipalities, education in prehospital treatment of STEMI patients, were achieved.

Key words: coronarography, primary PCI, STEMI