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Randomized Trial of Conventional Transseptal Needle Versus Radiofrequency Energy Needle Puncture for Left Atrial Access (the TRAVERSE–LA Study)

METHODS

- Randomized, prospective, and controlled trial. 72 patients were randomized to either the **NRG™** RF Transseptal Needle (Baylis Medical*) or conventional transseptal needle on a 1:1 basis.

RESULTS

Primary Outcome

- Median transseptal procedure time was 68% lower in RF needle group compared with conventional needle group on an intention-to-treat basis.

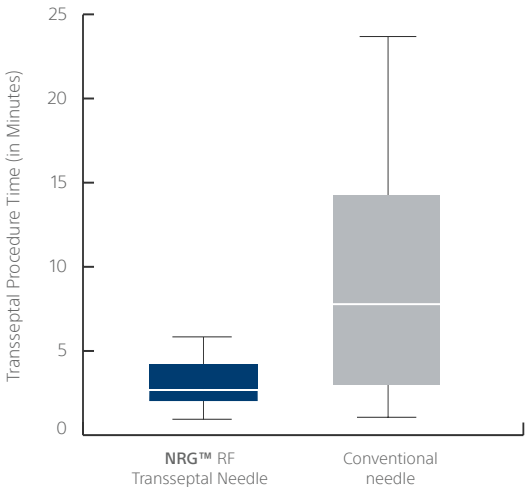
Secondary Outcome

- RF needle group did not experience transseptal procedure failure with assigned needle: 0 out of 36 cases (0%).
- Conventional needle group experienced 10 failures in 36 cases (27.8%). Subsequent crossover to RF needle enabled successful transseptal procedure in all cases.

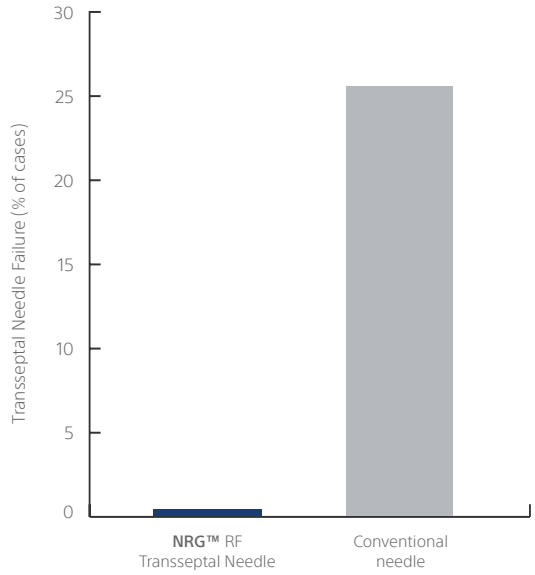
Secondary Outcome

- In pre-procedural ex vivo testing that involved advancement of the needle through the plastic dilator and sheath, the conventional needle produced visible plastic particles in 33.3% of cases whereas the RF needle did not produce visible particles in any cases (0%).

Procedure time



Rate of failure



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