

## Hemodynamics and oxygen consumption during warm heart surgery

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**Abstract:** We compared the effects of normothermic cardiopulmonary bypass (CPB) with those of hypothermic CPB in patients who underwent coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) with respect to hemodynamics and oxygen balance. The patients in our study were divided into two groups according to temperature during CPB: systemic normothermia combined with warm blood cardioplegia (group W,  $n = 36$ ) and systemic hypothermia combined with cold crystalloid cardioplegia (group C,  $n = 26$ ). In group W, the use of direct-current (DC) defibrillators was less frequent after release of the cross clamp, and the duration of CPB and of reperfusion was shorter. After CPB, the cardiac index and arterial pressure were higher and the dosages of dopamine were lower in group W than in group C. The serum glucose level during and after CPB was lower and the base excess during CPB was higher in group W than in group C. Oxygen consumption ( $\dot{V}O_2$ ) was unchanged throughout the operation in group W, while it decreased during CPB and increased at the end of surgery in group C. The oxygen extraction ratio ( $ERO_2$ ) increased during CPB in group W, while it was unchanged throughout the operation in group C. Mixed venous oxygen saturation ( $S\bar{v}O_2$ ) was maintained above 65% during and after CPB in group W and group C. Our results showed that normothermia may be superior to hypothermia during CPB with respect to recovery of cardiac function and avoidance of hyperglycemia. The whole-body oxygen demand-supply balance may be preserved during normothermic as well as hypothermic CPB.

**Key words:** Coronary artery bypass grafting, Hemodynamics, Oxygen consumption, Warm heart surgery

### Introduction

With the advent of warm blood cardioplegia, normothermic cardiopulmonary bypass has been adopted in pa-

tients undergoing heart surgery. Warm blood may be used for supplying oxygen to the myocardium, and oxygen consumption of the arrested heart is only 20%–30% of that of the beating heart [1]. Hypothermia adds only a small benefit in further reducing myocardial oxygen consumption [2], while it causes adverse effects such as edema [3], alteration of platelets and leukocytes [4], and reduction of membrane stability [5]. This article describes the effects of normothermic cardiopulmonary bypass combined with warm blood cardioplegia on hemodynamics and whole-body oxygen balance.

### Patients and methods

This study was approved by our institutional ethics committee, and informed consent was obtained from all patients. The 62 patients who underwent coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG) were divided into two groups according to core temperature during CPB: systemic normothermia and warm blood cardioplegia (group W,  $n = 36$ ) and systemic hypothermia and cold crystalloid cardioplegia (group C,  $n = 26$ ).

Anesthesia was induced with  $4\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$  fentanyl,  $0.1\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$  diazepam,  $2\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$  lidocaine, and  $0.1\text{mg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$  pancuronium, and then maintained mainly with isoflurane and an additional  $4\text{--}5\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$  fentanyl in both groups. Isoflurane was continued throughout the course of anesthesia at a concentration between 0.3% and 1.5%. All patients received  $0.5\text{--}1\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$  nitroglycerin and  $1\text{--}3\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$  diltiazem intraoperatively. Dopamine was administered to improve low cardiac output or hypotension under adequate preload. When higher doses of dopamine than  $5\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$  were required, epinephrine was administered to improve low cardiac output, and norepinephrine was given to improve persistent hypotension.

During CPB, pump flow was maintained at  $2.4\text{L}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ , and perfusion pressure was kept at between

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70 mmHg and 100 mmHg, by intermittently injecting phenylephrine and nicardipine as a bolus into the extracorporeal circuit. Cardioplegia was accomplished intermittently through the antegrade pathway in both groups by using warm blood in group W and cold crystalloid in group C. The rectal temperature was kept at 35°–37°C in group W and ranged from 28° to 32°C in group C. Systemic rewarming in group C was initiated during the last distal anastomosis, and CPB was terminated at a rectal temperature of over 36.5°C.

Before induction of anesthesia, a catheter was inserted into the left or right radial artery. Immediately after induction, central venous and thermodilution pulmonary artery catheters were inserted via the internal jugular vein. Mean systemic arterial pressure (mAP) and mean pulmonary arterial pressure (mPAP) were assessed by electric integration of the pressure signal. Cardiac output (CO) was measured by thermodilution during the end-expiratory pause, and the mean of three determinations was calculated.

Data were obtained at six points in time: immediately after induction (baseline), before CPB, during CPB, before release of cross clamping, after weaning from CPB, and at the end of surgery. The following specific variables were recorded at each of these points: phasic systemic arterial pressure, mAP, mPAP, mean central venous pressure (mCVP), pulmonary capillary wedge pressure (PCWP), and CO. Cardiac index (CI), systemic vascular resistance (SVR), and pulmonary vascular resistance (PVR) were calculated by standard formulas.

Arterial and mixed venous blood samples were obtained for blood gas analyses, hemoglobin (Hb), and serum glucose. Blood gases were analyzed at 37°C. During CPB, blood samples from the drainage site of the extracorporeal circuit were substituted for mixed venous blood samples. Oxygen content, delivery, uptake, and extraction ratio were calculated by the following standard formulas:

$$\text{O}_2 \text{ content} = (\text{Hb} \times 1.34 \times \% \text{O}_2 \text{ saturation}) / 100 + (\text{PO}_2 \times 0.003)$$

$$\dot{\text{V}}\text{O}_2 = \text{O}_2 \text{ delivery} = \text{CaO}_2 \times (\text{blood flow})$$

$$\dot{\text{V}}\text{O}_2 = \text{O}_2 \text{ consumption} = (\text{CaO}_2 \times \text{CvO}_2) \times (\text{blood flow})$$

$$\text{ERO}_2 = \text{O}_2 \text{ extraction ratio} = (\text{CaO}_2 \times \text{CvO}_2) / \text{CaO}_2$$

where Hb is hemoglobin, CaO<sub>2</sub> is arterial oxygen content, CvO<sub>2</sub> is venous oxygen content, blood flow represents total body flow (CI or pump flow rate), and PO<sub>2</sub> is oxygen partial pressure.

The repeated trials of DC defibrillation after release of the aortic cross clamp, the duration of reperfusion, the use and amount of catecholamines and intraaortic balloon pumping (IABP) after weaning from CPB, and

the maximal postoperative level of serum creatine kinase isozyme MB (CK-MB) were recorded.

Continuous variables were expressed as mean ± SD, and were analyzed by using repeated-measure analysis of variance (ANOVA) following Dunn's procedure for time-course data, and by using Student's *t*-test for data between groups C and W. The incidence of epinephrine administration was analyzed by the chi-squared and Fisher's exact probability tests. A *P* value <0.05 was considered significant.

## Results

### *Demographic data (Table 1)*

There were no differences between the groups with respect to age, preoperative ejection fraction of the left ventricle, intraoperative body fluid balances, and the number of grafted vessels. The durations of surgery, aortic cross clamping, CPB, and reperfusion were all shorter in group W. There were fewer repeated trials of DC defibrillation after release of the cross clamp, and the dosages of dopamine after CPB were lower in group W. No significant differences were found in postoperative CK-MB levels. Phenylephrine and nicardipine dosages during CPB totaled 4.6 ± 2.2 mg and 1.4 ± 0.7 mg, respectively, in group C, and 14.0 ± 3.9 mg and 0 mg, respectively, in group W. Epinephrine was administered after CPB at a dosage of 0.2 μg·kg<sup>-1</sup>·min<sup>-1</sup> for a patient in group C, and 0.1 μg·kg<sup>-1</sup>·min<sup>-1</sup> for another patient in group W. No patients resulted in requiring norepinephrine or IABP, and none showed any neurological deficits or any new Q waves on electrocardiogram perioperatively.

### *Hemodynamics (Table 2)*

After induction of anesthesia, cardiac function was similar in the two groups. During CPB and before release of the aortic cross clamp, SVR was higher than the baseline values in both groups, and was lower in group W than in group C.

After CPB, the CI was higher, SVR was lower, and mAP was similar as compared with baseline values in both groups. CI and mAP after CPB were higher and SVR was lower in group W than in group C. At the end of surgery, mAP was higher in group W than in group C.

### *Blood laboratory data (Table 3)*

After induction of anesthesia, there were no differences between the two groups with respect to Hb, SaO<sub>2</sub>, SvO<sub>2</sub>, base excess (BE), Paco<sub>2</sub>, venous-arterial CO<sub>2</sub> gradient (v-aPCO<sub>2</sub>), and serum glucose. Hb decreased to 6.1 g·dl<sup>-1</sup> during CPB, and returned to the baseline level there-

**Table 1.** Demographic data

	Group C	Group W
Preoperative		
Age (years)	63 ± 14	61 ± 11
EF (%)	56 ± 15	59 ± 14
Intraoperative		
OPE time (min)	297 ± 54	238 ± 63*
AXC time (min)	65 ± 24	39 ± 17*
CPB time (min)	119 ± 37	65 ± 29*
Reperfusion (min)	55 ± 13	18 ± 10*
No. vessels grafted	2.9 ± 0.8	3.1 ± 0.9
Fluid balance (ml)	+4613 ± 1778	+4386 ± 1478
Weaning from CPB		
DC (no. times)	0.4 ± 0.5	0*
Dopamine (µg·kg <sup>-1</sup> ·min <sup>-1</sup> )	2.9 ± 1.5	1.6 ± 1.5*
Epinephrine	1/26 (3.8%)	1/36 (2.8%)
Postoperative		
Max. CK-MB (IU·ml <sup>-1</sup> )	43 ± 16	41 ± 19

EF, ejection fraction of left ventricle; OPE, operation; AXC, aortic cross clamp; CPB, cardiopulmonary bypass; DC, direct-current defibrillation; CK-MB, serum creatine kinase isozyme MB.

\**P* < 0.05 vs group C.

**Table 2.** Hemodynamics in groups C and W

	After induction	Before CPB	During CPB	Release of AXC	After CPB	End of surgery
mAP (mmHg)						
C	82 ± 6	82 ± 11	83 ± 15	92 ± 13 <sup>†</sup>	81 ± 7	83 ± 9
W	81 ± 8	83 ± 7	77 ± 10*	85 ± 15*	84 ± 7*	88 ± 7* <sup>†</sup>
mPAP (mmHg)						
C	18 ± 5	16 ± 4	—	—	15 ± 4	15 ± 4
W	17 ± 4	15 ± 5	—	—	14 ± 4	14 ± 4
PCWP (mmHg)						
C	13 ± 6	11 ± 5	—	—	10 ± 4	10 ± 5
W	12 ± 4	10 ± 4	—	—	10 ± 4	10 ± 4
CVP (mmHg)						
C	9 ± 2	6 ± 3	0	0	6 ± 2	8 ± 2
W	8 ± 2	6 ± 2	0	0	5 ± 2	7 ± 2
HR (beats·min <sup>-1</sup> )						
C	69 ± 10	76 ± 8 <sup>†</sup>	—	—	86 ± 4 <sup>†</sup>	86 ± 4 <sup>†</sup>
W	70 ± 7	74 ± 5 <sup>†</sup>	—	—	84 ± 7 <sup>†</sup>	85 ± 5 <sup>†</sup>
CI (l·min <sup>-1</sup> ·m <sup>-2</sup> )						
C	2.3 ± 0.5	2.9 ± 0.6 <sup>†</sup>	2.4 ± 0	2.4 ± 0	3.3 ± 0.6 <sup>†</sup>	3.6 ± 0.5 <sup>†</sup>
W	2.4 ± 0.5	3.0 ± 0.6 <sup>†</sup>	2.4 ± 0	2.4 ± 0	3.6 ± 0.5* <sup>†</sup>	3.6 ± 0.6 <sup>†</sup>
SVR (dynes·s·cm <sup>-5</sup> )						
C	1658 ± 482	1405 ± 326	1824 ± 436 <sup>†</sup>	2032 ± 394 <sup>†</sup>	1236 ± 343 <sup>†</sup>	1156 ± 367 <sup>†</sup>
W	1491 ± 357	1319 ± 322 <sup>†</sup>	1652 ± 293* <sup>†</sup>	1714 ± 326* <sup>†</sup>	1072 ± 200* <sup>†</sup>	1161 ± 271 <sup>†</sup>
PVR (dynes·s·cm <sup>-5</sup> )						
C	102 ± 52	79 ± 39	—	—	85 ± 39	86 ± 35
W	93 ± 33	82 ± 31	—	—	59 ± 23	61 ± 17

CPB, cardiopulmonary bypass; AXC, aortic cross clamp; mAP, mean arterial pressure; mPAP, mean pulmonary artery pressure; PCWP, pulmonary capillary wedge pressure; CVP, central venous pressure; HR, heart rate; CI, cardiac index; SVR, systemic vascular resistance; PVR, pulmonary vascular resistance.

\**P* < 0.05 vs group C; <sup>†</sup>*P* < 0.05 vs baseline (after induction).

after. Svo<sub>2</sub> in group C increased to 89% during CPB, and decreased to 69% before release of the aortic cross clamp. Sv̄o<sub>2</sub> in group W decreased to 69% during CPB, and to 66% at release of the aortic cross clamp. Sv̄o<sub>2</sub> in both groups returned to baseline values after CPB, and decreased again at the end of surgery. BE was higher and serum glucose was lower in group W than in group C during and after CPB. Sao<sub>2</sub>, Paco<sub>2</sub>, and v-aPco<sub>2</sub>

were unchanged regardless of time points in both groups.

#### Oxygen balance (Table 4)

Before and after CPB, there were no differences between the two groups with respect to  $\dot{V}O_2$ ,  $\dot{V}O_{2i}$ , and ER<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>.  $\dot{V}O_2$  decreased during CPB and increased at the

end of surgery in both groups.  $\dot{V}O_2$  was unchanged throughout the operation in group W, while it decreased during CPB and increased at the end of surgery in group C.  $ER_{O_2}$  increased during CPB in group W, while it was unchanged throughout the operation in group C.  $\dot{V}O_2$  and  $ER_{O_2}$  during CPB were higher in group W than in group C.

## Discussion

Systemic normothermia combined with warm blood cardioplegia was found to be an excellent technique

for cardiac surgery. The following reasons may be given.

First, the patients required fewer attempts of DC defibrillation after release of the cross clamp, and were weaned from CPB with lower dosages of catecholamine. Similar effects of warm cardioplegia were documented, in that hearts resumed their normal sinus rhythm spontaneously [6], postoperative ventricular functions were better, and there was less of a requirement for circulatory support [7,8]. Aerobic warm blood has biochemical and mechanical advantages over cold crystalloid with regard to oxygen delivery to the myocardium during aortic cross clamp. In our study, the

**Table 3.** Rectal temperature and laboratory data from blood specimens taken from groups C and W

	After induction	Before CPB	During CPB	Release of AXC	After CPB	End of surgery
RT (°C)						
C	36.0 ± 0.6	34.6 ± 0.9	30.1 ± 3.0 <sup>†</sup>	32.7 ± 2.5 <sup>†</sup>	36.8 ± 0.9	36.4 ± 0.2
W	36.0 ± 0.6	34.7 ± 0.7	35.0 ± 0.5*	36.0 ± 0.8*	37.1 ± 0.3	36.5 ± 0.6
Hb (g·dl <sup>-1</sup> )						
C	10.3 ± 1.8	9.6 ± 1.5	6.1 ± 1.1 <sup>†</sup>	7.0 ± 1.2 <sup>†</sup>	7.2 ± 0.8 <sup>†</sup>	8.8 ± 1.0 <sup>†</sup>
W	10.9 ± 1.8	9.4 ± 0.9	6.1 ± 1.0 <sup>†</sup>	6.8 ± 1.0 <sup>†</sup>	7.1 ± 0.9 <sup>†</sup>	8.8 ± 0.9 <sup>†</sup>
Sao <sub>2</sub> (%)						
C	99.3 ± 0.6	99.2 ± 0.4	99.7 ± 0.1	99.3 ± 0.9	99.8 ± 0.2	99.0 ± 0.8
W	99.4 ± 0.5	99.3 ± 0.4	99.7 ± 0.2	99.5 ± 0.3	99.7 ± 0.4	99.2 ± 0.4
S $\bar{v}O_2$ (%)						
C	74.9 ± 9.2	79.1 ± 6.7	81.2 ± 9.3 <sup>†</sup>	69.2 ± 10.1	72.5 ± 8.7	66.8 ± 10.8
W	76.9 ± 9.1	78.1 ± 8.3	69.1 ± 10.1* <sup>†</sup>	66.1 ± 8.1 <sup>†</sup>	72.4 ± 9.6	68.6 ± 9.2
BE (mmol·l <sup>-1</sup> )						
C	+1.5 ± 2.0	+1.2 ± 1.5	+0.9 ± 1.5	-0.2 ± 1.9	+0.1 ± 2.7	+1.0 ± 3.6
W	+1.3 ± 1.4	+1.2 ± 1.5	+2.0 ± 1.5*	+1.0 ± 2.1*	+1.5 ± 2.2*	+2.1 ± 2.4
Paco <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)						
C	36 ± 3	34 ± 5	37 ± 4	33 ± 7	34 ± 4	37 ± 5
W	35 ± 4	33 ± 3	35 ± 4	35 ± 5	33 ± 4	34 ± 5*
v-aCO <sub>2</sub> (mmHg)						
C	4.7 ± 3.9	4.4 ± 3.5	3.8 ± 2.1	5.2 ± 2.3	3.8 ± 1.6	4.0 ± 2.0
W	4.9 ± 3.4	3.5 ± 2.7	3.3 ± 2.0	5.6 ± 2.3	4.4 ± 1.7	4.8 ± 2.7
glucose (mg·dl <sup>-1</sup> )						
C	119 ± 43	164 ± 42 <sup>†</sup>	301 ± 75 <sup>†</sup>	339 ± 79 <sup>†</sup>	308 ± 68 <sup>†</sup>	278 ± 79 <sup>†</sup>
W	113 ± 37	143 ± 38 <sup>†</sup>	204 ± 58* <sup>†</sup>	204 ± 72* <sup>†</sup>	214 ± 68* <sup>†</sup>	219 ± 67* <sup>†</sup>

CPB, cardiopulmonary bypass; AXC, aortic cross clamp; RT, rectal temperature; Hb, hemoglobin; Sao<sub>2</sub>, arterial hemoglobin saturation; S $\bar{v}O_2$ , mixed venous hemoglobin saturation; BE, base excess; Paco<sub>2</sub>, arterial Pco<sub>2</sub>; v-aCO<sub>2</sub>, venous-arterial Pco<sub>2</sub> gradient.

\*  $P < 0.05$  vs group C; <sup>†</sup>  $P < 0.05$  vs baseline (after induction).

**Table 4.** Oxygen balance in groups C and W

	After induction	Before CPB	During CPB	Release of AXC	After CPB	End of surgery
$\dot{D}O_2$ (ml·min <sup>-1</sup> ·m <sup>-2</sup> )						
C	356 ± 80	385 ± 73	223 ± 38 <sup>†</sup>	245 ± 38 <sup>†</sup>	365 ± 57	443 ± 80 <sup>†</sup>
W	375 ± 107	394 ± 84	217 ± 30 <sup>†</sup>	242 ± 30 <sup>†</sup>	389 ± 69	446 ± 84 <sup>†</sup>
$\dot{V}O_2$ (ml·min <sup>-1</sup> ·m <sup>-2</sup> )						
C	92 ± 20	83 ± 18	54 ± 15 <sup>†</sup>	81 ± 22	113 ± 24	155 ± 51 <sup>†</sup>
W	94 ± 54	80 ± 14	76 ± 10*	82 ± 27	106 ± 27	129 ± 26
ER <sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>						
C	0.27 ± 0.08	0.22 ± 0.06	0.25 ± 0.08	0.34 ± 0.10	0.32 ± 0.06	0.36 ± 0.10
W	0.25 ± 0.07	0.23 ± 0.06	0.36 ± 0.08* <sup>†</sup>	0.35 ± 0.08	0.33 ± 0.08	0.29 ± 0.06

CPB, cardiopulmonary bypass; AXC, aortic cross clamp;  $\dot{D}O_2$ , oxygen delivery;  $\dot{V}O_2$ , oxygen consumption; ER<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>, extraction ratio of oxygen.

\*  $P < 0.05$  vs group C; <sup>†</sup>  $P < 0.05$  vs baseline (after induction).

maximum postoperative CK-MB level was similar between groups W and C, but there was less total CK-MB release reported in warm cardioplegia than in cold cardioplegia [7].

Second, systemic normothermia required a shorter CPB, by requiring no time for cooling and rewarming. This effect may in turn have also resulted in higher CI and mean systemic arterial pressure after normothermic CPB. A CPB time of longer than 150min is one of the factors responsible for postoperative ventricular dysfunction [9].

Third, SVR was lower during normothermic CPB than during hypothermic CPB. Systemic vasodilatation during normothermia has a clear advantage over vasoconstriction during hypothermia, with respect not only to peripheral perfusion but also to arterial graft flow. Arterial grafts may respond to temperature similarly to regular peripheral arteries. Ease in weaning patients from CPB may be attributed to the effects of both warm blood cardioplegia and afterload reduction as a result of peripheral vasodilatation during normothermic CPB.

In regard to oxygen balance, the entire body achieved better aerobic metabolism during and after normothermic CPB were adequate oxygen balance was shown by a  $\text{S}\bar{\text{v}}\text{O}_2$  of higher than 60%, an  $\text{ER}\text{O}_2$  lower than 0.4, and a  $\text{v-aCO}_2$  gradient smaller than 6mmHg in our study. Lactic acidosis does not usually occur unless  $\text{S}\bar{\text{v}}\text{O}_2$  falls below 50% in normothermia [10]. The distribution of blood flow does not change during normothermic CPB, where increases in oxygen extraction were shown in the brain, kidney, small bowel, and muscle [11]. Thus, care should be taken to ensure oxygen delivery to the brain, although we found no patients who showed postoperative neurological deficits in our study. A decrease in pump flow, extreme hemodilution, an increase in pH, and a decrease in  $\text{Pco}_2$  should be avoided during normothermic CPB.

In contrast, hypothermia diminishes whole-body oxygen consumption. In case of CPB accidents, this decrease in oxygen consumption allows more time to correct the problem. However, the transport of oxygen to certain tissues can be limited by arteriovenous shunting during hypothermic CPB. Mixed venous blood represents the mean of venous effluents from a wide variety of tissues with different metabolic rates, oxygen extraction, and tissue capillary densities [12]. Normal  $\text{S}\bar{\text{v}}\text{O}_2$  can be maintained even in the face of inadequate tissue oxygenation in areas with low O<sub>2</sub> extraction ratios receiving a high blood flow. Blood flow to the carotid, renal, and superior mesenteric arteries decreases during hypothermic CPB, whereas blood flow to the femoral artery increases [11]. The alteration of blood flow distribution causes anaerobic metabolism in some organs. We found increases in  $\dot{\text{V}}\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{ER}\text{O}_2$  at the end of hypo-

thermic surgery. This suggests that certain tissues might have failed in extracting oxygen during hypothermic CPB, and that the oxygen supply to certain tissues may be quite different at the end of surgery.

We found that hyperglycemia diminished and the degree of metabolic alkalosis was greater during and after CPB under normothermia, as compared with hypothermia. This shows that normothermic CPB minimized the effects of hypothermia on the stimulation of sympathetic nerves [13], the release of intrinsic catecholamines [14], and alteration of the blood flow during CPB [11]. Thus, normothermic CPB may be less stressful physiologically than hypothermic CPB.

For this reason, systemic normothermia combined with warm blood cardioplegia may be an excellent alternative not only for myocardial protection but also for total-body protection during CPB. Warm heart surgery may be appropriate for patients in critical condition with impaired preoperative cardiac function.

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